

FRIDAYEXTRA!

The Daily Astorian

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Weekend Edition

WAIKIKI

noun

1. a white sand beach and beachfront neighborhood on the island of Oahu, in the city of Honolulu, in the state of Hawaii
 2. a rugged beach in Cape Disappointment State Park, located in southwest Washington on the Long Beach Peninsula
- Origin:**
From the Hawaiian, waikiki, meaning “spouting water.”

COXCOMB

noun

1. obsolete. A jester’s hat, fashioned with a red stripe to resemble a cock’s comb
 2. archaic. A vain and foppish dandy; a pretentious fool
- cox-comb-i-cal, cox-comb-ic adjective
— cox-comb-i-cal-ly adverb
- Origin:**
From the Middle English, cokkes comb, literally, cock’s comb. First appeared in the mid-16th century.

BYCATCH

noun

1. the unwanted or unintended capture of marine creatures in gillnets while fishing for another targeted species
- Origin:**
From by + catch. “By” from Old English, bi, (about 725 A.D.) meaning near or aside. Probably introduced before 1200, “Catch” is borrowed from Anglo-French or Old North French, cacher, cachier, meaning to capture or snare (animals), which derives from the vulgar Latin, captiare.

SPIT

noun

1. a long, slender metal rod or branch injected through a piece of meat for the purpose of roasting, often over an open flame
 2. a long, narrow shoal found off coasts and often visible at low tide; a sandspit is a deposit built up into a landform connected to a head on one end and extending into the nose on the other
- Origin:**
From the Old English, spitu, and the Middle English, spite. In use before 1000 A.D. Cognate with the Old German, spiz, meaning spit, and spizzi, meaning pointed the Middle Dutch, spet, the Swedish, spett, and Danish, spid, all from the Proto-Germanic, spituz.

EARTHWORK

noun

1. an artificial embankment, berm or other raised construction molded from soil, sand or rock and primarily used for military defense and fortification
 2. the act of excavating, transporting and/or shifting the earth to form an embankment
 3. a work of art in which an artist transforms or manipulates a piece of land plural noun: earthworks
- Origin:**
1630s. From earth + work. “Earth” first appeared in 1137, from the Old English, eorthe, meaning ground, soil (about 725, in Beowulf); the spelling, earth, is first noted in the latter part of the 16th century. “Work” probably arrived before 1200.

UFF DA!

interjection

1. an all-inclusive exclamation introduced to the Pacific Northwest and Upper Midwest of the United States by 19th-century Scandinavian immigrants. The expression has no single fixed meaning, but can express excitement, dread, disappointment, shock or dismay (usually mild) depending on the user’s tone within a given context
- Origin:**
From the Norwegian, uff, an interjection used primarily to express pain, sadness or fear, and da, meaning “then” or “when.”

DECEPTION

noun

1. a trick or ruse; the act or art of intentionally deceiving someone; an action or plot undertaken to make someone believe something untrue; the state of being deceived
 2. outdated. Deception Bay: former name of the mouth of the Columbia River, circa 1788-1792, attributed to amateur British explorer and trader John Meares, who failed to locate the great fabled river, then called the Rio de San Roque by Spanish explorer, Bruno Heceta. Meares incorrectly assumed the river was a bay even as his ship floated in its headwaters
- Origin:**
First spelled in English, decepcioun, around 1410. Borrowed from the Middle French, déception, pulled directly from the Late Latin, deceptionem, from the Latin, deceptus, meaning, to deceive.

CRIMP

verb/noun

1. transitive verb to bend, twist, or pinch; to make wavy
 2. noun something produced by the act of crimping, such as artificially wavy hair or a sealed pie crust or pastry
 3. noun a person who coerces or entraps sailors, soldiers, seamen, etc., into shipping or enlisting, usually by force and for monetary gain
- Origin:**
v. 1698. Before 1398, crympen, to be drawn together; possible origin from the Old English, gecrympan, to curl, shrink, but generally agreed upon to have been reintroduced from the Dutch or Low German, krimpen, meaning the same thing. –n. 1863, American English referring to a natural curl in wood grain, from the verb. –n. 1758, British slang, originally meaning “agent,” that picked up negative connotation as it began to refer exclusively to those who acted as middlemen to provide sailors for ships using nefarious and/or quasi-legal means.

word nerd

Our words help create a distinct sense of place

Ryan Hume often finds himself narratively interpreting the world around him.

The freelance writer, editor and graphic designer, who moved to Astoria two years ago from Southern California, is fascinated by words. Whether finding the right description for how people move, or what a tree looks like, or learning the roots behind the name of a street or building, he appreciates how words help create a distinct sense of place.

“The names for the words that sort of inhabit a town say a lot about where we came from, who we want to be, what we respect, what we fear,” said Hume, 36, who is behind the Word Nerd feature in The Daily Astorian’s Coast Weekend section.

Over the past year, Word Nerd has probed deeper into the origin of words such as “Coxcomb,” “bycatch,” “boatswain,” and “stavebolt.”

Hume’s hope for Word Nerd is that readers are “interacting with the word at sort of a different level, or sub-level, than maybe they did on a regular basis when they turned on that street or saw that apartment building or went to that beach. To find sort of a deeper level that way.

“Hopefully, it’s amusing as well and they’ll learn a little something, too.”

— Derrick DePledge and McKinley Smith

GRAVEYARD

noun

1. a burial ground, especially a small one or one on a church’s lot
 2. a place for discarded or obsolete objects: <a ship graveyard>
 3. Informal. GRAVEYARD OF THE PACIFIC: Nautical nickname for the stretch of tumultuous coastline reaching from Tillamook Bay to Cape Scott on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada
- Origin:**
1773. From grave + yard. “Grave” enters around 1250, from the pre-1000 Old English, græf; cognate with the Old Frisian gref, both of which held the same meaning. Before 1325, “yard” developed from the Old English, gearð, along with the Old Saxon, gard. Related to GARDEN—v. to enclose in a yard. GRAVEYARD OF THE PACIFIC is believed to have entered the lexicon in the earliest days of the maritime fur trade, around 1800.

CHINOOK

noun

1. name for a group of Northwest Coast Indian peoples living at the mouth of the Columbia River in Oregon and Washington state; CHINOOK NATION is actually comprised of many groups, including the Kathlamet, Clatsop, Lower Chinook, Wahaikum and Willapa tribes
 2. a language of the Chinook and other nearby peoples
 3. CHINOOK JARGON: a pidgin or trade language mashing native (Chinook and Nootka), French and English words that arose in the 19th century; formerly the lingua franca of the Pacific Northwest
 4. CHINOOK WIND: a wet spring wind that blows warm air inland off the coast of Oregon from the southwest (also simply called CHINOOKS)
 5. a town in Pacific County, Wash., situated on the north lip of the mouth of the Columbia, population 466 in the 2010 census
 6. not capitalized, CHINOOK SALMON: the largest species of Pacific salmon
- Origin:**
1795. From the Salishan, cinúk, the Lower Chehalis name for a summer village site located on Baker Bay. The spelling and pronunciation that is now agreed upon emerged from use of the trade language that houses its namesake.

MOOSMOOS

noun

1. buffalo or cattle
 2. MOOSMOOS CREEK: a stream about eight miles south of Astoria, near Olney, that flows into Youngs River north of Youngs River Falls
- Origin:**
Moo: 1549. Of imitative origin, replicating the sound of a cow. Moosmoos: The Chinook Jargon word for “cattle,” it arrived to the trade language by way of a corruption of Moosmoos-chin, the Walla-Walla word for “buffalo.”

MANZANITA

noun

1. any purple-budding, evergreen shrub of the Arctostaphylos genus, native to western North America
 2. A small, platted coastal city in northern Tillamook County, located due west of U.S. Highway 101. Originally subdivided in 1912, the population is 598 according to the census of 2010
- Origin:**
1846. From the Spanish, manzana, plus the diminutive suffix, -ita, meaning “small apple.” Manzana arrives to Spanish through the Vulgar Latin, mattiana, from mazana.

ILLAHEE

noun

1. land, earth, ground, soil, dust, rock; encompasses the idea of land or country in both the physical and political sense; the term may also describe a plot, ranch, homestead, region or nation
 2. an unincorporated community on the Puget Sound in Kitsap County, Wash. Home to Illahee State Park and the Illahee Preserve
 3. a block-long, riverview apartment complex overlooking downtown Astoria, opened in 1969
- Origin:**
First recorded in the mid-1800s. From Chinook Jargon, a pidgin trade language comprised of Amerind, English, French and other languages that grew out of the fur trade in the Pacific Northwest.

PORT

noun

1. a harbor; any city, town, or designated area where ships load and unload people, merchandise, or other goods
 2. any place on a coast where a ship might take refuge from a storm
 3. the left side of a ship or aircraft when facing the bow or front; originally port side
 4. a sweet, fortified wine; shortened from Oporto, a city in northwestern Portugal, which originally shipped the country’s wine to England
 5. a data connection into a computer from which a remote device or terminal can be attached
- Origin:**
From the Old English and Old French, port, meaning harbor or haven. Before 899, both the Old English and Old French borrow from the Latin, portus.

ECOLA

noun

1. an Oregon state park, located between Seaside and Cannon Beach; comprised of nine miles of rugged coastline studied with Sitka spruce forests that wraps around Tillamook Head
 2. a restaurant and seafood market in downtown Cannon Beach
 3. an interdenominational, one-year Bible school located on the grounds of the Cannon Beach Christian Conference Center
- Origin:**
From the Chinook, ehkoli, or ékoli, meaning “whale.” The place name and spelling variant, ecola, is originally attributed to Capt. William Clark circa 1805-06. Early settlers renamed the creek and nearby community, Elk Creek. In 1922, the town of Elk Creek officially became Cannon Beach following the 1898 discovery of cannons washed ashore from the shipwreck of the USS Shark. Elk Creek was later renamed Ecola Creek to honor Clark’s legacy.

GOOGAN

noun

1. a disruptive, annoying and often unscrupulous bank fisherman or surfcaster, usually unlicensed, that baitfish without regard for regulation or etiquette; any novice fisherman in the wrong place at the wrong time who does not understand what they are doing and gets in someone else’s way
- Origin:**
Entered fishing lingo from pool hall slang in the early 1990s, possibly in Montauk, N.Y. In pool, a googan is an amateur player decked out with professional gear, a square or an obsessive pool nerd.

THE GUT

noun

1. informal the belly, stomach or abdomen
 2. slang the main artery or drag of a town, such as Broadway in Seaside or Commercial Street in Astoria; often used with a verb to describe circling a downtown strip in an automobile for recreation and socializing, i.e., SHOOT THE GUT
- Origin:**
Probably before 1300, gutte, meaning intestine, developed from the Old English, guttas, before 1000. Enters street racing culture by way of the U.S. teenager during the hot rod fad of the 1950s and 1960s.