

**M A R P L E ' S**  
**Northwest Business Letter**  
INSIDE THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ECONOMY  
*Washington • Oregon • Idaho • Montana • Alaska*

September 4, 2009

Dear Subscriber:

I am excited to inform you that Random Lengths Publications has purchased Marple's Pacific Northwest Letter. The first issue published under this new ownership will be dated September 16.

Michael J. Parks, owner and editor of Marple's since 1980, will assist in the transition of the newsletter to a new publishing company and a new editor. He will serve as Editor Emeritus at least through 2010. We'll keep him as close to Marple's Letter as we can for as long as we can so that we can mine his extensive knowledge of the Pacific Northwest economy.

Jim Murez will assume the editorship of Marple's. Jim comes to Random Lengths from The Register-Guard, Eugene's major newspaper.

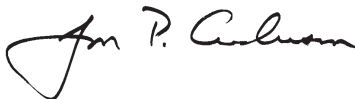
Elliot Marple and Mike Parks set high standards for coverage of the economy and companies of the Pacific Northwest. Be assured, Jim Murez and Random Lengths will strive to maintain those standards.

Please feel free to contact Jim, Mike, or me with any questions, input, criticisms, or ideas for Marple's. We want you to rely on Marple's for news of the Pacific Northwest economy that you won't find in any other single publication.

As the Pacific Northwest recovers, we will continue to provide you with the region-wide economic perspective you've come to expect from Marple's Letter, perspective available in no other business publication.

We look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,



Jon Anderson  
Publisher

P.S. - Receive Marple's as soon as it is published! See the enclosed Reply Card for details on e-mail delivery. Sign up today!

P.S.S.- If you have a renewal in front of you right now, don't worry, go ahead and send it in using the postage-paid envelope provided. Mike will be forwarding all renewals from Seattle to us here in Eugene. So return your renewal today. Thank you!

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September 4, 2009

Dear Subscriber,

I am delighted to tell you that Random Lengths Publications Inc., Eugene, the authoritative source of forest-products price data and of related industry information for 64 years, has assumed responsibility for publication of Marple's Pacific Northwest Letter. Our publication schedule will be pushed out one week. The first issue of Marple's Letter under the Random Lengths flag will be dated September 16.

Jon Anderson, publisher of Random Lengths, is the new publisher of Marple's Letter. He has appointed Jim Murez, an award-winning veteran of The Eugene Register-Guard, as Marple's editor. I will work full time with Jon and Jim and other Random Lengths staff through the balance of this year and will remain available in 2010 as needed.

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I have been pecking away at a keyboard of one type or another, rearranging 26 letters and 10 numbers, for nearly 50 years. In January, I started my 33rd year at Marple's. My other career as an amateur economist and public speaker on the Northwest economy has deprived the letter of needed attention in many areas, including reporting, marketing/circulation, and electronic publishing. Marple's has been a one-man show (credit where credit is due, with able part-time clerical support from Debbie Johnson) for too long. It is time for a change.

**PUBLISHED BY**  
Random Lengths  
Publications, Inc.

A wise banker told me once that "Things will be the same after the merger" ranks right up there with other whoppers — "The check's in the mail," "I'm from the government and I'm here to help," etc. Marple's Letter will inevitably change, as it did when I took over from the founder, the late Elliot Marple.

**MAILING ADDRESS**  
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I'm confident that under Random Lengths, change will be for the better.

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I've known Jon for many years and have been an ardent admirer of the whole family of Random Lengths publications since my days as a cub business reporter.

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I can't remember what I had for breakfast. But I remember quite clearly Jon telling me years ago (the occasion was a brief courtesy visit to his office) that excellence in content, succinct and plain-spoken and based always on extensive reporting and research, is the key to newsletter publishing. I expect he and Jim Murez will make Marple's Letter as indispensable to you and other subscribers as Random Lengths publications are to their subscribers.

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I welcome your comments and suggestions and remain available to you during transition. Thanks for your patronage.

Kind regards,



Michael J. Parks  
206 281 9609 office



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Suggestions?**

**Please contact us!**

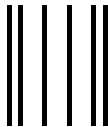
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FROM MARPLE'S  
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Jim Murez, Marple's Editor

Jon Anderson, Publisher

Janna Land, Business Manager

Nancy West, Marketing Manager



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