



Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

Thinking about getting organized

I seem to have more time to ponder these days. A question that continues to bug my pure, peaceful mind is "why is it easier to save something and throw it away at a later date?"

I can't seem to throw things away for a very long time.

I'm not talking about hoarding, but shouldn't a two-drawer file cabinet be sufficient for a single-occupant household? Isn't one closet for coats and other outerware, and one closet for day clothes enough? Oh, and one chest of drawers for the rest of one's wardrobe?

Yardage is one of the hardest things for me to part with. Even after using the bulk of a cut I keep thinking I could use the rest of it someday. I suspect I have at least 75 spools of thread, along with rick-rack, bindings and on and on. None of these things are essential and it causes me to ponder.

Maybe that's something to work on during our suggested stay-at-home time? A wise person once reminded me that less of me creates more room for God and that means He can use me more.

I like to think about the time when I'll move into a smaller living space. I wonder why I'm waiting for that time in life when life could be more pleasant without the stuff now?

Perhaps it is time to downsize? Just think, less to clean and organize! It would make each day less complicated.

Many of us, when cleaning out our refrigerator or freezer, realize we have several things to toss that we thought we'd use at some point.

So why is it easier to throw it away at that time instead of realizing we wouldn't use it before letting it take space that could be used more wisely.

I suppose a good columnist would give you an answer, but I wouldn't be sitting at my computer surrounded by things I don't really need and may never use if I had the answer!

So, where do I begin?

Recently I was admonished to consider four areas to start downsizing for a more simpler life: 1. Stuff; 2. Schedule; 3. Expectations; and 4. Negative thoughts.

A good start would be to make a list as we look over our current lifestyles and ask ourselves which things should we ditch or give away.

And no, I'm not suggesting you turn into what is known as a minimalist. With the closing of so many areas of our lives, the terms essential and non-essential are spoken of more and more.

Maybe that's a good place to start? Or, I could fall back on a favorite saying: "Organized people are just too lazy to look for things!"

Special columns in The Columbia Press
Every week: Senior Moments with Emma Edwards
Week 1: History in the Making
 Week 2: Financial Focus with Adam Miller
 Week 3: Off the Shelf by Kelly Knudsen
 Week 4: Mayor's Message by Henry Balensifer III

History in the Making

A look at Warrenton's top stories from The Columbia Press annals



Hearing set on Oregon LNG's land-use request

MAY 1991
 29 years ago

• Two hundred people gather on the lawn outside the post office for a Memorial Day flag-raising ceremony sponsored by Project Loyalty. The group of residents conceived the project during the Persian Gulf War. It includes one pole for each branch of the military.

• The Coast Guard Auxiliary opens a local support office at Warrenton Marina.

MAY 2000
 20 years ago

• The U.S. Postal Service, which had been considering a move to the city's Public Works yard, asks the city to indemnify it from any future soil contamination at the site.

"We're not doing that," City Attorney Hal Snow says. "We will (only) accept responsibility for historic contamination."

• Scott Derickson, an analyst for Umpqua Council of Governments, is named city manager at an annual salary of \$55,000.

• Pat Williams and Diane Collier receive the Richard Ford Community Service Award, given to citizens who make Warrenton a better community.

MAY 2010
 10 years ago

• Retired longtime Warrenton High School wrestling coach Dennis Warren is inducted into the Oregon Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

• A public hearing is scheduled on the land-use application from Oregon LNG, which proposes a liquified natural



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WARRENTON, OREGON

FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2000

Warrenton has new city manager

By Gary Nevan

Warrenton has a new city manager. Scott Derickson accepted the city's job offer this week and will start work on June 26, according to Mayor Barbara Balensifer.

Derickson was the only finalist for the position. Interim City Manager Alan Johansson had applied for the job but decided to withdraw from consideration, preferring to remain as the city's engineer.

"He's very excited about coming to Warrenton," Balensifer said about Derickson. "He called me the other day and said, 'Barb, I have a lot of homework to do and I'm ready to get started.' He's definitely ready for the challenge. All of us on the commission feel that he's ready for the challenge and he'll bring youth and enthusiasm to the job. It's time for him to become the CEO of a company and we're giving him the opportunity to spread his wings."

Derickson's salary will be \$55,000 a year with a \$255 a month car allowance.

Memorial Day events scheduled

Several local events for Memorial Day are planned including the following:

11 a.m.—Ceremony at Oceanview Cemetery sponsored by American Legion Clatsop Post 12

11 a.m.—Ceremony at Fort Stevens Cemetery sponsored by VFW Post 10580

Noon—Flag changing ceremony at Warrenton Post Office.



Pat Williams (left) and Diane Collier received the Richard "Dick" Ford Community Service Award at a dinner held May 17. The women were recognized for their efforts in organizing the Warrenton Centennial Celebration last year. Ford was a long-time city employee who was known for his civic involvement. His sons established the award to recognize citizens who make Warrenton a better community.

Warriors take first place at state track meet

gas terminal on the Skipanon Peninsula.

• Scott Lee defeats Jeff Hazen, Peter Huhtala defeats John Raichl, and Debra Birkby defeats John Mushen for seats on the Clatsop County Commission.

• A Corvallis development

company announces plans to subdivide the former Costco building at Neptune and Harbor drives and bring in at least three retailers.

• The Warrenton High School Band wins the state Class 3A Band Contest for the third year in a row.

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