

Inside my shoes goes inside my head



STAFF PHOTO BY TAMMY MALGESINI

The packaging of Gudrun chocolates are among the many things Herald community editor Tammy Malgesini ponders about.

Sometimes I think I think too much.

Simple things can get my head twisting and turning — like why aren't birth control pills dispensed in childproof containers? Or what are the names of the two people in a "Pedestrian Crossing" sign?

But one thing that occupied a lot of space in my mind recently is the packaging of products.

Over the holidays, a box of Gudrun chocolates appeared in the newsroom's kitchen. The thing that intrigued me was the intricate packaging.

It came in a lovely silver case (box is too simple for the elegant craftsmanship, which even featured a magnetic strip to hold the flap down). Inside were two glorious trays of candies.

A brochure included a three-paragraph description of the process of making chocolates

— from choosing the right cocoa beans to the development of recipes. It ended with the simple word, "Enjoy!"

Back in the day, Candyce Lukens, a former boss, would push her fingernail into the bottom of a piece of candy to determine what was inside. Those techniques aren't required with Gudrun.

The insert featured mouth-watering descriptions of each piece of candy — complete with a color photos.

Each morsel of deliciousness had its own name — including Twinkle (pistachio with hazelnut pieces) Seabreeze (a layered truffle with salted caramel) and Cocorico (milk chocolate with coconut ganache). I'm licking my lips as I type.

Speaking of coconut — I recall the time my good buddy Marko Briley mistakenly started to eat

some "flakes" of paper. The error was understandable — he's legally blind. But, the bigger contributing factor was the packaging.

This, also, was a box of chocolates. The pieces of candy were lying in a bed of what appeared to be gourmet coconut flakes. The paper actually looked like and had the consistency of coconut.

However, Marko said it didn't taste like coconut. I took his word for it.

It certainly doesn't make sense to package gourmet chocolates in a bed of paper.

Oh, and by the way, I named the people in the "Pedestrian Crossing" signs — Pedestri-ANN and Pedestri-ANDY. You're welcome!

Tammy Malgesini is the community editor. Her column, Inside my Shoes, includes general musings about life. Contact her at tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4539.



Tammy Malgesini
INSIDE MY SHOES



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Gary Neal – General Manager, Port of Morrow
Greg Smith - State of Oregon Representative district 57

For further information or to rsvp for luncheon please contact the **Boardman Chamber of Commerce** at **(541) 481-3014** or info@boardmanchamber.org

Luncheon RSVP requested by Friday, January 13, 2017 for catering purposes

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