

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 — 2007

Flags danced in the wind on Memorial Day and it seemed that flowers were everywhere as North Coast residents and visitors took time out to remember soldiers who gave their lives for their country.

First called Decoration Day, the holiday has its roots in the Civil War when women's groups began decorating graves with flowers. It became an official holiday in 1868 with proclamation by Ben John Logan. In 1900, it was renamed Memorial Day.

Memorial Day was observed on May 30 until 1971, when Congress changed it to the last Monday in May and broadened it to include all soldiers and sailors killed fighting for America.

Help is on the way for West Coast salmon fishers thanks to the Iraq War.

Tacked on to the request for additional funding for troops in the Middle East was a spending bill for our projects. This will provide \$60.4 million to West Coast fishers — mostly in Oregon and California — hard hit by a downturn in catches and allocations.

Astoria middle-schoolers have been learning about environmental stewardship at its roots, in an outdoor location that didn't take them too far from homeroom.

More than 100 seventh-graders converged on the Oregon Department of Forestry's Astoria district last week. Broken into small groups, students learned about the environmental, economic and social bearings of the 154,000-acre Clatsop State Forest, one of the largest shares of Oregon timber in the state.

Astoria's sardine industry is growing, along with the market for the North Coast's oil-rich product.

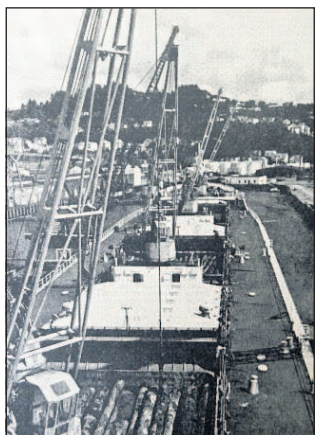
This year, all three of the fish processors operating in the Port of Astoria's Pier 2 warehouse are expanding their operations to cash in on a burgeoning international sardine food market.

50 years ago — 1967

A 7 million board foot logs cargo, believed to be the largest ever loaded on the Columbia River, sailed for Japan last weekend from Port of Astoria aboard the 34,733 ton Norwegian motorship Thorshavn.

Astoria longshoremen stowed the huge cargo in seven days, at the rate of a million board feet a day.

The Thorshavn is 630 feet long overall, with a 84 foot beam. The entire log cargo was stowed below the ship's flush decks, in contrast to most ships which load about 5 million feet of logs of which they carry a fifth or so above decks. Maximum draft of the ship is 36 feet 7/4 inches.



The Daily Astorian/File

The freighter Thorshavn, as seen from the flying bridge, with 7 million feet of logs stowed in the holds.

Northwest Aluminum apparently has chosen the local site and will go ahead with plans to build its plant here as result of Senate passage of the port bond bill Friday morning, board chairman Richard W. Pickens of Northwest Aluminum told the Daily Astorian by telephone from Rockwall, Texas.

"We are very grateful for the fine vote of the Oregon Senate," Pickens said.

Traffic over the Astoria Bridge soared to 31,122 vehicles, an average of 1,004 daily, in May, the Oregon Highway Department reported Thursday.

This was a gain of 6,367 over the April total. The gain in average daily traffic was 179 over the April average 825 daily.

There was a substantial increase in volume of tourist travel in May, Highway Department officials reported.

75 years ago — 1942

Barrage balloons forming aerial "fences" around vital military establishments have been installed along the entire Pacific Coast from Canada to Mexico, a survey showed today.

The balloons are just a part of the drastic preparations made to forestall any retaliatory bombing of the coast by Japanese to avenge the American raid on Tokyo.

I people do not avail themselves of the chance to register for home canning sugar this week, it will be too late, warned D.J. Lewis, rationing administrator today. Registration so far has been unsatisfactory, Lewis said, but it will be impossible to keep registration open after this week because of lack of office help.

The Erickson Paving Co., Seattle, began work on grading the new route of the Columbia highway through the hills south of Tongue Point Naval Air Station.

The highway is being rerouted to avoid going through the air station reservation.

Oregon and Washington radio stations returned to the air at 5:30 a.m. Pacific war time, today after the second consecutive night of silence ordered by the fourth interceptor command.

Stations were silenced at 9 o'clock last night, and civilian defense organizations in the two states remained on the alert against the possibility of an attack



GUEST COLUMN

The un-American quality



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Hundreds of people participated in the Women's March in Astoria in January.

By TIFFINY KAYE MITCHELL
Special to The Daily Astorian

On Saturday, I will join concerned citizens of Astoria on the corner of Commercial and Eighth streets for the Indivisible Rally for Truth. Thousands of others will be rallying across the United States in similar protests demanding transparency and honesty from our government, particularly from the gentleman heading our executive branch.

But, in the words of a friend of mine in a Southern state, "Another rally? Why?" For her, the particular question extends to why "the Left" — and the growing throngs on either side of the aisle — just can't "let it go."

Recently, I've had to answer this question more for the sake of my own mental fortitude than to satisfy her specific inquiry. As we move further into 2017 and its near daily surreal revelations about Russian meddling into our elections, alleged collusion and how much our own president did or didn't know — I've begun to show signs of exhaustion. I've seen it in others, too. How much longer can we really continue to demand answers in the face of repeated denials? How long can we continue to profess there's smoke if we haven't found a fire? Why is it necessary that I continue to demand these things, when it would be much easier to watch cable news and trust that my elected officials are doing it for me?

After a time of weary pondering, the answer comes: because apathy is un-American.

As we approach Saturday, I would ask my fellow citizens to consider their roles in our society within the context of the Founding Fathers we all profess to love and admire. The framers of our Constitution built within this nation a mechanism for America's children to truly participate. We cast our initial vote to elect a mouthpiece, and all share the responsibility of ensuring that the mouthpiece truly represents our interests by supporting policies and legislation that further America's ideals.

Though many of the representatives for Oregon are asking the critical questions of the Trump administration and alleged ties to foreign governments and conflicts of interest, the people's primary mouthpiece — Donald Trump himself — has compromised the responsibility entrusted to him by the constituency of the United States.

Citizens should feel compelled to raise their voices in harmonious discord and demand answers in the same way our founders did. Paine, Jefferson and Franklin didn't throw tea into the Boston Harbor, but rather, exercised their dissent through rhetoric and activism. And though we're no longer British citizens demanding representation for taxation and the same freedoms of others in the British Empire — we are Americans who deserve to know whether the integrity of our election was influenced by an outside government and, more specifically, whether collusion existed between that outside entity and our own president's

administration.

And when an investigation into those ties is disrupted by the dismissal of the very man leading it? Our Founding Fathers would demand nothing less of us than to demand answers and accountability.

Contrary to the popular opinion of some — this isn't about satisfying a grudge over the other candidate losing the 2016 election. It is tremendously more complex and vast. This is about ensuring the integrity of our government's future.

That is why I continue to fight, even though it at times feels futile. We as a unified people deserve answers, and knowing I'm not alone when individuals come together to all demand the same thing makes the path seem worthwhile. While on the surface a rally appears to accomplish very little, the banding together of individuals in the pursuit of truth serves as a visual reminder that a bloc of people all have the same passion and love for this country that I do, as well as the power to unite and dismiss public representatives who fail to secure desired outcomes that benefits American citizens. In a political system that seems continuously stacked against the individual, it's the promise that we stand indivisible as an indestructible wall to oppose the unacceptable.

I continue to fight — because apathy is un-American.

Tiffiny Kaye Mitchell is a member of the Astoria Indivisible community group. A Utah native by birth, but an Astorian in her soul, she and her husband moved to Astoria to fulfill shared lifelong dreams to live in one of the rainiest cities in America.

LETTERS WELCOME

Letters should be exclusive to The Daily Astorian. We do not publish open letters or third-party letters.

Letters should be fewer than 350 words and must include the writer's name, address and phone numbers. You will be contacted to confirm authorship.

All letters are subject to editing for space, grammar and, on occasion, factual accuracy and verbal verification of authorship. Only two letters per writer are printed each month.

Letters written in response to

other letter writers should address the issue at hand and, rather than mentioning the writer by name, should refer to the headline and date the letter was published. Discontent should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner. Letters referring to news stories should also mention the headline and date of publication.

The Daily Astorian welcomes short "in gratitude" notes from readers for publication. They should keep to a 200-word maximum and writers are asked to avoid simply listing event sponsors. They

must be signed, include the writer's address, phone number and are subject to condensation and editing for style, grammar, etc.

Submissions may be sent in any of these ways:

E-mail to editor@dailyastorian.com;

Online form at www.dailyastorian.com;

Delivered to the Astorian offices at 949 Exchange St. and 1555 N. Roosevelt in Seaside.

Or by mail to Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103