

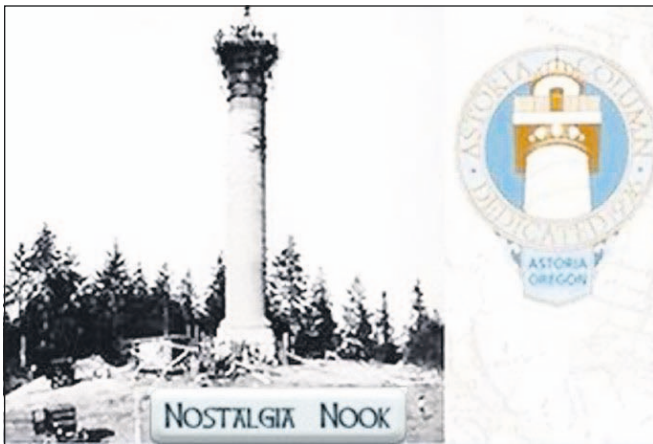


Come home, Kitty Kitty

“Last month JIM STANOVICH, DANI FISHER and I were doing the art walk with 3-year-old grandson DORIAN,” SHARON WILSON told the Ear. “Dorian had his special stuffed kitty with him. At the end of the night we realized that ‘KITTY’ was MIA and we could not find him. Dorian was devastated, as he takes Kitty everywhere and sleeps with him.” Dorian and Kitty are pictured.

“So this last Saturday’s art walk we took Dorian again,” she continued, “and as we were walking into Tempo Art Gallery there on a table lay Kitty. I grabbed him and said ‘Dorian look!’ The look on his face was priceless, he jumped out of his stroller and grabbed Kitty and was dancing around the gallery hugging and snuggling the kitty and giddily saying ‘Ohhhhhh, Kitty Kitty.’”

“I’m sending a thank you card to Tempo for saving that cat!” Sharon added. “The gals there were tickled pink that the owner was found.”



What’s in a name?

(*Nostalgia Nook: First run Jan. 6, 2012*) CLAYTON R. JONES SR. of Seattle, a frequent visitor to Gearhart, wrote to the Ear, quite vexed about the proper name of the ASTOR/ASTORIA COLUMN, pictured in a photo courtesy of <http://thenandnowpics.com>

He felt the original name was the Astor Column, and that somehow, over the years, Astoria had changed the name to the Astoria Column, thereby “diminishing its history by denigrating the original name of Astor for this important landmark.”

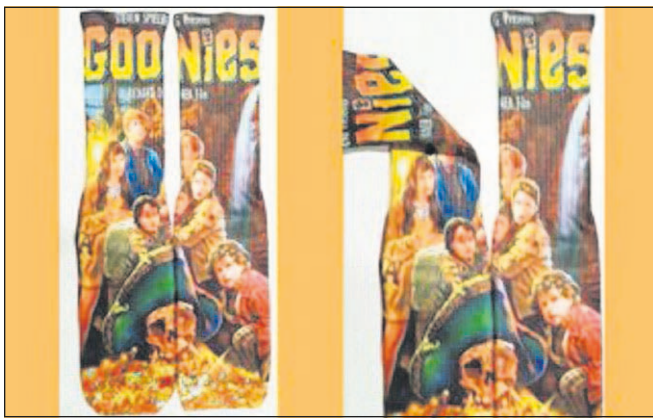
The Ear was baffled, and as always with historical questions, turned to LIISA PENNER of the Clatsop County Historical Society. “The original name was Astoria Column,” Liisa said, “and that is the one preferred today, as a reminder that the column memorializes not just John Jacob Astor, but Capt. Robert Gray, Lewis and Clark and others contributing to the development of the area.”

Yet in a sampling of 50 years’ worth of Astoria City Directories, Liisa found that the name fluctuated. “In the printed brochures and newspapers in the 1920s and 1930s, it appears to have been Astoria Column. In one brochure from about the 1950s or so, it is Astor Column, and all the more recent ones say Astoria.”

So the Ear emailed the Astoria Column website (www.astoriacolumn.org), and got a reply from PAULA BUE at the Astoria Column Gift Store and Visitor’s Center.

“We get this question a lot,” Paula wrote. “Technically it’s always been the Astoria Column in Astor Park. But many of us grew up calling the Column the Astor Column, and for many decades the signage around town was quite inconsistent. Some signs said The Column, some said Astoria Column and some said Astor’s Column.”

“But, nobody changed the name,” she maintained. “We’ve just made it all more official and consistent.” So now you know – it’s the Astoria Column.



Goonie head to toe

Are you ready for the Goonies 30th anniversary this year? If not, you might want to check out this item for those with a discerning eye for millinery: Custom GOONIE SOCKS (pictured), available on eBay (<http://tinyurl.com/goonsock>).

The seller, TShirtConnex, has this to say: “This super high quality image is printed on a premium quality dri-fit sock front and back and is fully machine washable. My socks are excellent quality and the colors are bright and vivid. They will turn heads everywhere you go ...”

“All of my items are guaranteed brand new,” he added, “and never worn or tried on.” Well, that’s a relief.

In One Ear



by Elleda Wilson

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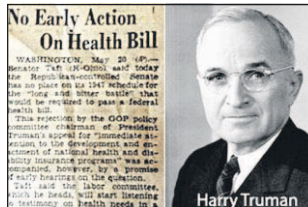
A ‘long and bitter battle’

“My cousin sent me this NEWSPAPER from May 20, 1947,” PAM CHATER told the Ear. “And as I was looking through it I came across this article, written during the Truman Administration, of the GOP blocking national health care.”

“Sen. (Robert) Taft (R-Ohio) said today the Republican-controlled Senate has no place on its 1947 schedule for the ‘long and bitter battle’ that would be required to pass a (compulsory) federal health (insurance) bill,” the article says. You can read the history of Truman’s bill at <http://tinyurl.com/harymedbill>

“Sixty-eight years later it finally passed,” Pam added, “but now the GOP is trying to undo it. I just found it rather amusing, and thought I would share it with you.”

File this under “the more things change, the more they stay the same.”



Up against the wall

“Astorians fascinate and amuse me, as evidenced by the attached photo (shown) of two young men climbing the rock wall on the west side of 16th Street between Grand and Irving avenues,” JOY BREWER-ERL wrote. “Watching them find hand and footholds while climbing vertically and horizontally was greatly entertaining, although a little worrisome when it appeared there might be a misstep.”

“I wonder what FOSTER FERRY, a former resident of my home and who most likely constructed the wall eons ago, would think about his creation being used for recreation?” she mused. “I hope that he’d enjoy watching as much as I did!”



‘Nothing short of a national treasure’

Remember the fourth USS ASTORIA-CL90, “MIGHTY NINE-TY”? The vessel was a light cruiser that served in the Pacific Fleet during World War II after the 1942 sinking of the third USS Astoria, “Nasty Asty,” off Guadalcanal.

In previous stories about the CL-90, the Ear has referred to Mighty90.com, partially because of the evocative photos of daily life on the vessel during wartime. Recently, Daily Astorian reporter KYLE SPURR discovered an article on NorthJersey.com (<http://tinyurl.com/hschnipper>) about one of the best photographers featured on the website, HERMAN SCHNIPPER, now 91 years old and living in Hackensack, N.J. He is pictured in a self-portrait, taken in the darkroom on the USS Astoria, courtesy of Mighty90.com

The story is about Schnipper’s concerns for the fate of his 1,500 prints taken aboard the USS Astoria. “I don’t want them to be put in a box and forgotten,” he said. “I want to show people the war.”

And he has shown us, even here in Astoria. He donated 30 of his prints to the Columbia River Maritime Museum, four of which are on permanent display in the naval history gallery.

“It always seemed to me his photographs captured the look and feel from the sailors’ perspective,” museum curator JEFF SMITH told NorthJersey.com. “There’s something compelling about his images. Yes, they capture everyday occurrences aboard a ship, but there is something more.”

The collection could possibly end up at the National Museum of Jewish Military History in Washington, D.C., but nothing is settled yet, and the family is getting anxious because of Schnipper’s age and infirmity. They’d like him to get some recognition for his work before he dies.

“He’s nothing short of a national treasure,” declared BRENT JONES, creator of Mighty90.com. “Herman’s a genuine man who did an amazing job capturing an important era in our history.”



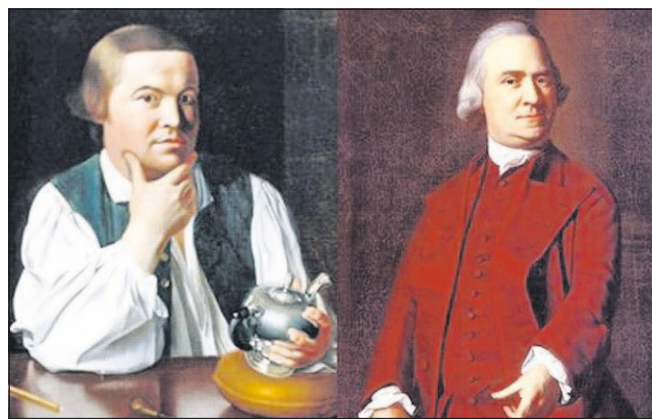
Want a Swedish adventure?

The GREAT SWEDISH ADVENTURE reality TV series, aka Allt för Sverige, is holding a nationwide CASTING SEARCH for Americans with Swedish ancestry (even a little bit counts) for Season 5. No, you don’t have to speak Swedish to be eligible.

Applicants must have a “burning desire to find their roots and see their motherland,” according to the press release. “Chosen participants will compete in extreme cultural challenges (in Sweden) to discover their rich and fascinating roots while trying to win the grand prize: Meeting their Swedish relatives.”

Get a taste of what the show is like by watching episodes from Season 4, available at <http://tinyurl.com/greatswedes>

Want to audition? You’ll need to make a little video of yourself to upload, and fill out an online form at www.greatswedishadventure.com. The shooting schedule is set for this summer, and you have to be able to commit to a maximum of six weeks’ shooting. If you’re interested, you’d better get moving — you need to apply before Feb. 11. Good luck! Or, more apropos, lycka till!



Time in a box

American history enthusiasts should enjoy this: Recently, more than 200 years after SAMUEL ADAMS (right), PAUL REVERE (left) and WILLIAM SCOLLAY first placed a TIME CAPSULE in the cornerstone of the Massachusetts State House in Boston, it was opened. Both Adams and Revere are pictured in portraits by John Singleton Copley.

It took seven hours to remove the box from the cornerstone in December, CNN reported, more than four hours to loosen the screws holding it shut, and another hour to extract the contents with a porcupine quill and a dental tool (<http://tinyurl.com/reverecap>).

The capsule contained five folded newspapers, a Massachusetts commonwealth seal, a title page from Massachusetts colony records, at least 24 coins, and at the bottom, an inscribed rectangular silver plate — probably made and engraved by Revere. The box had been opened once before, in 1855, and a few objects were added.

Will officials add anything more before eventually putting the capsule back? Probably.

How hot is it?

Are you wondering how much RADIATION (cesium-137) is seeping across the ocean after leaking from the FUKUSHIMA nuclear power plant when it was damaged during the 2011 Japanese earthquake and radiation. Pictured, courtesy of the Canadian Coast Guard, the John P. Tully 3, which sampled Pacific Ocean waters for radiation.



A recent OPB.org story (<http://tinyurl.com/fukuwater>) covered the release of the first official paper on the topic. The study concludes that the levels of cesium-137 detected off British Columbia is 2 becquerels per cubic meter (Bq/m³). The EPA drinking water standard is 7,400 Bq/m³.

Levels are expected to peak there at from 3 to 5 Bq/m³ in 2015-2016. The dates are later for Washington and Oregon. All in all, no threat is expected here. (If you want to read about how things are going on the Fukushima end of the leak, check out <http://fukushimaupdate.com>)

Yes, there was a scary OPB headline last year about radiation in Albacore tuna off the Oregon Coast (<http://tinyurl.com/tunatest>). But the conclusion of the story was quite different: “A year of albacore, which for the average American is about 16 pounds, at the highest concentration we saw is the same dose you’d get by spending 23 seconds in a stuffy basement,” said Oregon State University researcher DELVAN NEVILLE. Looks like you can probably put away your Geiger counters.

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY
Columbia Northwestern Model Railroad Club — 1 p.m., in Hammond. Group runs trains on HO-scale layout. For information, call Don Carter at 503-325-0757.

SUNDAY
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Support Group — 2 to 3:30 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway. For anyone with friend or loved one suffering from a serious brain (mental) illness. For information, contact Myra Kero at 503-738-6165, or k7erowood@q.com, or go to www.nami.org

Line Dancing — 5:30 to 8 p.m., Seaside American Legion, 1315 Broadway. For information, call 503-738-5111. No cost; suggested \$5 tip to the instructor.

MONDAY
Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested do-

nation \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

Columbia Senior Dinners — 11:30 a.m., Peace Lutheran Church (lower level), 565 12th St. Cost is \$5. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Warrenton Senior Lunch Program — noon, Warrenton Community Center, 170 S.W. Third St. Suggested donation of \$5 for seniors and \$7 for those younger than 60. For information, or to volunteer, call 503-861-3502 Monday or Thursday.

Astoria Rotary Club — noon, second floor of the Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Guests always welcome. For information, go to www.AstoriaRotary.org

Warrenton Kiwanis Club — noon to 1 p.m., Doogers Seafood and Grill, 103 U.S. Highway 101, Warrenton. For information, call

Darlene Warren at 503-861-2672.

Diabetes Class — 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Providence Seaside Hospital, 725 S. Wahanna Road, Seaside. Free help managing diabetes. All are welcome. For information, go to www.providence.org/diabetes or call 503-717-7301.

Clatsop County Democrats — 6:30 to 9 p.m., location to be determined. For information, call 503-717-1614 or go to <http://clatsopdemocrats.org>

TUESDAY
Do Nothing Club — 10 a.m. to noon, 24002 U St., Ocean Park, Wash. Men’s group. For information, call Jack McBride at 360-665-2721.

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation of \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis

at 503-861-4200.

Columbia Senior Dinners — 11:30 a.m., Peace Lutheran Church (lower level), 565 12th St. The cost is \$5. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Astoria Lions Club — noon, Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Prospective members welcome. For information, contact Charlene Larsen at 503-325-0590.

Line Dancing for Seniors — 1 to 3 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Nehalem Bay Garden Club — 1:30 p.m., Pine Grove Community Center, 225 Laneda Ave., Manzanita. Visitors welcome. Program is decorative planting of succulents in containers and vertical frames. Bring containers and succulent cuttings if available.

This is a hands-on experience.

Spinning Circle — 3 to 5 p.m., Astoria Fiber Arts Academy, 1296 Duane St. Bring a spinning wheel. For information, call 503-325-5598 or go to <http://astoriafiberarts.com>

WEDNESDAY
Open Sewing Gathering — 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Homespun Quilts, 108 10th St. For information, call 503-325-3300 or 800-298-3177 or go to <http://homespunquilt.com>

Wickiup Senior Lunches — 11:30 a.m., Wickiup Grange Hall, 92683 Svensen Market Road. Free for those older than 60 (\$3 suggested donation), \$6.75 for those younger than age 60. For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation of \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60.

For information, call Michelle Lewis at 503-861-4200.

Columbia Senior Dinners — 11:30 a.m., Peace Lutheran Church (lower level), 565 12th St. The cost is \$5. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Blood Pressure Checks — noon to 2 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

International Longshoremen’s and Warehousemen’s Union Pensioners — noon luncheon, 1 p.m. meeting, Local No. 50 Longshore Hall, 491 Industry St.

Lower Columbia Chief Petty Officers Association — 1 p.m., Astoria Moose Lodge, 420 17th St. For information, call Dave Kinney at 415-827-5190.