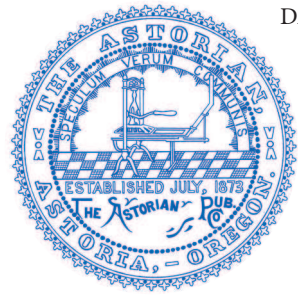


THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Founded in 1873



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Water under the bridge



Compiled by Bob Duke
 From the pages of Astoria's daily newspapers

10 years ago this week — 2006

North Coast residents hunkered down over the weekend as torrential rain and blustery south winds battered the area.

Rainfall set a record in Astoria Sunday as 2.8 inches deluged the city, eclipsing the previous 2.14-inch record set in 1988 and dwarfing the half-inch that normally falls on Nov. 5.

The long-awaited Safeway intersection traffic light at 33rd Street and Lief Erikson Drive should be up and running by early February.

At Monday's meeting, the Astoria City Council voted unanimously to authorize a \$109,121 charge order to the contractor, CivilWorks NW to complete the project, which had been stalled since November 2005. That's when it was determined that deeper and considerably more expensive foundations than originally planned would be required for the poles and arms that will hold up the signal lights.

The campaign to fund a new Clatsop Community College campus with a \$25 million bond request met crushing defeat Tuesday.

About 39 percent of voters, or 5,631, were in favor, while 61 percent — 8,845 — were against it.

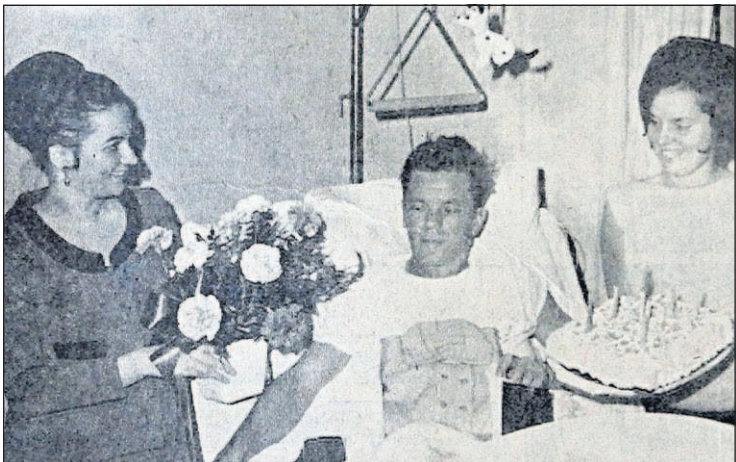
Late Tuesday night, college officials had pretty much accepted defeat.

Astoria voters rallied behind Willis Van Dusen Tuesday, handing the four-term mayor another four years at the helm — but with only 52.78 percent of the vote.

Clatsop Community College's failure to secure a \$25 million bond issue in this week's general election does not mean plans for a new campus are dead in the water.

The school still has time to make its case before the Legislature and hang on to government support.

50 years ago — 1966



Little did Anatoly Kuzmov, Vladivostock, Soviet Union, think he would celebrate his 28th birthday in the United States. But that is just what happened Saturday afternoon at St. Mary hospital, where the young Russian is hospitalized for several weeks with a broken leg, suffered on one of the Russian fishing vessels offshore. The Misses Colleen Timmerman, left, and Evelyn Timmerman baked a birthday cake. Kuzmov wanted a sweater to send to his wife, and Mrs Evelyn Lazarus of Morton's Dress Shop "made up the difference" from donations by nurses and other hospital workers to present him one. The hospital Sisters set up a birthday table where coffee was served with the cakes, and a patient, Mrs. William Bradshaw, sent a bouquet of pink carnations for the occasion.

The ferry Tourist 3 sailed from Astoria to Tacoma under its own power this week.

The 35-year-old ferry boat was prepared for sea at Astoria Marine Construction company, where it was braced to fit insurance specifications for a sea voyage.

The ferry Kitsap, also sold by the Oregon Highway commission some time ago to an Alaska owner, has been reported sunk while being towed to a point on the Aleutian island chain.

Optimism shone among local merchants and townspeople, our neighbors along the north shore peninsula and residents of the coastal town of Seaside in response to queries on effects of the new Astoria bridge.

Astoria is faring well commercially due to the new span. Seaside and Washington communities had a great impact of tourist trade in the first month following opening, but find this slackening off, tapering down to normal winter volume. Bridge is being used by residents on both sides of the river for social life, weekend drives and business trips.

75 years ago — 1941

Astoria took a breather Tuesday from the present rush of mad events which has the world in crazy turmoil to observe the signing of the armistice which 23 years ago ended the war to end all wars.

It wasn't the usual Armistice Day celebration, however, with all thought reverting to that day when Germany finally capitulated to the Allies. Astorian, as they watched the parade, a grimly realistic military procession, were looking ahead — and wondering.

In the wake of the fall season's worst storm, 200 peeler logs today were reported cast on Long Beach peninsula, and several hundred thousand feet of lumber drifted in the moderating seas off the Oregon and Washington coasts.

The logs were lost by the Hoquiam tug Klihyam which was towing a sea-going barge from Garibaldi to Aberdeen.



Let's not do this again

By DAVID BROOKS
New York Times News Service

If I had to sum up the election of 2016 in one clause, I would say it has been a sociological revolution, a moral warning and a political summons.

Sociologically, this campaign has been an education in how societies come apart. The Trump campaign has been like a flash flood that sweeps away the topsoil and both reveals and widens the chasms, crevices and cracks below.

We are a far more divided society than we realized. The educated and less educated increasingly see the world and vote in different ways. So do men and women, blacks and whites, natives and immigrants, young and old, urban and rural.

We like to think of democracy as a battle of ideas and a process of individual deliberation, but this year demography has been destiny. The campaigns have pushed us back into our tribal bunkers. Americans now seem more clannish, and more incomprehensible to one another.

Social uprising

This year a legitimate social uprising has been twisted to serve destructive means. During the past 50 years, most of us have benefited from feminism, the civil rights movement, mass immigration, the information age and the sexual revolution. But as Charles Murray points out, one class has been buffeted by each of these trends: white workers.

The white working class once sat comfortably at the core of the American idea, but now its members have seen their skills devalued, their neighborhoods transformed, their masculinity delegitimized, their family structures decimated, their dignity erased and their basic decency questioned. Marginalized, they commonly feel invisible, alienated and culturally pessimistic. This year the workers overthrew their corporate masters and grabbed control of the Republican Party.

That would be progress and even inspiring, but — maybe because of the candidate who is leading it — the working-class revolt has been laced with bigotry, anti-Semitism,

class hatred, misogyny and authoritarianism that has further rent the American fabric.

Our partisan divides now menacingly overlap with our racial and class divides, threatening to form a trinity of discord with horrendous consequences.

Moral health

The moral health of the polity is in even scarier shape. Any decent society rests on codes of etiquette and a shared moral ecology to make cooperation possible, to prevent economic and political life from descending into a savage war of all against all.

The underlying social and moral foundations of the nation have been weakened. Today a rancid chapter ends. Tomorrow let's start with fresh ground and a new party.

But this year Donald Trump has decimated the codes of basic decency without paying a price. With his constant, flagrant and unapologetic lying, he has shredded the standards of intellectual virtue — the normal respect for facts and truth that makes conversation possible. With his penchant for cruelty, bigotry, narcissism, selfishness and even his primitive primate dominance displays, he has shredded the accepted understandings of personal morality that prevent the strong from preying on the weak.

Most disturbing, all this has been greeted with moral numbness. The truest thing Trump said all year is that he could shoot someone on Fifth Avenue and not lose any votes. We learned this year that millions of

Americans are incapable of being morally offended, or of putting virtue above partisanship.

Watershed

And that brings us to the summons. The events of 2016 represent a watershed and a call to do politics differently.

Personally I've always disdained talk of a third party, mostly because the structural barriers against such parties are so high, no matter how scintillatingly attractive they seem in theory. But it's becoming clear that the need for a third party outweighs even the very real barriers.

The Republican Party will probably remain the white working-class party, favoring closed trade, closed borders and American withdrawal abroad. The Democratic Party, meanwhile, is increasingly dominated by its left/Sanders wing, which offers its own populism of the left.

There has to be a party for those who are now homeless. There has to be a party as confidently opposed to populism as populists are in favor of it.

There has to be a compassionate globalist party, one that embraces free trade while looking after those who suffer from trade; that embraces continued skilled immigration while listening to those hurt by immigration; that embraces widening ethnic diversity while understanding that diversity can weaken social trust.

There has to be a patriotic party that understands that the world benefits when America serves as the leading and energetic superpower.

There has to be a party that unapologetically emphasizes public character formation. It's not clear that our political culture is producing individuals capable of exercising freedom wisely. But citizenship is a skill that can be nurtured — by a party that insists on basic standards of decency in its candidates; that practices politics in humble, honest ways; that strengthens trust and institutions by playing by the rules, by confirming appointees and the like.

The problems go deeper than the jobless rate and the threat of ISIS. The underlying social and moral foundations of the nation have been weakened. Today a rancid chapter ends. Tomorrow let's start with fresh ground and a new party.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't 'door' them

Last evening I almost met someone who was opening their door across the bike lane, by almost hitting the open door.

Here is a new habit to form, and repeat every time you open your car door: Use the hand farthest from the door, on the opposite side of your body from the door you will be opening. That way you have twisted around, and can see behind you, so you will see who may be coming up behind you, before opening the door.

It is somewhat like you do when in reverse gear, as you back up — looking back, to not hit things with the back of your car. Be mindful of the person passing you, to not "door" them.

Thank you, in advance.

ROBERT CLARK
 Astoria

A dying art

Art is how to communicate emotion, and is what separates humans from the rest of the world.

Art is knowledge, art is passion, and art is, most of all, humanity. The importance of painting, music, poetry, sculpture and the many other forms of art cannot be overstated, and yet our children remain deprived.

Schools have been losing more and more funding, and in response have been cutting art programs more than almost any other program in the country. This is why music programs have been cut more than 80 percent in the last eight years. This would be an atrocity to exist in any developed country, let alone the wealthiest in all the world.

However, the problem may not completely lie within the schools themselves. Schools need money, that's plain and simple, but with the massive cuts going to schools, and how severely teachers are underpaid, it's become obvious that schools are not receiving the money they need to flourish. The complete lack of funding from the state is to blame for the absence of art in our schools for our youth. Without the

funding, the teaching simply cannot happen.

Why is it, then, that Oregon of all places, home to some of the most prestigious arts colleges in America, is also home to a severe underfunding of the arts in our middle and high schools? The mistake is inexcusable, and must be addressed immediately not just by the voting community, but by the politicians themselves.

That is why I propose that it should be a necessity to have schools fund and engage in the arts throughout America, and especially throughout Oregon. I, a freshman in high school, have benefited greatly in ways I couldn't have even imagined from exposure to the arts — everything from a newly gained perspective on life, to the power to express my opinion in new and more influential ways, to even a new passion. Art is essential to humanity, and to strip children of art is to strip children from humanity.

BRANDON MOLONEY
 Vernonia