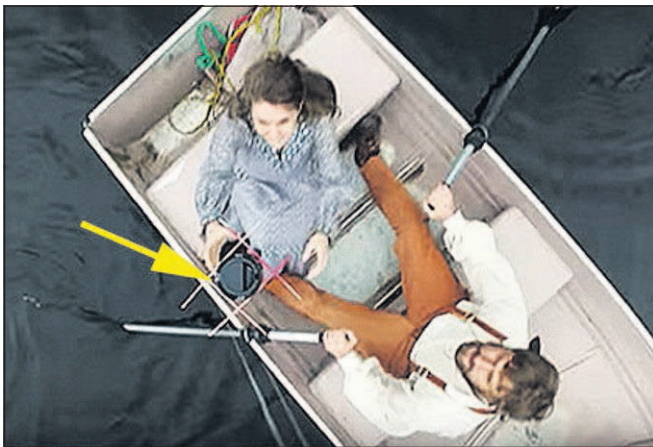


CREAM AND SUGAR?



Rockaway Beach was featured in a United Press International Odd News story recently about a video of an unusual way to get your caffeine fix (<http://tinyurl.com/cafedrone>).

Filmed by YouTube user and drone aficionado **Keepingitbasic**, the video, "The Way Coffee Should Be Delivered," shows a cup of coffee, suspended from the drone via fishing lines and sticks, gingerly traveling across a lake to reach to a couple in a rowboat who are eagerly awaiting its arrival.

Keepingitbasic did offer a caveat, however: "Don't try this at home. All parties had been warned that they could have had scalding hot coffee dropped on them without warning." Happily, that didn't happen.

DOWN ON THE FARM



Leave it to a Scandinavian country to be at the forefront of fish-raising: Norway's **SalMar Group**, known as being one of the largest producers of farmed salmon, is developing the world's first semi-submersible offshore fish farming rig, to be built and delivered by **Rolls-Royce**. World Fishing and Aquaculture reports (<http://tinyurl.com/norskrieg>).

A picture of the proposed project is shown, courtesy of SalMar/Ocean Farming. Combining the technologies used for both oil rigs and aquaculture, the completed fish farm pilot rig will be 220 feet high, 360 feet in diameter and have a volume of 6.6 million gallons. It is expected to be completed in the second half of 2017, and will be anchored by an eight-point mooring system to the seabed off Frohavet, Norway, a location with the "good biological conditions" to farm fish stocks.

'SHE DESERVES A MEDAL'



You would naturally expect there would be many adventures for the 66 intrepid cyclists who set off on the third annual **Trans Am Bike Race** on June 4 from Astoria on a 4,400 mile race across country to Yorktown, Virginia," Astorian, writer/photographer and cyclist **Peter Marsh** (<http://sea-to-summit.net>) wrote to the Ear. He is pictured, inset.

"However, (one) woman also overcame tremendous odds to keep on riding," he reported. "Her name is **Amy Williams** (pictured in Peter's photo) and she had flown from London with her new racing bike, pannier bags, etc. When I joined the racers for the first short leg to Seaside, I rode at the back of the group to keep out of the way and found myself alongside her — and barely able to keep up! I snapped a photo of her (shown) at the traffic lights onto U.S. Highway 101 before turning back.

"Three days later, she stopped at a café in McKenzie Bridge, and came out to find her beloved bike was gone, leaving her with only a passport and a wallet. She returned to Eugene, where some local cyclists helped her recover. Her sister in London immediately started a crowdfunding site that raised enough money to pay for a replacement bike with a 48 cm frame in stock in a bike shop in Colorado. She rode the bus east, bought the bike and the equipment she needed, and rejoined the route with the slower riders."

"I think she deserves a medal," Peter noted, "just for getting back in the race."

In One Ear



by Elleda Wilson

[ewilson@dailyastorian.com](mailto:ewilson@dailyastorian.com) (503) 325-3211, ext. 257

'A WEALTH OF FOND MEMORIES'



Here's a little Fourth of July nostalgia for you: An E.W. Kelley Library of Congress stereograph from 1906, and a story by **Eleanor Barrows Bower**, who was the granddaughter of **Carl and Bridget Tanger**, written for the Summer 1968 edition of **The Sou'wester** magazine (<http://tinyurl.com/4thwagon>):

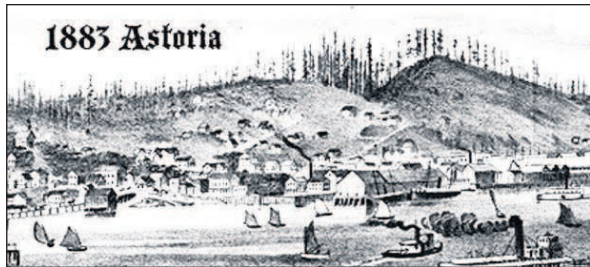
"Growing up in Chinook (Washington) ... the most anticipated event of the year was the **Fourth of July Liberty Wagon!** Then **Festus Plumb's** hay rack wagon was converted into a two-tiered platform. His gray stallions, with red, white and blue ribbons braided into their tails, drew the wagon.

"Beginning at lower Frogtown (so called because of the croaking of frogs in the early springtime) the wagon drove slowly through town. The sides of the wagon were draped with red, white and blue bunting. A Goddess of Liberty and a costumed Uncle Sam stood on the wagon, waving to the onlookers.

"As the wagon stopped at each child's home (all the houses were on the main route, as Chinook had only one street), the children were lifted onto the wagon. As it went the entire length of the town, each child waved and carried a small flag. The wagon trip ended at the grove back of the school house, where a picnic was held ...

"The Liberty Wagon, the newspaper, and the railroad are all mementos that have vanished from Chinook. This way of life is no more, but it has left a wealth of fond memories."

FIERY FOOTNOTE



The Astoria fire of July 2, 1883, racked up damages of around \$250,000 (about \$6 million now), but it was the lawsuit of ne'er-do-well **John Boyle**, who sued the city for \$25,000 (about \$600,000 now) that provided an interesting footnote to Astoria's history.

To set the scene, the city at the time of the fire was described in the West Coast Reporter Vol. 1 by A.L. Bancroft (<http://tinyurl.com/boylesuit>), as "... full of people, more or less transient and doubtful in their character, connected with the fisheries, and the riot and dissipation which seems to be incident to that season."

The opportunities provided by fire excited the rabble, who looted the burning buildings with impunity — they were well aware that there were only six regular policemen, who were "fatigued and worn out with watching and running to and fro night and day." The roadway connecting upper and lower town was partially destroyed in the blaze, complicating things further. Consequently, a vigilante committee was formed to restore order and drive out the trouble-makers, and Mr. Boyle just happened to be one of them.

In his lawsuit, Boyle claimed that he was unlawfully arrested and jailed, and received a mock trial that resulted in a sentence of 25 lashes. The vigilantes then blindfolded and gagged him, took him from jail at night and threatened him with hanging and 200 lashes. Actually, he was a given 25 lashes with a cat-o'-nine-tails, put on his knees, sworn to secrecy, and taken back to jail. In a "good riddance" move, the next morning he was taken in irons to a steamboat and shipped off to Portland.

The court agreed that the vigilantes were at fault in Boyle's lawsuit. The problem lay in how much Boyle should be paid. There were no medical bills, so what compensatory damages should there be when the person suing is of questionable character, and a bartender, professional gambler and vagrant?

Boyle didn't get \$25,000, according to the 1903 Oregon Historical Quarterly Volume 4 (<http://tinyurl.com/fire1883>), but the jury did award him a little vindication in the amount of \$1,000 (about \$23,000 now), which was "raised by general subscription, \$20 being the usual individual contribution."

MARSHMALLOWS, ANYONE?

The Ear knows what big fans many North Coasters are of bonfires, so naturally this little nugget caught her attention: Norway was in the news recently for having what is probably the **biggest bonfire ever** in **Alesund**, according to The Huffington Post (<http://tinyurl.com/155v142>). A photo of the event from the Bypatrioten Alesund Facebook page is shown.



More than 30 people spent several days building the 155-foot tall towering inferno of pallets. Officially, however, the tallest bonfire is still the one in Boštanj, Slovenija that was lit on April 30, 2007, which was a mere 142 feet, 6.2 inches tall.

Even though the Alesund bonfire has not yet been certified as the new tallest one by Guinness World Records, Guinness says "that an application for the record was received, and that they are awaiting further evidence for review." Hopefully, Norway will prevail.

BOOK NOOK



For your reading pleasure, it's time to take a literary tour of some books with a local connection.

• "My Yellowstone book is finally out: 'Wrecked in Yellowstone: Greed, Obsession, and the Untold Story of Yellowstone's Most Infamous Shipwreck,'" **Mike Stark** wrote, and the book is available at Amazon.com. Some of you might remember that he was a reporter for The Daily Astorian in the late 1990s.

In case you're wondering (as the Ear did) yes, there really is a shipwrecked steamboat in Yellowstone Lake. The book is the story of how it got there, and of its owner, the infamous (and obsessive) entrepreneur E.C. Waters.

• For you poetry and short-short story fans, **Reba Owen** has written "Alchemy of Scallops," which can also be found at Amazon.com. Reba is a strong believer in the Wildlife Center of the North Coast ([www.coastwildlife.org](http://www.coastwildlife.org)), and her royalty checks from the book will go to help them continue their good work. • And finally, there is "The Adventures of Rat the Goldfish," by **Patty A. Davis**. "I have written and illustrated three children's books each featuring one of my grandsons," she wrote. "The last one I self published. It's a story about a boy named Aiden and a goldfish he names Rat. Rat and Aiden have several little adventures, one nearly disastrous." Check it out at, you guessed it, Amazon.com

"I now have a fourth grandson," she added. "Looks like I will be writing and illustrating another book!"

STOP 'EM IN THEIR TRACKS



Longview, Washington inventor **Michael Moormeier** (pictured inset) has come up with a new, and safer method for police to stop a car they are chasing. The Daily News reports (<http://tinyurl.com/spike-tire>). With **MobileSpike**, the officer pursuing pulls up alongside the fleeing car, and simply pushes a button — deploying a retractable metal arm that extends from the bumper, and has with a spike trip on the end that punctures the other car's back tire. It takes about a minute for the tire to deflate.

It's so simple, it's a wonder no one thought of it before, and a lot safer than dashing out to throw spike strips on the road and risking getting run over. A photo of how MobileSpike works is shown from Moormeier's fundraiser page (yes, he's looking for investors) at [www.flashfundrs.com/mobilespike](http://www.flashfundrs.com/mobilespike). A detail of the spikes is also shown, inset.

The Wasilla, Alaska, Police Department put the device on five of its cars. As a result, "the criminals started telling police officers that they wouldn't run anymore in Wasilla," **Jentry Crain**, a former officer, told TDN. "This concept of run and let them go, it's dangerous for the community, for the victims. It's not the answer. The answer is to have a safe mechanism to stop these."

So far, 17 law enforcement agencies agree, and use MobileSpike, which costs about \$2,500 per unit. Ironically, Longview's police department isn't one of them. Yet.



Car or truck, new or used, we'll steer you to the best rate.

You decide what set of wheels is best for you, and leave the low-rate financing to us. Everyone who qualifies gets our very best rate on vehicles up to 10 years old. Bring us your auto loan from another lender, and we'll match your rate and term. Refinance at least \$10,000, and get \$50 cash! Offer expires 7/31/16.



AUTO LOANS 2006 & Newer

1.99% APR*	48 months	2.74% APR*	72 months
2.49% APR*	60 months	3.49% APR*	84 months

\*Annual Percentage Rate as of 5/1/16 and subject to change. Maximum term for loans under \$10,000 is 60 months. Minimum amount for loans over 72 months is \$20,000.

[www.tlcfcu.org](http://www.tlcfcu.org)  
503.325.2538

