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NORTH COAST

NOV. 2015

A PUBLICATION OF THE COLUMBIA PRESS

Local newspaper has Finnish roots

By Gary Nevan

In a dark and dusty basement beneath a tattoo parlor in downtown Astoria sits an old web printing press where time has stood still for over a quarter of a century.

There is still a roll of newsprint on the press with the last issue of the *Columbia Press* newspaper that the old press would ever print, dated August 7, 1988. The new owner of the newspaper decided that trying to publish a weekly newspaper *and* print the same newspaper would be a little too much work for a fledging publisher on a very limited budget.

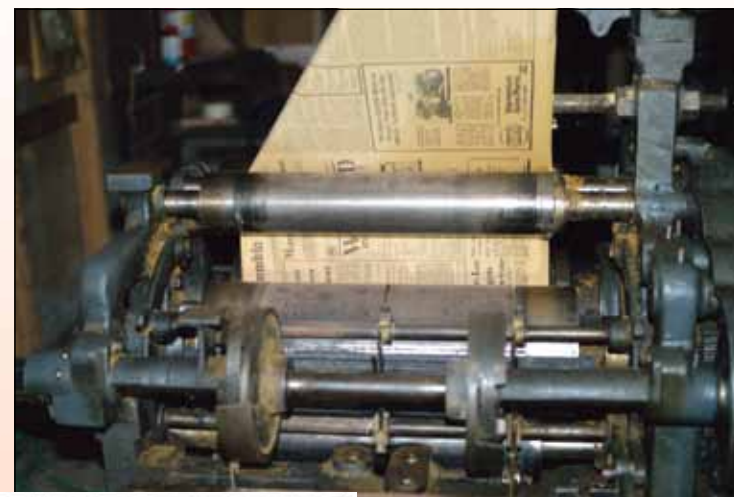
Warrenton's community weekly newspaper, *The Columbia Press*, has a long and interesting history in Clatsop County.

Originally started in 1922 as a Finnish-language newspaper called *Lannen Suometar*, it was first owned by the Lutheran Book Concern, Inc., as a publishing arm of the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

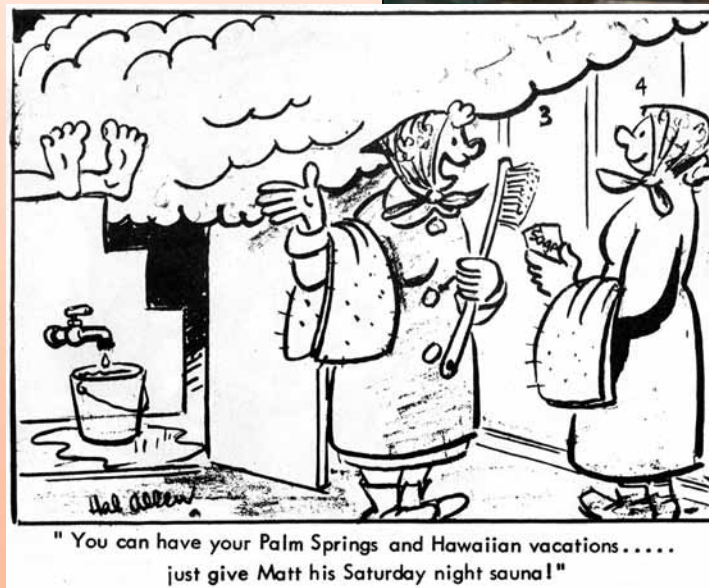
Astoria's Finntown, with a population of about 2,000 in the late 1800s and early 1900s, had an abundance of newspapers. The early weeklies including the *Uusi Kotimaa* (1887), the *Lannetar* (1897), and the *Tynenmeren Sanomat* (1902), were published for improving the lives of all Finns without stirring class consciousness.

At that time in history, politics in the Finn community were starting to become a hot topic and newspapers sprung up to encourage and support political leanings whether it was socialism, temperance or conservatism.

Other Finnish newspapers during that time period in Astoria included *Toveri* (1907-1930), *Toveritar* (1911-1930), *Astorian Sanomat* (1915-1919), *Lannen Kaiku* (1919-1920), *Ilmoittaja* (1920), and the *Columbia Press* predecessor, *Lannen Suometar*, which published from 1922 to 1946. Interestingly, *Toveritar*, which means "Woman Comrade," was printed for Astorian Socialist Finnish women who insisted



Above: The old press with the August 7, 1988 edition of the *Columbia Press* (photo courtesy Shanghai'd Tattoo Parlor, Astoria). Left: A cartoon by Hal Allen from the 1960s.



on having their own newspaper.

In 1946, *Lannen Suometar* was sold to Oke Zatterlow, a well-known and prominent Astorian who was commissioned a "rear admiral" for the 1955 Astoria Regatta which was one of the largest Regatta celebrations and longest parades in Astoria's history.

According to a newspaper article dated July 1, 1946, "The equipment and business of the Lutheran Book Concern, Inc. which has published

the Finnish newspaper *Lannen Suometar* in Astoria since 1922 and operated a commercial printing shop has been purchased by Oke Zatterlow of Astoria. Zatterlow has had a lease on the plant which is located at 575 Bond Street for several years and has been associated with the business since 1932. Sale of the property to Zatterlow has been announced by the Suomi Synod, which owns the Lutheran Book Concern. The new owner changed the name of the Finnish newspaper to *Lannen Uutiset* or *Western News*. The name of the plant will be Columbia Press. Fabian Tolonen will remain editor of the paper. It will

Continued on page 5



Astoria Senior Center remodel takes shape

Progress continues on the remodel of the Astoria Senior Center in downtown Astoria.

In late October, Executive Director Larry Miller lead a group of twenty on a tour through the building with the wall framework in place. When completed the center will have a full kitchen and dining area—the new home of Columbia Senior Diners—plus a large activities room as well as a pool room and other amenities. During construction, the large old window openings were uncovered and

Continued on page 3



News for seniors loving life on the Oregon North Coast

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?



Join your fellow seniors on weekdays for good food and camaraderie at these local senior meal sites.

Coastal Senior Dining—Seaside

Lunches are served Monday through Friday at 11:45 a.m. at the Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Ave. A, Seaside. Suggested donation is \$3 for those over 60; \$6.75 for those under 60. Hot meals are served on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; Soup, sandwiches or salad are served on Tuesday and Thursday. (503-861-4200)

Columbia Senior Diners—Astoria

Lunch is served Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. at the lower level of Peace Lutheran Church, 565 12th Street. Cost is \$5. (503-325-9693)

Warrenton Senior Luncheon—Warrenton

Lunches are served on Mondays and Thursdays at noon at the Warrenton Community Center, 170 W. Third Street. Suggested donation is \$5 for seniors over 60 and \$7 for those under 60. (503-861-3502)



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EDITOR'S NOTE:

Have you hugged a caregiver today?

My mom passed away nearly two years ago after a long journey down the rabbit hole of dementia. There are no words that accurately describe how Alzheimer's disease and some forms of Parkinson's affects not just the person afflicted with it, but also how insidiously it can bring together or tear apart their families and loved ones.

Every single case is unique and often takes on a surreal life of its own. Days can be good, with smiles and laughter and special moments remembered, or heartbreaking with tears, anger, feelings of isolation and exhaustion. It is a terrible illness.

My mom was fortunate in that she had a loving, admittedly somewhat inept, family looking out for her. But as the disease progressed, we eventually moved her into the competent hands of caregivers at a memory care facility. Those caregivers were truly her guardian angels. They tried their best to make every day a good day. They bathed and dressed her and brushed her thinning hair. They cooked and served meals, told jokes, sang, and sometimes just sat quietly and held an old woman's hand.

My mom's life was undeniably better under the tender and loving attention of her caregivers.

Each situation is different and in many cases it is a family member who takes on the full-time caregiving duties at home.

November has been named National Alzheimer's Disease and Awareness Month as well as National Family Caregivers Month. But the disease and the care is year-round.

If you or a loved one has Alzheimer's Disease (or other form of dementia), NorthWest Senior and Disability Services (NWSDS) invites you to attend a support group on the second Tuesday of every month from 2-3:30 p.m.

And if you are a family caregiver, NWSDS offers a monthly support group on the third Tuesday of the month from 1:30-3 p.m. This month's meeting is November 17. (Respite care is available.)

Meetings are at NWSDS offices, 2002 SE Chokeberry Ave., Warrenton. For more information about either of these programs, call Grace at 503-738-6412.

Angora Hiking Club Point Adams NOAA Tour

The Angora Hiking Club will meet on Friday, November 20, for a Hammond-Warrenton Estuary walk and tour of the NOAA Research Station in Hammond.

Interested walkers will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Fisherman's Lighthouse Museum located at the four-way stop in downtown Warrenton, across from the post office.

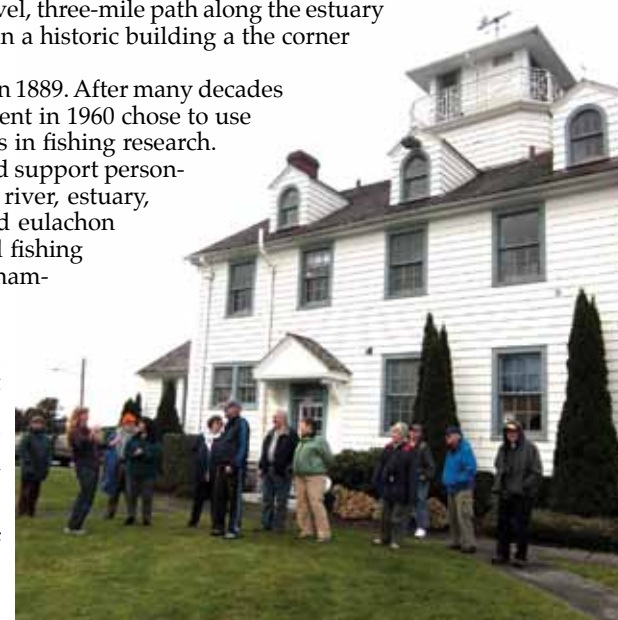
Hikers will tour this fishing industry museum, then walk a level, three-mile path along the estuary shoreline to the Point Adams NOAA Research Station, located in a historic building at the corner of Heceta Place in Hammond.

This facility was first occupied by the U.S. Lifesaving Service in 1889. After many decades of distinguished U.S. Coast Guard service, the federal government in 1960 chose to use this strategic location to support new federal maritime missions in fishing research. This facility now houses a team of NOAA fisheries biologists and support personnel. Scientific work conducted at the station includes wetland, river, estuary, and ocean science; fish ecology, especially work on salmon and eulachon (smelt, candlefish, or hooligan); observer programs on the local fishing fleets; effects of dredging on Dungeness crab; marine bird and mammal ecology; and habitat restoration science.

Although the station is not typically open to the public, the Angora Hiking Club has arranged for a facility tour which will showcase the historical building and research activities at Point Adams.

Walkers are asked to wear sturdy walking shoes and bring adequate water. Membership is not required to participate with the club. Walk leaders are Jim and Kathleen Hudson.

Call 503-861-2802 if you plan to attend. Or check out the website, angorahikingclub.org. If you would like a 2015 schedule of hikes, please contact Bob Westerberg, chief guide, at 403-325-4315 or email westysr@charter.net.



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Medicare Open Enrollment deadline

Medicare Annual Enrollment ends December 5. However, Regence Advantage has announced it will no longer serve our area. Those on Regence Advantage Plans will lose coverage in Clatsop County on January 1. They will revert back to original Medicare Part A and B only if they do not purchase another Advantage Plan or Medicare Supplement Plan.

People losing their Regence Advantage Plans have a Special Enrollment Period, meaning they have until the end of February to enroll in a new plan. There are three companies in Clatsop County offering Advantage Plans: Family Care, Care Oregon and MODA.

They also have a "guaranteed enrollment period" for Medigap plans. This means that those losing their Advantage plans through no fault of their own cannot be turned down due to medical history.

NW Senior and Disability Services will be holding a free **Get a Grasp on Medicare** class on Thursday, November 19, at the NWSDS Conference Room (2002 SE Chokeberry Ave., Warrenton) from 2 to 4 p.m. to help beneficiaries understand their benefits and choices. This program offers unbiased Medicare information and is sponsored by SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance program). You do not need to register to attend the **Get a Grasp on Medicare** class.

For additional assistance please call the SHIBA Help Line at 800-722-4134.

Senior Center won't be ready by Christmas

Continued from page 1

the center will also feature natural light throughout the facility.

Initially, the renovation was set to be completed in time for the center's annual Christmas dinner, but Miller estimates that with final construction and permitting, the Astoria Senior Center will realistically be open by the end of January.

Instead, this year's annual Christmas Dinner will be held across the street in the basement of the American Legion Club, 1132 Exchange Street, on December 18 from noon to 4 p.m.

The dinner menu includes roast baron of beef, glazed ham, seafood lasagna and side dishes catered by Deb Ferguson.

Cost is \$5 for members and \$15 for guests of members. Sign up at the Astoria Senior Center's temporary location at the old Astoria Yacht Club or call 503-325-3231 for more information.

2016 OSU Master Gardener Training Class

Now is the time to register for the OSU Clatsop County Extension Service Master Gardener Program. Applications are available online at extension.oregonstate.edu/clatsop/gardening/master-gardener-classes-events, at the Clatsop County Extension office (2001 Marine Drive, Room 210, Astoria), or request an application from Stacey Hall at stacey.hall@oregonstate.edu. Classes are held at Clatsop Community College South County Campus in Seaside on Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. beginning January 6 and ending March 23.

Students will receive over 60 hours of intensive gardening education in the classroom and an additional 60 hours of volunteer service as hands-on training. The cost is \$150 and includes handbook.

The master gardener curriculum provides volunteers with information and references on subjects such as botany, soil management, pruning techniques, integrated pest management and more. The classes are taught by OSU Extension faculty, veteran master gardeners and experts in their respective fields.

IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS

Local researcher Jim Sayce discusses Dismal Nitch

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, Fort Clatsop, is pleased to announce the next *In Their Footsteps* free speaker series event. This program is *Dismal Nitch: Shining a Bright Light into the Dark Coves of History* by Jim Sayce on Sunday, November 15, at 1:00 p.m.

The 33-member Lewis and Clark Expedition was pinned down by stormy weather November 10-15, 1805, on the north shore of the Columbia River east of Point Ellice. The National Park Service commemorates this campsite at the Dismal Nitch highway rest area about a mile east of the Astoria Bridge.

For nearly two decades, researcher and local resident Jim Sayce has been studying the landscape of this area to pin-point the exact location of Clark's Dismal Nitch.

This monthly Sunday forum is sponsored by the Lewis & Clark National Park Association and the park. Programs are held in the Netul River Room of Fort Clatsop's visitor center (92343 Fort Clatsop Road, Astoria) and are free of charge. For more information, call the park at (503) 861-2471.



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Volunteer service is a fun time spent working on projects such as the OSU Extension Master Gardener Information Line, Astoria Sunday Market or other plant clinics, gardening in the demonstration garden with veteran master gardeners and other opportunities.

If you like exploring gardening and want to learn more about sustainable gardening methods to share with the community, please apply to the Extension Office by Monday, November 30.

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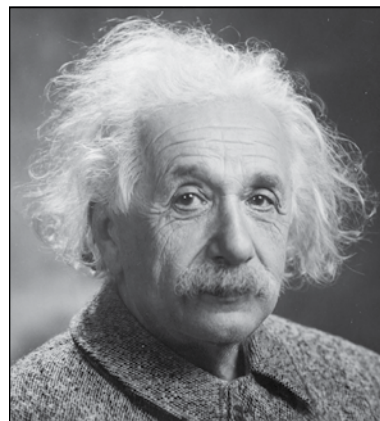


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WELCOME BACK, OTTER

Nature Matters presents an evening of otter education,
Nov. 19 at Astoria’s Fort George Brewery

ASTORIA—Sea otters are coming home to Oregon and we are working hard to give them a warm welcome. For much of the last century, the chances of seeing a sea otter playing in the waves off of Cannon Beach or Depoe Bay were virtually zero. But that may be changing. In the last several years, a steady trickle of confirmed sea otter sightings along the Oregon coast has revived hope that these intelligent, highly-social animals may once again flourish off our shores.



Creative Commons “Sea Otter” by Linda Tanner is licensed under CC BY 2.0

perspective of his 16 years of experience caring for Oregon’s ambassador sea otter population at the Oregon Zoo.

Cowdin will follow up with more on Oregon Wild’s advocacy work and how the public can get involved more directly in sea otter recovery. Fensterer has worked with the sea otters at the Oregon Zoo since the Steller Cove exhibit opened in 2000. He has found wild sea otters in Seward, Alaska, Tofino, British Columbia, and Monterey, California, and says

Come hear what we can do so that we can all once again see these intelligent and playful critters thrive in their native Oregon home. Join us for the presentation of “Welcome Back Otter” Thursday, November 19, at the Nature Matters Lecture series.

he looks forward to the day when he can count on seeing sea otters on the Oregon coast.

Nature Matters is free, open to the public, and takes place in the Fort George’s Lovell Showroom. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the talk begins at 7 p.m.

Nature Matters, a lively conversation about the intersection of nature and culture, takes place on the third Thursday of each month, October through May. Nature Matters is hosted by Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, Lewis & Clark National Park Association, The North Coast Watershed Association, and the Fort George. The series delves into the many ways that human beings look to the natural world for inspiration, sustenance and survival—the intersection of nature and culture.

Philip Fensterer of Oregon Zoo and Marielle Cowdin of Oregon Wild are teaming up to talk about sea otters in Oregon.

Fensterer will give the bulk of the presentation from the

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Columbia Press has had many incarnations over the years

Continued from page 1

no longer be the official organ of the Suomi Synod. Columns of the paper will be open to all Finnish denominations, Zatterlow said."

He began interspersing Finnish and English language material in the newspaper and eventually abandoned Finnish language reports entirely. He explained that the necessity for a Finnish language newspaper in the county diminished when the U.S. government reduced the annual quota of Finnish immigrants to 620.

Zatterlow continued to publish the weekly newspaper, serving Clatsop County with local news until 1962, when the *Columbia Press* was purchased by Hal Allen.

Allen was an interesting and talented man. He began as a young cartoonist, selling his art

to newspapers in the Salem area. But then World War II happened and Allen was drafted, during which time he ran a military post newspaper. After the war, he went to work for the Walt Disney Company in California, drawing characters for many feature-length animated cartoons which made Disney famous.

Allen and his wife, Edla, eventually moved to the Astoria area to run a weekly newspaper. Back in the old days, newspapers were produced on Linotype machines and by the manual cutting and pasting of text and graphics—a famously labor intensive operation that required hours of preparation and work. It was a far cry from today's efficient digital newspaper publishing.

Allen was perhaps best known for his political cartoons which took potshots at local politicians and government agencies. He published a book of his cartoons in 1973 called *Needle Anyone? A 10-year chronicle of Clatsop County cartooned in the Columbia Press*. Many of his cartoons were created on napkins at the old Andrew and Steve's Restaurant in Astoria where he was a counter regular.

Publishing the weekly *Columbia Press* was a family



The Columbia Press under the direction of Hal Allen, dated Thursday, April 1, 1965.

affair for the Allens. All of their children grew up working at the newspaper, performing every chore imaginable from sweeping the floors of paper scraps, to addressing newspapers using an old rickety contraption with metal cards containing names and addresses.

The Allens eventually decided that the nearby town of Warrenton needed their own newspaper, so in 1978 they left Astoria and moved their operation to an old building near the Warrenton waterfront and started publishing the *Columbia Press* as Warrenton's community newspaper.

Fast forward to 1988 when a young journalist was looking to escape corporate life as a public relations director for a software company in Bellingham, Wash., and began contacting small weekly newspapers inquiring

if they might be for sale.

I eventually received a handwritten note from Edla Allen stating that yes, they would consider selling their newspaper. They were tired of the weekly grind and so were their children. So, in August of 1988 I started a new, exciting (and demanding) career as the youngest newspaper publisher in Oregon.

Much has changed over the last 27 years. Gone are the 12-hour days of manually cutting and pasting newspaper articles and advertisements on layout sheets spread across 15-foot long wooden tables. Gone are the hours of processing black and white film and making prints in the darkroom. Gone are the continual break downs of finicky typesetting machines that required hauling the entire 500-plus pound boxes to Portland for repair, usually right before deadline.

Now everything is produced on laptop computers and digital cameras. Each week's issue is sent directly to the printer via the internet.

Yes, newspaper publishing has gotten easier.

And yes, I am still very thankful I didn't buy that old web press back in 1988.



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Savvy SENIOR

Senior-Friendly Furniture Aids for Mobility-Challenged Seniors

Dear Savvy Senior,

I am interested in purchasing a recliner that lifts and lowers off the ground, or some other type of senior-friendly furniture that can help my elderly father. He's arthritic and overweight and struggles mightily with getting up from most of the cushioned furniture in the house. What can you recommend?

—Need a Boost

Dear Need,

The task of sitting down and/or getting up from soft-cushioned furniture is a problem for many seniors who struggle with excessive weight, arthritis or other mobility issues.

Here are some different product solutions that can help:

Lift Recliners

One of the most popular types of cushioned furniture on the market today for mobility-challenged seniors is an electric recliner lift chair. While they look just like regular recliners, powerlift recliners come with a built-in motor that raises and lowers the entire chair, which makes sitting down and getting up much easier.

With literally dozens of different types and styles of lift recliners to choose from, there are a few key points that can help you select a good fit for your dad.

- **Chair size:** The recliner needs to fit the person sitting in it, so your dad's height and weight will determine the size of chair he needs.
- **Reclining options:** Aside from the lifting system, the degree in which the chair reclines is your choice too. Most lift recliners are sold as either two-position, three-position or infinite-position lift chairs. The two-position chairs recline only to about 45 degrees, which makes them ideal for watching TV or reading. But if your dad wants to nap, he'll probably want a three-position or infinite-position chair that reclines almost completely horizontally.
- **Style and features:** You'll also need to choose the type of fabric, color and back style you want the chair to be, or if you want any extra features like built-in heating or massage elements, or a wall hugging chair which is great if you're tight on space.

While there are many companies that make lift recliners—such as Med-Lift, Nex-Idea, Catnapper, Berkline, Franklin and La-z-boy—Pride Mobility (pridemobility.com) and Golden Technologies (goldentech.com) have been around the longest and have some of the best reputations. With prices typically ranging between \$600 and \$2,000, you can find lift recliners at many furniture and medical supply stores, or even online.

You'll also be happy to know that Medicare provides some help purchasing a lift chair. They cover the lift mechanism portion, which equates to around \$300 towards your purchase.

Risedale Chairs

If powerlift recliners don't appeal to your dad, another option to consider is a Risedale chair. These are open-legged, wing back chairs that are different from lift recliners because only the seat cushion lifts instead of the whole chair. Sold by Carex Health Brands (carex.com), the Risedale costs \$725.

Furniture Adapters

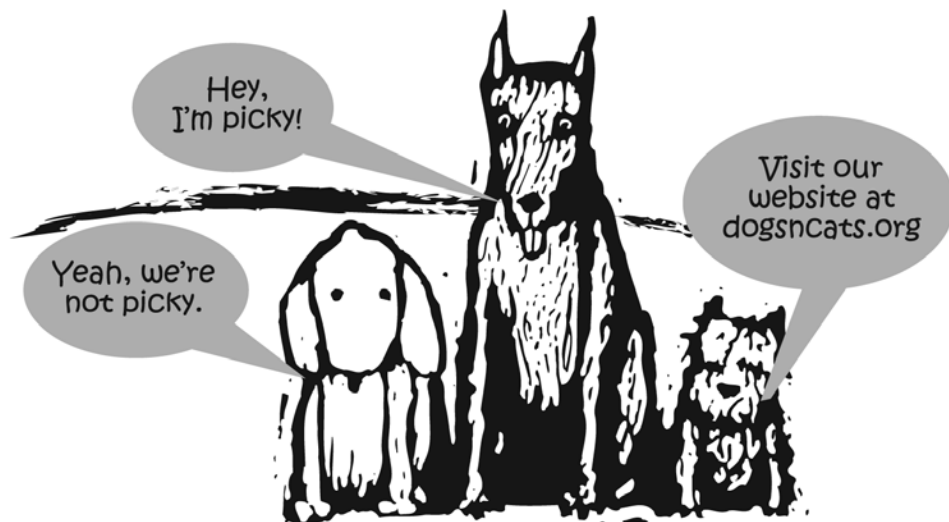
If your dad doesn't want different furniture, there are also a number of economical assistive products that can be added to his current furniture that can help too, like the Stander Couch-Cane or EZ Stand-N-Go (see stander.com).

These products provide support handles that make sitting down and standing up a little easier, and they both work on couches and recliners. Available online, the CouchCanes sell for around \$110, and the EZ Stand-N-Go costs \$129.

Another way to make your dad's furniture more accessible is by increasing its height with furniture risers. These typically range from two to five inches in height, are made of heavy-duty plastic or wood, and are inserted under the base of the legs or supports of his furniture. Costs typically range from a few dollars up to \$50 or more and can be purchased at hardware or general merchandise retail stores or online.

Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book. Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org.

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OFFBEAT OREGON HISTORY

The wreck of the *USS Shark*: Navy's loss was Cannon Beach's gain

By Finn J.D. John

On August 23, 1846, the doomed American warship *USS Shark* pulled away from Fort Vancouver for its fateful voyage down the Columbia and thence—so her captain thought—out to sea and back toward home.

The *Shark's* captain, Lt. Neil M. Howison, was already behind schedule, and with each passing day he got more anxious to get out to sea before the rest of his crew melted away into the surrounding communities. He'd already lost at least six, possibly more. And the *Shark* was a Baltimore Clipper rigged as a topsail schooner—a seagoing hot rod of the first order; she required a lot of men to handle her. It wouldn't take many more defections before they were all stuck here, half a world away from home.

But fate seemed just as determined to delay the ship as her captain was to speed her along. First, when Howison was getting ready to depart, he learned that a commercial barque, the *Toulon*, had hired the only river guide available. To have the services of a local in getting their ship safely out to sea, they'd have to wait, possibly weeks, for the *Toulon*.

Howison determined that he was not going to wait for the *Toulon*. When he embarked, it was without the benefit of a river pilot. But a few miles downstream, he found himself waiting for the *Toulon* after all. Her newly hired river pilot had guided her straight onto a gravel bar.

Naturally, Howison couldn't just sail blithely past—although he surely must have wished he could. And so the *Shark's* departure was delayed yet again, by three days, while her crew toiled with the *Toulon's* to get her into deep water again.

Then, at last, the little warship was on her way.

But now it was the weather's turn to be the agent of delay. A stiff headwind forced the little ship to tack relentlessly back and forth for days, gradually working her way down to the mouth of the river.

When she finally arrived at the mouth of the river, Howison spent a day reconnoitering before choosing to cross the bar at the start of the ebb the following afternoon. But, not having a pilot on board (or even a decent map of the channel), Howison didn't realize what a serious mistake that was.

So out onto the bar the little ship ventured, just as fast as

she could sail.

Actually, she was moving quite a bit faster than she could sail. The current during the ebb tide can be an amazing force on the Columbia bar, with all the tidewater of the lower Columbia flowing out to sea. When conditions are right, it can top nine miles per hour. And it doesn't always follow the deepest part of the channel.

And so, on the afternoon of Sept. 10, Howison and his crew found themselves racing past the northern shores of Oregon—riding a current carrying them straight toward Clatsop Spit.

Belatedly realizing his predicament, Howison hastily tacked across the headwind and tried to make for the northwest. It was no use. The pressure on the ship's keel from the current was too great for the sails to overcome. The ship continued slipping out toward the breakers that lined the south side of the channel.

In desperation Howison ordered the anchor dropped. Again, though, the force of an eight-knot current pushing a 200-ton ship with its keel spread out like an underwater sail was simply too much. The anchor line snapped “like a packthread” (Howison's words), and then there was little to do but brace for impact.

When that impact came, it was definitive. The vessel stuck fast, and immediately the mammoth boarding seas “began to break over her broadside,” Howison recounted (after he was safely back on shore, of course), “and told us too plainly that she should float over its surface no more.”

Giving up the ship for doomed, the crew then turned its efforts to getting on shore before the relentless seas could reduce the little warship to its constituent timbers. The first thing they did was launch the ship's gig, with several crew members along with \$4,000 in gold. But as they lowered it, the rocking ship and pounding seas carried the ship's remaining anchor around from where it hung beneath the bows and smashed the little gig just as it hit the water.

With the help of some heroic work by other crew members, all the occupants of the gig were hauled back aboard the ship. The box full of gold, however, was gone, along with all the ship's papers.

Captain and crew alike took the hint. They weren't getting off the ship yet. But the ebbing tide suggested another possibility: Could they but hold out for a few hours, the tide would finish going out, and they might be able to make for shore.

So the crew of the *Shark* settled in as best they could, hanging on tightly as walls of green-and-white water roared down on them again and again.

And a few hours later, sure enough, things settled down. Not much—but enough.

Hastily the three surviving boats were launched with a little over half the crew on board, to row for shore. They would come back 12 hours later for the rest of them...if they could survive.

They did. When the boats returned to the *Shark*, they found it battered and waterlogged, but with the several dozen shipmates (and their captain) still clinging to the wreckage, all of them tied to the rigging with lifelines to keep from being swept away.

Not a single sailor was lost, or even badly hurt. Not one—out of a crew of more than 70 men.

When the last members of the crew reached the beach, soaked through and exhausted from their ordeal, they found a great bonfire blazing on the sand, and their comrades all gathered around it. They'd found a great deal of driftwood clustered



Lt. Neil Howison, commanding officer of the *USS Shark*, circa 1840s. (Credit: Oregon Historical Soc.)

along the beach, which had burned very nicely. It was, they later learned, the wreckage of the sloop of war *Peacock*, which had come to grief on the opposite shore of the river just five years before.

The castaways ended up stuck on that beach for months, although their British rivals from the Hudson's Bay Company hastened to bring them food and supplies. They built a log house at Point George, which they dubbed Sharkville, and waited in it for a vessel that they could charter to take them home.

But while they were waiting, the barque *Toulon*—remember the *Toulon*—the ship that hired the only river pilot, and then promptly stranded on a sandbar below Fort Astoria? It now returned from a journey with the news that international negotiations between Britain and the U.S. had resulted in a decision to set the boundary between them permanently at 49 degrees—the modern border with Canada.

So in the end, the castaways of Sharkville ended up being the first to hear the news. And upon hearing it, Howison ran the *Shark's* flag up a makeshift flagpole, and for the first time ever, Old Glory was flying above the undisputed American territory of Oregon.

Meanwhile, the ship had broken up, and sections of the deck with the ship's carronades attached had washed up on a nearby beach—just north of Arch Cape. Three pieces of artillery were found, and then another; one of them was dragged out of the sand and brought up on shore, where it stood outdoors exposed to the elements for more than 100 years in a little town that was named after it: Cannon Beach. Recently, it was sent off to the Nautical Archaeology program at Texas A&M University for expert restoration work, and the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum is currently in the midst of a GoFundMe campaign to raise the \$30,000 it needs to provide a proper climate-controlled exhibit space for this 190-year-old piece of Oregon history.

In 2008, two more cannons from the *Shark* were found by a beach walker, farther to the north; these, also refurbished by Texas A&M, were placed on display at the Columbia River Maritime Museum in Astoria last year.

(Sources: Shine, Greg P. “A Gallant Little Schooner,” *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, Dec. 2008; Tobias, Lori. “Cannons from *USS Shark* Come Back Home to Oregon's Coast,” *Portland Oregonian*, 16 May 2014; <http://www.gofundme.com/ourcannon>)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. For details, see <http://finn-john.com>. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn2@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.



One of the two carronades found on the beach in 2008, before it was removed from the beach and sent to Texas A&M University for restoration. Inset is a replica of a cannon from the *USS Shark*, on display at the Cannon Beach Historical Society. (Credit: Oregon Parks & Recreation)



Caption this!

Send in your wittiest caption for this photo of this elk to editor@northcoastsenior.com. We'll share our favorite responses in the December issue. (Photo by Trish Nevan)



Readers shared their captions for the October "Caption This" feature. Here are our favorites: "That's right, Batman, Robin retired and I'm the new guy." (*Daralee Kimball*).

"I got 10 to life in Sing Sing." (*Jerry Hepner*). "How do you like my new shades?" (*Valerie Glasier*).

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Solution to Thanksgiving Traditions puzzle on page 6

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