



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Laura Lattig holds up a donated quilt from Quilts from the Heart. Volunteers from No One Dies Alone give quilts to those they help in the hospital to make the hospital room more homey.

No One Dies Alone: One of the volunteers trained in England to be a ‘soul midwife’

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The longest vigil lasted more than a week. “She wasn’t ready to go,” Young said.

Sometimes volunteers step in when a devoted relative needs a break from the bedside. “We try to care for the caregiver. That’s part of our job,” Lattig said.

But, if the patient is totally alone, “then we pretty much go around the clock with them,” Young said.

That is, unless the patient has indicated that he or she would actually prefer to die alone — a scenario not unheard of when a dying person wants to either spend their last moments in private or spare their loved ones from having to see them.

What’s critical, Lattig said, is for volunteers to enter the room with a compassionate heart. “That’s a requirement,” she said. “That’s something you can’t teach.”

‘Soul midwife’

For Young, the biggest challenge is comforting patients, especially middle-aged patients with children, who are dying not in physical pain but in emotional or spiritual pain — regretful, unhappy and unable to go gentle into that good night.

“If I see someone suffering, then I would want to try to help them over that hurdle,” she said.

Young, who also volunteers at Clatsop Care Center, recently returned from southwest England, where she trained to become a “soul midwife,” someone who ushers someone out of the world rather than into it.



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An electric vigil candle used by volunteers sits on a counter in Dawn Young’s home.

Her experience has taught her that people should work to mend their fractured relationships before time runs out — before a broken heart becomes a permanent condition.

“Those types of things can eat at people for, possibly, the rest of their lives,” Young said. “Keep your relationships current. If I had anything to teach anybody, it would be: Forgive, ask for forgiveness, say, ‘I’m

sorry.’ Don’t leave it to the end to try to make up.”

End-of-life care, she said, isn’t for everyone, but it’s *her* work, the thing she believes she was meant to do. And the reward, she and Lattig said, comes when volunteers connect with patients, when they help the patients feel safe, supported and loved — even if that means just turning on an electric star candle at night, or laying

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Laura Lattig
volunteer program coordinator for the hospital and Lower Columbia Hospice

a homemade quilt over them.

“Knowing someone in the most intimate time of their life, and being able to share that with them — and maybe even give them some simple comfort — to me, that’s just an amazing gift that I’ve been given, to do the work,” Lattig said. “It’s incredible.”

To become a No One Dies Alone volunteer, contact Lattig at 503-791-7408.



Daily Astorian/File Photo

Sara Maya, pictured with partner and fellow MonteAlban co-owner Juan Jimenez, has been learning more about personal and business finance through the “Pasos al Exito,” or Steps to Success, program helping Spanish-speaking entrepreneurs.

Spanish: Class teaches how to turn ideas into reality

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In a monthlong class, Maya and more than 25 other entrepreneurs went over the essentials of personal finance, from starting a checking account to building credit before buying a home.

Now participants are in the middle of a second course, learning about how to start a business and be successful entrepreneurs. Maya said her class includes an aspiring DJ, a restaurateur, a contractor and others all hoping to own their own business.

“Spanish people have good ideas and are hard workers,” Maya said, adding the class teaches them how to turn their ideas into reality, while paying more taxes and helping the regional economy.

Steps to success

The Rural Development Initiatives, with both private and public grant funding, visits two different communities each year. Last year was Milton-Freewater and Ontario, said Program Manager Kristine Mier, and this year the program visits Madras and Astoria.

“One of the things I hear in communities around Oregon and nationally ... is that our Latino community is growing,” Mier said. “Many people feel disconnected from the Latino community, and I think this is a good way to provide

support and feel a connection with them.”

The classes often get fewer than 20 students, she said, but in Astoria they have been averaging about 28, the highest enrollment the program has seen thus far. Mier credited the high participation rate to existing support services for the Hispanic community.

Jorge Gutierrez, director of the Lower Columbia Hispanic Council, said the council sought out community buy-in and help in recruiting students through its “Voz de la Comunidad” — or Voice of the Community — advisory group.

When Steps to Success started, Gutierrez said, organizers were hopeful half the students would complete the personal finance course. But when more than 90 percent persisted, he said, organizers knew they had a program in great demand.

After the courses are over, participants can continue receiving help from Clatsop Community College’s Small Business Development Center advisers like Gutierrez, a primary adviser for Spanish-speaking business owners.

“The biggest obstacle is just getting the information and education necessary,” he said. “One of the biggest drawbacks is that many Hispanic residents who come to me for business counseling, they have limited education. Writing a business plan is challenging.”



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The city is trying to save a bigleaf maple tree in Violet LaPlante Park in Alderbrook.

Tree: ‘It’s so hard because it’s such a beautiful tree’

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that we’re at that point where Parks and Rec is really starting to look at the trees in the park as a valuable asset and an important part of our community,” she said.

Even old and ailing trees, like people, Schleif said, have something to offer, “and these old trees are really special

to us in this community.”

If the bigleaf maple does fall, the tree could cause damage to a home on 45th Street next to the park.

Jennifer Benoit, a communications coordinator for the Parks and Recreation Department and the daughter-in-law of Paul Benoit, a former city manager, lives in the house with her family.

“It’s so hard because it’s such a beautiful tree,” she said. “My kids have had pictures taken in it, and my husband got up in that house, and he’s got pictures of himself and his brothers in the tree. It would just be devastating to see it go down.”

“But it also would be devastating to have it damage property or people using the park.”

If You Bought a TV, Monitor, or Notebook Computer That Contained an LCD Flat Panel Screen, During the Years 2002 to 2006, You May be Entitled to Benefits from a Settlement.

Please read this notice carefully as your legal rights are affected whether you act or do not act.

PARA UNA NOTIFICACION EN ESPANOL, LLAMAR O VISITAR NUESTRO WEBSITE.

The Oregon Attorney General filed a lawsuit against certain manufacturers of liquid crystal display (“LCD”) flat panels. The lawsuit alleges that LCD manufacturers illegally agreed upon the pricing of LCD-flat panels. The Attorney General filed this action in her law enforcement capacity and on behalf of the State of Oregon, Oregon natural persons, and all political subdivisions in Oregon and sought equitable relief, restitution, civil penalties and injunctive relief.

Oregon has settled with all defendants for a total of \$21,505,000 (“Settlement Fund”). The State of Oregon, political subdivisions and Oregon natural persons may be entitled to a portion of the Settlement Fund. “Political subdivisions” includes all Oregon counties, cities, municipalities, public universities, school districts, special districts, and all other local government entities. “Oregon natural persons” means a human, not a business.

Who is Included?

The State of Oregon and all Oregon political subdivisions or natural persons who indirectly purchased at any time during the years 2002 to 2006, for their own use and not for resale, LCD panels incorporated in flat panel TVs, monitors or notebook computers. An indirect purchaser is someone that purchased products containing LCD flat panels from someone other than the company that manufactured the flat panel component, such as from an electronics retailer or a device manufacturer other than one of the Defendants.

What Are My Rights And Options?

Exclude yourself: Oregon political subdivisions and Oregon natural persons have the right to exclude themselves from this action. The State of Oregon cannot be excluded. If you opt out, you will not be legally bound by this settlement, but you will not get any money or other benefits from this settlement. You will retain any rights you currently have, if any. Please note that under Oregon law, authority to bring antitrust actions for indirect purchaser claims, like this action, was limited to actions by the Attorney General until January 1, 2010.

To opt-out, complete the opt-out registration online at www.OregonScreenSettlement.com or send a written letter stating that you want to be excluded from the case: *State of Oregon, ex rel Ellen F. Rosenblum v. AU Optronics Corp., et al.*, case no.

CV 10-933 MO. The letter must include the case name, your name, address, telephone number, and signature. A letter on behalf of a political subdivision must include the entity’s name, and the name, title, and signature of the person authorized to sign on behalf of the entity. The letter must be **postmarked on or before January 15, 2016**, and mailed to: Oregon LCD Settlement, c/o GCG, P.O. Box 10240, Dublin, Ohio 43017-5740.

File a claim: Only Oregon natural persons need to file a claim to obtain benefits in this settlement. Claims can be completed online or by mailing the claim form, available for download at www.OregonScreenSettlement.com, to the Settlement Administrator. A deadline for filing claims has not yet been established. The State of Oregon and political subdivisions that are owed money under the distribution plan will be contacted and sent payment without any further action on their part.

Do nothing: If you or the political subdivision you represent do nothing, you will continue to be represented by the Oregon Attorney General. You will be bound by the terms of this settlement, and will release Defendants and related entities from any claims you may have relating to the allegations in this lawsuit. Oregon natural persons that do not file a claim will not be entitled to any benefits in this matter and will be bound by the terms of the settlement.

Who Represents Me?

The Attorney General of Oregon represents the State, Oregon political subdivisions, and Oregon natural persons. You do not have to pay the Attorney General. The Attorney General will request the Court approve attorney fees in an amount not to exceed 20% of the total Settlement Fund, plus costs and expenses. Additional costs to administer the Settlements will also come out of the Settlement Fund. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, and have that lawyer appear in Court for you, you must exclude yourself and hire a lawyer at your own expense.

How Do I Get More Information?

This Notice summarizes the lawsuits and the Settlements. You can get more information about the lawsuits and Settlements, the claims process or obtain a claim form at www.OregonScreenSettlement.com, by calling 1-877-940-7791, or writing to: Oregon LCD Settlement, c/o GCG, P.O. Box 10240, Dublin, Ohio 43017-5740.

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