

**Siuslaw News**  
 P.O. Box 10  
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# Opinion

From the Editor's Desk

## In memory of Bev Holman

By RYAN CRONK  
 Siuslaw News Editor

I only had the privilege of meeting Beverly "Bev" Holman once, though I knew her husband Paul from when I was a reporter covering Florence City Council, which he was a member of at the time.

The Holmans, both of whom grew up in Florence, bought the Siuslaw News in 1980 from Paul's parents, Dave and Marge Holman, who retired. Paul and Bev operated the newspaper as co-publishers for 20 years, until they sold it to current owners News Media Corporation in 2000. The couple, however, remained in the Florence area.

Bev died Sunday, Jan. 31, at age 65, after a long illness.

While searching through our archives, I found a question-and-answer form that Bev filled out in 2010 about her time with the Siuslaw News, which was then celebrating its 120th anniversary. In memory of her passing, the following are some of her answers:

**Beverly (Bev) Holman**  
**The Siuslaw News, 1980-2000**

**Tell us about your family:**

Paul and I have two grown children, Tracy and Matt, who grew up in Florence and graduated from Siuslaw High School. They graduated from col-



Paul and Bev Holman

COURTESY PHOTO

lege and lead productive lives in Seattle and San Francisco.

**Tell us about your career:**

When we bought the Siuslaw News in 1980, I took over Payroll and Accounts Payable. I later sold advertising for Special Sections ("Business Profile," "On the Oregon Coast"). I also learned and used the Accounts Receivable and Circulation programs to fill in when needed and hired office staff when needed. Before coming to Florence, I attended the University of Arkansas and

worked at Southwestern Bell and Marin General Hospital.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Meeting face to face with our advertising customers while working on special sections, "coffee time" with "the girls" at the office, the friends I made in community organizations.

**Where did you go when you left?**

We stayed right here in Florence, but with more time to "get away" than we had before.

**What were some of the big stories in the news then?**

I'll never forget the whale beaching story in 1980. I was pregnant with my son. It was news for months. The building of the new hospital, the events center and the library were all exciting stories to watch unfold because they represented so much progress for Florence.

**Any funny boss stories?**

My husband was the boss so I don't dare go there....

**What community activities were you involved in?**

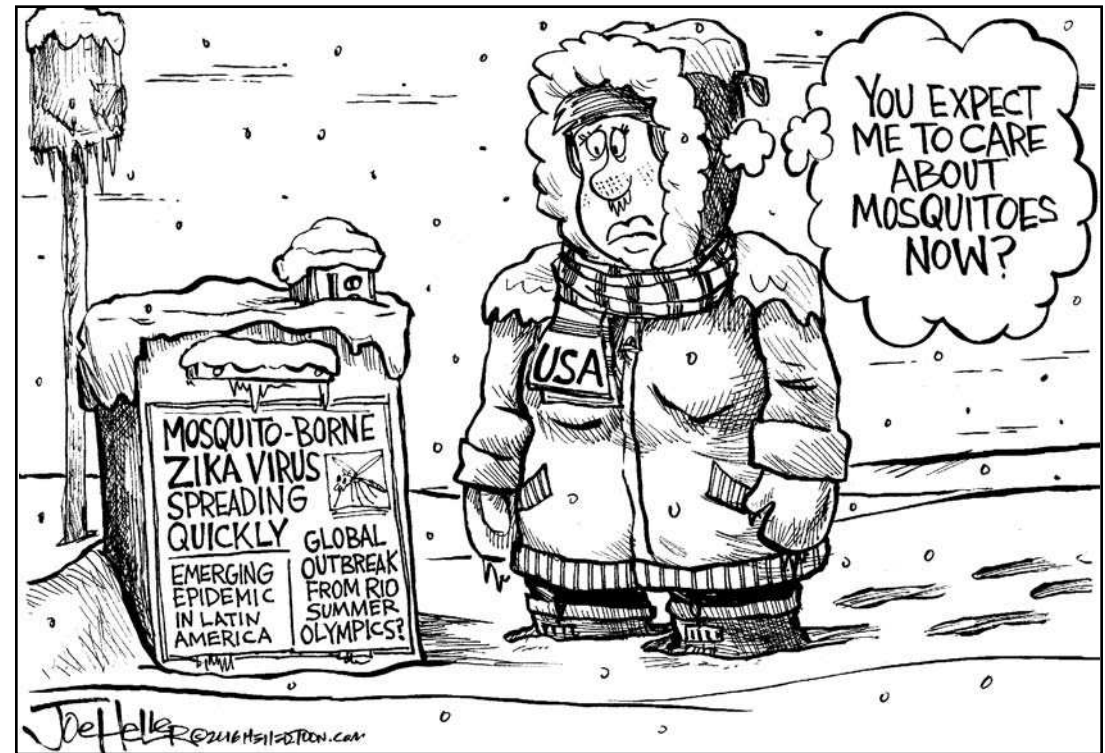
Soroptimist, P.E.O. and all of their community involvements, such as Christmas Baskets, Scholarships, etc. Also Project Graduation and other school-related participation.

**What big things do you hope to accomplish still?**

I'll watch our children take on the "big things" today (and they are!). My joy is time to enjoy our new granddaughter and travel.

**Anything else to add?**

It was a privilege to be able to contribute to the day-to-day business operation of the Siuslaw News and to have the opportunity to be part of the growth of our town and our newspaper. I will always appreciate the talents of our long time staff members from those days.



LETTER

**CROW for community**

How do you excite and engage youth so that the fun they enjoy is proportional to the benefits they gain? If you ask Melanie Heard, director of Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW), you'll get the scoop. The arts really do matter. They enhance personal development, confidence, team work, test scores and much more.

What Melanie won't tell you about are the countless hours she dedicates to providing this opportunity for our community. Melanie and the CROW board of directors are committed to creating and maintaining a top-notch arts program for youth. It is a

purposeful and challenging undertaking.

Our family has been involved in youth theater in Florence since 2001. During that time, we have watched many youth mature into adults that we, as a community, can be proud of. We find youth theater adds a special vibrance to our retirement community.

Please join us in supporting CROW in their "Share Your Heart" fundraising event Feb. 13, and help create a permanent home for youth theater arts here at home.

We hope to see you at the theater!

Dr. Mark and Patricia Immel  
 Florence

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY**

Siuslaw News welcomes letters to the editor concerning issues affecting the Florence area and Lane County. Emailed letters are preferred. Handwritten or typed letters must be signed.

All letters should be limited to about 300 words and must include the writer's full name, address and phone number for verification. Letters are subject to editing for length, grammar and clarity.

Publication of any letter is not guaranteed and depends on space available and the volume of letters received. Libelous and anonymous letters as well as poetry will not be published. All submissions become the property of Siuslaw News and will not be returned.

Write to: Editor@TheSiuslawNews.com

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