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ONE DOLLAR



A VERY FLAVEL CHRISTMAS

Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Lights adorn the balcony and front porch of the Flavel House.

Flavel House's new owner restores power, holiday cheer to long-neglected mansion

By ERICK BENGEL
The Daily Astorian

The tumbledown turn-of-the-20th-century Flavel House, abandoned for 25 years, is showing signs of life again — and the warm glow of Christmas cheer.

Brightly colored Christmas lights hang from the upper and lower railings. A wreath, also strewn with lights, is mounted on the front door. Two large electric candles with red-orange bulbs — decades old and recovered from beneath the front stairs — shine from the dining room. And a small Christmas tree, partly adorned with ornaments owned by the Flavels, completes the scene.

Though the decorations themselves are rather modest, the lights alone make a bold statement: This house has power again, and it will soon be someone's home.

That someone is Greg Newenhof, who owns City Lumber with his brother, Jeff. Greg purchased the house at Franklin Avenue and 15th Street earlier this year.

"I tell everybody it'll be next week I'm moving in. Just like, 'There's free beer tomorrow in the taverns': Next week never really comes," he said, smiling. "But I'll probably — hopefully — in the springtime have enough done so that I can move in."

For now, Newenhof — who lives two blocks away on 17th Street and plans to make the Flavel House his permanent home — is making his presence felt through the simple gesture of holiday spirit, which began when his neighbors to the southeast, Curt and Rosemary Johnson, gave him the wreath.

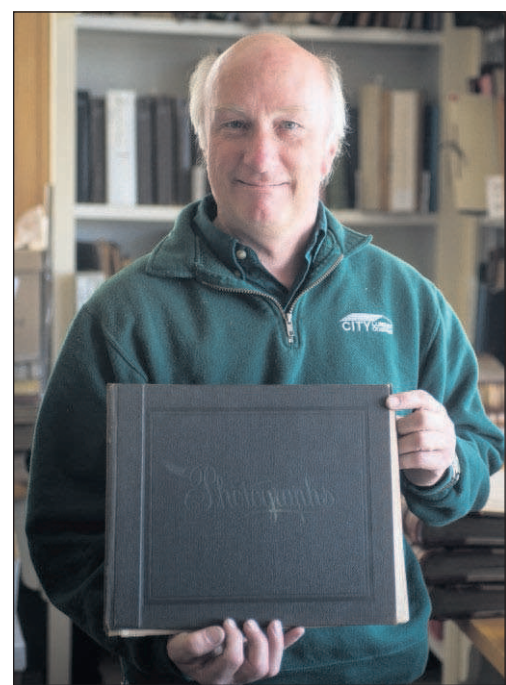
"So I put the wreath up there and said, 'Well, I need some lights to go with it,'" Newenhof said.

The Curt and Rosemary moved into their home not long after the last Flavels to occupy the mansion moved out. The Johnsons and their neighbors across the street, Ron and Muriel Jensen, have watched the house slowly decline into a neighborhood eyesore, a sorry shadow of its former self.

But the new festive look — and all that it promises for the house's future — warms the Johnsons' hearts, they said.

"It's a house that's going to be lived in and have things going on, and not just, 'He's renovating an old home,'" Rosemary Johnson said. "The fact that he decorated before he moved in — he's even got a Christmas tree in the window! — It's just fantastic."

See FLAVEL HOUSE, Page 9A



Daily Astorian/File Photo

Greg Newenhof holds up Nellie Flavel's photograph album in August.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

A Christmas tree lights up a window of the Flavel House.

On the record

Bill requires recording grand juries; 1993 Clatsop County case cited

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The chairman of the state Senate Judiciary Committee is reviving legislation proposed in the last session he says will bring more transparency to secret grand jury proceedings.

Oregon is one of the few states where grand jury proceedings are not recorded.

Sen. Floyd Prozanski, D-Eugene, is reviving legislation from that would require all grand jury testimony to be recorded. The bill, originally proposed by Rep. Jennifer Williamson, D-Portland, stalled during the 2015 session in the Senate because lawmakers wanted more time for deliberation. Prozanski, who is a lawyer, said he plans to submit the bill again in February.

Prozanski said the 2015 bill is "the starter."

"That is not the end point," he said.

Federal courts and more than 40 states mandate that grand jury proceedings be electronically recorded, according to a count by the Oregon Criminal Defense Association, which supports the bill.

"The national norm is when you have grand jury testimony, it needs to be recorded verbatim," said Gail Meyer, lobbyist for the criminal defense association.

What happens to the recordings after the proceedings differs from state to state.

Prozanski's bill would require all grand jury proceedings to be recorded except deliberations and voting. In case of indictment, the transcript would be released to the district attorney and defense counsel. If there were no indictment, the transcript would not be released except when the accused was a public servant such as a police officer.

See BILL, Page 8A

Warrenton man killed in crash

The Daily Astorian

CLATSKANIE — A 55-year-old Warrenton man was killed in a head-on crash between a semi-truck and a sedan Wednesday morning on U.S. Highway 30 just west of Clatskanie.

Zai G. Yang, 55, was riding in the passenger seat of a 2004 Pontiac sedan, traveling westbound at about 8 a.m., when for an unknown reason the car crossed over the centerline and struck an eastbound 1981 Kenworth semi-truck head-on, according to Oregon State Police.

Yang was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver of the Pontiac, Qiongfang Peng, 49, of Portland, was transported to Legacy Emanuel Medical Center for treatment of minor injuries.

The semi-truck driver, Dennis R. Erickson, 37, Sheridan, had minor injuries and was treated at the scene.

After the impact, OSP said, the Pontiac left the roadway and became partially submerged in a water filled ditch next to the highway. The truck, pulling a trailer loaded with lumber, also crashed into the ditch.

Crews also had to clean up a large diesel spill.

All lanes were opened to traffic in both directions before 5 p.m.

Oregon Department of Transportation, Columbia County Sheriff's Office and the Clatskanie Rural Fire District assisted OSP.

Boys and Girls Club blooms on the peninsula

By KATHERYN HOUGHTON
EO Media Group

LONG BEACH, Wash. — Kid performers cartwheeled into the room as the Boys and Girls Club staff herded roughly 50 students into the gym to showcase what they had learned during the semester. The group was nearly twice as large as it would have been a year ago, despite some students being out on vacation.

Attendance grew from last year's roughly 30 students a day to more than 70 students, said Hannah Williams, program coordinator for the Boys and Girls Club of the Long Beach Peninsula.

"This growth has been amazing to watch," Williams said. "But it's important to know, we're not making money off



Natalie St. John/EO Media Group

Older students in the after-school program enjoy the opportunity to socialize with their friends in an area that is dedicated to reading, relaxing and conversation.

See CLUB, Page 7A

