

# THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Founded in 1873



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## Water under the bridge



Compiled by Bob Duke  
 From the pages of Astoria's daily newspapers

### 10 years ago this week — 2006

The Fourth of July in Cannon Beach features a spectacular aerial show, with colors of black, orange, red, purple and emerald green, all free for viewing pleasure.

And not a firework in sight. Instead, it's time for the second annual Great Cannon Beach Puffin Watch.

The Puffin Watch gives visitors the opportunity to watch nesting tufted puffins, tens of thousands of common murrelets and many other varieties of seabirds on or near the landmark Haystack Rock July 1 through 4.

Haystack Rock Awareness Program Coordinator Shelley Parker said the Puffin Watch is fun because it allows the public to view the diversity of wildlife in a lovely landscape and to learn about different species and how they survive.

**WARRENTON** — City commissioners denied a homeowner's appeal of city-approved plans for a new Home Depot and approved the first reading of an ordinance to rezone the land Tuesday.

Two mumps cases, the first in 27 years, have been confirmed in Clatsop County, and county public health officials are reminding people that a complete series of two valid doses of MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine is the best protection against the viral illness.

Clatsop County will ask to have a say in the proposed LNG project planned at Bradwood.

The board of commissioners voted unanimously Wednesday to file as an intervenor in the federal review process for the liquefied natural gas terminal proposed for the riverfront site 40 miles east of Astoria.

### 50 years ago — 1966

"About 125" students attended first day of classes in Clatsop County's Operation Head Start program Monday morning, according to Howard Egan, director of the program.

Egan described the turnout as "beyond our expectations."

Operation Head Start is designed to aid preschool children of low income families.

A story in the June 20 Daily Astorian reviewing the weekend activities of the Coast Guard air station's helicopters gives some indication of the value of this agency. It has been kept busy ever since its establishment, and as time goes on, it seems to become even busier.

The helicopters were involved in seven search and rescue missions last weekend.

Advent of summer, with increase in seashore recreational activities, plus growing activity in commercial fishing, has helped build up the work load of the copter crews.

The air station has two large and two small helicopters. We may find soon that these are not enough equipment to handle all the tasks put upon the air station. Our congressional delegation might well take up with Coast Guard authorities the growing need for air station expansion.

When one considers all that the people of this station do, we wonder how we ever got along before it was established.

### 75 years ago — 1941

Without any special ceremonies the 110-foot keel for the first of several wooden minesweepers to be erected at the Astoria Marine Construction company on the Lewis and Clark River will be laid Wednesday afternoon.

Following the pattern laid down by Governor Sprague's state Council of Defense, formal organization of the Clatsop County Defense council was effected Tuesday afternoon at a meeting of the council members named by the governor, J.C. Wright, who has acted as chairman of the old council organized six months ago, was named as permanent chairman of the new group with Sheriff Paul Kearney as vice-chairman.

Thirty-four selectees, the largest group to be called thus far from Clatsop County, will be inducted for military service on July 7. The number includes four who are taken in for other draft boards.

Several Astoria college students, including one or more, who were given deferred status by the local draft board to finish their education, are among those called.

German armed forces — apparently aiming a mechanized spearhead directly into the heart of Russia toward Moscow — claimed important but still undisclosed military victories today while the red army reported it was fighting off huge Nazi tank thrusts toward Minsk and Kiev.



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## Race makes intern feel right at home

Comradery from troll race reminds runner why he does it

By ELI STILLMAN  
*The Daily Astorian*

I've always loved to run, but I have had problems explaining why.

The endorphin rush and feeling of accomplishment that I get after a workout or race is something I fell in love with at a very young age.

For the last nine years, I've competed on my school's cross country and track teams. But now that I've graduated from the competitive program, it's been hard to get motivated without being surrounded by teammates and coaches. Also, after track ended my training during the last month of college took a backseat to research papers, cheap beer and also nerve pain in my right foot.

Only a few days after I graduated, I moved up here to take an internship with The Daily Astorian. It was hectic packing my life into the back of my truck and traveling to a town where I



The Daily Astorian  
 Eli Stillman received this trophy after winning the 5.75-mile Running of the Trolls race this year.

**The sport of running is simple, but you have to be a little weird to enjoy it.**

didn't know anyone.

When I heard there was a race coming up, I figured it would be a great way to relax and hopefully run off my stress. All week, I'd been trying to unpack my belongings and get

familiar with the professional newsroom setting. Finally, this was something that I knew how to do and didn't have to ask questions about.

I raced the 5.75-mile course in the 13th annual Running of the Trolls, which was part of the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.

Turns out, I was able to sustain some of my fitness during my one month off, as I finished first on the out-and-back course. I nearly collapsed at the line, but as other competitors finished, they came up and shook my hand. We talked about times, running shoes and different races in the area. They even told me about fun trails to go run on and how to get to them.

This was the part of the sport I really missed, not just the competition, but the comradery that comes with pushing yourself to near exhaustion alongside others.

The sport of running is simple, but you have to be a little weird to enjoy it. When you meet others who share that weirdness, there's usually a mutual understanding.

I've yet to explore any of these trails on the coast, but the 10 mile loops through the woods look appealing on maps.

I'll hold off on the long ones until I have a stronger base, but struggling up the steep hills in Astoria's neighborhoods and talking times with strangers has reminded me just why I love this torturous pastime.

Eli Stillman is The Daily Astorian's newsroom intern this summer. He graduated from Southern Oregon University earlier this month.

## GUEST COLUMN

### County at critical point on mental health

By AMY BAKER  
*Special to The Daily Astorian*

I would like to introduce myself as the new interim director of Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare and outline my vision for how this organization can move forward and continue to serve the Clatsop County community.

This won't be my first experience improving the functioning of a faltering behavioral health agency. The field of behavioral health has been my passion for decades.

I have over 20 years of experience in the behavioral health field throughout Oregon, including at the Oregon Health Authority, and have established expertise in organizational management and reorganization.

In 2008, I was hired by Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare, a major non-profit healthcare provider based in Portland, and then was promoted as the senior director of outpatient services. This was a financially troubled department that needed effective reorganization to ensure that services were both accessible and appropriate. While running this department, I dramatically improved Cascadia's financial standing, implemented new policies and procedures to improve patient care, and maintained its excellent workforce. Within a year, Cascadia was able to get back on track financially while continuing to provide high-quality services to its community.

Here in Clatsop County, we are

at a critical juncture with our behavioral health services, but I am convinced that a full recovery is within reach. I appreciate the county's leadership in calling for change within our organization. I clearly understand that our success is dependent both on our internal functioning and on our relationships with community partners. I plan to strengthen both in order to bring stability to our organization to benefit all.

Any behavioral health organization is only as good as its ability to collaborate with partners and stakeholders on behalf of the community members it serves.

I can promise the community full transparency as we move forward and make much needed changes in the next six months. My immediate priority is to stabilize the organization and ensure the safety of the individuals it serves. The organization exists so it can intercede, support and care for any vulnerable individual facing a mental health crisis. I will be evaluating and enhancing our capacity to perform this core function for the community.



Amy Baker

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To support individuals, Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare anticipates opening a crisis respite center to help them discover their aspirations and achieve their full potential.

Finally, I will be focused on stabilizing our workforce and improving employee morale. I will update the community as we move forward with these important objectives.

At Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare, I have been gratified to find employees with a true passion for providing services that promote individuals' right to live meaningful lives in a supportive community. It is incredibly encouraging to see that mental health and wellness are topics so near and dear to the ongoing discussion in our community.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. My phone is always on, and I will be happy to discuss our plans to stabilize and improve this important community organization.

Amy Baker is in the interim executive director of Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare.