



Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

Recalling a real-life drama

I'm sure many seniors remember the evening of March 27, 1964, if they lived here then.

That was when the most destructive tsunami to ever hit the United States hit our coast. It formed off the Alaskan Coast following the worst earthquake in North American history.

There is a review of the book, "This is Chance!" by Jon Mooallem in the May Reader's Digest, in the "Drama in Real Life" section. Mooallem tells the story of reporter Genie Chance, who spent more than 30 hours of nonstop news reporting on the Great Alaska Earthquake, which occurred at 5:36 p.m. on Good Friday.

There are shocking photos in the Reader's Digest story, and yet they chose not to share so much of the horror and destruction at the time. Ms. Chance ended up being kind of a clearing center/reporter for many to find out if loved ones were all right using two-way and transistor radios.

The article tells of horrific stories coming out of her first-hand reports, but she couldn't share many of them that night, fearing it might cause a panic.

Truth be told, I think media shares too much in its news reports nowadays. My son-in-law was 12 years old and living in Seaside and still remembers the tsunami warnings and actions prior to and during that Good Friday evening just before midnight.

I guess I was too busy raising our amazing six children in '64 when that earthquake took place. Memories. Okie Dokie.

I called Warrenton Community Library (503-861-8156) to see if they had "This is Chance!" A librarian named Sally was very helpful researching the book for me. She found that they don't have it in Warrenton, so she called Seaside library and they had it.

Can you believe they will deliver it to our library and our library will let me know when it's in? Just like a big city library!

I understand why ice cream is often called a "creature comfort food." I suspect ice cream is a big anxiety chaser even in Alaska. No matter how great the problem, it seems a nice dish of ice cream makes everything A-OK.

By the way, the gesture A-OK was popularized in America in 1840 as a symbol to support then-presidential candidate Martin Van Buren. Van Buren's nickname, Old Kinderhook, was derived from his hometown of Kinderhook, N.Y.

Another aside. Van Buren was our eighth president and the only president to have English as his second language with Dutch being his first. And I am told that was A-OK. And, eventually, another slang for the word OK developed into Okie Dokie.

Special columns in The Columbia Press

Every week: Senior Moments with Emma Edwards

Week 1: Financial Focus with Adam Miller

Week 2: Here's to Your Health from CMH

Week 3: Off the Shelf by Kelly Knudsen

Final week: Mayor's Message by Henry Balensifer

Mayor's Message

by Henry Balensifer III



Local control is best, even in the current crisis

As many know, I was away for three weeks in Florida for my day job (not city related) recently.

While staying at Eglin Air Force Base, I managed to travel to Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama on the weekends.

Why do I mention this? Because I am always trying to walk through other cities to see how they developed their town, what kinds of businesses are located where and how busy they are, how they landscaped the town and the layout of their parks and how well they are used.

In short, I'm always spying and trying to gather ideas that could be applied to make our city a better place to live.

It's also interesting to see how states and visitors are managing/not managing COVID restrictions.

I am encouraged that Clatsop County has joined the majority of other counties in Oregon to push for a return to local control regarding pandemic management.

We've seen that restaurants are not a driver of case counts — yet the state continues to practically single them out for restrictions. As much of the state heads into extreme

risk, the state still wants you to spend your stimulus and savings on lottery games inside a restaurant or bar that you wouldn't otherwise be able to dine in.

This dichotomy is hard to ignore, regardless of what the health authority says. Lottery is not a livelihood — there isn't a teacher in Oregon who would suggest to kids that gambling is a solid financial strategy. Cooking and serving food is.

This point was driven home to me when I walked into a local restaurant and two staff members rushed to ask me "will I still have a job next week?"

This was heartbreaking. The vacillation between open and closed is both demoralizing on staff and owners, it's wreaking havoc on an industry that is not really at fault.

Because things change almost daily right now, I'll refrain from making any predictions in print, but know that we are and have been in

continuous dialogue with the Governor's Office and health authorities about the impacts and questionable logic used to control the spread of the virus.

The city and county support addressing the pandemic, but experience shows the approach Oregon Health Authority is using is as good as an oblong wheel. Sure, we are mobile, but we're not getting as far nor as fast as we'd like.

Gov. Brown — Clatsop County is capable. Give us back local control. We can be quicker and more effective as a partner with the state in addressing COVID versus waiting for the state to assess and give orders.

**Warrenton
Community Library**
160 S. Main Ave.

10-6 Mon-Fri
10-2 Saturdays

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF CLATSOP

In the Matter of the Estate of ROSE MARIE DAVIS, Deceased
Case No.: 21PB03424

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Ronald L. Davis and Richard R. Davis Jr. have been appointed Co-Personal Representatives. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the Co-Personal Representatives c/o Seaside Attorneys, 842 Broadway, Seaside Oregon 97138, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred.

All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Co-Personal Representatives, or the lawyer for the Co-Personal Representatives, Jeremy Rust.

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Jeremy Rust, OSB No. 094927

Attorney for CoPersonal Representatives

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