

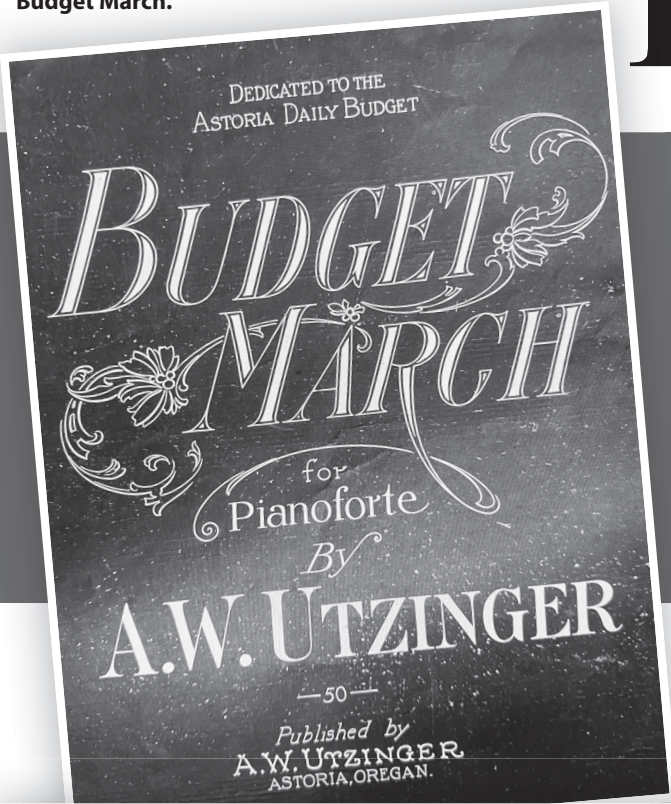
The cover of the score for the 'Budget March.'

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WEEKEND BREAK



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A march of our own

Newspaper march is a sprightly tune

By STEVE FORRESTER
The Astorian

Astoria is one big attic. The souvenirs of this town's long history are scattered among homes and archives. One of my most surprising discoveries is the "Budget March" — three pages of sheet music dedicated to the Astoria Daily Budget, a newspaper that my grandfather and his partners acquired in 1919.



Steve Forrester

During the 1990s someone brought me this piece of sheet music. I had lost track of it until a few weeks ago. While cleaning out her music stand, my wife came across it.

Last Saturday morning, an audience of eight heard this music played — probably for the first time in more than 100 years. Listening to it on the Yamaha grand piano in the McTavish Room of the Liberty Theatre was a keen delight. It is a sprightly and uplifting tune. "It is fun to play," said Vincent Centeno, a local pianist who studied the score for pianoforte and rendered it for us.

The march was composed in 1903 by Albert William Utzinger, 14 years after John Philip Sousa composed the famed march, "The Washington Post." During that period, some 100 American newspapers had marches written for them. The Astoria Daily Budget was certainly one of the smallest newspapers to receive this kind of attention.

HEAR THE MARCH

Visit [DailyAstorian.com](https://www.dailyastorian.com) to see a video of pianist Vincent Centeno performing the 'Budget March'.



Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

Pianist Vincent Centeno performing the 'Budget March' in the McTavish Room of the Liberty Theatre last weekend.



Clatsop County Historical Society

Albert William Utzinger, center, the composer of the 'Budget March' for the Astoria Daily Budget, led the Seaside High School girls band in the 1920s and 1930s.



Clatsop County Historical Society

The Utzinger family.