

Signal, Astorian, Observer win regional journalism awards

The Astorian

Staff at the Signal, The Astorian and Chinook Observer newspapers have been honored for their work by the Society of Professional Journalists.

Sports reporter Gary Henley earned the first-place award for sports writing for his coverage of Seaside High School's boys repeat state basketball championship. Coincidentally, the award was announced Monday, July 1, on the 20th anniversary of his hire date on the newspaper's staff.

Photographer Colin Murphey earned the first-place award in the general photography category for a photo of volunteers releasing young common murrelets into the surf near Haystack Rock. His photo essay of fire devastation in Paradise, California, was the runner-up in that category. He was also runner-up in the sports photo category for a shot of a pole vaulter.

R.J. Marx, editor of the Seaside Signal, was the runner-up in the column writing category for Southern Exposure.

The Astorian earned three first-place awards and three runner-up certificates in the annual Northwest Excellence in Journalism contest.

The newspaper competes against medium-sized newspapers in Oregon, Washington state, Alaska, Idaho and Montana with newsrooms of between eight and 16 staff.

The Astorian's editorial board earned first place in the editorial and commentary division for a portfolio of three editorials about former Clatsop County Manager Cameron Moore, the endorsement of Tiffany Mitchell for the state House of Representatives and the problem of student homelessness.

The Chinook Observer in Long Beach, Washington, competing against all small-sized publications in the five states, was the runner-up in the general excellence category.

Reporter Luke Whittaker, who writes for the Observer and the Columbia River Business Journal, earned four awards. A collection of his photographs earned first place for best portfolio. His photo of a woman clutching a dog at a Long Beach apartment fire earned first place in the spot news photography category. He was the runner-up in spot news reporting for his story about the fire. He was also the runner-up in the general news photography category for his "shop with a cop" photo.

R.J. Marx, editor of the Seaside Signal, was the runner-up in the column writing category for Southern Exposure.

All three newspapers are part of EO Media Group, a family-owned regional company based in Salem. "Our journalists strive every day to cover the communities they serve," said Jim Van Nostrand, editor of The Astorian. "I could not be more proud of their work."

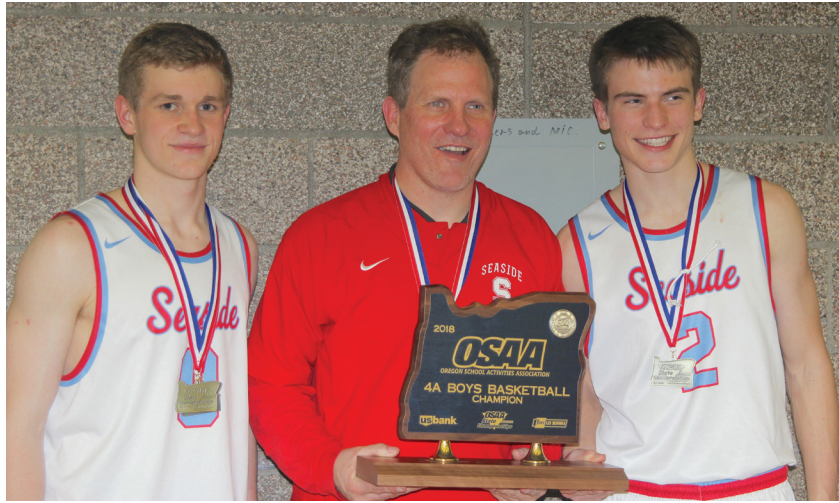
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Photographer Colin Murphey won first place for general news photography with this image of Lisa Habecker, left, and Ellison Randall releasing young common murrelets into the surf Sept. 14, 2018 near Haystack Rock at Cannon Beach.



Sportswriter Gary Henley was recognized for his coverage of Seaside sports. Above, Seaside coach Bill Westerholm, with two of his all-league seniors, Chase Januik and Payton Westerholm.



Photographer Colin Murphey and Signal editor R.J. Marx, both honorees from the Society of Professional Journalists.

Keep your dog cool when summer temperatures are on the rise

People love their dogs and therefore love their dogs' company on outings. But we hear a lot about how dangerous hot cars are—do we really believe or understand that claim? Let's look to the experts for facts.

The American Veterinary Medical Association explains that the temperature inside a vehicle rises about 20 degrees in ten minutes and 30 degrees in twenty minutes. In an hour, the temperature in a vehicle is more than 40 degrees higher than the outside temperature. In other words; if it's 70 degrees outside, it is probably more than 110 degrees in your car. Furthermore, the AVMA states, cracking the windows makes no difference. So let your dog stay safe and cool in your home while you do your shopping and other errands.

There are additional risks to dogs left in cars. One is that if the owner should have a medical or other emergency while on a

CANINE CORNER

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quick errand and become unable to communicate, the dog could be stranded in the car long-term rather than just for a few minutes. Another is that anytime we leave our dogs alone in public, they are at the mercy of that public, and that's just not a gamble worth taking. You may recall from one of my previous articles that about a third of the population is cynophobic — that is, is afraid of or has disdain for dogs.

Another summertime risk of dogs in cars isn't as common, thankfully, but does happen, and would be extremely traumatizing. There have been cases where dogs have fallen — or jumped — out of partly or fully open windows of moving cars, sometimes still

attached by their leashes to something in the car. It happens more frequently when dogs are allowed to ride in open air vehicles such as convertibles and pick up truck beds. Whether the dog is loose or tethered, serious injury or worse is the result. Road curves and bumps that increase fall risk cannot be avoided, nor can things that might tempt a dog to jump, so keep windows up, and don't let your dog ride in convertibles or truck beds. No A/C? Only have a pick up or convertible? The AVMA would again suggest letting your dog stay home, since there are many other risks, including flying debris and organic airborne hazards, to dogs who travel with their heads outside a vehicle, whatever the season.

At the beach, lake, river, or other water source with a dog who loves the water, try to be sure that s/he doesn't swallow a lot of water while swimming or playing. You already know that drinking salt

water isn't good for dogs. You may have heard of water intoxication, but if not, do a little research on the topic before your dog begins water play. It appears a dog might ingest too much water by simply playing in or with water, leading to acute water intoxication, reportedly an uncommon but deadly illness. Ask your vet for guidance.

Perhaps your dog prefers to luxuriate with you under the beach umbrella and a spread of snacks. In that case, one surprising safety rule has to do with snack bags. Unfortunately, pets can quickly suffocate in potato chip bags and similar wrappers (yes, including pet food bags). At home the best safety rule is to cut off both ends of every bag before disposing of it so that if a bag should fall into your pet's paws and s/he noses into it, suffocation will not be as likely. If you are not up for bringing mini-scissors to the beach, another option

might be to use your cooler to contain all bags, including grocery bags, until you get home to your scissors. For increased safety, place chips and other snacks in a bowl rather than eat from bags, and keep the bags in the cooler.

Staycationer? Before you walk your dog, check the temperature and the ground to make sure both are cool enough. Personally, I prefer 70 degrees or less for dog-walking, because some dogs just don't handle heat and exercise together very well. If your dog's a sunbather, manage that too, because many dogs don't know when they've had too much and will overheat themselves. Not sure? Ask yourself: Would I enjoy a long stretch of this activity in a fur coat, fur hat, and bare feet?

And watch for panting. Rain Jordan, CBCC-KA, KPA CTP, is a certified canine behavior and training professional. Visit her at www.expertcanine.com.

July 16

1 p.m., All Ages Comedy: Juggling, and Magic with Alex Zerbe.

July 17

10 a.m., Preschool Storytime: "Moon and Stars."

July 18

2 p.m., Kindergarten to grade 5 space games event

OFF THE SHELVES

SEASIDE LIBRARY CALENDAR



July 20

1 p.m., Weight loss and changing your mind set with Jenn Visser; for adults.

July 23

3 p.m. Teen event: "Space food."

July 24

10 a.m., Preschool Storytime: "Space Puppet Show."

July 25

2 p.m. Kindergarten to grade 5 Constellation crafts event.

July 30

3 p.m. Teen event: Moviemaking.

July 31

10 a.m. Preschool Storytime: "Weird Science."

OBITUARIES

Thank you to Seaside Fire Department

Due to a garage full of smoke, I had reason this past week to call the Seaside Fire Department and I want to take this opportunity to thank those firemen who responded for the fine job they did.

They were absolutely professional, conscientious and courteous in their attempt to find the source of the smoke and make sure all was safe before they left. I feel grateful and a little safer knowing that we live in a community with such an excellent fire department.

Nancy Berry
Seaside

Whose side is she on?

In Senator Betsy Johnson's scripted speech before she voted against SB870 I can't decide what's worse; Johnson's shocking defense of Donald Trump or her assault against the National Popular Vote (NPV).

The senator's failed call for ballot reference was a deliberate lose, lose, strategy. One where a backwards worded: yes means no, language during a low turnout election might

make it easy for opponents with millions in PAC money to manufacture a failure they could exploit as a pretext to block any future reconsideration. Her sudden concern for the opinions of voters is worthy of a blazing saddles style satire. Where were her tender sentiments for voter preferences in 2016 when 3 million votes were tossed in the garbage?

Even if it passed, recall that a state does not have authority above the U.S. Constitution. It would be a triviality to overturn because Article 2 section 1 explicitly says that the state legislature has exclusive authority in how it assigns its electors, not the voters. That is why no proponent has espoused that cynically authored political dumpster fire attempt to derail and kill it.

NPV is about one word: "Democracy." Johnson neither represents her party who resolved to support it, nor the majority of voters who support it. Complaining that renewed interest in passage of the NPV is because of two words; "Donald Trump," is like opposing the declaration of war against fascist Japan because of the two words; "Pearl Harbor!"

Whose side is she on?!
Ted Thomas
Astoria

Gearhart, Seaside students win honors at OSU

Seaside Signal

CORVALLIS — Seaside student Jensen Liu, a senior majoring in mechanical engineering, was named to the Oregon State University honor roll for the 2019 spring term. Liu received a straight-A average.

Rachel M. Stahly, a senior majoring in speech communication; Joshua M. Strozzi, a junior majoring in computer science; Brittany A. West, a junior, majoring in forestry, were named to the honor roll with a grade point average of 3.5 or better.

Gearhart's Josiah I.

Sigler, a senior, majoring in construction engineering management; and Hunter L. Thompson, a junior, majoring in pre-forest/civil engineering, were named to the honor roll with a 3.5 grade point average or better.

Annuka A. Brown, of Cannon Beach, a senior, majoring in human devel-

opment and family science, was honored with a straight-A average.

A total of 1,327 students earned straight-A (4.0). Another 4,352 earned a B-plus (3.5) or better to make the listing. To be on the honor roll, students must carry at least 12 graded hours of course work.

Trail's End Art Association presents camp for kids

Seaside Signal

Trail's End Art Association is offering a one-week camp for children Monday, July 22, through Friday, July 26 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. each day.

The camp will explore various types of art media through a combination of classroom and hands-on

experiences. Children from second through eighth grades will be encouraged to work at their own pace, within instructor parameters, to create several pieces over the five-day camp.

Finished pieces will include, but are not limited to, a paper bowl; a hand decorated wooden box with a sculptured top; watercolor-rendered animal paint-

ings; fused glass based on O'Keefe, Mondrian, Matisse and Yoyo Kusama; and graffiti art.

Weather permitting, sun-painting and additional mark-making techniques requiring sunny weather will also be explored resulting in additional art pieces.

Campers will also be shown techniques to display their completed work

professionally, using matts and frames as appropriate. An additional goal of the camp is to provide the campers with a space to display during the gala artist's reception of annual judged show the following week.

Special needs kids are welcome if parents stay.

Children any younger should be at least be second grade ready.