

Oscar B makes first run Thursday

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

WESTPORT — Wahkiakum County's new ferry, the Oscar B, made its first run at 1 p.m. Thursday.

The new ferry between Puget Island, Wash. and Westport had to wait nearly a week for an issue with a temporary ramp on the Oregon side to be resolved.

Oscar B arrived in Puget Island Friday, Feb. 27, and passed a Coast Guard inspection Tuesday. However, the Coast Guard required another inspection for the temporary Westport ramp.

The ramp inspection occurred Thursday morning. The Coast Guard approved the ramp and the Oscar B started service hours later.

"Finally. It's a huge relief. It's wonderful to finally be operating the way we wanted to," Wahkiakum County Public Works Director Pete Ringen said. "Once I heard that our captain was satisfied with the changes made to the ramp over in Westport, I was able to get a hold of the Coast



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian

The Oscar B ferry makes its way across the Columbia River during a test run Feb. 27.

Guard. It took them a couple hours then they said we are good to go."

Rates and times will remain the same as before with the previous Ferry Wakikukm.

An 8-ton weight limit per vehicle will be in place until crews finish the permanent

Westport landing by May 1. The weight limit does not allow vehicles the size of semitrailers.

Ringen said he is planning how to handle semitrailers on the ferry, which the original ferry could not fit. He is considering a possible time

schedule for semitrailers and a higher cost than the \$5 per trip for cars and trucks.

Wahkiakum County will host the celebration of the Oscar B at 1 p.m. March 14 at the Wahkiakum Ferry Terminal, 785 SR 409, Cathlamet, WA.



Submitted photo

Sweet Basil's Cafe in Cannon Beach won the Jambalaya Cook-Off in Lincoln City Feb. 21.

Sweet Basil's takes the prize

LINCOLN CITY — The results are in for the sixth annual Jambalaya Cook-Off in Lincoln City Feb. 21. First place and the People's Choice Award went to Sweet Basil's Cafe of Cannon Beach, Chinook Winds Casino Resort in Lincoln City took second place, and third place went to Roadhouse 101 in Lincoln City. The Mayor's Award went to Chinook Winds Casino Resort. In all five restaurants competed, three from Lincoln City, one from Vancouver, Wash., and Sweet Basil's.

Judges were Chef Bob Pounding, founder of the Culinary Center and owner and chef of the Blackfish Cafe in Lincoln City; Scott Salmons, a local chiropractor in Depoe Bay (since 1991) and a Louisiana native; and Mayor Don Williams, a longtime cook-off participant, competing and winning as the former owner of Nelscott Cafe.

Sunday concerts feature prelude to music festival

A Sunday afternoon concert at Peace Lutheran Church kicks off a mini-series of three events that are a prelude to June's Astoria Music Festival. Guitarists Hideki Yamaya and John Schneiderman will play a program of romantic German music, starting at 4 p.m.

The guitarists' program will include works by Beethoven,

Adam Darr and Johann Mertz. Tickets at \$15 are available at the door.

On the following Sunday, March 15, a piano trio including Russian cellist Sergey Antonov will play at the Liberty Theater. On Sunday, March 22, a program of Jean Sibelius — *From Finland with Love* — will be presented at the Liberty Theater.

Marshals arrest fugitive in Brazil who had spent time in Pacific County

RAYMOND, Wash. — Federal agents have captured a fugitive cult-leader who was briefly spotted in Raymond, Wash., last summer.

A Brazilian news organization, Globo, reports that U.S. Marshals on Feb. 27 arrest-

ed Victor Arden Barnard, 53, on the coast of Rio Grande do Norte, a state in northeastern Brazil.

In August 2014, Washington State Patrol detectives received a "credible tip" that Barnard was hiding out in Pacific or Grays Har-

bor County, but he evaded capture.

Barnard is suspected of 59 counts of sexual assault against teen girls and young women, stemming from his time as the leader of the River Road Fellowship, a Christian cult based in Pine County, Minn.

CORRECTION

Wrong time listed — Because of an editor's error, the wrong time was listed for performances of "The Real Story of Little Red Riding Hood" in the March 5 edition of Coast Weekend. Performance times are at 7 p.m. Friday, March 6 and 13; and at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 7, 8, 14 and 15 at the Astor Street Opry Company Playhouse in Astoria. ASOC personnel point out that both Saturday and Sunday performances are matinees. The newspaper regrets the error.

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