

## WELCOME HOME



On July 4, in Tillamook, we celebrated our grandsons' safe return to Oregon from their deployment to Afghanistan," Joy Brewer wrote. She and her husband, Mike, live in Astoria.

"They were stationed at a base approximately 10 miles from Kabul," she explained. "They are identical twins, Kevin and Kerry Prulhiere, shown in the photo with their mother, Michelle Brewer, who was standing on a raised platform in order to plant kisses on their heads — otherwise, she would have reached their shoulders! Both young men are medics and assigned to the same Oregon National Guard Unit."

Asked what their best Afghanistan experience was:

Kerry: "Coming home in one piece with no wounds."

Kevin: "Working with the British helicopter crews. Those guys are so funny."

"Coincidentally," Joy added, "July 4 was also their parents' (Michelle and Ron Brewer) wedding anniversary. Our family has so much to be thankful for!"

## HE WANTS TO RUN



Every now and then a photo catches your eye, and you can't help saying, "Awww." Well, the photo of L'il One, one of Clatsop Animal Assistance's (www.dogsncats.org) rescue charges, who is shown, does just that.

"He wants to run (which he's not allowed to) and play with the dogs in his foster home," Kate Pickford wrote on L'il One's GoFundMe page. Why? Because he needs surgery to fix his shattered kneecaps.

"Our goal is to reach a whopping \$4,000 (which is how much his surgeries will run)," she explained. "If you were thinking of donating, but haven't gotten around to it just yet, we'd appreciate you pitching in."

Want to help L'il One? You can donate at <http://tinyurl.com/liiknees> or mail a check to CAA, P.O. Box 622, Warrenton, OR 97146.

No donation is too small. "For the price of a latte, no ... for the price of the tip for a latte," Kate mentioned, "(you can help so) this little guy can get his knees repaired."

## NEED A LIFT?



Recently the U.S. Navy Blue Angels Flight Demonstration Team were performing at the Oregon International Air Show in Hillsboro. According to AviationPros.com, the team doesn't bring their own tugs to precision move their F/A-18 jets as needed, and depends on the hosting organization to provide some (<http://tinyurl.com/lektroblue>).

None other than Lektro Corp. in Warrenton loaned two of their AP88 series aircraft tugs to the Blue Angels for the show. Lektro also had to provide training for their ground crew, since they had never used a towbarless tug before. Lektro's tug uses a cradle that lifts the nose landing gear, which is then secured with a soft strap. Shown, the AP88, with one of the Blue Angels jets, courtesy of Lektro.

"(The towbarless tug is) faster and safer for both ground personnel and aircraft. Plus, it is emissions free," Lektro Communications Director Henry Balensifer said. "We're proud to support Oregon's premier air show, and proud to support our nation's Navy."

## In One Ear



by Elleda Wilson

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## WORDS CAN'T DESCRIBE

Haven't had enough of Discovery Channel's Shark week? Well, here's a little clip to reminisce with: Footage of what is believed to be the largest great white shark ever filmed (<http://tinyurl.com/yikeswhite>). The critter, likely a pregnant female, is shown in a still shot, courtesy of Discovery.com



The crew, verklempt, kept repeating variations of, "It has to be the biggest shark I've ever seen in my whole life!" One even noted, "We have to make up a new word for how big that shark is." Scary.

## CAN YOU SEE ME NOW?



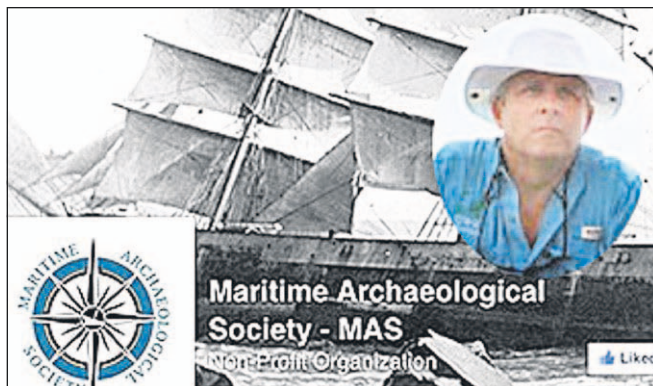
Considering all the gigantic semi-trailer trucks barreling about, the Ear was delighted to find that Samsung has come up with some technology that could drastically improve road safety, especially on two-lane roads (<http://tinyurl.com/safetruck>).

Let's say you have one of those semis in front of you, and you want to pass it, but your view is blocked. Also, you can't tell if there's a hazard up ahead that will require sudden braking.

Samsung's answer to save lives and prevent accidents is its Safety Truck. A camera on the front of the truck is connected to a "video wall" on its back end, which projects everything the camera sees. Now the driver behind the truck can see what's up ahead, day or night. The image shown, courtesy of Samsung Tomorrow, demonstrates how it works.

And it does work. The bad news is: "The next step is to perform the corresponding tests in order to comply with the existing national protocols and obtain the necessary permits and approvals," Samsung says. Translation: Don't hold your breath.

## SEARCHING FOR SHIPWRECKS



Can't resist a shipwreck? Love maritime archaeology? Aha! Now you can volunteer for the newly formed Maritime Archaeological Society in Astoria. "We are a new group dedicated to seek out, investigate, and document shipwrecks and other maritime archaeological sites," Chris Dewey, pictured inset, president of the society, told the Ear.

Chris, a retired naval officer, is already experienced in Oregon waters. "I became the field director for the Beeswax Wreck Project (<http://tinyurl.com/bwaxteam>), a volunteer organization searching for the source of the beeswax and porcelain that's been washing up on the beach near Nehalem Spit," he explained. "We are still diving there when the weather permits."

"Maritime mysteries have always intrigued me, but not just shipwrecks," Chris says on his blog, Maritime Mysteries ([www.maritimemysteries.com](http://www.maritimemysteries.com)). "Unusual maritime history, unexplained nautical folklore, or good old sea stories have captured my attention since I was small boy."

The first MAS project involves a wreck in Nehalem Bay. "It was reported by a diver back in the 1970s, who claimed he found a ballast pile with bricks from Newcastle, England," Chris reported. "The project will involve historical researchers, remote sensing equipment, and probably divers. But we need to train some folks before we can get started."

Want to get in on the fun? Go to <http://maritimearchaeological.org> and click on "Get Involved." And yes, they have a Facebook page. It's <http://tinyurl.com/MASociety>

"MAS has volunteer openings for folks who want to do historical research, survey wrecks on the beach, or support folks, in addition to divers," Chris added. "No experience is necessary, we'll train anyone who has a desire to learn."

## HOLD THE BUTTER



John Price, one of the fishermen for Jordan Lobster Farms on Long Island, N.Y., sent a surprise in a crate from the Bay of Fundy (off Nova Scotia, Canada) to the owner of the company, Stephen Jordan: a 23-pound lobster, CBS New York reports (<http://tinyurl.com/lob23>).

"He shipped it in, he didn't even tell us," Jordan said. "He said 'look in the crate.' We opened it up, and we were like 'whoa!'" It has been about 10 years since he's seen a lobster that large, Jordan observed. He is pictured, with the critter, courtesy of CBS New York.

Because of its size and weight, the lobster is presumed to be about 95 years old. By the way, National Geographic says the largest lobster ever caught was 44.4 pounds — the size of a large toddler — also off the coast of Nova Scotia (<http://tinyurl.com/lob44-4>).

No, Mr. Lobster does not have a serving platter waiting for him. Jordan told CBS New York he's going to donate the giant crustacean to the Long Island Aquarium. "It's almost like a dinosaur," he said. "You'd like to see it continue on, and I think they would take good care of it."

## WILL THEY OR WON'T THEY?

Once again, talk of a Goonies sequel is being banded about because of an interview with original "The Goonies" screenwriter, Chris Columbus, for HuffPost Live on Monday (<http://tinyurl.com/CColGoon2>). He is pictured in a still shot from the interview.



"There are a lot of writers who are interested in writing 'Goonies,' but the problem is that we are very protective because it's such a well-loved movie," Columbus said, noting that a 'Gremlins' sequel (he wrote the original screenplay of that movie, too) would be much easier to pull off.

"... Gremlins exist as creatures. They haven't aged," he commented. "The Goonies have aged 30 years. There was a magic about that particular cast, so how do you make it work now? And that's a difficult challenge."

In other words, Goonies 2 is at a standstill. But just remember: Goonies never say die.

## THE REAL FIRST SETTLEMENT



Many think Astoria is the first U.S. settlement west of the Rockies, established in 1811 by John Jacob Astor's employees. More accurately, it's the first permanent one.

According to the Oregon Encyclopedia, Bostonian Capt. Nathan Winship, who came up the Columbia River in the ship Albatross, got here first, in May 1810. He soon started building a log house at Oak Point, few miles northeast of Clatskanie in a flat spot surrounded by oak trees. (<http://tinyurl.com/capwinship>).

Winship was in business with his two brothers, Jonathan and Abiel. Their objective was the same as Astor's — to harvest fur — but they also wanted to set up an agricultural base and pump up the coastal trade.

Jonathan's personal wish was to plant "a Garden of Eden on these shores of the Pacific and (make) that wilderness to blossom like the rose." Fun factoid: It is said that slips from the settlement's rose garden mysteriously turned up in Portland's gardens when the city was established in 1851.

By June 1810, the house timbers at the outpost were 10 feet high, and the Albatross crew started unloading livestock and planting seeds. Unfortunately, a heavy rain caused a spring flood, and soon there was two feet of water running over the settlement and uprooting the timbers. Time to move.

The ship's officers started building a new outpost at a higher site a quarter of a mile downstream. Sadly, their location was mightily displeasing to their neighbors. The Chinook and Chehalis Indians let the settlers know in no uncertain terms (musket fire is quite effective) how upset they were that their presence might cause any potential interference with their centuries-old — and lucrative — trade business.

Wisdom being the better part of valor, Capt. Winship and his crew retreated. He headed the Albatross back downstream and off to other pursuits, abandoning his West Coast goal — and the true first settlement west of the Rockies.

## COMMUNITY NOTES

**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. Family to Family Support Group, 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](http://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 donation \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60.

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

**Columbia Senior Diners** — 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](http://www.AstoriaRotary.org)

**Knocklers Pinochle Group** — 1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Cost is \$1 per regular session per person. Players with highest and second highest scores split the

prize. Game is designed for players 55 and older, but all ages are welcome.

**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](http://www.providence.org/diabetes) or call 503-717-7301.

**Line Dancing for Seniors** — 6 to 7:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

**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 Diners** — 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.

**Warrenton Kiwanis Club** — noon, Doogers Seafood and Grill, 103 U.S. Highway 101, Warrenton. For information, call Darlene Warren at 503-861-2672.

**Line Dancing for Seniors** — 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, temporarily located at 1555 W. Marine Drive in the old Astoria Yacht Club. For information, call 503-325-3231.

**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 Help Ending Abusive Relationship Tendencies** — 10 to 11:30 a.m., The Harbor, 1361 Duane St. HEART covers subjects related to the effects of domestic violence on children, parents and other family members, dynamics of power and control, and how to recognize red flags. For anyone in an abusive relationship, or who knows someone who is. Call Audrey Williams ahead to reserve a spot at 503-325-3426, ext. 104.

**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 Diners** — 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.

**Ukulele Players** — 1:30 p.m., Warrenton Masonic Lodge, 66 S.W. Fourth St., Warrenton. All are welcome, including beginners. Loaner ukuleles available. For information, call Roger Williams at 503-717-5645.

See NOTES, Page 2B