

Crab: Test results won't be available until next week

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restaurants remain safe for consumers, Corbett said.

Washington closure

The start of Washington's commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the area south of Klipsan Beach faces an additional delay, according to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

A specific opening date has not been determined. Fisheries managers previously said they expected the season to start next week. Traditionally, the high-value crab season begins Dec. 1, in time for big paychecks before Christmas.

WDFW's Dan L. Ayres, coastal shellfish manager, said:

- All crab tested recently tested in Washington were below the action level of 30 parts per million of the marine toxin domoic acid.

- Oregon is required to test more crab samples for domoic acid and those results will not be available until sometime next week.

- At this time, Oregon managers are unable to support an opening of only a portion of their coast.

- Without support for an opening in Oregon, WDFW agreed to extend the delay and avoid the chaos that a small area opening would create. The south of Klipsan zone typically attracts a great deal of fishing pressure, as it is the most productive Dungeness crabbing grounds available to non-tribal fishermen.

- Washington, Oregon and California crab fishery managers will meet Dec. 18 (or sooner) to make a decision on the opening south of Klipsan.

Domoic acid

Domoic acid or amnesic shellfish toxin can cause minor to severe illness and even death. Severe poisoning can result in dizziness, headaches, vomiting and diarrhea. More severe cases can result in memory loss and death. Shellfish toxins are produced by algae and originate in the ocean. Toxins cannot be removed by cooking, freezing or any other treatment.

For more information on toxin closures, call Oregon Department of Agriculture's shellfish safety information hotline at 800-448-2474 or visit the shellfish closures web page at: <http://1.usa.gov/1L4JyVm>.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

The Warrenton-Hammond School District, home of the Warriors, has moved away from a Native American visage as its symbol, opting for a spear and a feather jutting through the school letter.

Mascot: ‘As an American Indian, I have no problem with the Warrior ...’

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The mascot ban was approved in 2012 after concerns about racial stereotyping, but state educators might allow exemptions if school districts consult with tribes.

In preparation for the visit with the Grand Ronde, Heyen said, he met with members of the Clatsop-Nehalem Confederated Tribes to gauge their opinion on the Warriors' imagery. Many members of the Clatsop-Nehalem have grown up in the region and attended Warrenton schools. But even in a smaller group, he said, responses ranged from offense to neutrality.

"I anticipate the same type of conversations with Grand Ronde," Heyen said, adding his hope is to have a plan shortly before or after Christmas break.

Local support

Heyen said local support for the Warrior mascot is overwhelming. He will also head to Grand Ronde with a letter of support from Clatsop-Nehalem tribal Chairwoman Diane Col-

lier, who attended school in Warrenton and worked for the district as a bus driver for 30 years.

"As an American Indian, I have no problem with the Warrior in our schools," Collier said in her letter. "I feel the image today is handled very respectfully, and I would hate for the school and the community to lose something so closely tied to our sense of pride and spirit."

Superintendent Mark Jeffery, a former district head from Willamina, less than 10 miles northeast of Grand Ronde, said the tribe would help Warrenton figure out which parts of the Warriors' imagery are acceptable.

"The challenge here in the community is Mr. Purple Guy out front of the building," Heyen said, referring to the 8-foot-tall metal warrior statue in front of the high school. The statue, which features a Native American with a hatchet and a headdress, is made of 1,000 smaller warriors fused together by Warrenton students in the 1970s.

Heyen said there are four

likely outcomes for the Warrenton Warriors:

- Grand Ronde endorses the Warriors' current mascot, which Heyen said is the ideal outcome.
- Warrenton switches to a different Warrior-related symbol.
- The Warriors name stays, but with no mascot.
- Warrenton changes the mascot entirely.

A tribal trump card?

The state Board of Education meets Thursday and will hear the first reading of an amendment that would allow districts to keep Native American mascots through written agreements with federally recognized tribes. The state board will hear a second reading and decide whether to adopt the amendment in January.

The amendment came from a state law passed in 2014 that allowed schools to use "a mascot that represents, is associated with or is significant to the Native American tribe entering into the agreement."

The law was the second attempt by the state Legislature to

work an exemption into the ban using tribal endorsements. The first passed the Legislature in 2013 but was vetoed by former Gov. John Kitzhaber.

"It's a little up in the air who has the final say on this," Jeffery said of the amendment, adding the Board of Education is getting pressure from the Legislature to approve it. "There is some indication the governor (Kate Brown) will have the final say."

The confederated tribes of the Siletz and Grand Ronde both criticized the mascot ban in 2012 as not solving the real issues behind racism and not allowing tribes to work with districts on the portrayal of Native Americans. A representative from Grand Ronde told The Oregonian the decision trampled over the sovereignty of tribes and overlooked the need for a curriculum to accurately describe Oregon's native history.

"There will be some requirements on their part as far as Native American curriculum, and they've been good about developing local Native American curriculum," Jeffery said.

Storms: Some schools, state agencies closed

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Travelers need to be very careful on state highways, the transportation department said.

Clatsop County officials said there were no weather-related closures on county roads this morning.

Officials are advising travelers to avoid driving through high water. A vehicle was reported stuck in high water Tuesday night on Mullenbach Road south of Jewell.

U.S. Highway 101 between Beerman Creek road and Frontage Road south of Seaside was closed to low-profile vehicles this morning due to flooding,

according to the Cannon Beach Police Department. Higher pickups and SUVs may be able to proceed through.

State agencies were closed today in all of Columbia, Clatsop and Tillamook counties, including the Department of Motor Vehicle offices in Astoria, St. Helens and Tillamook.

Multiple schools in the region were closed, including Jewell, Vernonia, Clatskanie, Rainier, Neah-Kah-Nie, Tillamook and Columbia County.

The American Red Cross has opened shelters in the region, including one at Vernonia High School.

Music: Each patient has a different lesson based on their need

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"There's been an effort to help people learn about their disease and connect them with places that can help, but we wanted to find something to help here and now," he said.

Throughout the state, more than 108,000 people have been diagnosed with dementia so far this year, according to the Alzheimer's Association. That number is predicted to rise by 50 percent in the next 15 years.

According to Alzheimer's Foundation of America, as a patient's memories slip away, songs from their young adult years, ages 18 to 25, can tap into their past.

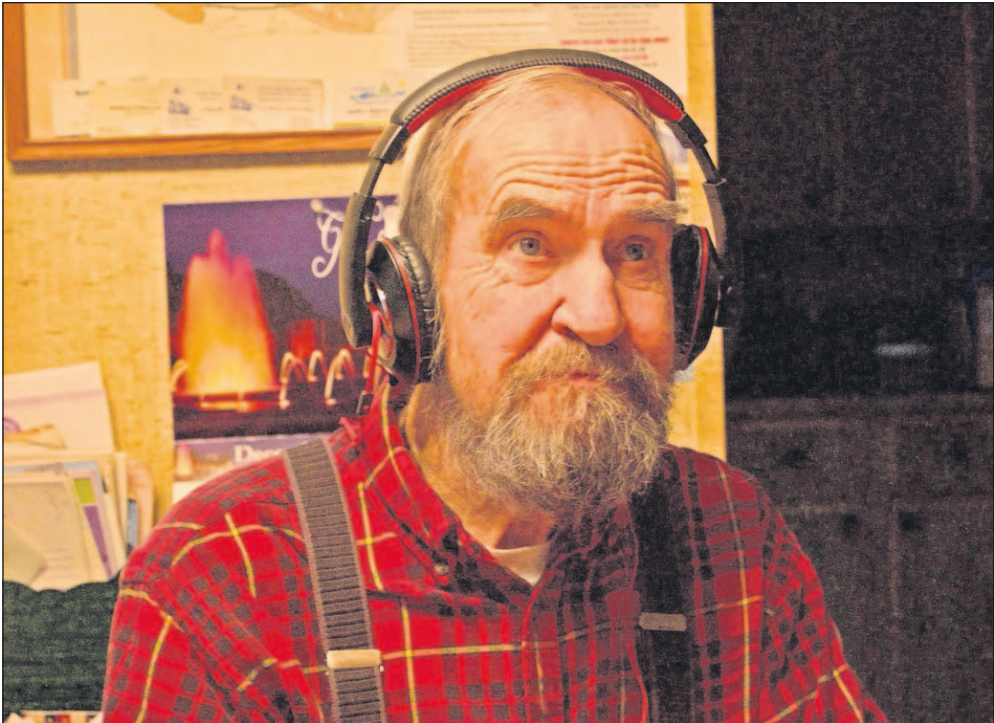
Recently, George Satala listened to country-western musician Gene Autry in his Oysterville home. Panels of CDs lined his dining room walls, all created by his grandson and labeled in permanent marker. When the duo first created the country-western collection, Satala alphabetized the CDs and wrote their order on index cards.

When Satala was diagnosed with Alzheimer's two years ago, he stopped pulling music from the shelves, wife Patricia said.

"He's stopped doing everything that was connected to who he was," she said as she watched her husband hit his fist on the table to the beat of the song. "But when he has music, you can see him again."

The DoGoodnics have downloaded 12 hours worth of Satala's CDs to an iPod. Brake said a lot of the people who would benefit from having music on hand don't know how to design a iPod playlist for themselves.

So far, the organization has six iPods, though they are trying to get a dozen together be-



Katheryn Houghton/EO Media Group

George Satala is an early recipient of an iPod loaded with music intended to re-engage his mind.

fore Christmas. Fellow founder and wife, Gwen Brake, said Satala was the first person they donated to, and they were looking for more people to reach.

Science of music therapy

Throughout the state, music is being used to reawaken dementia patients, calm the nerves of people with Down syndrome and stretch the muscles of a person with Parkinson's, said the owner of Puget Sound Music Therapy Megumi Azekawa.

"Music — it's art — but people are recognizing it as a tool for medical intervention," she said.

Azekawa said people's language centers are stored in the left side of the brain. If that area is damaged, it can be hard for someone to understand the meaning of sentences or remember daily functions.

Unlike words, music is processed throughout the brain.

"When someone listens to the opera, there are various elements like lyrics, a melody and harmony," Azekawa said. "All of those elements are activating separate areas in the brain."

Azekawa said patients are often overwhelmed by the inability to process their environment. The right music adds order to the chaos. The use of singing lyrics with rhythm, or dancing in a structured way, redirects the patient's attention.

Azekawa often teaches some patients new songs to strengthen their ability to memorize. With others, she places a guitar in their hand and helps them play to reinforce how to move in a functional way.

Each patient has a different lesson based on their need, she said.

Statewide growth

Riley Sanderson, the presi-

dent of the state's Music Therapy Association, said Washington has been slow to look to music therapy.

"Washington is a place where you would expect a type of mentality — innovative and supplemental therapies — but for whatever reason it hasn't taken hold," he said.

Sanderson said in recent years there's been a growth of younger generations entering the profession throughout the state. He said three of the association's board members are fellow alumni from Seattle Pacific University, which created the first and only music therapy program in Washington.

He said there's also been a push for state licensure, which would require health and education regulations for therapists. State recognition would also open the door to streams of funding such as private insurance coverage and Medicaid waivers.

Music therapy for dementia patients

Patients dealing with dementia or other neurological diseases benefit from music, according to Alzheimer's Association of America.

Early stage

Go out dancing or dance in the house.

Early and middle stages

Use song sheets or a karaoke player so the individual can sing along with old-time favorites.

Middle stage

Play music or sing as the individual is walking to improve their balance or walk.

Source: Alzheimer's Foundation of America
Alan Kenaga/
EO Media Group

"We're still working to get more people involved, but we're getting there," he said. "As the need grows, people have recognized that music therapy uses less medication

while it increases the quality of life."

Anyone interested in donating to the program, or having an iPod tailored for their loved one, call the DoGoodnics at 665-5358.