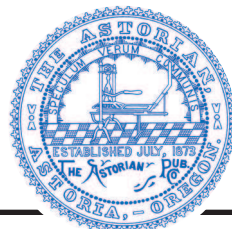


## OPINION



## THE DAILY ASTORIAN

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## GUEST COLUMN

Robert  
'Jake'  
Jacob

# Icon of Astoria will be honored Friday

Years from now, Astorians will still be telling stories about a daring visionary and iconoclast, Robert "Jake" Jacob.

With matinee idol good looks and piercing green eyes, Jake was a force of nature — unforgettable in life, unforgettable in death.

Jacob died in September 2018, leaving behind a rich legacy of good works in his hometown.

At Monday night's City Council meeting, Mayor Bruce Jones read the following proclamation.

*WHEREAS, Robert H. Jacob, known affectionately to Astorians as "Jake," was born in Astoria in 1949 and spent the last decades of his life enthusiastically helping create a vibrant and thriving Astoria; and*

*WHEREAS, Jake designed the master plan of the Astoria Riverwalk, using his architectural skills to incorporate the working riverfront with people, places and uses for all; and*

*WHEREAS, Jake worked to save and then preserve the Liberty Theatre for the city of Astoria; and*

*WHEREAS, Jake located and brought the Astoria Waterfront Trolley, also known as the "Old 300," to Astoria; and*

*WHEREAS, Jake envisioned, designed and built the Cannery Pier Hotel & Spa; and*

*WHEREAS, Jake led the charge to preserve and restore the Astoria Armory; and*

*WHEREAS, Jake led the charge to preserve and restore the Astoria Ferry Tourist #2; and*

*WHEREAS, Jake inspired and mentored other Astorians to do work to benefit the city of Astoria;*

*NOW THEREFORE, to honor Jake as the Astoria creative visionary he was and the dreamer he wanted each of us to be, the city of Astoria declares April 19, 2019 (which would have been Jake's 70th birthday) as*

*ROBERT "JAKE" JACOB DAY*

*Astoria is a better community for everyone to live in and visit because of Robert "Jake" Jacob.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have herewith set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Astoria to be affixed this 15th day of April, 2019.*

*City of Astoria Mayor, Bruce Jones*

## Horns and whistles

At 5 p.m. on Friday, horns and whistles throughout Astoria will sound, including Jeff Daly's Joy Train and the Astoria Ferry Tourist No. 2. Jones hopes Astorians will take a moment to remember Jake with gratitude for all of his contributions to the community, he said.

Many have called Jacob an "icon" of Astoria. More than 400 people attended a celebration of life for him at the Astoria Armory last fall.

Friends and acquaintances found his audacious ideas and over-the-top antics refreshing and even hilarious. They knew his crazy genius allowed him to imagine and do things others would not dare.

Former Mayor Willis Van Dusen joked that the only thing in town Jacob had nothing to do with was the Column.

"Jake is part of the Astoria lexicon," Van Dusen said.

Jacob "John Wayned" his way through life, believing that one should "do something, even if it's wrong." He continued to try new things, even as he struggled with alcoholism. Challenges and setbacks did not define him — he always figured there was another way to make something work out. A maverick, eccentric entrepreneur with charm and charisma, he left his fingerprints everywhere in Astoria.

Jacob was proud of his Finnish heritage, and would be amused to know that his brainchild, the Cannery Pier Hotel & Spa, just purchased a decorative trash bin for the Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Park in his name.

"Jake loved to throw away trash and clutter, and he would love the idea that a trash bin in a Scandinavian park would be a place his buddies could visit — and also leave the town a cleaner place," said friend Terry Rosenau.

Cannery Pier Hotel & Spa staff is building an outdoor bench with a plaque in his honor near the hotel — a bench built with contributions from each staff member, many of whom worked with him since the hotel opened in 2005.

Donna Quinn is director of sales and marketing for the Cannery Pier Hotel & Spa.

DONNA  
QUINN

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Breath of fresh air

This Sunday was the first time in a long time I felt there was hope for our country. A smart, kind young man, Pete Buttigieg, the mayor of South Bend, Indiana, declared his candidacy for president of the U.S. What a breath of fresh air in this quagmire of a troubled country and its people.

Buttigieg spoke to many issues: The economy, the rebuilding of unions, global warming, our relationship with the rest of the world, Medicare for all and much more. He approached these things with intelligence and thoughtfulness.

He talked of bringing the country together, of having more empathy for one another, and presented a picture of a better and stronger country. He wasn't didactic, he wasn't cruel and he wasn't bullying.

Mayor Pete Buttigieg helped South Bend rebuild after the recession, and once again it is a thriving city. He is a veteran of the Afghan War as an intelligence officer. He is a Harvard graduate and attended Oxford. He has been a business consultant for many corporations, he speaks seven languages and plays concert piano. He is a devout Christian. And oh, yeah, he is an openly gay man married to a gay man. The people in Indiana don't seem to care. They love him.

Stay tuned for a long and interesting ride with Pete Buttigieg.

MARY TANGUAY WEBB  
Astoria

## Fresh eyes for Port

Why I am running for the Port of Astoria Commission, Position 3: I have always believed in term limits for any political office. Without them, "we the people" could not have a government. We do not have a monarchy; we are a republic. We pledge our allegiance to the flag ... and to the republic for which it stands.

I believe that members of a commission are chosen by a larger group to act in the best interests of the entire population. I think a commission should resemble a family, with all its personalities. The family members may disagree like heck behind closed doors, but those disagree-

ments shouldn't come rolling out the door. For leadership to work, it needs to be unified in public.

I am not running against someone, but I am running for the Port and the people of Clatsop County.

There is a lot of good happening at the Port, and most of the employees go beyond their prescribed duties to make the Port a better place.

We cannot change past history. We can learn from it, and we can grow. As it is said, "If we continue doing the same thing the same way we have always done it, we will continue to get the same result." I bring a fresh set of eyes to the Port. I ask that you give serious consideration prior to casting your vote for the members of your Port Commission. I would be honored to be one of those for whom you vote.

SCOTT McCLAIN  
Astoria

## Our tax dollars

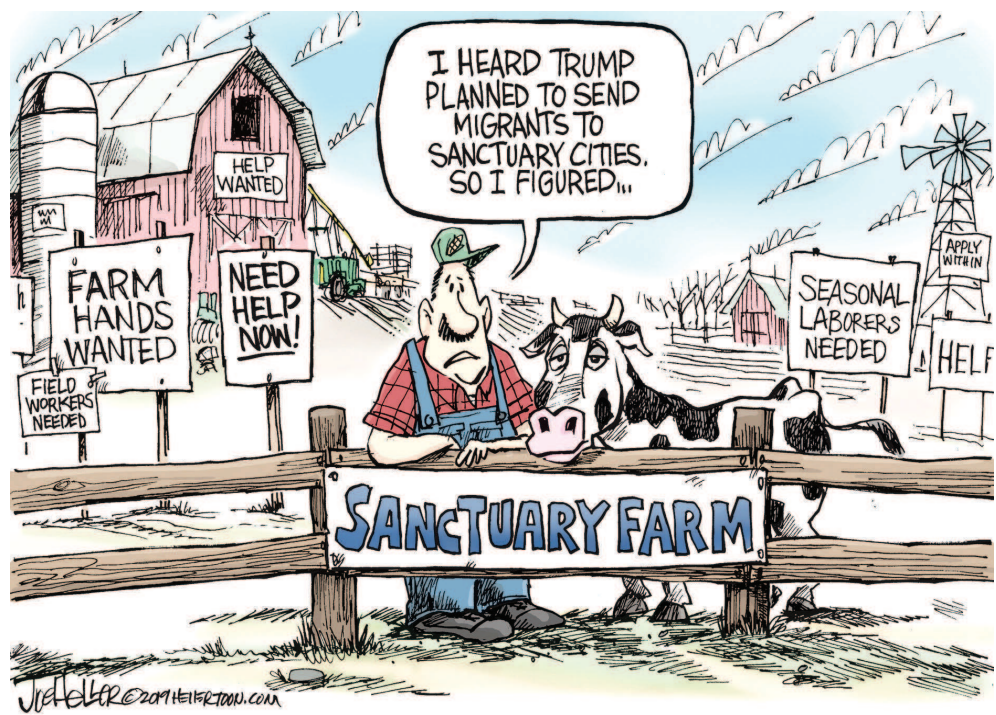
After reading the article regarding Oregon Highway 202 and the continuing issues with the soil stability, a quote from the Oregon Department of Transportation maintenance manager really stuck out for me ("On state Highway 202, a landslide brings drivers down," The Daily Astorian, April 12). He was quoted as saying the local contractors advised him to wait for the soil to dry out.

The state employs civil engineers to make this sort of determination for a lot of reasons, and rightly so. Seeking a private contractor's input is valuable, but should never be the sole justification for the expenditure of tax dollars.

RICHARD McINTOSH  
Astoria

## Climate change is here

It is clear that climate change is upon us. We are seeing melting ice sheets at the poles, prolonged wildfire seasons, extreme storms, rising sea levels and acidification of the oceans. The overwhelming consensus of the scientific community agrees we must reduce carbon and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.



We, as Oregonians, must do our part to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. That is why we must pass the Clean Energy Jobs Bill, House Bill 2020. It's a policy that caps and prices greenhouse gas emissions from large polluters, and reinvests the proceeds into clean energy and energy efficiency solutions.

An independent economic study found the policy will add 50,000 new jobs by 2050, and grow the gross domestic product (GDP) by 2.5 percent. We have much to gain from Clean Energy Jobs, and much to lose if we fail to seize this opportunity. Imagine the cost to society if we do nothing in the face of the climate change.

Please let state Sen. Betsy Johnson and state Rep. Tiffany Mitchell know you support HB 2020.

SHARON KLOEPFER  
Gearhart

## Stevens for Port

Please cast your valuable ballot for Robert "Steve" Stevens for Port of Astoria Commissioner.

Let's get out of the red and into the black. Steve Stevens is all about our Port realizing its great potential for tourism and in industry. He is also mindful of maintaining harmony with our community's well-being. The community's voice

is important, and should be heard. He is interested in people's concerns.

He sees the cards on the table but is the visionary viewing the Port's potential. He understands a cohesive agenda requires both short-term and long-term goals. He has the grit to prioritize infrastructure improvements and see them to completion.

Playing to win — he will be fuel in the money-making machine our Port was always meant to be. He cares about what people have to say. He is a good listener, and will be accessible to his constituents. He will foster transparency from the Port to the people.

His leadership skills will promote a no-nonsense, rational and productive exchange of ideas. He is intelligent, calm in crisis, and thoughtful and measured in his responses. The Port would gain a wise diplomat.

He has an earnest commitment to our community and will work hard to optimize its future. Having retired in Warrenton, he is here for the duration. He will be present and accounted for at all proceedings in behalf of the Port's interests.

He will make a long-lasting and great contribution. Please cast your valuable ballot for Steve Stevens for Port Commissioner.

MARTHA PHILLIPS  
Astoria