

HAVE YOU SEEN JARED?



The family of **Jared Knutson** (pictured) is worried, **Laurie McAfee** told the Ear. He's been missing since Friday, Feb. 27, the last day his family had contact with him. He had been staying with his grandmother in Cannon Beach, and with his aunt, **Tara Culver**, in Astoria, since coming to the North Coast about a month ago from Plains, a small town in Montana.

Sometimes known as **Ingrid Mayner**, Jared is 5 feet 6 inches tall, has brown eyes and brown hair, and weighs between 125 and 130 pounds. His 20th birthday is coming up soon, on April 3.

"I talked to him that night at 7:30 p.m.," explained his mother, **Jenny Knutson**, who drove over from Montana to help find him. "Everything was just fine. I was getting ready to send him a ticket to go back to Montana. Then we could not find him the next day."

What has been especially alarming is that his shoulder bag, new trench coat, Social Security card and a journal he always wrote in were found at Astoria's Roundabout around 11:30 p.m. Feb. 27. The Astoria Police Department has his possessions, and is keeping them for him.

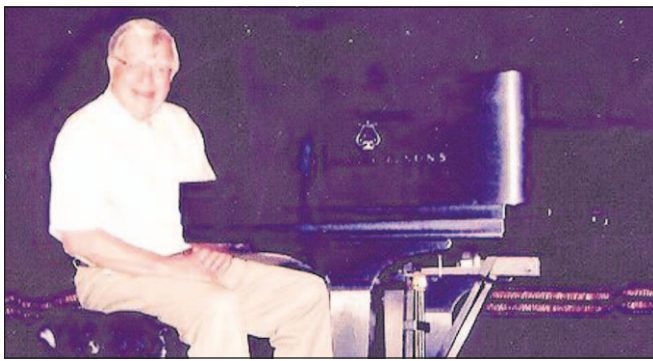
Tara was told that what Jared had written in the last couple of pages in the journal indicated that Astoria was not for him. He wanted to get out of town, and intended to go back home to Montana. But no one knows if he's actually headed that way or not.

People on the street the family has talked to while looking for Jared told them that his phone died the night he was last seen, and wouldn't take a charge. After checking with the cellphone company, Tara said there have been no outgoing calls from the phone since then.

If you have any information about Jared, please call either Tara Culver at 503-440-2904 or the Astoria Police Department at 503-338-6411.

"Any information leading to his whereabouts would be appreciated," Tara said.

PLAY IT AGAIN, DAVE



"Save the date!" **Shirley Tinner** exclaimed. A musical treat is nigh. "Our own **David Myers** of Astoria and Denver (pictured) will entertain us with his third **piano concert** at the **Liberty Theater**, Monday, March 23, at 11 a.m., for a free hour of breathtaking piano music," she explained. The Liberty pays most musicians, but Dave loves that particular Steinway piano so much, he donates to the theater to be allowed to play it.

He has been playing the piano for decades. "For us old-timers," Shirley reminisced, "Dave would often team up with **Betty Phillips** at the Fiddlers Green in Uniontown."

"Come one, come all," Shirley declared. "Call your relatives, friends, neighbors, and even your enemies. Don't miss it!" Sounds too good to pass up.

ONE-UPMANSHIP



The Ear wants to be sure to get this story in before something changes. Again.

The battle for who has the **biggest container ship** is still going strong. Now gCaptain reports that **Mitsui OSK Lines** is having 20,150 TEU (twenty-foot equivalent units) capacity container carriers built. (<http://tinyurl.com/big20150>). The behemoths will be 1,300 feet long and 193 feet wide, have a draft of 47 feet, and will serve Asia and Europe.

The last one to hold the "biggest" title is Imbari Shipping's order for 20,000 TEU container ships. But it was just back in November that the title was held by China Shipping Container Lines' MV CSCL Globe, with a cargo capacity of at 19,000 TEUs. The Globe is pictured, courtesy of MAN Diesel and Turbo (<http://tinyurl.com/nopanama2>).

On the other side of the coin, the Maersk Line (whose ships have a white star logo, and can be seen sailing up and down the Columbia River quite often) says it may change its focus from its 18,000 TEU Triple-E container ships — also a recent former champ for size — and instead concentrate on purchasing smaller vessels.

In One Ear



by Elleda Wilson

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HELP FOR JERI



Astorian **Jeri Meadows Normandin**, who is pictured, needs some community support. Although she'd had a medical problem since early 2012, she had no medical insurance until 2014, when she was able to get help. After receiving several different treatments that didn't work, she was finally sent to Portland to see a specialist. In February, she had surgery to remove a growth, and the biopsy showed she has **cancer**.

"They said that they need to go in and do a full hysterectomy," Jeri wrote. "(The doctor) believes that by doing this, he can remove the cancer. But he will also look around during the procedure to make sure if there is any more, or if the procedure will get it all. I am looking at being out of work from both of my jobs for 4-6 weeks, and mounting medical bills."

Can you help? To donate, go to her **GoFundMe** page at www.gofundme.com/os7b2k

"Any help that anyone can give to go toward my mounting medical bills," she added, "and our regular bills — that I won't be able to bring any money in for while I recover — is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance."

SITTING PRETTY



It's that time of year again, and the **Decorah, Iowa, eagles** are nesting, hatching a new brood of **three eggs**. Mom and pop are taking turns keeping them warm until the hatch date, which is expected to be sometime in late March or early April.

There is an eagle cam right near the nest, so you literally have a real time bird's eye view of the proceedings at <http://www.ustream.tv/decoraheagles>. A screen shot is shown. The website also has a chat room, and lots of videos. This annual bird-watching event has become so popular (98,000-plus followers) that now you have to sit through an ad before the live streaming starts. Most think it's worth the wait.

JUST KEEP PADDLING



Whatever happened to the simple, paddle-driven kayak? To give your arms a rest, the **Klepper E-Kayak** (www.klepper.de/en), which has a **solar-powered** electric drive, has arrived on the scene, according to Gizmag.com (<http://tinyurl.com/kayaksun>). It is pictured, courtesy of Klepper.

An E-Kayak can travel up to 32 miles in battery-saving mode, going about 2.5 mph with eight hours of sunlight, or up to 5 mph in fast mode for about 9.3 miles.

You'd better start saving your pennies if you want one, though, as it ain't cheap to give those paddling arms a break. A full E-Kayak set-up with single solar panel starts in the \$6,100 range. More, of course, for dual solar panels. Rowboat, anyone?

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT



"Today's visitor. Came by and checked out the bird feeder," **Norman Bruce "Bud" Cuffel** of Long Beach, Wash., said of his photo of a large bear, which was taken March 13 through the patio door.

It seemed to the Ear that perhaps it was an ursine early bird. Nope, not according to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's latest press release, "Spring arrives early for hungry bears."

"Black bears usually start making appearances in mid-to-late April, but warm weather can cause them to stir earlier," said **Rich Beausoleil**, bear and cougar specialist for the WDFW. "Black bears are hungry when they emerge from their dens, because they lose up to half of their body weight during hibernation."

A few "Facts about black bears" (<http://tinyurl.com/bearsthere>): Bears eat both plants and animals and fish, but tend more to the vegetarian side. Their spring diet is mostly herbaceous plants. In summer, bears add ants, bees and grubs, to the mix, but in late summer and fall, they forage for tree fruits, berries and nuts with their veggies.

Unfortunately for Peninsula residents, bears really love to forage for garbage, too. "They come to the highway and go across it. Just don't leave your garbage outside," Bud warns, "because once they find it, they are there checking it often." Good advice.

WALK ON BY



A lovely sunny Sunday in our residential east end neighborhood," **Ann Robben Dott** wrote, describing the photo, shown, taken by **James Dott**. "We are glad the Goonie fans are parking a little farther away from our dead-end streets, and walking up to see the house."

Yes, it's March, and way, way off tourist season, but never-say-die Goonie-ites are still making the pilgrimage to the **Goonie House**. "Now," Ann mused, "if they could only learn to use the sidewalks!"

SHARING THE STORY



Nostalgia Nook (originally ran Sept. 2, 2011): "The last of the **Robert Hendricks** children have passed away," Hendricks family member **Karen McGuffin** wrote to the Ear, "and the new generation planned a family reunion at Fort Stevens to visit the **Peter Iredale**." Pictured above, some of the family members gathered at the Aug. 13 reunion.

So what's the family's connection to the shipwreck? In 1960, **Cliff Hendricks**, Karen's uncle, claimed ownership of the Iredale, saying he inherited it from his grandfather's estate, and that he intended to remove and salvage what was left.

Karen hoped the reunion would illuminate "the history of the Peter Iredale, and my grandfather, Robert Hendricks, and the controversial impact it took on when my Uncle Cliff wrote an article for the Oregon City newspaper."

"What seemed like a joke to my uncle at the time turned into much more than anyone had expected!" Karen noted. Her uncle's claim was met with several threats from Clatsop County, including: Arrest for abandoning a vehicle on a public highway, 54 years of property rental fees and personal property taxes, and, according to The Daily Astorian, "possible bodily harm from such groups as the Astoria Clowns, Royal Chinooks, Clatsop Historical Society and others which have offered to stand guard over the Iredale and defend it physically if necessary" (<http://tinyurl.com/ireclaim>).

The furor over his claim on the Iredale may have been a tempest in a teapot, but Karen's interest in the shipwreck is genuine. She even found, and has corresponded with, Thomas Iredale of Germany, grandson of the original owner. "As long as the Peter Iredale is there," Karen declared, "we will continue to share the story."



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