

Scene and Heard

CLAIRE LOVELL

# Invisible pedestrians and a 'humongous' convention center

When will the high school refurbish its event sign at the south entrance? It's been inactive for a long time, and we like to know what's going on. Lots of cars in the parking lot or extra kids in town pique our interest.

**Lighten up**

Astoria has had several collisions of pedestrians with cars. I always lay that to inattention and one-way streets myself. It's a wonder we don't have the same kind of an average. Certainly there are lots of near misses. Anytime I'm out with someone, driving at night especially, I've never seen anyone walking who was easily visible to a driver. Bicycles seem to appear out of nowhere.

Walkers are in dark clothing with no lumines-

cent strips or glow-in-the-dark materials. In the car in which I rode, we came upon bicyclists or walkers in the bike lane not easy to see. Even just to carry a flashlight would be a lot safer and a favor to the person behind the wheel.

**More friends gone**

Another friend, Roberta Meling, who was recovering from a broken hip, took a turn for the worse and died on Tuesday, Feb. 10. She had moved to Dallas, Ore. to be near her sons. She was a former resident of Suzanne Elise, and friends at the United Methodist Church are sorry for her loss. Interment will be at Willamette National Cemetery.

Also a loss was Doris Rummell, of Astoria. I



CLAIRE LOVELL

was present for at least two of her children's deliveries at St. Mary's. I always thought she was Catholic, though it said in her obit that she attended North Coast Fellowship. The longer you live, the larger the list of friends grows who have checked out.

I didn't really know Terry Mersereau, who also died recently. We have to wait until we read their biographies to realize all they cared about in life. Mrs. Mersereau had such an extensive record of accomplishments. I had met her through John Raniero at the Catholic church. At one time she wrote me a very nice thank you note because of things I had written, which were dear to the hearts of us both. I wish I had known her better.

**Music appreciation**

Friday at noon, Alvis Porter, Leila Vemor, Ruth Pratt, Irene Kan and I went to the senior center for lunch, since its cuisine has improved. Later we learned the center was having a

great program as well. A couple from the jazz festival entertained us. He was a pianist extraordinaire, and she played the flute so beautifully it could make you cry, especially at the tune "Memory" from "Cats." He played jazz medleys and "Chopsticks" as Strauss, Mozart or Beethoven would have done it. It was great! They were Jeff and Anne Barnhart from Connecticut.

**Too large for Seaside**

Why do we need a humongous convention center for two or three extra large gatherings a year? The picture of the projected "improvements" looks awful. The building is all over the place, swallowing the street

and the parking place, and we can't afford it.

I long for the days when a softball field took up the space now held by the center. It was also the location for traveling carnivals to set up. How long has it been since there was one of those? It may be corny but it's Americana. And if a sales tax is to fund it, how popular do you think that will be?

People in charge never seem to get over wanting to make our little hometown into a metropolis. Haven't we had enough?

**Laugh Line:**

A vulture boards an airplane carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger."

Obituaries

**Carol Ann (Westphal) Hamilton**

May 8, 1941 — Feb. 14, 2015

She was a tireless homemaker who kept her home as clean as could be. Her favorite room was always the kitchen, where she would create the most amazing dishes — and for those who knew Carol, what came out of her kitchen was their favorite. Some of her dishes included homemade granola, sourdough waffles on Sunday, razor clams, sweet and sour spareribs, casserole for a crowd, not to mention her famous blueberry cheesecake, every kind of pie imaginable and cinnamon rolls made from scratch.

Playing a game of tennis, taking a brisk walk, playing dominoes and a chat with a kindred friend over tea brought her much joy and satisfaction. A few of her favorite things were flowers, sunsets, dark chocolate and ice cream.

She was known by all as a sweet, selfless, devoted wife, mother, sister and friend who always put others before herself, constantly looking for the good in all.

She was an avid Bible reader, as well as a faithful servant of



CAROL HAMILTON

her God Jehovah, and regularly volunteered to teach others the truths about the Bible. (www.jw.org)

Carol was the best friend and loving wife of the late Leroy Richard (Rick) Hamilton; beloved mother of Doug Hamilton, Tina (Hamilton) Sims, Todd Hamilton, Jana Hamilton and Paula Hamilton; adored grandmother "Nana" of Jamie, Uriah, Benjamin, Scott, Cassidy and Zachary; and dear great-grandmother "Nana" of Kloe and Katy.

Carol is also survived by her siblings, Evelyn Meyer, Bill Westphal, Sheryl Caldwell, Pam Westphal and Rick Westphal

May we all find comfort in knowing the hope she went to sleep with ... of a resurrection to life everlasting on a paradise earth, right along with her late husband and mother, as well as so many more loved ones who have fallen asleep in death.

Carol's family would like to express heartfelt love and appreciation for all the helping hands that reached out to her and her family, as well as the generous hearts of all those who loved her so dearly!

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 21 (the second day of spring) at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 2667 Highway 101 North, Seaside.

Those who want to make a small donation to the Hamilton Memorial Fund can make checks payable to: Tina Sims for: Hamilton Memorial Fund and send to: Columbia Bank, P.O. Box 1000, Warrenton, OR 97146.

**Roberta F. Meling**

Jan. 18, 1923 — Feb. 10, 2015

Roberta Meling, 92, died on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2015, in Dallas, Ore.

Roberta was born on Jan. 18, 1923, in Portland, Ore., to Fred Vanderlaan and Fannie Noyes Vanderlaan. She graduated from Franklin High School in 1941, and then later from business college.

During World War II, she worked for Prudential Insurance Co., where she was employed until she married Edmund Meling on June 1, 1946. Ed and Roberta moved to Seaside in 1958, when he was transferred there as a bank manager. They moved several times, as he managed different branches, living in Yamhill, Carlton and Lincoln City before returning to Seaside in 1972. Roberta worked at various jobs, but on returning to Seaside she worked for Clatsop County until both she and Ed retired in 1983.



ROBERTA MELING

Roberta was a member of the Seaside United Methodist Church, and she was an active member and volunteer with the American Legion Auxiliary; Lady Elks; the Red Cross Blood Drive, where she volunteered and donated blood; the Miss Oregon Pageant; Seaside Museum; and many other civic organizations. She and Ed were also avid bowlers and golfers.

Roberta is survived by her children, John Mel-

ing and his wife, Myrna, of Springfield, Va.; and Paul Meling and his wife, Laura, of Dallas, Ore. Also grandchildren, Dawn Wilen (husband Nick) of Lincoln City, Ore., Jeff Meling of Salem, Ore., Mark Meling of Dallas, Ore., Stephanie Meling of Springhill, Fla., and Amanda Meling of Richmond, Va. Also great-grandchildren Tytus and Tegan Meling, and Jacob and Elias Marko, and many nephews and nieces. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Edmund, and brother Dean Vanderlaan and his wife, Dorothy.

A memorial service is being held at Willamette National Cemetery at 2 p.m. March 6, 2015. Please arrive 30 minutes early for an escort to the service.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Seaside United Methodist Church.

**Elnora Strong Jones 'Kit' Mulcahy**

July 17, 1922 — Feb. 12, 2015



ELNORA "KIT" MULCAHY

an advertising graphic artist, eventually becoming art director, winning numerous awards for her creative achievements.

After owning an ad agency, she retired to the Oregon coast, settling in Seaside to pursue her joy of watercolor painting. She belonged to Palette Puddlers, Trail's End Art Association and the Oregon Watercolor Society. She exhibited her paintings in juried shows across the Northwest, winning more awards.

Travel was her muse. She went around the world, enjoying cruises, Elderhostel trips and painting tours.

She is survived by two children, Judi Barkley of Otis, Ore., and Gary Jones of Portland; four granddaughters, Lisa Egger, Laura Lehinger, Erin Jones and Allison Guerra; plus five great-grandchildren.

Her ashes will be interred in Sultan, Wash., near her parents and grandparents.

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