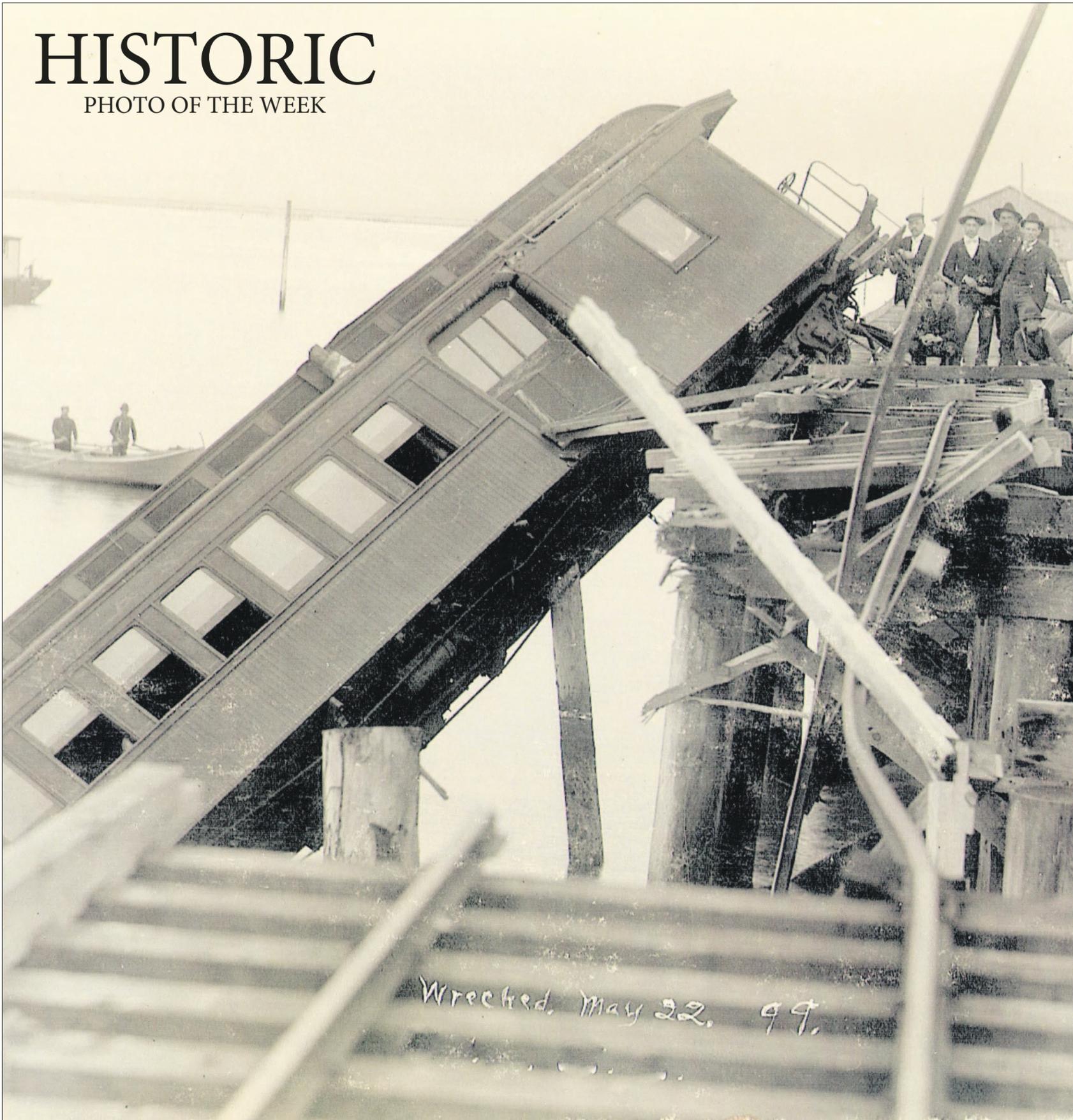


# HISTORIC

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Courtesy of the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum

The Ilwaco Wharf collapsed in 1899, sending rail cars into Baker Bay.

# THE ILWACO WHARF COLLAPSE

By **AMY BOZORTH**  
For *The Daily Astorian*

What could have been a disaster turned to a source of local amusement after the May 22, 1899 collapse of the Ilwaco Wharf and resulting train wreck.

As a train, consisting of a locomotive, boxcar and combination boxcar-passenger coach, slowly backed its way onto the Ilwaco Wharf, pilings under the train gave way. The locomotive plunged into Baker Bay dragging the tender and boxcar with it and landing in roughly 6

feet of water.

Fortunately, the combination boxcar-passenger coach caught on the dock as it fell, leaving it only partially submerged. As the engine crew and some of the passengers on the combination car's front platform swam

**'Save me first! I'm a company officer.'**

— a railroad official, on being trapped

to shore, eight passengers were discovered still trapped inside the car and had to await rescue.

Thankfully, despite damaged equipment, no lives were lost during the disaster. In fact, one I.R.&N. official gained local notoriety during the rescue attempt for calling out, "Save me first! I'm a company officer."

Amy Bozorth works in public relations for the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum. The museum is located at 115 S.E. Lake St. in Ilwaco. For information, call 360-642-3446 or visit [columbiapacificheritagemuseum.org](http://columbiapacificheritagemuseum.org)



## 9-1-WHAT?

THE BEST OF THE WORST CALLS TO ASTORIA 911 DISPATCH

## Chickens crossing the road, men too fond of beer

We are bringing back this weekly Friday Extra feature, starting today. Follow reporter Kyle Spurr on his 9-1-What? Twitter watch, where a few of the sometimes head-scratching calls to area dispatch centers take centerstage. The full feed is at [www.twitter.com/9\\_1\\_WHAT](http://www.twitter.com/9_1_WHAT).

9-1-WHAT? @9\_1\_WHAT Follow

{3/26 @ 6:30 p.m.} Teenagers aggravating the sea lions on the East Mooring Basin in #Astoria.

9-1-WHAT? @9\_1\_WHAT Follow

{3/28 @ 5:43 p.m.} Subject hitting golf balls into Alternate U.S. Highway 101 near Home Depot in #Warrenton.

9-1-WHAT? @9\_1\_WHAT

Follow

{5/13 @ 4:40 p.m.} Two men fighting over beer. #Astoria

9-1-WHAT? @9\_1\_WHAT

Follow

{5/3 @ 10:25 a.m.} Ongoing problem of chickens roaming near U.S. Highway 30 in #Astoria and often crossing the highway.

9-1-WHAT? @9\_1\_WHAT

Follow

{4/16 @ 5:22 p.m.} Highly intoxicated naked woman throwing things at the neighbors. #Warrenton

While other newspapers give you less, *The Daily Astorian*

# GIVES YOU MORE



Our new **CAPITAL BUREAU** covers the state for you

From left: Peter Wong, Hillary Borrud, Mateusz Perkowski