

Cemetery campaign

My family has 16 relatives interred in Ocean View Cemetery, including my grandparents, Tom and Annie Nelson, along with three of their six children and my parents. Tom was a young Norwegian mariner when he first entered the Columbia River in August 1881 on the sailing bark Palmyra, 150 days out of New York City. My grandfather was affiliated with the Point Adams Packing Co. for many years.

I am certain that Tom Nelson would be appalled at the demise of the Columbia River fishing industry, along with the elimination of multiple canneries. This economic upheaval has resulted in changes of city monetary priorities with the movement of vital funding to the revitalization of the downtown area and the tourist industry, far away from Ocean View Cemetery.

Tom passed away in 1948 during a period of time when cemetery perpetual care carried an entirely different meaning from today. Astoria Parks and Recreation apparently define perpetual care as a one-time cemetery visit on Memorial Day — my son and I have photographic evidence to support our opinion.

It is quite obvious that the Astoria city government has no respect for pioneer city founders. My son and I live in Vancouver, Washington. We have to load a truck with landscaping tools and equipment in order to clean our family gravesites. We devoted almost an entire day to this endeavor in September, and by Memorial Day, Astoria Parks and Recreation had managed to cover our family grave markers with grass from the annual Memorial Day mowing.

Evidently an Ocean View Cemetery problem solution must be found outside the city government of Astoria. My family advocates the formation of a Clatsop County Campaign to Save Ocean View Cemetery. Does Clatsop County have an attorney who is willing to support this campaign by providing pro bono legal services?

The volunteer attorney should seek action to separate the cemetery from the city of Astoria and establish an Ocean View Cemetery Trust. An independent CPA firm should audit

Thank you

I would like to give a huge thank you to Donny Van Gundy our *Daily Astorian* newspaper delivery man. Perhaps you've seen him around town delivering his papers on crutches and a motorized scooter.

I'm not sure what happened to him, but our family so appreciates the extra mile he goes to deliver his papers. He goes out of his way to put the newspapers on residents' front porches, and always does this with a smile. He's very conscientious. He really deserves the award for best customer service. Thank you Donny and *The Daily Astorian*.

KIM SUPPLE
Astoria



Donny Van Gundy

Astoria Parks and Recreation accounts, with the goal of identifying and separating assets and funds which are the sole property of the cemetery.

The trust should be administered by a board of governors. Funding will be a crucial priority in the initial restoration of the cemetery, and much of this funding will depend on recovery of cemetery funds from the city of Astoria.

The Save Ocean View Cemetery Campaign will have to depend on voluntary contributions in order to build up the perpetual care fund, and monetary funds will have to be invested wisely. The board will be responsible for the employment of a cemetery superintendent, who will establish a maintenance presence at the cemetery.

Ocean View Cemetery is located within the boundaries of the city of Warrenton, and the trust should determine if some monetary maintenance support could be provided by the Warrenton city government.

THOMAS E. DENT SR.
Vancouver, Washington

Too many shootings

There have been too many recent shootings. The common response by the media is that we need more gun control and/or more police in the streets.

It's time to wake up, America. What we need is more family values, more people who know the difference between right and wrong and more people taking responsibility for

their own actions. We have become so politically correct that we have banished God from our classrooms and have driven patriotism from our schools and public places.

Many of our young people are totally adrift, with no direction in their lives. We need to put parents back in charge, and allow them to teach right and wrong, respect for other people and other peoples' rights and property.

CLEVE ROLFE
Seaside

Let's make it stop

The recent tragic events in many cities and towns have affected many people beyond the circle of victims and their family and friends, and are a catalyst for me to pen this opinion in the newspaper.

I ask: Where are we headed as a nation? Is gun violence the new norm? It seems most are the result of assault rifle ownership, and the ability to purchase them very quickly, along with large amounts of ammunition. Of course, smaller handguns are just as deadly.

Please explain why people feel the need to leave the house with a gun and a concealed carry permit in their wallet or purse. Are all armed citizens expecting to be that "good guy with a gun" when another incident happens? Is it a protection-oriented thought process that personal safety now has blanket coverage for you, when armed in public?

It will happen again, and we conveniently forget the violent event that happened seven months or 16 months ago.

Police are here to serve and protect. Let's make their incredibly tough jobs easier by leaving your guns locked safely at home.

PAT WILSON
Astoria

Right to bear arms

I am not well educated and not too smart. I learned two things reading Mr. Murray E. Stanley Jr.'s letter in *The Daily Astorian* ("In the dark," July 1). First, I learned that democracy is a system by which the majority can tell the minority what to do, and to make their lives miserable. Second, I learned that the Second Amendment is a lie.

I know that firearm owners are a vast minority. There are reasons for that. Firearms are dangerous. Legal firearms are expensive to buy and keep. There is a lot of responsibility demanded of firearm owners, and a lot of red tape to get through if one wishes to buy, sell, keep or carry them around. In fact, a firearm owner may have his or her firearm taken away for no reason by the authorities ... without compensation, or adequate explanation.

Isn't it funny that nice safe places like "gun free" schools are the places where these sad massacres — committed by little, cowardly, psychological basket-cases — commonly occur?

Many more folks than ever before are arming themselves. They perceive that the world today is a dangerous place, even here in the U.S. Because the world is what it is, it is bound to be more dangerous in the future. More and more people are going to have to buy and keep firearms if they want to remain safe.

If you haven't noticed, it is the poorer people who are exposed to the gravest dangers. They are the people who need firearms the most. Laws and such that try to restrict firearm ownership always have the greatest impact on the poor and needy.

Meanwhile, crooks, malcontents, professional killers and psychopaths can buy firearms on the black market, and in

some cases from certain police departments. Or, for that matter, they can make their own, for a fraction of the price charged by legitimate outlets.

In some cases, it seems that those who supposedly are there to guard our safety — from the local police to a certain U.S. attorney general — have been anxious to arm criminals in order to give the Second Amendment a bad name. They have even armed criminals outside the borders of the U.S., where there is no Second Amendment.

BENJAMIN A. GREAVES
Seaside

Re-elect Rogers

After a successful professional career as a teacher and administrator, Steve Rogers entered public service in local government. He is running for re-election as a county commissioner, and I would encourage Pacific County, Washington, voters to support him.

Mr. Rogers encourages job growth in the area by work with canneries, mills and ports. An important aspect of the work is also coordinating with regional agencies to provide services to Pacific County residents.

We should also be grateful that we have three commissioners who work well together, and are dedicated to providing the best for our county.

BETTY L. JOHNSON
Seaview, Washington

Retirement news

I am writing because I have news for Clatsop County energy residents, and I want to share the good/bad news. After almost 12 years of completing energy assistance applications for residents of Clatsop County through the Community Action Team, and for the past five years through Clatsop Community Action, I am retired as of Thursday, July 14. No more Cheryl to assist clients.

I have met some wonderful people, and 99 percent of them have been wonderful. I will certainly miss all of them, and want to thank everyone for making my daily job so thoroughly enjoyable.

CHERYL WAITE
Astoria

 **CASEY EYE**
Institute



SEEING YOU THROUGH ALL OF YOUR VISION NEEDS

At our Astoria clinic, expert treatment is always right at hand. From comprehensive eye care to cataract surgery to our newly expanded optical shop, our team of providers is here to serve you. Call **503 338-3803** to make an appointment or visit www.ohsu.edu/astoria.




COLUMBIA
MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL

SPECIALTY CLINIC

Expert Surgical Care
Close to Home

Whether it's a same-day procedure or something more complex, you want a surgeon you can trust. You'll find that and more with CMH's General Surgeons. Enjoy the comfort and convenience of receiving care in your community hospital.

Services:

Adhesion treatment	Laparotomy
Biopsies	Laparoscopic/minimally invasive surgery
Breast surgery	Lump and bump removal
Endoscopy	Port-a-Cath placement
Gall bladder removal	Varicose vein surgery
Hemorrhoid removal	

Call **503-338-4075** to schedule a consultation with General Surgeon Dr. Camilo Rosales, Dr. Richard Crass, or Dr. Rachel Van Dusen.

2111 Exchange St., Astoria, Oregon
503-325-4321 • www.columbiamemorial.org