



Katherine Lacaze/EO Media Group

Emergency responders prepare to move a woman injured in an accident Tuesday morning to the Medix Ambulance to be taken to Columbia Memorial Hospital.

Two women injured in Gearhart accident

Driver of car backed up into path of logging truck

By **KATHERINE LACAZE**
EO Media Group

GEARHART — Two people were injured in a two-vehicle accident on U.S. Highway 101 in Gearhart on Tuesday morning.

A call went out about 10:42 a.m. that a car and a logging truck collided at 3621 Highway 101, near the Providence Rehabilitation Services office and Encore Dance Studio.

Gearhart Fire Department, Seaside Fire & Rescue, Medix and Gearhart and Seaside police departments responded.

According to Gearhart Police Chief Jeff Bowman and witnesses on the scene, the woman driving the car had pulled out of the

business plaza to make a left and merge onto the southbound lane of U.S. Highway 101. However, there was not an opening for her to pull into the lane, so she tried to back up. She backed up “right into the path of the log truck,” Bowman said.

The driver of a Nygaard Logging truck, traveling north, applied his brakes but could not stop the vehicle in time. His truck hit the passenger side of the car.

Besides the driver, there was one passenger in the car.

One woman was able to get out of the car and was walking. It took emergency responders about 45 minutes to extricate the other woman after cutting the roof off the car. Both were transported to Columbia Memorial Hospital, Bowman said. The driver of the logging truck was uninjured and able to drive the truck away from the scene by about 11:50 a.m.

Bowman said no charges have been filed at this time. The incident still is under investigation.

Older generation rules state famous for its youth

Age holds sway in Salem

By **PARIS ACHEN**
Capital Bureau

In the state where “young people go to retire” — as depicted in IFC’s comedy “Portlandia” — baby boomers hold the power.

Millennials, ages 18-34, represent only 3 percent of seats in the Oregon Legislature, while they make up 29 percent of the voting-eligible population, according to a survey by Pew Charitable Trusts’ Stateline and the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Baby boomers, ages 51-69, make up less than one-third of Oregon’s potential voters yet hold more than half of legislative seats.

The survey found a similar disparity in state legislatures around the nation.

The imbalance might be “tilting policymaking toward the interests of seniors and away from the country’s largest living generation: millennials,” wrote Stateline’s Rebecca Beitsch.

Oregon’s handful of legislators who are 35 and younger think the political tilt toward seniors is a reality.

“Young people simply don’t vote as frequently as senior citizens, and that is what skews political outcomes far more than the age of legislators,” said state Rep. Brent Barton, a 35-year-old Democrat from Oregon City.

Climate change and higher education

Climate change and higher education are “two examples of issues where seniors and millennials weigh issues differently,” Barton said. “I

am certain that climate change and higher education would receive more policy attention if young people voted more.”

At age 30, Rep. Dallas Heard, R-Roseburg, is the youngest legislator serving in Salem.

Heard sought election after struggling with state regulations to kick off his landscape consulting business in Douglas County. He said policymakers often enact regulations that make it harder for young people to start businesses and careers.

“The older generation is already in place in their businesses or endeavors so when they vote for more policy that hinders young people, they don’t understand that regulation is getting so thick and heavy and onerous that it is shutting down my generation and people younger than me from even getting started,” Heard said.

Establishing careers

Millennials also are at a stage in life when they might be establishing careers, paying off student debt and raising children.

Barton’s life might epitomize some of the challenges millennials face in getting representation in Salem.

After three terms, Barton announced in August he wouldn’t seek re-election next year so he can spend more time with his family. He and his wife just had their first child.

“I do not feel it is fair to my family, my clients or my constituents to juggle so many responsibilities, and my family must come first,” Barton wrote.



Brent Barton



Dallas Heard



Jim Moore

Young people’s underrepresentation is worse than it was in the 1970s, said Jim Moore, politics professor at Pacific University and director of the Tom McCall Center for Policy Innovation.

In 1975, 17 percent of state representatives were baby boomers, who were then 24-29. There was only one baby boomer in the Senate, Moore said.

“Boomers were seeing that young people could cause political change,” he said.

Watergate and Vietnam

The Watergate scandal “showed younger people that they needed to be involved to prevent the kind of corruption they saw at the national level,” Moore said. “Throw in the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights movements, and there were a host of issues that drew younger people into politics.”

Millennials also have started families and businesses later than baby boomers did.

“Millennials will enter politics, just a bit later than the boomers did,” Moore said.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

The Oscar B ferry makes a test run in February. The ferry has been out of service since mid-December.

Oscar B ferry out of service

By **KYLE SPURR**
The Daily Astorian

The Oscar B ferry between Westport and Puget Island, Wash., has been out of service since mid-December from debris clogging the cooling system.

There is no timetable for how long the ferry will be shut down. It is the last ferry on the Lower Columbia River and the only way for vehicles to cross the river besides the Astoria Bridge and the Lewis and Clark Bridge in Longview.

Wahkiakum County Public Works Director Chuck Beyer said he hopes to have a repair plan submitted this week to the U.S. Coast Guard, which officially shut down the ferry.

Once the Coast Guard signs off on the work, it will still take a few weeks for materials to ship and the repair work to be done, Beyer said.

The clogged cooling line causes the generator to overheat. Without the generator, the ferry’s hydraulics and steering won’t work.

Beyer said debris from recent storms are partly to blame, although the clogging seems to be caused by a design flaw.

“There had been issues in the past with the intakes getting clogged, and material getting into the filters,” Beyer said.

There is no cost estimate

yet for the repair. The \$5.7 million ferry, which went into service in January, is

still under warranty. The Oscar B remains docked in Puget Island.

National park visitor fees increasing next week

The Daily Astorian

The increase in visitor fees at Lewis and Clark National Historical Park will go into effect next week.

Starting Monday, the visitor use fee to enter the park will increase from \$3 per person to \$5 per person, age 16 and over.

The annual Lewis and Clark Pass, good for unlimited entry for one year, will increase from \$10 to \$20.

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park is one of 131 national parks to update entrance fees, following a directive from the National Park Service.

The increase in park entrance fees will allow the park service to invest in the improvements necessary to provide the best possible park experience to visitors, according to Lewis and Clark National Historical Park Superintendent Scott Tucker.

“This modest increase in fees will allow us to continue to protect, preserve and share the special places here with current visitors and future generations,” Tucker said. “The money from entrance fees is used to improve trails, infrastructure, and visitor services and 100 percent of fees collected remain in the park for visitor use projects.”

In the fall of 2014, Tucker said, the park service conducted a nationwide review of entrance fees.

To solicit public input, Lewis and Clark National Historical Park launched a civic engagement campaign. Based on the public comments, Tucker recommended the lowest possible increase to regional park service management.

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Q: Any suggestions for the New Year?

A: With winter’s transient power outages, and the unstable voltages that come along with those, check that you have a “Surge Protector,” not just a power strip to protect your TVs, routers, switches, and computers. Surge protectors absorb voltage surges, and even “sacrifice themselves” to protect your equipment. For desktops, get a battery backup, to avoid damage due to sudden unexpected shut downs and unstable voltage to the computer’s power supply.

Q: When are the open access days and times at Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare?

A: No one will be turned away.

Monday	Astoria 1 to 3:30 pm
Tuesday	Seaside 1 to 3:30 pm
Wednesday	Astoria 8 to 10:30 am
Thursday	Astoria 1 to 3:30 pm
Friday	Astoria 1 to 3:30 pm and Seaside 1 to 3:30 pm

Astoria address is
2120 Exchange Street, Suite 203 and
Seaside Address is
318 S Holladay.

For more information, call 503.325.5722



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