

THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE TIDE



Andre Hagestedt, of Oregon Coast Beach Connection, noticed that the beach sand bends farther out from the shore in front of Twin Rocks in Rockaway Beach, and that there seems to be a “bump” in the water between the rocks and the tide line (<http://tinyurl.com/twockscape>). A Google Maps screenshot of the area is shown.

He brought these oddities to the attention of North Coast geologist **Tom Horning** of Homing Geosciences. “When the waves hit a rock or sea stack like that, they warp around it and they lose energy,” Horning explained. “So it dumps sand directly behind the sea stack,” creating the bump.

The result is a **tombolo**, “a sand or gravel bar that connects an island to the mainland or to another island,” according to Dictionary.com. “It’s pretty far out and pretty deep,” Horning said. “Since the bar is high, at low tide it makes the shoreline appear to stick farther out into the ocean.”

All of which is good news for current and would-be property owners in the area, as Hagestedt noted that the property lines of the oceanfront homes at Twin Rocks jut farther out to the west than the rest of Rockaway Beach. But they’re crossing their fingers the tax man doesn’t notice.

BEER BATH



Oregon is loaded with beer lovers, so it comes as no surprise that America’s first **beer spa** has opened in the Beaver State. The only surprise is its location: It’s not in Portland, or on the North Coast. Nope, Sisters is the home of the brand new **Hop in the Spa** (www.hopinthespa.com), according to a story on NewSchoolBeer.com (<http://tinyurl.com/hopspa>).

Massage therapist **Sally Champa** owns the spa, and **Deschutes Brewing** provides the beer. Customers start in the lounge with a pint before they soak in the hops concoction. “We actually go downstairs and brew the soaking liquid an hour and a half before the customer arrives,” said **Mike Boyle**, Champa’s business consultant. The tubs are shown, in a still from the spa’s website.

After the soak comes a massage by Champa with hop essential oils, then a beer or two more, to keep that relaxed vibe going. Skoal!

WHAT’S IN A NAME?



Chef Daymon Garrett Edwards recently held a naming contest for his new restaurant in Seoul, Korea. “Well ... business is a roller-coaster ride!” he said this week. “As it turns out, the restaurant, that is named Rusty did not register their name with the government.” So, a new name wasn’t needed after all, and he could call his restaurant Rusty’s Smokehouse. Pictured, the signs are going up.

“But,” he added, “the contest did result in some interesting names and concepts, which we want to use.” And the winners are: **Jon Chambreau** for “Crusty’s”; **Rachel Sheldon** for “Only you can prevent hunger at ___’s Smokehouse”; **Bobbi Donnell** for “Stirrups BBQ, We stir-up good food”; **Kari Gauthier** for “Rusty Nails Smokehouse ... We will use Rusty but not Nails”; and, in the “name that would not be used by a restaurant” category, **Arnie Hummasti** for “Giddy-up Cow Chip.”

Each winner receives a voucher for a barbecue dinner at Rusty’s and pie and beverages at Tartine Itaewon, and one ticket to “The Real Lewis and Clark Story (or How the Finns Discovered Astoria!),” donated by the Astor Street Opry Company. And, of course, bragging rights.

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY

Sit and Stitch Group — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Custom Threads, 1282 Commercial St. Knitting, crocheting and needle work. For information, call 503-325-7780.

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.

Spinning Circle — 1 to 3 p.m., Astoria Fiber Arts Academy, 1296 Duane St. Bring a spinning wheel. For information, call 503-325-5598 or go to <http://astoriafiberarts.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

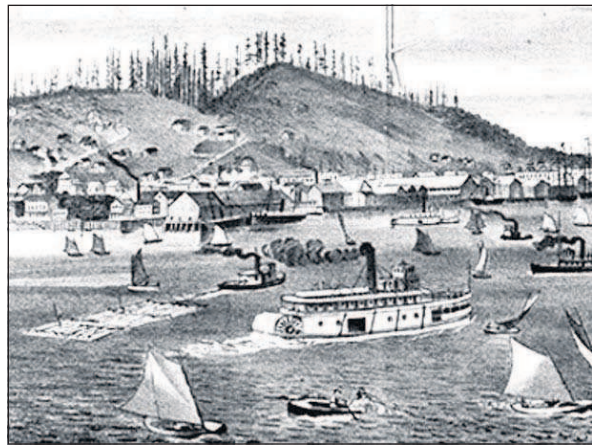
Scandinavian Workshop — 10 a.m., First Lutheran Church, 725 33rd St. Needlework, hardanger, knitting, crocheting, embroidery and quilting. All are welcome. For information, call 503-325-1364 or 503-325-7960.

Senior Lunch — 11:30 a.m., Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225

In One Ear

by **Elleda Wilson**
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IT HAS NO SUPERIOR



The Ear came across an old publication, **The West Shore**. Published in 1883 by **L. Samuel** of Portland (<http://tinyurl.com/wshore1883>). The featured article is about **Astoria** (population then about 8,000), declaring that “for beauty and healthfulness of location, Astoria has no superior on the coast,” but also noting that “the business portion of the city is built upon piling above the tide flats. Drains run into this from the hill, and twice a day the ebb tide bears away the filth and completely purifies the city.” The pilings would be Astoria’s downfall.

Included in the lengthy paean to Astoria is an up-to-1883 history of the city, descriptions of many of the downtown buildings and businesses, what they manufactured and a mind-boggling amount of facts, figures and names, and several illustrations (a portion of one is shown). The writer even ventured into an excruciatingly detailed step-by-step account of the fish canning process, starting with how to make the cans, and ending with putting the labels on the completed product.

Ironically, the writer also noted that “Astoria is protected from fire by the best volunteer department in the state. There are two engine companies and a hook and ladder company, one of them recently declared champion of the state at the tournament in Salem. Two steamers, an Amoskeag and a Silsby, costing about \$5,000 each (about \$12,000 each now), a hand engine, hose carts, hook and ladder truck, etc., comprise the apparatus.”

A new waterworks system was set to go into effect in August, providing 40 fire hydrants (there are 448 now), and water pressure that “will throw three streams from each hydrant at a distance of 80 feet through a nozzle 1.25 inches in diameter.”

Unfortunately, the story was written in June, before the new waterworks system could be installed. On July 2, 1883, the first great Astoria fire occurred, completely destroying the business district as it quickly swept from piling to piling, and building to building. Luckily for us, 1883 Astoria lives on in *The West Shore*’s pages.

WANT SOME BRAGGING RIGHTS?



Attention North Coast artists: The **Wildlife Center of the North Coast** (www.coastwildlife.org) has been holding a **logo contest**, and the deadline has been extended to Feb. 29. Logos should be two to three colors maximum, in digital vector format, simple to reproduce in several sizes and mediums, and clearly represent the work of the Wildlife Center and the area it serves.

For information, or to submit an entry, contact **Agnes Waliser** at agklak@yahoo.com. The winner will receive “thanks and adoration, along with bragging rights” from the grateful nonprofit.

The Wildlife Center is always a busy place. “This week, we were able to release two northern fulmars that came in malnourished over the winter,” the center’s Facebook page reports (<http://tinyurl.com/wcncFB>). “Also, we were able to release a red-tailed hawk that came in about 2.5 months ago with a compound fracture in her wing. The wound became infected, so her stay with us was a little longer than we would have liked.”

One of the fulmars is pictured, left, and the red-tailed hawk is pictured, right, courtesy of WCNC.

Want to help? You can make a PayPal donation to the Wildlife Center on the website or Facebook page, or you can mail a check to P.O. Box 1232, Astoria, OR 97103. Volunteers are always needed, too. Call 503-338-0331 to find out how you can lend a hand. Or two.

NEW TOURIST ATTRACTION?



Linda Fenton-Mendenhall of Warrenton posted the photo shown of a totally **wrecked car** on Facebook recently, and caused quite a stir. She found the car on the beach this week, near the South Jetty viewing tower. You can see the jetty in the background.

So where did it come from, and how did it get there? Is it tsunami debris? Possibly, as that particular stretch of beach gets quite a bit of flotsam from the 2011 Japanese disaster. Or, has it been there for who knows how long, buried in the sand, and just now popping back up again?

It looks like a mangled mess, but apparently some identifiable traits are still visible. “My husband works in the automotive field, and thinks it is a smaller car or truck from the 1960s,” Linda said.

So the question must be asked: Is anyone missing a car?

In the meantime, there it sits. “We could name it *The Peter Cardale*,” she quipped.

A ‘NICELY NASTY THRILLER’



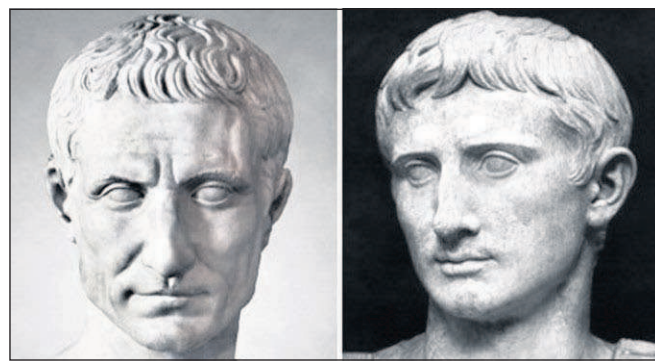
Some might remember that some scenes from the movie **“Green Room,”** were filmed in Astoria and Warrenton Oct. 8-10. After all, several locals worked as extras on the film, which stars **Sir Patrick Stewart**, of “Star Trek” and “X-Men” fame. He is pictured, front and center, in a publicity still from the movie.

The film, which is about punk rockers vs. skinheads, and entails the murder and mayhem that ensues when they clash, has been taking a long and winding road to get to wide release. It premiered at the **Cannes Film Festival** last year, and Jerry Olson, who keeps a watchful eye on all things Astoria film-related, is sure that’s the first time a movie that was totally, or even partially, filmed in Astoria made it to Cannes.

Jerry recently spotted Marc Mohan’s Jan. 29 “The Week in Movies” column (<http://tinyurl.com/gmroom>). Mohan called the movie a “nicely nasty thriller” in a review after its American premiere at the **Sundance Film Festival** in Colorado in January. Want a taste? You can see the trailer at www.facebook.com/GreenRoomMovie.

The U.S. release date of “Green Room” has finally been set: **April 15**. It’s a date that’s easy to remember, formerly being Tax Day, so keep your eyes open for those local scenes and faces.

SOSIGENES’ CHOICE



Since Monday is officially a **Leap Day**, consider these historical nuggets, courtesy of BBC.com (<http://tinyurl.com/BBCleap>):

The Romans observed a 355-day calendar with an extra 22-day month every two years. Emperor **Julius Caesar** (pictured left) didn’t like having the feast days slip-sliding around into different seasons under this messy arrangement, so he ordered his astronomer, Sosigenes, to tidy things up. Sosigenes’ solution was to create the calendar we have now — 365 days, with one extra day every four years.

So how did the short month with the occasional extra day wind up being February? Ian Stewart, emeritus professor of mathematics at Warwick University, says it was essentially an exercise in ego-flexing.

During Julius Caesar’s reign, February had 30 days. However, when **Caesar Augustus** (pictured right) became emperor, he felt slighted that the month named for him, August, only had 29 days — after all, Julius Caesar’s month, July, had 31. To solve the problem, Augustus swiped a few days from February to make August have 31 days like July. And who was going to stop him?

Knockers 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.

Columbia Senior Diners — 11:30 a.m., 1111 Exchange St. 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

Stewardship Quilting Group — 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., First Lutheran Church, 725 33rd St. All are welcome. Donations of material always appreciated. For information, call Janet Kemp at 503-325-4268.

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 donation 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., 1111 Exchange St. The cost is \$5. For information, or

Line Dancing for Seniors — 6 to 7:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, 1111 Exchange St. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Astoria Toastmasters — 6:30 p.m., Hotel Elliot conference room, 357 12th St. Visitors welcome. For information, go to www.toastmasters.org or call 503-894-0187.

TUESDAY
World War II Warbirds — 8 a.m., Labor Temple Diner, 934 Duane St.

to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Astoria Kiwanis Club — noon, El Tapatio, 229 W. Marine Drive. For information, call Robert McClelland at 503-894-0187 or Susan Brooks at 503-741-0186 or 503-338-4994.

Astoria Lions Club — noon, Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Prospective members welcome. For information, contact Charlene Larsen at 503-325-0590.

Blood Drive — 1 to 6 p.m., Seaside Elks Lodge No. 1748, 324 Ave. A, Seaside. To make an appointment to donate blood, go to www.redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

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