

KINDRED SPIRITS

This year, the ninth annual **Scrap Hunger**, a 12-hour “crop” for scrapbook fans, was held the first weekend in October. The brainchild of Warrenton resident **Brenda McKune**, the event collects food for those in need.

Back in 2007, Brenda was in the Fred Meyer store, and overheard three ladies talking to each other about how they needed to ask for food baskets for the first time to get through the holiday season. The conversation gave Brenda a “heavy heart” — so much so that she woke up at 2:11 a.m., and out popped the idea for Scrap Hunger. Even though she had no experience organizing a fundraiser, the first event took place a month or two later, and was a great success.

This year, Brenda collected “the most ever,” an amazing 3,478 pounds of food. “I am so proud of everyone,” she declared. “That those in need won’t go to bed hungry is amazing. I’ve cried many times since hearing this weight (of food) — all tears of joy, of course ... thank you, everyone!”

There was one wrinkle: It turned out the Warrenton organization originally slated to receive the donation wasn’t interested. While driving around, in a quandary about what to do, Brenda spotted the **Penny-Wise Thrift Store** in Warrenton. Immediately she got a “deep gut feeling.”

Not one to ignore such things, Brenda immediately approached store owners **Patricia and Peter Fessler**, who were very grateful, and delighted to accept food collected. “I just thought it was meant to be,” Brenda declared. She is pictured, left, with the couple.

“I am such a lucky person, you have no idea,” Pat told the Ear. “We’ll box it all up and give it to people appropriately.”

“They were so thankful, and they genuinely care about people,” Brenda said of the Fesslers, whom she thinks of as kindred spirits. “It doesn’t take that much to help someone else. You just have to want to.”



THEY ATE THE WHOLE THING



Environmentally conscious North Coasters are well aware of the perils of **Styrofoam**, especially after scads of it floated in and littered Oregon and Washington beaches, courtesy of the 2011 Japanese tsunami.

Well, according to Gizmag.com, the scientists at **Stanford University** have come up with an unusual answer to the landfill scourge: **mealworms** — pictured, courtesy of Yu Yang, Stanford University (<http://tinyurl.com/styroworms>).

Mealworms love Styrofoam, and can even survive on a diet of it. “Within 24 hours, the worms consumed 34 to 39 milligrams of the plastic, converting about half of it to carbon dioxide,” the article says. “... Bacteria in the worms’ gut degraded the other half into tiny biodegradable droppings. The researchers believe that those droppings could safely be used as a crop fertilizer.” Useful at both ends, so it would seem.

The scientists also hope to find a seafaring mealworm-type critter to devour the tons of plastic waste floating on the world’s oceans. Bon appetit!

DOUGHBOY GETS A MAKEOVER



Thanks to painting instructor **Tandy Sturgeon** and his students at **Tongue Point Job Corps Center** (pictured), **Rae Goforth**, president of the Unitontown Association told the Ear. “They painted the **Doughboy Monument**.”

The “Doughboy Over The Top At Cantigny,” named for the first American victory during World War I, is a replica of a statue created by American sculptor **John Paulding**, and sits atop the Astoria Victory Monument, according to the National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (<http://tinyurl.com/doughnom>).

“Dedicated at the Astoria’s Founders Celebration on July 21, 1926, the monument cost \$1,350 for the statue (about \$18,000 now) and \$3,200 for the base (about \$43,000 now),” the nomination form says. “An audience of 5,000 persons heard speeches by the commander of the American Legion and **Mayor O. B. Setter**.”

“The Uniontown Association adopted the Doughboy 30 years ago,” Rae explained. “**Leroy Adolphson** plants the flowers and takes care of them, and we put up lights at Christmas time. We have painted it, and have the Doughboy cleaned, but age is hitting us hard, and this was a blessing to have all these young people show up and take two days to do the job, and clean it all up. Great job, thanks!”

In One Ear



by Elleda Wilson

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IT’S DESTINY



Several boating fans have noticed the large sailboat at Anchor off Pier 39. Thanks to a tip from local **Richard Pomeroy**, who knows the owners, **Mike and Dawn Hilliard**, the Ear can tell you it is the 81-year-old, 85-foot hermaphrodite brigantine staysail schooner (say that three times, the Ear dares you) **The Destiny**, pictured, which has an illustrious history.

According to Commodore-Yachting.com, the wooden schooner was commissioned by American playwright, screenwriter, and film director **Preston Sturges**, built in Los Angeles, and launched Sept. 17, 1934, to host “Hollywood’s elite” (<http://tinyurl.com/svdestiny>). During World War II, The U.S. Navy inducted Destiny into the **Hooligan Navy**, boats manned by a band of civilian yachtsmen and fishermen who patrolled the East Coast looking for Nazi U-boats (<http://tinyurl.com/hoolignav>).

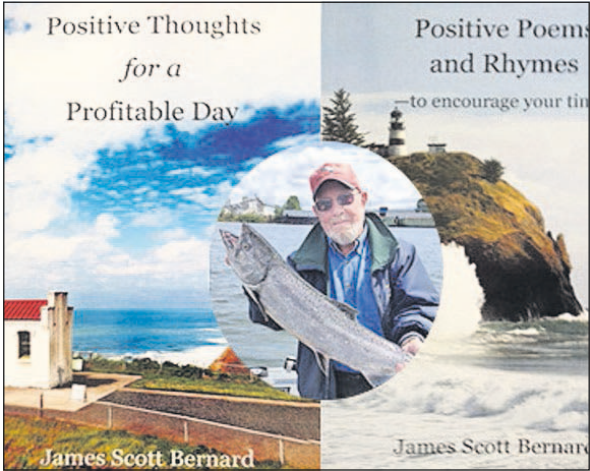
Returned to him after the war, Sturges sold Destiny to aviation pioneer/mogul **Howard Hughes**, who kept the boat for 20 years, and even got married on her (the marriage license was still on board years later). The aviator sold her to the gentleman the Hilliards bought her from in 2007.

In 2008, the couple put The Destiny through a 3 1/2-year complete restoration, including adding redundant navigation systems and setting her up so either one of them can single-hand sail her if needed. No, they don’t have, or need, a crew, and they do “fly the course,” a square sail on the yardarm, Dawn told the Ear.

During the restoration, an 1880s Ethiopian coin was found under the main mast (put there for luck). The origin of the coin is still a mystery, but it was replaced under the new mast. They added their own coin under the foremast, Dawn recalled. You can see lots of photos of the restored sailboat at its Facebook page, “s/v Destiny.”

The Hilliards have spent the last three years cruising Mexico, Dawn said, “having a wonderful time.” They will remain in Astoria for the time being, but “Destiny does not like bondage,” Dawn insisted. “She doesn’t like being tied up.”

POSITIVE POWER



Every now and then, North Coaster and retired fisherman/fishing guide/author **James “Jim” Scott Bernard** (pictured inset) writes a letter of cheerful optimism to the editor at The Daily Astorian. They are what the Ear’s mother used to call “little rays of sunshine.”

Recently, two more of his books have been published, “**Positive Thoughts for a Profitable Day**,” and “**Positive Poems and Rhymes** —to encourage your times,” and they are available at Godfather’s Books, the Columbia River Maritime Museum, Camp 18 and on Amazon.com

“They should provide a real ‘pick me up’ for readers during the fall and upcoming winter,” the author told the Ear.

“Jim Bernard is a close friend and fellow captain,” **Capt. Jim Lucas** wrote. “He and I have spent many times fishing in Alaska, and I have always enjoyed his words of inspiration — his ability to motivate and inspire is amazing.”

“All four of his books are well worth reading,” he emphasized. “Make sure you read everything he writes, you will be glad you did!” Positively.

GONE FISHIN’



The bears on the Long Beach (Wash.) Peninsula are missing out: The **brown bears** on Brooks Falls in Katami National Park and Preserve in Alaska are whooping it up **fishing for salmon**, and it’s quite a sight. Want to get a peek, without the expense of traveling, or the risk of being chased by a hungry bear? Check out the bear feast from the comfort of your easy chair at Explore.org’s **web cam** at <http://tinyurl.com/fishingbear>. Pictured, a screenshot.

The website says that more than 100 brown bears turn up to dine on the sockeye salmon passing through, and you can even find out about the individual bears, and learn some bear facts. Brooks Falls is a favorite ursine fishing spot this time of year because prespawned salmon are available, and the falls create a temporary barrier to migrating salmon, making them easier to catch.

Oh go ahead, take a look. You won’t get your feet wet, and you can even play intrepid wildlife photographer — the web cam lets you take snapshots.

THE CAT’S MEOW



Do you have a fiendishly unruly cat? Does he/she aspire to be a TV star? **Jackson Galaxy**, cat behaviorist and famed “cat listener,” pictured, is looking for the quintessential **bad cat** to sort out for his Animal Planet show, “**My Cat From Hell**,” which is now casting.

Does the cat “have an unusual issue that’s never been seen on ‘My Cat From Hell?’” the casting call reads. “We’re looking for you!”

But wait. He’s also looking for **hero cats**: “Did your cat survive incredible odds? Have they done things for other animals and/or humans that the world needs to hear about? ... We’re looking for you, too!”

Email your submission to HellCatsCasting@gmail.com. All of the information needed to enter your cat for consideration is at <http://tinyurl.com/badbadcat>

In case you don’t know it, Jackson Galaxy has a terrific success turning ill-tempered felines into loving furballs. “My job is dealing half with the cat and half with the owner,” he told the Redondo Beach (California) Patch (<http://tinyurl.com/badbadcat2>). “There is no cat-human relationship so messed up that it’s not worth trying to fix. I don’t believe in mean cats.”

IS THAT YOU, JESSE?



Bet you never thought **Jesse James** would have a connection to the Pacific Northwest. But Chron.com reports that **Sandra Mills**, who lives north of Spokane, Wash., has an original tintype of the famous outlaw, posing with **Robert Ford**, the man who later killed him in 1882 (<http://tinyurl.com/jessepic>). The photo is pictured; James is on the right.

Apparently Mills’ family used to take James and his gang in on their Missouri farm on occasion, which is how her grandmother got the photo. When the tintype was handed down to Mills, her grandmother wanted her to sell it and buy some land.

But no one would believe Mills that it was the real deal — until the photo was scanned and examined by **Lois Gibson**, a well-known forensic artist in Houston, who is positive it’s Jesse James.

Bobby Livingston, executive vice president of RR Auction in Boston, says if the photo can be authenticated, it could be worth around **\$2 million**. Yikes!

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY

Lower Columbia R/C Society — 8:30 a.m., back room at Uptown Cafe, 1639 S.E. Ensign Lane, Warrenton. Local Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) chartered radio control model aircraft club meets for breakfast and business. All model aircraft enthusiasts are welcome. For information, call 503-458-5196 or 503-325-0608.

Pug Socializing Club — 1 p.m., Carruthers Park, Warrenton. For pugs and their owners. For information, call Dave Kinney at 415-827-5190. Join online at <http://tinyurl.com/socialpugs>

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.

Seaside Union High School Class of 1965 50th Reunion — 6 p.m. to midnight, Sons of Norway Nidaros Hall, 2910 U.S. Highway 101, Gearhart. All other classes in-

vised. Live music by Tommy Rocker & Friends starts at 8 p.m. \$15 per person at the door. For information, email gordonandmarsha@gmail.com

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

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

Scandinavian Workshop — 10 a.m., First Lutheran Church, 725 33rd St. Needlework, hardanger, knitting, crocheting, embroidery and quilting. All are welcome. For

information, call 503-325-1364 or 503-325-7960.

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

Parkinson’s Support Group — 1 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church library, 565 12th St. For information, call 503-338-8469 or 503-440-1970.

Peninsula Quilt Guild — 1 p.m., Peninsula Church Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Newcomers welcome. Bring non-perishable food donation. For information, call Janet King at 360-665-3005.

Knochlers 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.

Seaside Lions Club — 5 p.m., West Lake Restaurant & Lounge, 1480 S. Roosevelt Drive, Seaside. For information, call 503-738-7693.

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.

Pacific County (Wash.) Democrats — 7 p.m., North County Annex, 1216 Robert Bush Drive, South Bend, Wash. For information, email Diane Knutson at dlknutson69@yahoo.com

TUESDAY

Tobacco Free Coalition of Clatsop County — 9 to 10:30 a.m., Clatsop County Health and Human Services, 820 Exchange St. Anyone interested in tobacco use prevention and education welcome. For information, call Steven Blakesley at 503-325-8500 or Alissa Dorman at 503-325-4321, ext. 5758.

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 do-

nation 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.