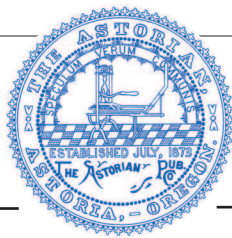


OPINION

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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

Clatsop County's navigable waterways present problems for the Sheriff's Marine Patrol.

The patrol's responsibilities include enforcing boating and safety laws on a wide range of waterways, ranging from the county's rivers to lakes and ocean stretches.

And in addition to a variety of waterways, the North Coast commonly has hazardous boating weather.

So, Clatsop County's Chief Deputy Sheriff Paul Williams has been working for 2 1/2 years to replace the aging fleet.

And as other counties are struggling to find ways to keep day-to-day operations going, paying for an expensive new boat seemed a challenge, at best.

The latest boat to arrive in the fleet may make Clatsop County the envy of other public safety providers.

With the August delivery of a high-tech aluminum boat, the county sets the standard for on-the-water public safety.

The North Coast Land Conservancy has purchased a 107-acre property on Clatsop Plains that holds promise both for the endangered Silver-spot butterfly and National Guard soldiers at Rilea Armed Forces Training Center.

The purchase was designed to allow the Oregon Military Department to utilize 68 acres of restricted habitat at Camp Rilea for training exercises. Restrictions intended to protect the butterfly would move to the 107 acres on Clatsop Plains, west of U.S. Highway 101.

Port of Astoria Commission members walked out of an unusual executive session Thursday with a nod from a dozen citizens and community leaders to move forward with its plans to purchase North Tongue point.

Former Port of Astoria commissioner Al Rissman, an



2008 — The Clatsop County Sheriff's Office now sports a new 26-foot North River Rave. The twin-engine boat was chosen for its versatility and its ability to handle inclement weather out at sea and in the Columbia River.

invited guest to the session, summed up his advice to the board after the meeting. "Go for it," he said.

50 years ago — 1968

The largest collection of candidates, under one roof, of the entire political campaign failed to draw more than three score voters to Zion Lutheran church for the annual League of Women Voters' candidates' fair Saturday.

Six tuna fishermen were airlifted to safety Monday night from the deck of the bait boat Donna B after the 51-foot vessel went aground one-fourth mile north of the north jetty.

Two helicopters from Astoria Coast Guard Air Station were dispatched to the scene about 10 p.m. One aircraft, piloted by Lt. Ronald Potter, made three trips to ferry the six Californians to the beach.

Does Astoria need a low rent housing program? Mayor Harry Steinbock said he thought so Monday evening at the city council meeting, but Councilman Arnold Swanson questioned that much need exists.

The discussion arose after the council heard Clarence Singleton, chairman of the city Housing Authority of two decades ago, report that the authority still legally exists and could be reactivated if the council decides to go into low-rent housing as proposed recently by a representative of the Federal Housing and Urban Development Agency.

Singleton outlined several alternative methods for the city to get into public housing for low-income families. He said the most attractive one provided for the Housing Authority to lease properties from private owners for two to five years, then rent them at low cost to low-income families, with the federal government making up the deficit between rental and lease rates.

Three firms are interested in setting up retail fish outlets and grocery services at the West Astoria small boat harbor, basin manager Robert Lawlis informed port commissioners Tuesday night.

75 years ago — 1943

For "ably and efficiently" performing the "difficult task of landing personnel and supplies under the most adverse conditions of wind and sea on an unprotected beach in the Aleutians," Martin K. Nielson, husband of Mrs. Agnes Nielson, 1554 Franklin Avenue, Astoria, recently received a letter of commendation from Vice Admiral T.C. Kincaid, commander of the North Pacific force, United States Pacific fleet, the 13th naval district has announced.

Nielson, now a shipfitter third class in the Seabees, was a fireman second class at the time he earned the citation. He was formerly an employee of Mason Ehrman company here.

Fire of unknown origin, but which might have started from flying sparks blown by a brisk southwest wind from the burner, completely destroyed the Warrenton shingle mill about 1:30 a.m. today, causing damage estimated by Charles Bronson, co-owner, at \$15,000.

Lt. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, commanding general of the western defense command, today issued a proclamation liberalizing dimout regulations on the Pacific coast in the interests of industrial requirements, public safety and public morale.

In Astoria lighting restrictions applying to zone B will be in effect, unless later changed, it was agreed by David J. Lewis, OCD administrator here, and Brewer Billie, Astoria city manager.

Lewis said dimout driving as it has been in effect here will be relaxed to permit driving with regular dimmer lights, or lights on the depressed beam with full candlepower. This will probably apply to the whole of Astoria, as did the previous dimout, since it is impossible to check or earmark streets and avenues that are, from block to block, "visible from the sea."

LETTERS

Smith doesn't condone stealing of campaign signs

In response to the letter written by Jane Gable in The Daily Astorian on Oct. 4, "Don't steal campaign signs in Gearhart," it is easy to determine this writer refers to Kerry Smith, who is the only one with an opponent running for re-election to the Gearhart City Council.

1. Neither Kerry nor I would ever condone the stealing of signs or the stealing of anything. We are saddened this has happened.

2. I can assure you Kerry is not desperate. He left for Africa before his opponent's signs were placed. He has no idea what these signs look like. He carried with him 50 new T-shirts and school supplies for orphaned children with AIDS.

3. Kerry and I are fortunate to have many friends. We are proud of the company we keep. They come from all walks of life and cultures. They include doctors, carpenters, plumbers, professors, librarians, landscapers, waitresses, yoga instructors and more. Things we have in common are our open minds, care for others, and working to make the world a better place.

Kerry has taken the job of Gearhart city councilor seriously, spending a great deal of time studying Gearhart's comprehensive plan and ordinances. He prepares for meetings, reading the minutes diligently. If he has questions, he seeks answers from higher authorities in specialized fields.

In 2016, he canceled a trip to visit our daughter in England to attend a special meeting. Kerry is a dedicated city councilor who studies facts before jumping to conclusions.

SUSAN EDY
Gearhart

Wev a breath of fresh air for county commissioner

There is so much anger and hate surrounding politics these days that, like many others, I just don't want to hear about it anymore. So for me, it is a breath of fresh air to have someone like Pam Wev running for office. She is calm, even-tempered, kind, gentle, smart and a listener.

I have had Pam in my home, and eaten a meal with her. Breaking bread with someone is a great way to get to know them, because the conversation can be relaxed and informal. Their true self comes out. I have found Pam to be a good person through and through. Her giving heart and strong intellect are there in plain sight. That is what I want in a public servant. I trust Pam with the important decisions that must be made about the future of Clatsop County.

As a commissioner, Pam will have to make choices on many difficult topics. I am confident that her decision-making process will be grounded by her beliefs, experience and compassion for the people. That is why

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JUSTICE KAVANAUGH, IS THAT THE SEXUAL ASSAULT CLOUD OR THE CORPORATE SHILL CLOUD OR THE SOFT PERTURBY CLOUD OR THE RABID PARTISAN CLOUD?

I am voting for Pam Wev to be my county commissioner.

CECILIA KIDDER
Astoria

Invest in our future with school bond

Years ago, when I read the book "Last Child in the Woods" by Richard Louv, a certain passage stuck with me. The book cites a study by the University of Illinois; "... They found that greenery in a child's everyday environment, even views of green through a window, specifically reduces attention-deficit symptoms."

As I continue to learn more about the 2018 Astoria School District bond, this quote seems especially relevant. In the current middle school, many of the classrooms are interior rooms with no views, or rooms with only one small window to the outside. If this bond passes, the classroom wing of the middle school will be replaced with a modern three-story wing, which I can safely assume will highlight the greenery surrounding the school.

Of course, new windows is only a small aspect of the project. I have two young children who will attend these schools, and my wife currently works at one of the schools; the importance of safety, both structurally and in security cannot be understated. I want to be able to send my kids to school, and for my wife to go to work, with the peace of mind

in knowing that they will be protected if "the big one" hits, or if a dangerous person tries to enter the campus. If this bond passes, I will have that peace of mind.

Vote yes on the 2018 Astoria School District bond.

ANDREW MATTINGLY
Astoria

Jones would be an excellent mayor

After reviewing Bruce Jones' qualifications of education, experience and community involvement, it is easy to see why he would make an excellent mayor for Astoria.

As an officer in the Coast Guard, Bruce rose to the rank of captain. Further trust was shown by the Coast Guard by elevating Bruce to commander, Sector Columbia River. His responsibilities included regularly collaborating with numerous federal, state and local and private sector agencies. This experience will prove invaluable by providing the city of Astoria with a person of known administrative and leadership abilities.

Bruce was on the front lines of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans several years ago. He helped direct Coast Guard rescue efforts in helping the survivors of this tragedy.

After his retirement from the Coast Guard, Bruce has taken an active role in the community by serving on local board of the Astoria

Armory and the Astoria City Council.

Those of us who know Bruce, know him to be a person of honor, integrity and keen intellect. He seeks to do what is best for our city.

He has all of the qualifications required of an excellent mayor.

CRAIG and SARA WISTI
Astoria

Taylor will make an excellent mayor

Dulcye Taylor knows how to get things done. She has maintained a successful business downtown for 11 years. As the long-time president of the Astoria Downtown Historical District Association, she has been instrumental in making Astoria a great place to visit or own a business.

Dulcye has been the creative organizer of several successful fundraising events, including the Jane Barnes Revue and Pacific Northwest Brew Cup. She always promotes Astoria as a town that belongs to all its residents. She encourages those of us who don't own a business or work downtown to become involved because she knows we all benefit from a successful downtown. Dulcye is a team builder and problem-solver extraordinaire. Dulcye Taylor will make an excellent mayor of our charming, quirky and wonderful Astoria.

PATSY OSER
Astoria