

OPINION

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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 — 2008

After years of discussions about establishing marine reserves in Oregon, many North Coast residents still question the need for them.

At a marine reserves "Listening and Learning" forum in Warrenton Friday, about 30 people heard details on what scientists know and don't know about Oregon's territorial sea and the potential benefits of marine reserves.

They also got the state's working definition of marine reserves: Areas within the state's 950 square miles of territorial sea that would be set aside for scientific study and "protected from all extractive activities, including the removal or disturbance of living and non-living marine resources."

The ports of Astoria and Newport are in the running to become the new home of a federal agency's Pacific fleet.

Last year, the Port of Astoria responded to a request for site proposals from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which is looking for a new home for several research vessels.

The arrangement would include four permanently stationed vessels and two roving vessels that would stop in periodically.

Like a glorious Cathedral that fills worshipers with awe, Astoria's 200-foot tall Cathedral Tree has long inspired those who traverse the urban trail that bears its name.

And fortunately for all who love it, the towering Sitka spruce withstood the hurricane-force winds of the December windstorm that toppled most of its neighbors and ravaged the county.

50 years ago — 1968

Thirty-two survivors of the stricken tanker *Mandool II*, victims of a tragic collision 340 miles off the Oregon coast Wednesday afternoon, were landed at Astoria at 9:30 a.m. Friday. Eleven of the crew were missing. Two were seriously injured.



A long-running serial romance mini-novel began in *The Daily Astorian* this week in 1943. 'Cupid pulled the ripcord on romance when Captain Jimmy Carr helped Pat Friday adjust her parachute harness — but Loraine Stuart, the captain's fiancée, was determined to send Pat Friday's high-gliding dreams into a tailspin.'

Showing the effects of the ordeal, the crewmen were ferried ashore by Coast Guard and pilot boats from the *Kure Maru*, which picked them from the sea at the scene of the collision.

Treasure hunter Tony Mareno, Salem, was Thursday given permission by the state corporations commission to sell an additional \$6,000 interest in his dig for the legendary Neah-kahnie treasure at Manzanita beach.

The Oregon Supreme Court today took under advisement arguments in an appeal to halt issuance of revenue bonds for a huge aluminum reduction plant at Warrenton by the Port of Astoria.

The Army, after long delay, has decided it has no use for the ferry *M.R. Chessman* and has informed Astoria Marine Construction company there will be no contract to repair the vessel for a voyage to Vietnam.

"This is a real fiasco," said Elwyn Griffith, AMCCO manager. "We have been on the hook four months on this thing. Only two weeks ago they told us they would award the contract next day. We arranged drydock time in Portland and notified several sub-contractors. Now we have to cancel all these arrangements."

The executive vice president of Northwest Aluminum Co. assured Gov. Tom McCall Thursday the proposed Warrenton plant would be built even if a federal tax is placed on industrial revenue bonds. "We have a very strong desire to be in Oregon," McCall quoted Peck.

75 years ago — 1943

Astorians have been digging out the shovels, rakes and garden hose this past week and deluging seed stores with their Victory garden purchases. Now they will have a chance to learn just how to go about this project in the most modern, scientific way.

County Agent Afton Zundel will begin a series of weekly classes on Victory gardens Wednesday evening at 7:30 in the circuit court rooms.

Fisheries of the Pacific coast produce more protein food per unit of manpower than any other element in America's provisioning for war, it is emphasized in the fifty-first Pacific Fisherman yearbook, just published by Miller Freeman Publications.

Enforcement of the city's 25 year old curfew ordinance was promised by the city commission at a meeting Monday night, following a deluge of petitions from various organizations who indicated fear of child delinquency. Most of the organizations offered to cooperate with the city administration in enforcement of the law keeping unauthorized boys and girls, under 18 years, off the streets after 10 p.m.

Grizzled 82-year-old Bill Markley, who has lived on the Columbia River highway where it branches off to Bradwood and Clifton for the past 15 years, reckons his shooting eye isn't quite as good as it once was, but he just missed bagging his 300th bobcat this past winter.

His tally sheet (the veteran eagle eye scorns notches on his gun) shows 108 black bear, 298 bobcats and "I've long since forgot to count the number of buck deer."

The cruiser *U.S.S. Astoria*, namesake of one of three heavy cruisers sunk off the Savo islands last August, was launched today at the Cramp Shipbuilding Co.

The *Astoria*, originally named the *Wilkes-Barre*, was sponsored by Mrs. Robert Lucas, Astoria, Ore., daughter of State Senator Merle Chessman.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don't disrespect our Olympic athletes

The Washington Post asserted on the last day of the 2018 Winter Olympics that "With 23 medals, Team USA falls short of expectations at PyeongChang Olympics." Perhaps there is one iota of truth for a nation with 350 million people in that statement. But I think that the person who wrote that has never worked half as hard as all our Olympic athletes who qualified to represent our country. And now, if they didn't get a medal, they are insulted by some dunce. It is the media who build up the expectations to an infinite degree and drop the athletes ignominiously if they fail to perform. I will have none of that disrespect.

ERHARD GROSS
Astoria

Vote Orr for state representative

I am pleased at the number of citizens willing to step into public office this year. The primary election ballots are due May 15. This election is when our political parties sort out who will represent them in the November election.

John Orr is a Democrat running for our District 32 seat in the Oregon House of Representatives. He will get my vote, and has surpassed my criteria for these reasons:

He appreciates and reads history, and is willing to use lessons of the past to inform his decisions about today.

He knows the law, how laws are made, and the consequences which come when they are broken.

His 20-plus years in our county as a public defender tells me he will listen, and is able to successfully navigate and negotiate — and reach for best outcomes among his diligently researched options.

He hunts, loves the outdoors, and works to keep our natural environment safe.

He's not a politician.

I endorse John Orr for election as state representative for District 32.

SARA MEYER
Astoria

Concerned about disaster preparations

I am running for the Democratic nomination for Oregon House District 32, which includes Clatsop, Tillamook and a portion of Washington county. I am writing to state my concern for the readiness of our region for



a high-level disaster, such as an earthquake and its resulting tsunami, driven by a report issued by the Oregon Secretary of State's audit section, which reports that such a disaster could cause up to 10,000 deaths, and \$30 billion in property damages.

The report goes on to declare: "Oregon does not meet baseline standards for preparedness response, accountability and resource needs." Further, planning efforts are lacking, continuity plans are either incomplete or missing, meaning, Oregon potentially faces a loss of federal grant funding for disasters.

If this is true, then we need to increase our efforts to retrofit and reinforce key infrastructure. Also mentioned for concern was the need for coordinating, planning, and training exercises to insure our preparedness meets baseline standards.

The Secretary of State also notes the need for improvement in response and recovery — that is, actions taken to return to normal. Since most of the resources needed to make improvements must come from the state and federal government, as a legislator, I would,

if elected, be committed to conscientious oversight. The voters should know about the progress, efficiency and effectiveness of both programs and administrators.

With an earthquake, it may be hard to return to normal, but efforts undertaken now can mitigate the suffering. Time is not on our side.

JOHN F. ORR
Astoria

Research piling up against cholesterol theory

Did you know that before the drug companies lowered the standards, the normal cholesterol level was 250, and normal blood pressure was 140/90? They ensured themselves of a new supply of lifetime statin drug users. But even with statin drugs being prescribed for the last 30 years, there has not been a significant reduction of heart disease in America.

Research is piling up against the cholesterol theory, and showing the homocysteine

theory is more accurate. Homocysteine is an amino acid, a waste product of animal protein, that builds up in the arteries, causing blood clots and blocking up the vessels.

The side effects of statin drugs are congestive heart failure, cancer, severe liver damage, suicide, an increase in violent behavior in men, low energy, flu-like symptoms, disturbed sleep, poor memory, weakness, numbness or pain in muscles and high blood sugar.

This information was taken from the writings of Bruce West ("Health Alert"), Dr. Ronald L. Hoffman ("Forget Cholesterol: Healthy Heart Breakthroughs") and "A Guide to Your Heart: The Dangers of Medical Treatments for Heart Disease," by the editors of "What Doctors Don't Tell You."

Two friends of mine, each came up with finding that the vegan vegetarian diet was the healthiest one for everybody, especially for people with heart disease, cancer, or any health problem.

CAROLYN GEIGER
Warrenton