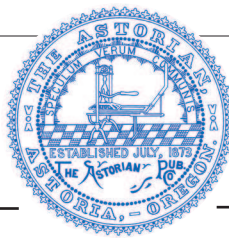


OPINION

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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 — 2008

The Oregon Transportation Commission approved \$3.6 million for the Port of Astoria and the city of Newport to develop passenger air service to Portland International Airport. It is one of 30 projects that will receive funding through the \$100 million lottery-bond-backed Connect Oregon II program.

"Man, I'm so excited," said Port Commission Chairman Dan Hess. "When it was here before we used it a lot ... Anything we can do to help bring people to the coast is great."

Astoria Music Festival agencies will be in for an extra treat — as if world-class opera and chamber music weren't enough — when film and TV actor David Ogden Stiers joins the Festival Orchestra to narrate Felix Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Festival Grand Finale, 4 p.m. Sunday at the Liberty Theater.

Stiers is best known for his portrayal of Major Winchester on the long-running TV show "M*A*S*H," and his career has included many more film and TV appearances, as well as numerous voices for animated characters in Disney films. He is also a classically trained musician and the guest conductor of the Newport Symphony.

Skyrocketing gas prices may change some North Coast crime-fighting strategies and municipal public works operations.

But Seaside Police Chief Bob Gross refuses to cut back. "We haven't cut back on patrols or cut back on what we're doing," he said.

The Seaside Police Department has seen an increase in its fuel expenditures over the last few budget cycles. The current budget allots \$25,000 for "gas, oil and fuel." Chief Gross estimates that patrol cars use between \$1,500 and \$2,000 worth of fuel a month.

50 years ago — 1968

Tapiola park was a seething mass of junior



An advertisement from 1943.

Astorians Wednesday as the circus came to town Wednesday morning.

Hundreds were on hand to watch long trains of bright wagons pull into the circus lot where the Carson and Barnes four-ring circus scheduled two performances during the day.

Early comers were hired on the spot to spread canvas as one of the bulls, a trained elephant, towed a power-driven stake setter around the outline of the big top.

Others peered through bars as trainers washed down Goliath, the giant hippo, fed the bulls and horses and lined up power lines for the grand opening at 2:30 p.m.

Contrary to advance information, Sky King, Kirby Grant, did not arrive in the plane he uses in television movies. He arrived somewhat behind schedule in a bright blue car after a trip from Tillamook, last night's stand. The television personality is star of the show.

An Oregon contribution to the war effort in south Vietnam,

the ferry M.R. Chessman, is scheduled tentatively to leave Astoria Wednesday for the long trip overseas.

A plan for comprehensive development of the Columbia River was advanced by Marvin Durning, Seattle, winner in 1966 of the National Conservationists of the Year Award.

Durning's plan called for development of educational, historic, cultural and scenic resources of the river from Canada to the sea.

75 years ago — 1943

Mrs. Alberta Leota Lansing, once a Navy wife in Astoria living at the Trullinger apartments, will be sponsor at launching of a destroyer escort vessel, U.S.S. Lansing, marking one of the greatest tributes that could be accorded the memory of a fallen war hero of the United States.

The ship is named for her late husband, William H. Lansing, 28, an aviation machinist's mate, first class, who was killed by enemy fire in the Aleutian islands on June 11, 1942.

Posthumous honors with the presentation of the Purple Heart to Mrs. May Peldo, route 1, Astoria, sister of Don G. Halstead (Haataja) recently killed in action in the Africa area, have been announced from war department headquarters in Washington.

This is the first such high army award to be made to a local youth during World War II.

The vanguard of WAVE officers to be stationed at the Naval Air Station, Astoria, arrived here last week, it was announced today by the commanding officer.

Each of these young women has had exceptional educational background and business experience which warranted her commission in the organization.

Planning to complete three of the proposed emergency radio units by the end of the week, David J. Lewis, defense coordinator, today appealed to the people of Astoria and Clatsop County to donate old radios, particularly car radios, to the defense council. He asked that they be turned in as soon as possible.

Astoria gets its second big-time show of radio and screen luminaries in two years tonight when the famed Camel Caravan will perform at the USO house in all-community exhibition, free to the whole wide world.

The Caravan performers, all 23 of them, agreed to take the stage for the Astoria civilians as well as servicemen upon their own vote on a suggestion put forward by Joey Rardin, master of ceremonies. Brewer A. Billie, Astoria city manager and chairman of the USO recreation, has been trying to get the Caravan to play at the USO house, as the first anniversary of the Camel Caravan's dedication of the \$250,000 building just a year ago.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Elected officials should uphold the Constitution

Our president ran on the slogan "Make America Great Again," which resonated with many voters. Since his election, however, his administration's actions have prompted many citizens to declare "this is not my America." There is much talk of a divided America, and some describe the upcoming midterm elections as a "fight for the soul of America."

These tumultuous times demand national self-examination. If we can perceive this, not as a fight, but an opportunity to contemplate what America's soul is or ought to be, then we can use our voices and votes to clearly define the principles America will adhere to, and which will collectively describe us.

For most of us, the Constitution is the primary set of these principles. I have also been reflecting on the permanent legacy of one great American, Eleanor Roosevelt, and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. If you have not read it recently, I urge you to do so.

You will see the strong influence of our Constitution, and of principles that call upon all nations to expand their souls to generously embody care and concern for all peoples. The principles embodied in these two documents are nonpartisan. Together they represent what the soul of America can be.

Our elected officials swear to uphold the Constitution. In addition, when political candidates want my vote, I will ask them to pledge to conform their decisions to the universal declaration. Whatever your party affiliation, I invite you to do the same. And to hold them to it.

NADINE FAITH
Astoria

Commission should define where county should go

There has been much said about the proper role of elected commissioners in Clatsop County government. Let me be clear on where I stand.

I fully expect the county manager to carry out the business of the county based upon a set of well-defined policies. What I don't see happening today is careful deliberation and strategic planning for what those policies should be, and accountability for their implementation.

Here is an example of what I mean. If I am fortunate to be elected to the District 3 commissioner's seat, I will push for policies promoting economic development. That means public input to understand the community per-

spective, deliberation among the commissioners to set priorities and goals, and input from the staff on best practices and what it will take to implement a policy.

I would then expect the staff to take actions to implement the policy, with periodic reports on status. This same process would be taken on emergency preparedness, natural resources, public safety, affordable housing, etc.

I see my approach not as "hands on" toward the daily operation of the county, but as placing more responsibility on the commission to better define where we want this county to go.

PAMELA WEV
Astoria

Pruitt must be removed from EPA

If you want a healthy, non-toxic environment to live in for yourself, your children and grandchildren, this is important. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt must be removed from office.

His actions to undo regulations that protect clean air and clean water, that protect the public from toxic chemicals, and that decrease greenhouse gas emissions, are the antithesis to the purpose of the agency he heads. We are going to have to rename it the Environmental Pollution Agency.

His actions of corruption, self-dealing, and abuse of the public trust/money are beyond the pale for a government employee. He has kept his job because of his allegiance to President Donald Trump and those who serve him, especially the fossil fuel industry, who will sacrifice our world to make a buck.

Americans must do better than this. The fix is to vote Republicans out of office. Spread the word to friends and family around the country.

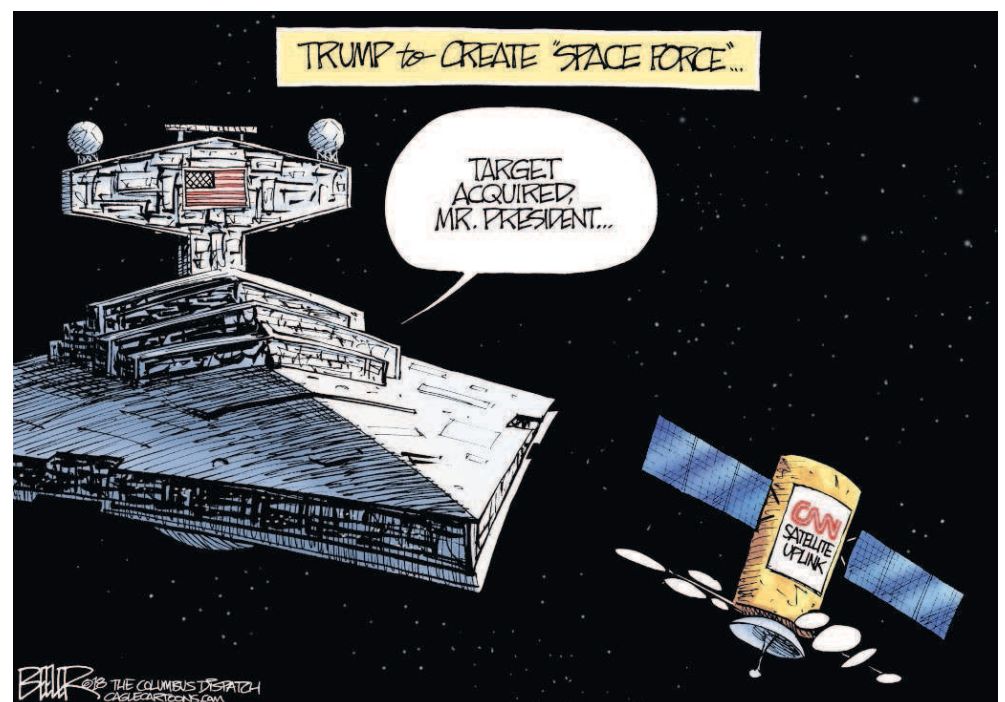
Please take care of our beautiful country. We must put an end to this sham.

SHARON KLOEPFER
Gearhart

Boxes along river not worthy of the place

Twenty years ago, near the end of my father's life, we had a conversation about Astoria. I said that the town seemed to be changing in ways that were unworthy of it, and he replied that he, too, worried that Astoria was losing its way, though he added that he believed that "for a long time you will still have the river."

What he said helped, but eventually I had



LETTERS WELCOME

Letters should be exclusive to The Daily Astorian.

Letters should be fewer than 250 words and must include the writer's name, address and phone number. You will be contacted to confirm authorship.

All letters are subject to editing for space, grammar, and, on occasion, factual accuracy. Only two letters per writer are allowed 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. Discourse should be civil and people should be referred to in a respectful manner. Letters in poor taste will not be printed.

Send via email to editor@dailyastorian.com, online at dailyastorian.com/submit_letters, in person at 949 Exchange St. in Astoria or 1555 North Roosevelt in Seaside, or mail to Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103.

to admit that neither he nor I had fully enough imagined some of the disappointments to come. The massive, cheap boxes along the river, for example — the Holiday Inn Express

and the condominiums near Alderbrook — are buildings that in a variety of ways weaken our love for the place we live. Near these buildings we no longer "still have the river."

Recently my wife and I completed a photographic book about the Nehalem Spit, south of Manzanita, a place that shows signs of abuse. The book is entitled "Tenancy," a word meaning "the temporary possession of what belongs to another." Which is to say that we do not own anything, and so do not have the right to sell or facilitate the sale of anything that does not honor the Creator.

ROBERT ADAMS
Astoria

Liberals not tolerant of those who object to views

Today I would like to address all the Democrats and other liberals who believe that they are in the party of love and understanding, but fail to comprehend their total intolerance of people who object to their views.

Let me make a prediction. In the near future there will be laws made by your party that will in effect force those of us receiving checks from the government, i.e. Social Security, Veterans Affairs disability, etc., to acknowledge ideas and beliefs we find objectionable on both a moral and spiritual basis.

Those of you who doubt me, check out Canada's laws concerning speaking out against sexual immorality in its many forms. For doing so there, you might find yourself serving two years in jail.

CARL YATES
Seaside