GUEST COLUMN

Older Americans Act poised to return

By U.S. Rep. Suzanne **Bonamici**

For EO Media Group

t's been five years since the first baby boomers turned 65, and each day 10,000 more Americans reach

It has also been five years since Congress allowed the Older Americans Act to expire. A Senate bill to reauthorize the act passed the U.S. House in March.

As the population of older adults continues to increase and Americans live longer lives, our nation's policies need to keep pace.

The growing need to have effective programs that help seniors live with dignity is why I recently took a lead role in helping the House improve and pass an updated Older Americans Act.

Originally a part of President Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty, the OAA funds programs that provide services to seniors in urban. suburban and rural communities throughout the country. The law supports nutritional and transportation services, in-home and legal assistance, protections against elder abuse and family caregiver support. Taken together, Older Americans Act programs make it possible for millions of older adults to remain independent and healthy, and to age with dignity in their homes and communities.

At home in Oregon, I have seen how OAA programs help seniors remain connected to their communities and avoid costlier long-term care. Many homebound seniors receive their only hot meal of the day from programs like



U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici believes the Astoria Senior Center and others like it show the benefits of social programs for seniors. From left: Larry Miller, director of the Senior Center, John Ryan, Mayor Arline Lamear, Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, Councilor Drew Herzig and Yvonne McCann, take part in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Astoria Senior Center in February.

the OAA-funded Meals on Wheels, and the volunteers who deliver these meals may provide the only chance for social interaction. I've packaged and delivered meals to older adults and have seen how important that contact is, especially for those in isolated or rural areas.

Recently I joined hundreds of seniors to celebrate the reopening of the newly renovated Astoria Senior Center. This vibrant community hub, and others like it in my district, show the tremendous benefits of —and need for—social programs for our seniors.

The new and bipartisan Older Americans Act also increases funding for other programs to meet the growing need for supportive services.

Importantly, this legislation takes several meaningful steps to combat elder abuse.

According to the Elder

Justice Coalition, there are more than 6 million victims of elder abuse every year roughly 1 in 10 people over age 60. Victims of elder financial abuse lose an estimated \$2.9 billion a year, which sometimes includes their entire life savings. We should do all we can to make sure older adults are not robbed of their resources or denied the dignity they deserve.

But like any compromise, my colleagues and I made sacrifices in order to move this legislation closer to the finish line. We will need to continue to modernize OAA programs to reflect the increasing diversity among

older adults, and in particular work to remove barriers that prevent older adults - including LGBT elders and older individuals from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds — from fully accessing the programs that keep them healthy and engaged in their communities.

The passage of the bill in the House is significant because it shows a bipartisan commitment to seniors by members of Congress, but we have a lot more to do. I'm proud of what we've accomplished, and I will continue working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to strengthen programs for older Americans in the future. U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, D-Ore., has served in the House since 2012.

OBITUARIES

John 'Jack' Chaloner Caldwell

Lake Oswego June 12, 1924 — May 19, 2016

John "Jack" Caldwell passed away in his Lake Oswego home May 19, 2016, just weeks before his 92nd birthday. Born June 12, 1924 in Oregon City, Jack was a dedicated family man, neighbor and contributing member of his community, locally and statewide.

After graduating from Oregon City High School near the top of his class, Jack attended the University of Oregon as an undergraduate student and later as a law student, thereafter joining the law firm which had been started by his grandfather.

While in college, he married a childhood friend, Elizabeth "Betty" Busch (2009), with whom he had three sons and one daughter.

Jack joined the U.S. army during World War II, was trained by the elite 7th Mountain Division and then served in Italy, where he learned fluent Italian. In later years he and Betty traveled to İtaly and many other countries, always returning with interesting art and wonderful stories.

As a longtime member of the Boy Scouts of America, Jack earned the Eagle Scout award and contributed to the Scouts throughout his adult life. He was a lifelong advocate of exercise and loved to bicycle, ski, swim, hike and climb mountains. His last ascent of Mount Hood was made at age 71.

Jack's list of civic contributions is long and diverse. He was involved in the Oregon State Board of Education and served as the attorney for several local school districts. was president of the Port of Portland and volunteered his time for St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Memberships included the Oregon State Bar Association, Multnomah Bar Association, Mazamas Mountaineers, Lang Syne Society, University Club of Portland, Cannon Beach Historical Society and the Clackamas County Historical Museum. He was instrumental in the early stages of the Museum of the Oregon Territory. Jack loved all aspects of Oregon.

He is survived by his three sons and one daughter, six grandchildren and one great-grandson, and will be greatly missed.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m., June 11, 2016, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Oregon City, with a reception following at Mary's Woods in Lake Oswego.

The family requests that memorial donations be made in lieu of flowers to the Boy Scouts of America Cascade Pacific Council, www.cpcbsa.

Arrangements by Holman-Hankins-Bowker Waud.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 7 **Cannon Beach City Council,** 7 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Monday, June 13 **Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protec**tion District, 6 p.m., Fire-Rescue Main Station, 188 Sunset Blvd.

Tuesday, June 14 **Cannon Beach City Council,** 5:30 p.m., work session, City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Wednesday, June 15 **Cannon Beach Parks Master** Plan Citizen's Advisory Group, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

Monday, June 21 **Seaside School District,**

6 p.m., 1801 S. Franklin St. Tuesday, July 5 **Cannon Beach City Council,**

7 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St. **Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protec-**

tion District, 6 p.m., Fire-Rescue Main Station, 188 Sunset Ave. Tuesday, July 12

Cannon Beach City Council, 5:30 p.m., work session, City Hall

Marlantes awarded Clarkson University honorary degree

Author Karl Marlantes was awarded an honorary doctor of science degree at Clarkson University's 123rd Commencement on Saturday, May 7. The degree was awarded for "answering this country's call to duty; for his bravery and compassion in war, for his work developing sustainable energies and their infrastructure; for documenting the experiences that illuminate the realities of war and for giving voice to veterans and helping them on their paths to recovery; and for his service to this nation and to humanity."

Marlantes was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford. He served as a Marine rifle platoon commander in Vietnam, receiving the Navy Cross, Bronze Star, two Navy Commendation medals for valor, two Purple Hearts and other medals. After his deployment, Marlantes earned a master's degree in philosophy, politics and education. He has worked as a business consultant for various international energy companies and lived in India, England, Singapore and France.

He published two books,

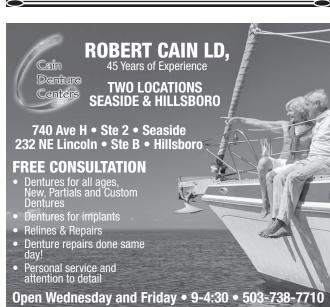


Author Karl Marlantes speaking at Clarkson University.

"Matterhorn" (2010) and "What It Is Like To Go To War" (2011). Marlantes writes candidly about his struggle with severe post-traumatic stress disorder and has been a vocal advocate for veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

In his writing, Marlantes tries to explain why it is vital for society to understand what it asks of its young people when sending them to war. He explores how the nation might better prepare military personnel for war's extremes, and how to help them find peace afterwards.







The window of Dogs Allowed in Cannon Beach is decorated with supporters of "Angels for Sara."

ANGELS FOR SARA

Dogs Allowed in Cannon Beach supports Angels for Sara. Angels For Sara Sanctuary is a non-profit organization to rescue senior dogs from the animal shelter. Angels for Sara closely with Clatsop Animal Shelter; www.angelsforsarasanctuary.com.



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