

Ghost Hunting

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to the Future."

Apparently the idea is to invite any ghosts that may be trapped in the Fat City Café building to go for a ride in the Golden Box in the back of the hearse to an unnamed graveyard in the West Hills, where the box would be opened and spirits set free. And of course all of this is set to take place during a live broadcast on local radio station KXL.

All of this is a little too much for me to handle (and besides I haven't eaten all day) so I head to a safe haven a few blocks away to get some food and clear my head. A half hour later I am back at Fat City where I find the Scooby Doo Gang downstairs in the basement doing their ghost capturing thing.

Apparently one of the paranormal investigators caught something on video that looked like a fog machine mist that they were convinced was some kind of vortex.

But better yet was a recent photograph of some kind of naked female apparition captured by Anne Bocci (or

her son), who owns the boutique next door. The photo was taken in the basement of the boutique. Was the naked lady the ghost of Mayo Methot? Your guess is as good as mine.

Mayo Methot was the dazzling Hollywood femme fatale who was married to Humphrey Bogart before he left her for Lauren Bacall. Bogart and Methot loved to go out drinking. In Portland their favorite bar was Jake's downtown.

They were notorious for their drunken brawls, and were known as the Battling Bogarts. Methot, who grew up in Portland, returned here after she broke up with her husband around 1945. She is said to have died of alcohol poisoning in a boarding house room upstairs in the same Multnomah Village building in 1951. Her decomposed body was found more than a week later.

It's around 9:30 or 10:00 p.m. I'm in my pickup truck driving home, but of course glued to the radio.

Clyde Lewis is describing the scene. Dr. Jonathon Burgess is giving the blessing over the Golden Box at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, somewhere in the

West Hills, in some unrecognizable tongue, wearing a special shaman's shawl.

"Don't look at it," one of Lewis' cohorts exclaims, reminding us of the famous scene in "Raiders of the Lost Ark." But of course they do and even take video to mark the event.

Did somebody see a ghost that night? Did Clyde Lewis and company really give some ghosts a lift to the cemetery? Can it get any weirder than this? You be the judge. You can check out the photography and video and listen to the October 26 podcast at www.groundermedia.org.

Sellwood Bridge scheduled to close for up to a week in January

For Southwest Portland, Sellwood and Clackamas County residents, January 10 may be a mini-version of the Bay Area's Carmageddon. On that day the Sellwood Bridge will close for "up to a week," according to Multnomah County spokesperson Mike Pullen.

The purpose is to move the deck of the existing bridge to a set of piers now under construction about 40 yards to the north.

When the transfer is complete, the relocated bridge will serve as a temporary detour route until a new bridge is constructed in the old location, hopefully by late 2015.

For the critical week, traffic will be diverted to the city's seven other Willamette River bridges, with the impact most likely to fall most heavily on the Marquam and Hawthorne spans.

"The biggest traffic impact is likely to be on the east side," Pullen told *The Post*, but there may be heavier than



Construction continues on the Sellwood Bridge as workers add deck panels to the west approach of the detour bridge. (Photo courtesy of Mike Pullen, Multnomah County)

normal traffic on Southwest Macadam Avenue as well, he said.

At this time also crews are constructing new retaining walls and taking other measures to stabilize the hill-sides along Macadam Avenue north of the bridge.

Plans for the new bridge call for reconfiguration of the approach roads that will necessitate cutting into the hillside.

-Lee Perlman



Framed photographs of Vivian Robinson (left) and Mayo Methot were placed with candles on an altar as part of the paranormal investigation in the basement of Fat City Cafe, October 26. Both women died in the same building at different times. (Post photo by Don Snedecor)

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