POINT of view

'What was your favorite summer job?'

"Grooming poodles in Tucson, Arizona. I was 16 or 17."

Carol Thomas, Astoria

"Working at the Nehalem Bay State Park as a seasonal interpretive ranger. It was fun going on nature walks with the kids, and making arts and crafts out of nature's goodies."

Lynn Hadley, Astoria

"Being a clown at the senior center, and being in several parades. Be a clown! And then, there was the summer I dealt blackjack in Alaska ..."

Laura Hutson, Astoria

Food bank holds volunteer training

The Daily Astorian

The Clatsop Emergency Food Bank is holding a volunteer training from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church, 1103 Grand Ave.

This training and orientation is mandatory for volunteers, and is the second being held in June to attract new volunteers and get everyone trained and on the same page.

There are 50 volunteers keeping the food pantry open Tuesday through Friday from 3 to 4 p.m.; the longest-serving have been volunteering for 20 years. For information, contact Julene West at 503-325-7351.

Death

June 23, 2015

RASMUSSON, "Clegg," 66, of Warrenton, died in Warrenton. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Contributed photo

This sea otter found June 16 is the third one that washed up dead in the area. It was near the Seaview 30th Street drainage.

Third sea otter washes up on Peninsula

Toxin likely didn't cause death, but is definitely to blame in sea lion death

By KATIE WILSON
EO Media Group

SEAVIEW, Wash. — A third dead sea otter has washed up on the Long Beach Peninsula.

The otter found near Seaview June 16 was too bloated to provide samples for testing, so biologists with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service don't know exactly how it died, but say a deadly marine toxin that has shutdown several Washington state fisheries in the last two months — domoic acid — is likely not to blame.

The same could not be said for other marine mammal deaths on the Peninsula.

On May 20, an employee with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife videotaped a California sea lion having seizures on a beach near Long Beach.

The animal was euthanized and its samples sent out for testing. Now those samples are back and it is clear high levels of domoic acid caused its bizarre behavior — the highest levels recorded in a sea lion on the Washington coast.

Last week, NOAA announced it was sending out researchers to examine the largest toxic algal bloom in nearly a decade on the West Coast. The bloom, stretching from Monterey Bay, Calif., to Homer, Alaska, involves three different harmful algae and has already led to the early closure of razor clam fisheries in Oregon and Washington and Dungeness crab fisheries in southern Washington.

Though one of the results of such blooms, domoic acid, rarely affects sea otters, state and federal biologists say the scientific literature shows that these blooms, and domoic acid in particular, can destroy sea lions. They are worried what the blooms could mean for these and other marine mammals and birds.

Getting the data

"Right now it's kind of a 'wait and see' scenario," said Jim Rice, stranding coordinator for the Oregon coast based out of the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport.

"Fortunately, we're not seeing a big effect from domoic acid, yet," Rice added, explaining this could be because, right now, California sea lions are leaving Oregon and Washington for their breeding grounds farther south. Depending on how long the bloom persists, however, the sea lions could hit it again when they return in the late summer and early fall.

The sea lion that died on the Peninsula last month was a surprise. Such high levels of domoic acid had not been seen in a sea lion before in Washington, and were still low compared to what has been found in sea lions off the California coast where outbreaks of domoic acid are more common.

"Historically (central California) has been the ground zero for mortality attributed to domoic acid, especially among California sea lions," Rice said. The toxin can cause permanent brain damage, destroying the part of the brain that deals with memory, which in turn affects the animal's ability to travel and navigate ocean and river waters, and can cause seizures.

"It was a little unusual for us," said Deborah Duffield, a biology professor at Portland State University. Duffield, along with research assistant Dalin D'Alessandro, investigates numerous marine mammal strandings and deaths from Tillamook to the Peninsula.

It is rare to find a sea lion that is still fresh and that has clearly died as a result of domoic acid, she said. Most of the dead pinnipeds they encounter have been shot. Many more are too decomposed to determine what might have killed them. Though samples from all of these animals are stored, it is rarely worth it to the different agencies that deal with marine mammals to pay for further testing.

What they know

Researchers and biologists know one thing for sure right now: Domoic acid is out there. The phytoplankton that produces it is there and smaller animals are eating it up. These animals are being eaten by larger animals and some of those larger animals are acting weird.

In any other year, Dyanna Lambourn, marine animal research biologist with WDFW, said testing for domoic acid in dead animals would be low on the department's list "because we just haven't seen these high levels up in Washington." There are other diseases that can cause similar symptoms, after all.

"If this event continues, there may be a need to do more screening on animals if they start presenting the symptoms," Lambourn said, adding, "Since we do know there are high levels of domoic acid out there ... it's higher on our list that, gee, that could be why."

California sea lions are "the poster children" for domoic-acid-related mortality, but sea birds and other seals and sea lions are also potential victims. Lambourn and other biologists are looking at species in California that have been affected by large concentrations of the toxin.

ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

Astoria 5-Day Forecast

Shown is tomorrow's weather. Temperatures are tonight's lows and tomorrow's highs

Tonight: Mostly cloudy — 55°

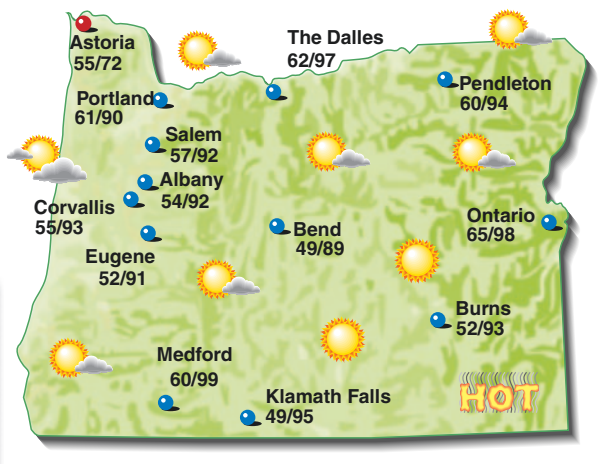
Thursday: Partly sunny — 72° / 58°

Friday: Mostly sunny; breezy in the afternoon — 73° / 58°

Saturday: Cloudy to partly sunny and warm — 77° / 58°

Sunday: Partial sunshine — 72° / 57°

Oregon Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2015

Almanac

Astoria through Tuesday.

Temperatures

High	73°
Low	47°
Normal high	65°
Normal low	51°

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.71"
Normal month to date	2.13"
Year to date	27.37"
Normal year to date	35.49"

Sun and Moon

Sunset tonight	9:11 p.m.
Sunrise Thursday	5:25 a.m.
Moonrise today	1:44 p.m.
Moonset today	1:06 a.m.

First	Full	Last	New
June 24	July 1	July 8	July 15

AccuWeather.com

Regional Cities

City	Today Hi	Lo	W	Thu. Hi	Lo	W
Baker City	86	48	s	87	50	s
Bend	83	49	pc	89	55	s
Brookings	69	55	pc	74	58	pc
Eugene	87	52	pc	91	58	s
Ilwaco	65	56	pc	66	57	pc
Klamath Falls	89	49	s	95	56	s
Medford	94	60	pc	99	65	s
Newport	63	51	pc	65	53	pc
North Bend	67	53	pc	68	56	pc
Olympia	81	55	pc	86	57	s
Pendleton	88	60	pc	94	62	s
Portland	85	61	pc	90	64	s
Roseburg	89	58	pc	94	65	s
Salem	86	57	pc	92	63	s
Seaside	67	55	pc	68	58	pc
Spokane	86	61	pc	89	63	pc
Vancouver	85	60	pc	89	63	s
Yakima	92	60	pc	98	64	s

Under the Sky

Tonight's Sky: Mercury at greatest elongation, 23 west of Sun in morning sky.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

Tomorrow's Tides

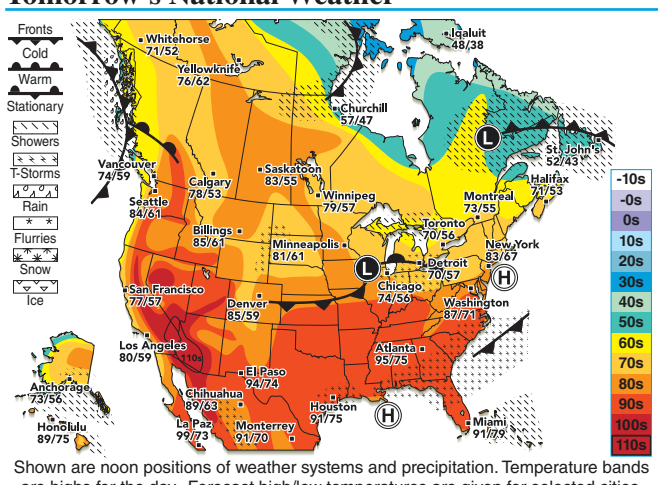
Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Time	Low
8:43 a.m.	5.8 ft.	2:53 a.m.	2.0 ft.
9:05 p.m.	7.7 ft.	2:31 p.m.	2.0 ft.

National Cities

City	Today Hi	Lo	W	Thu. Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	95	76	t	95	75	t
Boston	80	62	s	79	61	s
Chicago	81	65	pc	74	56	t
Denver	90	61	t	85	59	t
Des Moines	84	70	t	83	66	pc
Detroit	80	62	s	70	57	t
El Paso	90	72	t	94	74	t
Fairbanks	83	62	pc	80	59	c
Honolulu	88	75	pc	89	75	s
Indianapolis	82	67	pc	85	65	t
Kansas City	92	76	c	88	68	t
Las Vegas	109	82	s	110	85	s
Los Angeles	82	60	s	80	59	s
Memphis	95	77	pc	97	77	pc
Miami	92	79	pc	91	79	pc
Nashville	91	70	pc	96	74	pc
New Orleans	93	77	t	93	77	s
New York	84	68	s	83	67	t
Oklahoma City	93	72	s	93	72	s
Philadelphia	86	66	s	86	68	t
St. Louis	90	78	pc	93	70	t
Salt Lake City	96	68	s	97	68	s
San Francisco	68	54	pc	77	57	pc
Seattle	80	59	pc	84	61	s
Washington, DC	86	69	s	87	71	t

Tomorrow's National Weather



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.
Weather (W): s-sunny, **pc-**partly cloudy, **c-**cloudy, **sh-**showers, **t-**thunderstorms, **r-**rain, **sf-**snow flurries, **sn-**snow, **i-**ice.

On the record

Assault

• At about 7:38 a.m. Sunday, the Seaside Police Department responded to a 911 call about an incident near 26 Avenue A. Jorge Resendiz-Urtiz, 29, of Seaside, was arrested and charged with assault in the fourth-degree. The police report on the incident has not been finalized.

DUII arrest

• At 10:16 p.m. Monday, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office arrested Bonnie Jane Hudson, 46, Perris, Calif., for driving under the influence of intoxicants on Claremont Road in Astoria.

Lotteries

OREGON

Tuesday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 6-1-5-9
4 p.m.: 9-7-3-3
7 p.m.: 3-5-6-3
10 p.m.: 4-8-4-1

WASHINGTON

Tuesday's Daily Game: 8-3-1

Tuesday's Keno: 06-07-10-13-16-19-21-22-23-26-31-33-35-39-43-59-62-69-71-73

Tuesday's Match 4: 05-12-14-23

Tuesday's Mega Millions: 06-13-38-56-70, Mega Ball: 2
Estimated jackpot: $52 million

Public meetings

WEDNESDAY

Clatsop County Housing Authority Board, 5 p.m., Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial St.

Clatsop County Board of Commissioners, 6 p.m., Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial St.

Clatsop Community College Board of Directors, 7 p.m., special meeting to appoint interim president, Towler Hall Room 206, 1651 Lexington Ave.

THURSDAY

Recreational Lands Planning and Advisory Committee, 1 to 3 p.m., fourth floor, 800 Exchange St.

Cannon Beach Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St., Cannon Beach.

FRIDAY

Cannon Beach Emergency Preparedness Committee 10 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St., Cannon Beach.

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Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/obituaryform, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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