



Photos by Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

ABOVE: The supermoon lunar eclipse rises near the Astoria Column Sunday. It was the first time that both a supermoon and lunar eclipse have simultaneously appeared since 1982, and they won't again until 2033. BOTTOM RIGHT: The eclipse begins to end near the Astoria Column.

A TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE SUPERMOON

Rare
astronomical
event kept eyes
glued to the sky

The Daily Astorian

A supermoon and total lunar eclipse had Astoria, and the rest of the world, skygazing Sunday night.

It was the first time both a perigee moon (also known as a supermoon) and a total lunar eclipse have made a twin appearance since 1982 and they won't again until 2033.

When a full moon makes its closest approach to Earth, it appears slightly bigger and brighter than usual and has a reddish hue.

That coincides with a full lunar eclipse where the moon, Earth and sun will be lined up, with Earth's shadow totally obscuring the moon.

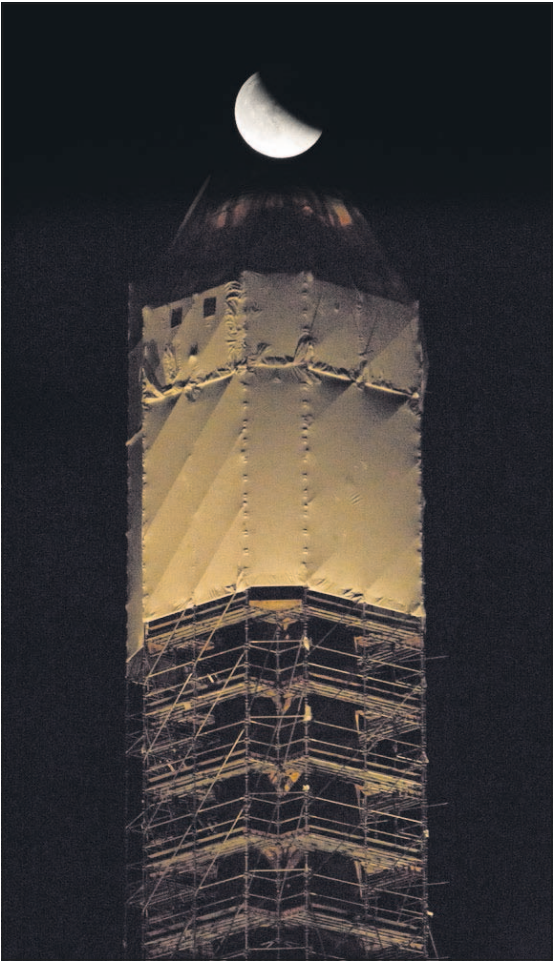
See more photos at www.dailyastorian.com.



The supermoon lunar eclipse rises near some trees by the Astoria Column Sunday. It was the first time that both a supermoon and lunar eclipse have simultaneously appeared since 1982, and they won't again until 2033.



People gather near the Astoria Column to catch a glimpse of the supermoon Sunday.



A small healing gesture goes global

WWII battlefield
souvenirs returned
to Japanese families

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

An Astoria-based nonprofit is taking its effort to return souvenirs of war back to their rightful owners to an international level.

Founders of the nonprofit, local historian Rex Ziak and his wife, Keiko, have coordinated with museums and collectors around the world including in Australia, New Zealand, Ireland and Scotland to help return the World War II mementos.

The souvenirs are Japanese flags that American soldiers collected from the bodies of the Japanese during the war. The flags were

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Historic ferry's return still on course

New board of
directors looking
for members

By ERICK BENGEL
The Daily Astorian

Astorians may have noticed that the Tourist No. 2, a ferry that shuttled riders between Astoria and Washington state between 1924 and 1966, did not visit Astoria last summer as some in the community had hoped.

But take heart: The push to bring the 91-year-old vessel home from Bremerton, Washington, is happening on two fronts.

Capt. Christian Lint, the Tourist No. 2's owner, is waiting for a spot to open up at Northlake Shipyard on Lake Union in Seattle, where the U.S. Coast Guard would inspect the boat below the waterline and determine the repairs that must be made.

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VISTA volunteer aims for worksite wellness

From Michigan
to Astoria, Sam
Perrin is on a
health mission

EVERYDAY
people

After graduating last year from Michigan State University, Sam Perrin knew she wanted to work in a healthcare field.

Her opportunity came earlier this spring when she accepted a yearlong position as an AmeriCorps VISTA member working in the Clatsop County Public Health Department.

"It was Christmas Day and I was discussing what I'm doing with my life. For me, I knew I wanted to go into public health. I just didn't know where," she

said. "I had this broad idea. My mom suggested AmeriCorps. I worked on the application, filled out everything and applied."

The VISTA volunteer program places members with nonprofit organizations and public agencies nationwide with an emphasis on poverty, illiteracy and health services.

Perrin will spend the year continuing the work of her VISTA predecessors by creating worksite wellness programs at businesses and organizations in Clatsop County.

"Basically, it's just promoting health," Perrin said. "What we are trying to do is create healthier lifestyles."

Perrin was drawn to such work while majoring in interdisciplinary studies and social science.

When Perrin was offered the position in Astoria, she only had one day to decide.

Her friends and family were not picking up their phones, so Perrin called last year's VISTA volunteer Kayla Warner.

"What scared me most was moving 2,000 miles away," Perrin said. "She sold me on Astoria. So then a month later, I was driving out here."

Perrin traveled from her home just outside of Kalamazoo,



Kyle Spurr/The Daily Astorian

Sam Perrin is the AmeriCorps VISTA member working in the Clatsop County Public Health Department.

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