



## Senior Moments

with Emma Edwards

### Getting things sorted. Whew.

I never knew that the expression, “slip me five,” referred to shaking hands.

The expression was popular back in the 1930s. I was around then, but probably too young to understand what it meant.

I’ve never been excited about shaking hands, perhaps even less so having lived through the pandemic.

Handshakes have been around for thousands of years and deemed very important in some parts of society. Some believe personality traits can be determined by the strength or weakness of a handshake.

Since the pandemic, I no longer shake hands and doubt that I ever will again. Lessons learned during the pandemic seem to stay with us.

We now have the fist-to-fist greeting. I don’t mind that one, although we’ve learned from the medical experts featured on TV and in newspapers that it’s best to avoid any skin-to-skin greetings.

Isolation and quarantine lessons are especially powerful. Maybe more so for us seniors. Remember the endless hand-washing as well as the fearful times when we just didn’t have all the answers?

Perhaps some of those pandemic moments have given us new resolve and determination.

I have been determined to sort my storage tubs full of old photos for the last 40 years. You’ll be happy to know that I have begun the monumental task of decoding and sorting

my photos.

I even did a little research and found a post by a blogger named Caroline Guntur, who refers to herself as *The Swedish Organizer*. It gave me a place to start. She suggests sorting by chronology, theme, and sequential order, or by combining methods.

I did a retake using the chronological order. Then I sorted by family. So, first I had my six children and their families. That gave me my first six shoe boxes.

Then, I put all the old black and whites into another box. Other categories for boxes include babies, cars, houses, travel, animals, Christmas, other holidays, church and on and on. Oh, and another was for throw-aways, such as landscapes in locations I don’t have a clue about.

I soon realized that I was very bad at writing on the backs of photos the “who, what, when, where, and why.” It’s probably a good idea to get a stamp made with those five “W”s on it and simply fill in the “W”s you think are relevant at the time.

Sorting would have been so much easier had I (or my kids) done that! I have many grandchildren, greats and great-greats, and there are many baby pictures that I simply cannot identify. It would have helped even if only the “who” was filled in.

“How about our digital photos,” you ask. Good question.

Maybe I’ll figure out a way to sort my own 8,000-plus digital photos.

Wish me luck! We seniors love challenges!



## History in the Making

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

### Warrenton PD will add sergeant’s position

SEPTEMBER 2017

5 years ago

- A landscaped plaza and community gathering place is planned for the corner by the Warrenton Post Office and Dairy Maid at the four-way stop. The VFW Fort Stevens Post has raised money for a veterans monument as the plaza’s centerpiece.

SEPTEMBER 2007

15 years ago

- Preston Polasek, Warrenton’s new city manager, takes the city’s helm. He grew up in Kelso, Wash., and was city manager in Clatskanie for five years.

- Volunteers have begun work on a new off-leash dog area at Carruthers Park.

- All fuel sold in Warrenton will be subject to a new 3-cents-per-gallon tax to pay for local street repairs and maintenance. The agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation allows the agency to collect the tax on behalf of the city.

### Senior meals

TUESDAY, OCT. 4

- Meatloaf
- Mashed potatoes and gravy
- Peas and carrots
- Apple pie

Warrenton’s eat-in senior meal program is organized by Warrenton Senior Citizens Inc. and is at noon on Tuesdays at Warrenton Community Center, 170 S.W. Third St.

Suggested donation is \$6. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. for socializing and coffee.



Trish Nevan/The Columbia Press

September 2007: Volunteers who recently started building the new off-leash dog park at Carruthers Park are, from left, Suzanne Cannon, Sally Freeman, Jann Luesse, Jim Scheller, Barry Smith and Gail Galen, shown with her dog, Mando. Elita Tom is kneeling in front.

SEPTEMBER 2002

20 years ago

- Warrenton Community Library receives four new Gateway computers and a laser printer through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

- Clatsop County Drug Court celebrates its first graduating class, with three members. The court is an alternative to prosecution for offenders who admit a drug problem

and want help; the charge is dropped upon completion of the program.

SEPTEMBER 1997

25 years ago

- Warrenton city commissioners approve a sergeant’s position within the Warrenton Police Department. Chief John Greisen said it’s important to have a second-in-command during evening hours and to help in counseling, training and scheduling.

### Special columns in The Columbia Press

Every week: Senior Moments with Emma Edwards

Week 1: Mayor’s Message by Henry Balensifer

Week 2: Financial Focus with Adam Miller

Week 3: Off the Shelf from WCL

Week 4: Here’s to Your Health from CMH

This Week: History in the Making