

Man spends day in Seattle tree, sparking curiosity

By GENE JOHNSON
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Amid chants of “Man In Tree,” the 25-hour saga that transfixed Seattle and the Internet ended as the eponymous man climbed down from his perch in an 80-foot-tall sequoia overlooking a busy Seattle shopping district. But the mystery remains — who was the man?

Police say they know, but have not released his identity.

“We are now working with him trying to get a clearer picture of what exactly led to this point,” said Detective Patrick Michaud. “We’ll be able to work with him as he is in the hospital try to get this whole thing figured out.”

Officials have not said if the man is a member of the city’s ballooning homeless population. Mayor Ed Murray declared a state of emergency as deaths of homeless people mounted last fall, and the city has authorized new tent cities and safe parking lots for those living without shelter or in their vehicles.

After the man climbed down Wednesday, the Seattle



Elaine Thompson/AP Photo

A man sits near the top of a sequoia tree Wednesday in downtown Seattle. Authorities were alerted to the unidentified man in the tree Tuesday morning and he was still clinging to its branches nearly a day later.

Police Department tweeted a photo of the tree-like creature named Groot from the “Guardians of the Galaxy” movie with the caption, “Groot job, everybody!”

The tweet was just part of the online commotion the incident sparked, with new Twitter accounts dedicated to it and the hashtag #ManInTree trending on Twitter and Facebook. A local TV station live-streamed video of the man as he dozed, shouted and knocked around a stick.

At times, the man appeared agitated, gestured wildly, yelled and threw apples and branches at officers. Police tried to speak with him from a firetruck ladder and the sixth-floor windows of the Macy’s department store next door.

Many passers-by, seeming bemused by the man’s antics, pulled out their cell-phones Wednesday to snap pictures of his silhouette, accentuated by a long, bushy beard, against the gray morning sky.

Voters have until late April to pick party for primary

By HILLARY BORRUD
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon’s 540,000 non-affiliated voters have begun to receive mailers from the Secretary of State’s Office, laying out their options to participate in the May 17 primary.

The ranks of Oregon’s non-affiliated voters have grown at a fast pace since the state’s new automatic voter registration law took effect in January, because the new system registers people as non-affiliated by default. Eighty-six percent of voters registered through the new system were non-affiliated as of February, according to the Secretary of State’s Office.

These voters cannot cast ballots for Democratic or Republican candidates, because those parties will have closed primaries this year. Non-affiliated voters can vote in the Independent Party of Oregon’s primary, but only if they request that ballot.

Oregon’s automatic voter registration law is the first of its kind in the nation and it was a top priority for Gov. Kate Brown, who advocated for it in her previous position as secretary of state.

Under the law known as “motor voter,” the state automatically registers people who are eligible to vote after they obtain or renew their driver’s licenses, permits or identification cards. The Secretary of State’s Elections Division then sends notices to people identified as eligible, giving them 21 days to opt out of registration or to register with a political party. If people do nothing, the state registers them as unaffiliated voters.

The Secretary of State’s primary mailer lists three options for non-affiliated voters: do nothing and receive a ballot with only nonpartisan races; register with one of the three major parties online at www.oregonvotes.gov or at their county clerk’s office; or return



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian
Oregon Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins has sent out mailers to non-affiliated voters informing them of their options.

an enclosed postcard to request a primary ballot for the Independent Party of Oregon. The deadline to change party registrations or request an Independent Party of Oregon ballot is 5 p.m. April 26. The state sent out the first batch of mailers on March 15 and a second batch went out on Monday.

Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins said a couple of factors contributed to her decision to send the mailer.

Atkins wanted to notify non-affiliated voters of the opportunity to request an Independent Party of Oregon ballot, even though she said the law does not require this notification. Atkins also saw an opportunity to educate voters about other options.

“I have a really great interest in ensuring voters know a lot about what their options are and rather than sending a mailing on behalf of one party, it seemed like a very natural expansion to say this is what is happening now,” Atkins said Wednesday.

Atkins said that with “these high profile races that are going on, I didn’t want a lot of non-affiliated voters getting ballots and saying, ‘Where do I vote for Bernie Sanders or Hillary Clinton?’”

Sal Peralta, secretary of the Independent Party of Oregon,

had a mixed opinion of the primary mailer.

“I think the card itself presented good information for voters,” Peralta said. “It was nice from a civics standpoint.” However, Peralta suggested the Secretary of State’s Office might have other reasons to send the mailer.

“The fact they used our elections notice to encourage people to register with parties I think is an indicator they’re worried party registration is plummeting as a result of that law,” Peralta said, referring to the new motor voter law.

Atkins said she was following the precedent set a few years ago, when as secretary of state Brown decided to send mailers to all voters informing them of the option to request ballots so they could participate in the open Republican primary.

The executive director of the Democratic Party of Oregon declined to comment on whether the party was concerned about the increase in non-affiliated voters, and the Oregon Republican Party did not respond to the same question.

As of February, the influx of non-affiliated voters had a negligible effect on the split of voters among the major parties, according to an analysis of voter registration data.

However, the state has estimated that automatic registration could eventually add as many as 400,000 new voters to the rolls, with much of the increase expected after the Secretary of State’s Office uses Department of Motor Vehicle data to register people who obtained or renewed their driver’s licenses, permits or identification cards over the last two years. The agency will not implement that plan until after the May primary. Oregon has 2.2 million registered voters.

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

ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

Astoria 5-Day Forecast

Tonight
Mostly cloudy with a little rain
42°

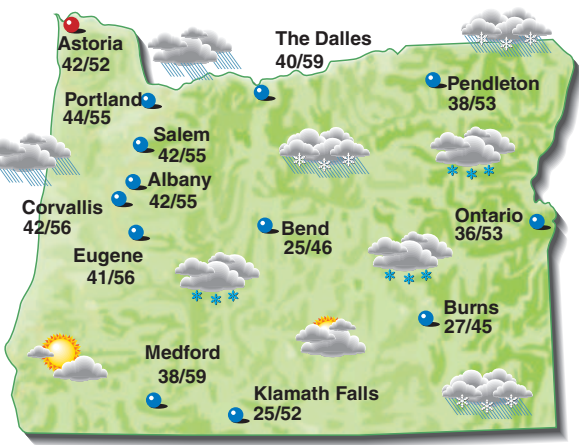
Friday
Mostly cloudy with a passing shower
52° 40°

Sunday
Mostly cloudy with a bit of rain
51° 40°

Saturday
Mostly cloudy
56° 43°

Monday
A shower in the morning; partly sunny
53° 38°

Oregon Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2016

Almanac

Astoria through Wednesday.

Temperatures	High	Low
High	52°	46°
Normal high	54°	40°
Normal low	40°	38°

Precipitation	Yesterday	Month to date	Normal month to date	Year to date	Normal year to date
Yesterday	0.36"	11.36"	5.67"	33.64"	23.31"

Sun and Moon

Sunset tonight	7:34 p.m.
Sunrise Friday	7:08 a.m.
Moonrise today	9:00 p.m.
Moonset today	7:51 a.m.



Regional Cities

City	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Baker City	49	29	pc	45	18	sn
Bend	48	25	c	46	23	c
Brookings	56	41	c	56	43	pc
Eugene	55	41	c	56	36	c
Ilwaco	51	45	r	51	41	c
Klamath Falls	54	25	c	52	25	pc
Medford	61	38	c	59	34	pc
Newport	53	44	sh	52	41	sh
North Bend	55	43	c	55	42	c

Under the Sky

Tonight’s Sky: Ursa Major is climbing higher above the northern horizon before midnight.

Tomorrow’s Tides

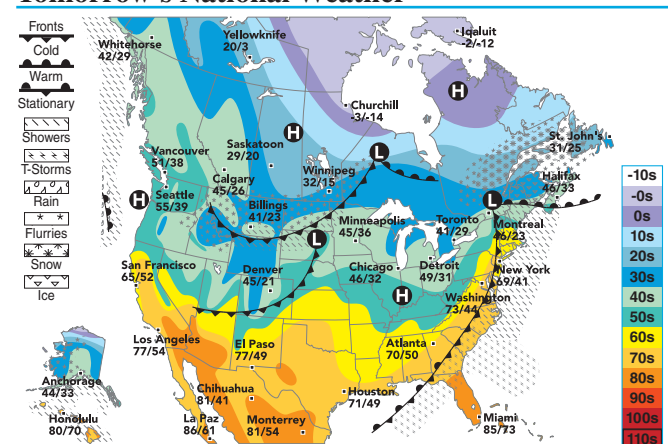
Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Low
3:11 a.m.	8.6 ft.	9:37 a.m.
3:41 p.m.	7.8 ft.	9:37 p.m.
		1.3 ft.

National Cities

City	Today			Fri.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	76	57	t	70	50	s
Boston	43	40	sh	62	38	r
Chicago	39	26	sn	46	32	c
Denver	47	26	pc	45	21	pc
Des Moines	39	25	sn	54	41	pc
Detroit	62	32	r	49	31	pc
El Paso	69	42	s	77	49	s
Fairbanks	41	19	s	48	27	pc
Honolulu	81	71	pc	80	70	sh
Indianapolis	63	34	r	51	34	s
Kansas City	46	27	sn	59	43	pc
Las Vegas	75	54	s	78	56	s
Los Angeles	79	55	s	77	54	s
Memphis	68	40	t	61	42	s
Miami	81	74	t	85	73	c
Nashville	68	40	t	60	36	s
New Orleans	78	56	t	72	55	s
New York	56	52	c	69	41	sh
Oklahoma City	60	35	s	71	48	s
Philadelphia	72	58	pc	70	42	sh
St. Louis	59	33	c	57	39	s
Salt Lake City	56	37	pc	49	32	r
San Francisco	66	51	s	65	52	s
Seattle	51	42	r	55	39	c
Washington, DC	77	60	s	73	44	pc

Tomorrow’s National Weather



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities. Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

City seeks public input on upcoming waterfront bridge replacement project

The Daily Astorian

The city of Astoria is hosting a public open house Tuesday at City Hall to discuss initial plans for replacing the six bridges that connect Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, 10th, and 11th streets to the waterfront.

Public input is sought from community members and interested parties, who are invited to drop in anytime between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The Sixth through 11th street bridges provide access to businesses and attractions located on the waterfront, but rest on aging timber foundations that cannot safely carry heavy truck loads.

The city is in the preliminary stages of designing replacement structures to accommodate modern loads and maintain safe access to the piers.

At the open house, attendees will be invited to review preliminary bridge designs and the proposed construction approach. The city is seeking input on the type of bridge railing to be used, and detour routes.

According to the current project schedule, the city expects to complete project designs in early 2017, and begin construction in late 2017. Construction is anticipated to be complete in 2019.

LOTTERIES

OREGON
Wednesday’s Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 3-2-9-6
4 p.m.: 1-8-1-6
7 p.m.: 8-1-9-6
10 p.m.: 6-7-3-0
Wednesday’s Megabucks:
7-19-23-25-29-36
Estimated jackpot: \$2.8 million

Wednesday’s Powerball:
5-8-15-22-49, Powerball: 25
Estimated jackpot: \$101 million

WASHINGTON
Wednesday’s Daily Game:
7-5-6
Wednesday’s Hit 5: 08-15-19-34-39
Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
Wednesday’s Keno: 18-27-35-39-42-44-45-46-47-51-55-56-57-58-62-66-68-70-71-72
Wednesday’s Lotto: 01-05-09-19-25-49
Estimated jackpot: \$8.1 million
Wednesday’s Match 4: 02-03-09-23

PUBLIC MEETINGS

THURSDAY
Cannon Beach Planning Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

FRIDAY
Cannon Beach Emergency Preparedness Committee, 10 a.m., City Hall, 163 E. Gower St.

OBITUARY POLICY

The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

Visit us online at
DailyAstorian.com



CLATSOP POWER EQUIPMENT, INC.

SALES • SERVICE • RENTALS

34912 HWY 101 BUS • ASTORIA
503-325-0792 • 1-800-220-0792

The Daily Astorian

Established July 1, 1873 (USPS 035-000)
Published daily, except Saturday and Sunday, by EO Media Group, 949 Exchange St., PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103 Telephone 503-325-3211, 800-781-3211 or Fax 503-325-6573. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Daily Astorian, PO Box 210, Astoria, OR 97103-0210

www.dailyastorian.com
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all the local news printed in this newspaper.
SUBSCRIBER TO THE NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE
MEMBER CERTIFIED AUDIT OF CIRCULATIONS, INC.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES	
Effective July 1, 2015	
HOME DELIVERY	MAIL
EZpay (per month).....\$11.25	EZpay (per month).....\$16.60
13 weeks in advance.....\$36.79	13 weeks in advance.....\$51.98
26 weeks in advance.....\$70.82	26 weeks in advance.....\$102.63
52 weeks in advance.....\$135.05	52 weeks in advance.....\$199.90
Circulation phone number: 503-325-3211 Periodicals postage paid at Astoria, OR	
ADVERTISING OWNERSHIP	
All advertising copy and illustrations prepared by The Daily Astorian become the property of The Daily Astorian and may not be reproduced for any use without explicit prior approval.	
COPYRIGHT ©	
Entire contents © Copyright, 2016 by The Daily Astorian. Printed on recycled paper	