

# Prolific Seaside Signal columnist was a town staple

## Lifelong Seaside dies at age 96

By R.J. MARX  
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Readers of the Seaside Signal will find something missing this week.

Claire Lovell, whose column filled the pages of the newspaper since 1990, died at 96 of renal failure after complications from the flu, her family said. She died in the family home where she was born and raised.

Originally called "Overheard: Notes from Seaside," and later, "Scene and Heard," her column was a town staple.

Born Sept. 9, 1920, in Seaside, Claire Ruthrauff was the youngest of eight surviving children.

"Her father died right before she was born," her daughter Robin Derringer said. "All she knew was her sisters, brothers and mother as a fam-

ily. My grandmother raised them all, without separating anybody, on almost nothing during hard times."

When Lovell did her nursing residency at St. Vincent's in Portland, she was homesick "most of the time" and returned to the North Coast, working at what was then St. Mary's Hospital in Astoria, Derringer said. "On balance, she loved Seaside, loved living in Seaside and never had desire to live anywhere else," Derringer said.

### Lifelong writer

A lifelong writer, Lovell, while working as a registered nurse, was in charge of a community board. "She would decorate this board for all the occasions and holidays with poems and verses," Derringer said. "She also wrote verses for Hallmark."

"She used to write lots of letters to the editor," Derringer said. "She had very strong opinions. When an opportunity on the paper's part came, they offered her a chance to get off the letters to the editor page and onto a col-



Submitted Photos  
Claire Lovell died this week at 96.



Submitted Photos  
Steven King.

umn of her own."

Lovell's column appeared in early January 1990 in the Signal, sandwiched between "Let's Talk Food," by Elna Furnish and "Nehalem News," by Myrtle Slanger.

"Dean and Helen Trachsel took refuge at Terry Nordmark's home during the high-water episode out Hamlet way," Lovell wrote in the first "Overheard: Notes from Seaside." "Helen was lamenting the loss of two new tires that went out with the tide."

For 27 more years, Lovell's words

entertained and enlightened her loyal readers, many of whom said she was the first thing they read in the paper — some of whom said her column was "the only thing" they read.

Lovell enjoyed writing about current politics and issues, Derringer said. "Sometimes that was not what the paper thought they had hired her to write. So there was a certain amount of back and forth. She said, 'Maureen Dowd does it.' I think she would have liked to have a political column."

Lovell also "liked to write about very esoteric dibs and dabs, too," her daughter-in-law Nancy Hill said. "Just stream of consciousness almost."

"What she liked about reporting about local events was it kept her in the swim of things," Derringer said. "She knew what was going on. People would call her with ideas. Her phone was always busy. She was able to live a pretty full social life as a result of that. As she got older and not

out as much — particularly after she quit driving — she missed that kind of contact."

### Accomplished in language

Lovell prided herself on meeting deadlines and her ability to word-smith a column, Derringer said. "She was really very accomplished in language. We were all raised with a dictionary in our cribs."

Lovell was among the last writers to submit copy on legal paper, written by hand.

Today, most newspapers list contact information with emails. Lovell's column for many years included her phone number.

"She was not interested in electronics," Derringer said.

"She was definitely a 20th-century woman," Hill added.

Lovell's last column failed to arrive in time for today's edition of the Signal. It was delayed, perhaps appropriately, by delivery from the U.S. mail.

## OBITUARIES

### Ronald Boudreau

#### Warrenton

1950 — 2017

Ron was born to Barbara Boudreau (Rieter) and Albert Boudreau on Nov. 14, 1950, in Rochester, New Hampshire. Ron died around March 1, 2017, at his residence.

His parents preceded him in death, along with three brothers, Albert Boudreau, Stephen Boudreau and Roger Boudreau. One sister, Jeanne Tucker, survives, residing in Idaho. In addition, he is survived by two nieces, three nephews, six great-nieces, four great-nephews, two great-great-nieces, numerous friends, and one loving cat named Boo Boo.

The Boudreau family moved to Oregon in 1960. Ron attended local schools in Astoria, Warrenton and Seaside.

Ron loved music, and he played drums and harmonica in several local bands throughout his life. Those who knew him would say he was a free-spirited sort. He worked in several of the local canneries: the old Neap Tide Clam Co.,

Bornstein's and New England Fish Co., to name a few.

You could find Ron riding his bicycle from the Lewis and Clark area to Astoria with his iPod earplugs in, backpack, green baseball cap and generally a smile on. If you stopped him to say "Hi," you'd usually get a big hug.

A celebration of life and potluck will be at the Workers Tavern (a favorite watering hole), 281 W. Marine Drive in Astoria, on April 1 at 1 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Maritime Memorial, Astoria Parks and Community Services, 1095 Duane St., Astoria, OR 97103; or the Clatsop County Animal Shelter, 1315 S.E. 19th St., Warrenton, OR 97146.

Hughes-Ransom Mortuary & Crematory in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements. An online guest book may be signed at [www.hughes-ransom.com](http://www.hughes-ransom.com)



Ronald Boudreau

### Steven Edward King

#### Seaside

July 1, 1955 — March 13, 2017

Steven Edward King, born July 1, 1955, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to parents Ruby and Gerry King, went to be with the Lord on Monday, March 13, 2017. Known to his eight grandchildren as "Papa King," and to his congregation as "Pastor Steve," he was loved far and wide by individuals from diverse walks of life. He impacted many through his love of Jesus, perpetual optimism and animated storytelling.

Steve graduated in 1973 from Excelsior High School in Norwalk, California. He was an avid surfer, searching the next wave in his Volkswagen van. After high school, Steve attended a Missionary Baptist seminary before moving to Oregon to be a logger. With his then wife, Deborah Ann Edmiston, he welcomed his first two children, Steve and Chelsea.

In 1977, Steve enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed at Wheeler Air Force Base in Honolulu, Hawaii, where he welcomed his third child, Devon. Steve was a chapel manager in the Air Force for 10 years, achieving the rank of staff sergeant. He also traveled with the Air Force racquetball team. After a divorce, Steve moved to Denver, Colorado.

While in Denver, Steve harnessed his entrepreneurial spirit and worked mostly in sales, persuading people to buy anything from women's handbags at flea markets to brand new cars off the lot. For many years he was a real estate broker for Keller Williams. During this period of his life he met his wife, Kay. She soon joined him at Keller Williams, and

together they achieved Top Agents of the Year several times!

After living the hectic life of agents, they moved to Seaside, Oregon, to work full time in ministry. Steve was the pastor at Seaside Calvary Church, alongside Kay, who led worship and the children's program, for the past eight years. You also may have heard him weaving together scripture and stories from his own life on KPQD or KAST radio stations.

Although Steve spent much time in the hospital due to complex medical needs, and even more time in dialysis during the past six years, he enjoyed many endeavors alongside his loyal wife, Kay. Together they took adventures like a trip to the Holy Land, rappelling a waterfall in Kauai, and hang gliding in Tennessee. Up until Steve's last days, he was planning his next adventure: a sky dive.

Steve is survived by wife, Kay; children, Steve, Chelsea and Devon; grandchildren, Erik, Alex, Laila, Brennan, Rubi, Jai, Lilian and William; brother, Mark; and a large extended family. He will be deeply missed and we find comfort knowing that he no longer suffers from his physical ailments, and knows divine comfort in the Kingdom of Heaven.

His memorial will be held at North Coast Family Fellowship this Saturday, March 18, at 2 p.m. Flowers may be sent to the service, to be received at noon on Saturday; or, in lieu of flowers, donations are accepted at Seaside Calvary Church, and the funds will be used to continue the ministry that Steve and Kay started.



Steven King

### Gregory Scott Lawson

#### Warrenton

Aug. 17, 1961 — March 10, 2017

Greg was the son of Kenneth Steven Lawson and Norma Jane Lawson (Seiders). He was raised in the Seaside area, and graduated from Seaside High School.

Greg was never married. He was an accomplished baker for nearly 40 years, and was dedicated to his career. He enjoyed fishing, collecting antiques, barbecues with his friends and

caregiving for his pets.

Greg is survived by his mother, Norma Lawson of La Pine, Oregon; and his siblings, Kelli Shultz of Tigard, Oregon, Terry Jo Lawson of Warrenton, Oregon, and Brian Lawson of Warrenton, Oregon. He was preceded in death by his dad, Kenneth "Steve" Lawson. Greg also has many other relatives and friends who will remember him fondly.

### FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA



### ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday.  
**Temperatures**  
 High/low ..... 51°/38°  
 Normal high/low ..... 54°/39°  
 Record high ..... 69° in 1941  
 Record low ..... 29° in 1977  
**Precipitation**  
 Thursday ..... 0.02"  
 Month to date ..... 9.40"  
 Normal month to date ..... 7.22 in 1941  
 Year to date ..... 27.28"  
 Normal year to date ..... 21.38"

### SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight ..... 7:24 p.m.  
 Sunrise Saturday ..... 7:22 a.m.  
 Moonrise today ..... none  
 Moonset today ..... 10:10 a.m.



### UNDER THE SKY

**Tonight's Sky:** On Saturday morning, the waning gibbous moon will be above the head of Scorpio.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

### TOMORROW'S TIDES

**Astoria / Port Docks**

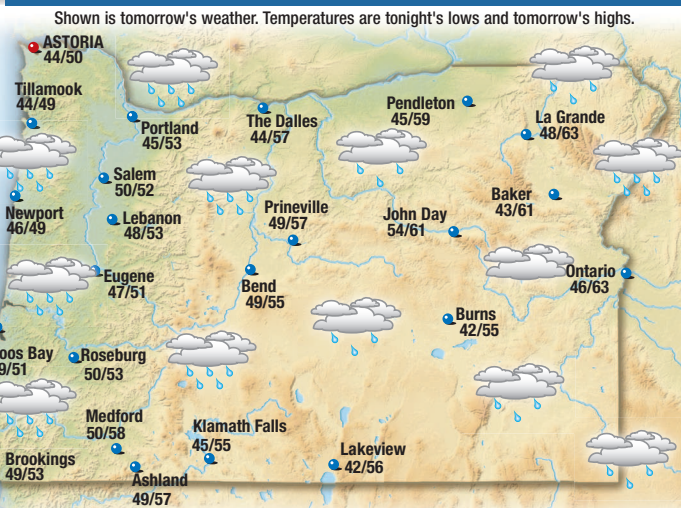
Time	High	Low
5:21 a.m.	8.3 ft.	12:11 p.m.
6:39 p.m.	6.5 ft.	11:59 p.m.
		2.9 ft.

### NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.
Atlanta	67 52 pc	67 42 sh
Boston	36 20 s	36 30 sn
Chicago	46 35 sh	46 27 pc
Denver	69 41 pc	80 50 s
Des Moines	62 31 pc	54 36 s
Detroit	38 34 sn	44 30 sn
El Paso	86 53 s	88 60 s
Fairbanks	8	-13 s
Honolulu	83 68 pc	83 69 s
Indianapolis	46 36 c	46 29 pc
Kansas City	68 35 pc	63 44 pc
Las Vegas	88 63 s	91 63 pc
Los Angeles	80 57 pc	75 54 pc
Memphis	67 57 c	70 45 sh
Miami	73 60 pc	77 59 pc
Nashville	60 51 sh	67 35 pc
New Orleans	74 57 sh	77 59 pc
New York	42 28 s	38 30 sn
Oklahoma City	74 52 c	76 59 s
Philadelphia	42 32 s	44 34 sn
St. Louis	68 41 c	58 36 s
Salt Lake City	75 54 pc	80 52 pc
San Francisco	67 51 pc	66 53 c
Seattle	47 44 r	50 36 r
Washington, DC	49 40 s	56 37 sh

**Weather (W):** s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

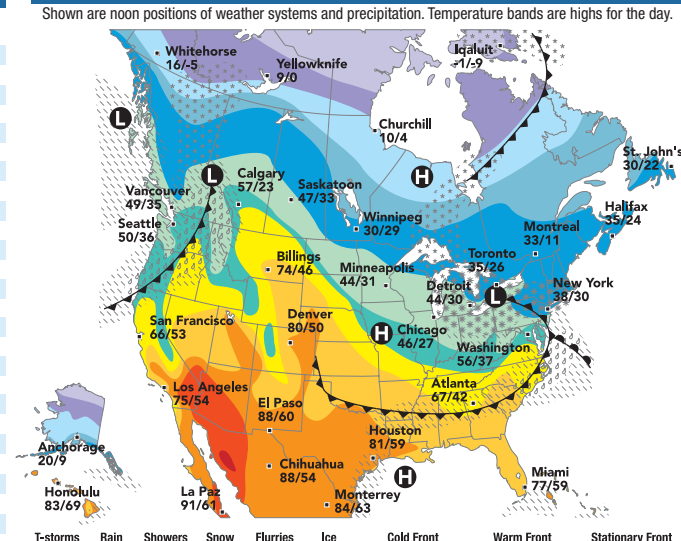
### REGIONAL WEATHER



### REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.
Baker City	63 43 pc	61 32 r
Bend	60 49 r	55 29 sh
Brookings	55 50 r	53 43 r
Eugene	55 47 r	51 33 r
Ilwaco	48 44 r	47 38 r
Klamath Falls	63 45 c	55 39 r
Medford	59 50 c	58 45 r
Newberg	50 47 r	52 34 r
Newport	53 46 r	49 36 r
North Bend	58 50 r	52 38 r
Olympia	46 43 r	50 33 r
Pendleton	50 45 r	59 33 r
Portland	51 45 r	53 35 r
Roseburg	59 50 r	53 39 r
Salem	55 50 r	52 33 r
Seaside	49 44 r	48 36 r
Spokane	47 43 r	52 28 r
Springfield	57 48 r	53 33 r
Vancouver	50 47 r	53 35 r
Yakima	54 41 c	60 28 r

### TOMORROW'S NATIONAL WEATHER



## Court keeps college in timber lawsuit

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Daily Astorian

Linn County Circuit Court has denied Clatsop Community College's attempt to leave the \$1.4 billion timber lawsuit against the state.

The college board voted 4-3 in January to opt out. But board member Esther Moberg's vote, submitted via email, was later invalidated, resulting in a tie and the college's inclusion in the lawsuit.

At the direction of the college board, college President Christopher Breitmeyer sent a letter to Linn County Circuit Court asking about a way out. "The board realizes that the deadline for class certification has passed and that removal from the class may not be possible, but still wishes for the court to be aware of this request and to take any actions that may be appropriate," Breitmeyer's letter said.

Linn County Circuit Court Judge Daniel Murphy replied that the court would deny the withdrawal "absent the agreement of the parties or some evidence that you did not receive proper notice."

Breitmeyer said the college will not be actively participat-

ing in the lawsuit, and that the college board has not discussed where any proceeds from the lawsuit might go. JoAnn Zahn, the college's vice president of finance and operations, said the timber revenue the college receives is dedicated to \$560,000 in annual debt service. She said the general fund budget for timber revenue is \$400,000, representing 2.7 percent of the annual revenue.

The lawsuit, filed by Linn County last year and later certified a class action, had grown to include 15 counties and approximately 130 taxing districts receiving timber revenue. Linn County claims the state violated a 1940s era timber contract in 1998, when the state Board of Forestry changed timber policies to emphasize conservation and recreation concerns.

Most counties and taxing districts did nothing and remained as plaintiffs. Clatsop County was the only county to opt out, taking with it several county controlled taxing districts. The Sunset Empire Parks and Recreation and Transportation districts also opted out. The county's largest single recipient of timber revenue, the Jewell School District, stayed in.

## LOTTERIES

### OREGON

#### Thursday's Pick 4:

1 p.m.: 4-6-5-7  
 4 p.m.: 2-2-5-9  
 7 p.m.: 5-5-5-4  
 10 p.m.: 1-6-2-5

### WASHINGTON

#### Thursday's Daily Game: 9-9-7

Thursday's Keno: 08-09-14-23-24-25-26-27-32-35-47-49-55-59-63-65-70-71-79-80  
 Thursday's Match 4: 10-18-19-21

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

### MONDAY

#### Knappa School Board, 5:30 p.m., Knappa High School library, 41535 Old U.S. Highway 30.

#### Clatsop County Fair Board, 5:30 p.m., 800 Exchange St., Room 430

#### Astoria City Council, 6 p.m., work session on construction excise tax, 7 p.m., regular meeting, City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

## OBITUARY POLICY

The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

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