

A welcome to the city of Seaside

Is it true that every new member wins the raffle at the Seaside Downtown Development Association breakfast? Now that is a way to show some hospitality!

Let me introduce myself: I'm R.J., or Rick Marx, and I've just moved to town to settle in to my new job as editor of the Seaside Signal. First off, let me thank Nancy McCarthy, the paper's longtime editor, for making the Signal such a hit in town that it was named by the Seaside Chamber of Commerce as "2014 Business of the Year."

Second, let me thank the folks who attended the two sensational breakfasts I had the privilege of attending last week. I was chatting with a friend back east and I told him we dined at the Pig 'N Pancake. "Which did you choose, the pig or the pancake?" he smart-alecked, and I replied: "That's the beauty of it, you can have both!"

At the local meetings, I met several local residents. I quickly learned I may be the new guy in town, but not by much. I met a transplanted Los Angelean with 10 months' residency, a Portlander who is here going on her sixth

week, and heard a lecture from the Port of Astoria Executive Director Jim Knight, who arrived here from Olympia about eight months ago. My Gearhart neighbors are from everywhere, from Scandinavia to Vancouver and points midway.

What is it that brings us all here? My horoscope before my arrival read: "Like a turtle, you head west to the water." So I did. And just think: an aquarium, a carousel, fireworks, candy and taffy. Probably my first joyous school memory was as a 4-year-old at "Kiddie College" (its real name) when we took a field trip to the taffy factory. I'm beginning to think that Seaside might bring out the kid in all of us — and that's a good thing. I guess it's no accident that one of the main streets is named "Holladay."

My philosophy of community journalism is, first and foremost, to tell the news as it happens. And we want to be first and the most thorough with it. The meetings, newsmakers and policy issues are only the start of the job. Then comes the good part. Getting to know your neighbors. Attending

SEEN FROM SEASIDE

By
**R.J.
MARX**



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all the fun events in town. Sampling every single restaurant and clam house. Exploring the library. Helping others in trying times. Providing a forum for different voices. Introducing new people to the community, and celebrating its best every day of the year. May I be guided by my predeces-



"Mer-horse" at the Carousel in Seaside.

R.J. MARX PHOTO

sors, from Nancy McCarthy and beyond, including the venerable Max Shafer, who edited the Signal from 1928 to 1974. That's got to be a record.

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Between the Covers ESTHER MOBERG

What is the library's role in the future of the Internet?

Libraries may seem like the last place for innovation and change, but most librarians are actually eager to embrace the future. Often our caution stems from reluctance to waste money on something that may be a brief trend that goes away quickly. Remember Laserdiscs? Several weeks ago, I attended the Oregon Library Association annual conference and presented on tech trends in libraries. One of the biggest areas of quick growth in technology right now, and something you will probably hear a lot about in the next few years is called "the Internet of Things" or the "Internet of Everything." Basically, our entire world, including simple non-digital items, is being hooked up to the Internet or digitized in some fashion. In fact, this is becoming so mainstream, you may not realize you are already on board. Do you have a digital picture frame? Access the newspaper online? Own a Fitbit or smart-

phone? Then you are already part of the Internet of Things revolution.

Fitbits and smart watches are in the category called "wearables." Technology investors are buying heavily into the markets for home, health/medical, and wearables. In the personal health department, some examples are Fitbit to track your personal fitness goals, contact lenses to detect low insulin, and T-shirts that can measure heart rate and perspiration. All of these then connect up to your online or digital log in so you can measure and track as much as you like.

Farmers are starting to see the benefits of the Internet of things, some farmers in Denmark have their cows hooked up to sensors to tell them when the cows are sick or pregnant. Others will use soil sensors for water or to test the pH levels of their soil.

In the medical field, everything from 3-D printing to wearables that aid vision,



ESTHER MOBERG

hearing, and strength are all being developed to enhance the human experience. One of my personal favorites is a sound wave machine that creates a physical representation of sounds. People who have limited hearing can physically experience music through touching this special speaker with their hands as it ripples and flows with the music.

On the goofy side, you can get the weather forecast for the day toast-

ed into your bread each morning, or you can take a picture of yourself with a toaster and then have an image of your face on your toast that is edible! Obviously some of these items are definite fads, but the concept of connectivity in our everyday lives, is here to stay. It is projected that the world will jump from 5 billion digital devices to 50 billion in the next 20 years. As the Internet transitions to more data and more and more storage of online memory of information (Cloud hosting) the natural result is that more information that is personal to each of us is stored in our data clouds and on the Internet. Librarians believe in protecting the privacy rights of the individual and one concern we have is regarding who is hosting or storing your information and what access they give to others often, without your knowledge or consent. People seem

to recognize that they are giving up some measure of privacy in return for digital access but some of that access to our privacy you may be unaware that it is even happening.

There are many large data providers, including Facebook, Google and Netflix, the question is, what do you think they are doing with all the data they track about you? Many times the data is sold to marketing companies who then use the information to develop software or marketing campaigns that target your interests and delivers items you can purchase. The ads you see on the Internet are typically tailored to your searching and buying history on the Internet.

You may be wondering what all of this has to do with libraries but believe it or not, people usually end up at the library with questions about how to run all of these machines as well as questions or concerns about

privacy issues. I've personally been asked to help people navigate everything from how to create your own ISBN, search the Internet in private, or how to use little laptops that were created specifically for use in third world countries. Every time I get a question like this, I love the challenge because librarians love to learn! I think the underlying philosophy to this is that change is coming and as usual, librarians are expected to help carve a path through that change that helps others understand. I love that the majority of people walking in the library with a tablet ask us for help in using it. We live in exciting times and technology continues to advance. Who knows, maybe by this time next year you will be receiving this article in hologram form from your 3-D headband!

Esther Moberg is director of the Seaside Public Library.

Scene and Heard CLAIRE LOVELL

Pancakes and sausage at the convention center

On April 7, we had Kiwanis pancakes and sausage at the convention center. It brought back memories of Mayor Joyce Williams and Herb Schlappi vying with each other to see who could sell the most tickets. Since they were both members of my church, I alternated between the two in purchasing mine. There's always good conversation with friends we sometimes see only then. They still haven't changed to the plastic ketchup containers with the pointed dispenser on the top for syrup, though. I've used them before and they don't drip contents down the side as the glass ones do, sticking up everything in sight.

Body language blues

I'm a gestures watcher on TV. What a weird school that is for actors who sell products. Most look so silly when the sound is turned off. The way they use their arms and hands — in symmetry or one at a time — is so meaningless. Why don't they just stand still with arms at their sides and twitch a finger now and then? Sheesh! I get tired just watching all the exercise. Another infuriating trick is bending a couple of fingers on each hand, supposedly simulating quotations. It's time to give it up.

Trivia test

Robin and I took the trivia test at Riley's while



CLAIRE LOVELL

we were having dinner one night and did surprisingly well; it does your heart good to be able to still keep up.

What does it mean to "love on" somebody, as opposed to just loving them? When a person says it aloud,

it really doesn't sound very good. I always have a cat's ear for word usage. Perhaps it's our international makeup which seems to be adding so many strange expressions so quickly. And why do today's conversationalists say they have it "out" for someone rather than that they have it "in" for them? If you guys are going to change everything, at least try to make an improvement.

Sad passing

I was sad to read of the death of Donald Falleur on April 22. I didn't really know him although we rode the same Greyhound bus to Astoria when I worked at St. Mary's. Donald was a chubby kid of about 10 at

that time. He got on the bus somewhere in Warrenton on Highway 101, perhaps near Camp Rilea on his way to Star of the Sea school and was a familiar person for quite a while. One of his relatives, I think, was an officer at Ft. Stevens and was significant in my husband's life during the war. And, then to have his wife follow him in four days must be so heartbreaking for the family. We offer them our deepest sympathy.

Though my memories of Donald are from so long ago, I know many will miss him.

Feathers and hooves

That was an interesting picture of the Crown

Princess cruise ship arriving in Astoria Thursday. It's not clear what kind of birds are flying through the super-structure, but they look to be gulls, ducks or geese. Who can tell? They do have a nice straight line going. It's a great picture.

I saw a woman at Safeway on Tuesday with a two-foot bag full of carrots and had to ask her, "Do you have rabbits?" And she said, "No, horses." Live and learn.

Laugh Line:

Skydiving without a parachute is a once in a lifetime experience.

Claire Lovell is a long-time resident of Seaside.

Obituaries

Ray G. Schumacher

Sept. 26, 1941 — April 28, 2015

Ray G. Schumacher passed away April 28, 2015, in Forest Grove, Ore. He was 73.

He was born in Eureka, S.D., Sept. 26, 1941, to Jacob M. and Matilda Pfeifle Schumacher. He was the youngest of 12 children. He was adored by his parents and described by his sister as "the apple of their eye." His father had emigrated from Russia in 1912, settling in South Dakota. His parents married in 1916. Their first child was born in 1917. There were just about 25 years between Ray and his oldest sibling. Ray grew up on the



Ray Schumacher

family farm west of Long Lake, S.D. He learned to drive a tractor at an early age, and worked on the family farm. He was 14 when his family sold the

farm and moved to Mobridge, S.D. He attended and graduated high school at Northwest Lutheran Academy in Mobridge, where he learned to speak and write English. He was described as very bright.

He worked as a farm hand for farmers in the area, and then drove a cement truck. He moved to Seattle, Wash., in 1960 where two of his brothers were residing. He was married and later divorced. He worked for Bausch and Lomb as a lens grinder/eye glass maker for over 20 years. He then worked as an accountant for several different busi-

nesses for many years. He moved to Astoria, Ore., in 2004 to be closer to two of his three children. His poor health forced his retirement in 2007. This past year he lived in an assisted living facility in Seaside, Ore.

In his younger days he was an avid bowler, winning many trophies and even bowling several perfect games. He enjoyed hunting with his late brother-in-law, Len Gute. He was a devoted Seattle Mariners fan and was always watching or listening to baseball games. He liked John Wayne movies, enjoyed gardening and

loved his pets.

He survived by one son, Brian Schumacher of North Plains, Ore.; two daughters, Katharine Mather of Astoria, Ore., and Amanda (Melvin) Arrington of Seattle, Wash.; nine grandchildren, Hannah, Madison, Kielee, and Samuel Mather of Astoria, Ore., and Andre Moore and Myah, Melvin III, Alexis, and Anastasia Arrington of Seattle, Wash.; three sisters, Evangeline Clark of Vancouver, Wash., Eileen Gienger of Mobridge, S.D., and Mildred (Jerauld) Kluckman of Lusby, Md.; two brothers, Paul Schumacher

of Des Moines, Wash., and Lawrence (Peggy) Schumacher of Ferndale, Wash.; and numerous nieces, nephews and other extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four sisters, Irene Schumacher, Gertrude Rueb, Leona Ottenbacher Scheuffele, and Adeline Binder; and two brothers, Robert Schumacher and Victor Schumacher.

Memorial services for Ray G. Schumacher will be Saturday, May 16, 2015, at 2 p.m., at Bethany Free Lutheran Church in Astoria. Pastor Craig Johnson will officiate.