

AROUND TOWN



From *The Daily Morning Astorian*, Tuesday, Aug. 26, 1890:
 • A Local Pugilist Severely Punishes a “Deserter”: A little unpleasantness occurred in a saloon in Lowertown about 10 o’clock last night, in which a sailor whose name is unknown was badly beaten by **Wm. Scott**, otherwise known as **Scotty, the pugilist**.

The sailor, it appears, arrived here recently on a deep water vessel and put up at one of the sailor boarding houses where he was given carte blanche, had the run of the bar room, and in other ways life was made pleasant to him from a sailor’s standpoint, the understanding on the part of the boarding house keeper being that the tar would stay with him until he could be shipped.

The sailor, however, after a few days of riotous living, concluded he did not want to go to sea any more, and leaving the boarding house, went to work for a contractor.

Last night he came into town, and in his rounds met Scotty. The latter took him to task for “deserting,” and as (the sailor) vouchsafed no explanation, nor showed any disposition to pay his bill, Scotty did him up in the most approved Sullivanistic style (named after famed American boxer **John L. Sullivan**). It took a physician half an hour to dress the man’s bruised face. No arrests.

• It will be but a short time before Astoria can boast of having a system of **incandescent lights**, for work is to be commenced at once running the wires and putting in the lights.

• One of the windows in car No. 1 of the city railroad was broken yesterday afternoon by Wherry & Company’s **famous gray horse**, poking his nose through it, at the corner of Third and Cass streets. The horse was uninjured.

NEW FLAVOR LIFESAVER



This may be the cleverest lifesaving device, ever. MyBoatsGear.com reports that the **USafe lifering**, made by Portuguese company Noras Performance — known for making Seadoo motors — has two jets to propel it through the water to a person in distress, who can then grab on to it and be towed back to safety (www.myboatsgear.com/usafe-lifering).

The horseshoe-shaped ring, run by remote control, leaps over waves, and nothing seems to deter it while on a rescue mission. Screen shots from the website www.norasperformance.com are shown.

There’s no word yet on when or where the innovative lifering will be available, though. All the company will say at this point is that it’s “coming soon.”

THE YEAR OF THE DEER



An **albino fawn** has been seen wandering around in **Rockaway Beach**, and is pictured in a photo courtesy of **Julie Overstreet**, a U.S. Postal worker who lives there, according to a recent story in *The Oregonian* (<http://tinyurl.com/fawnblanc1>). It’s enough of a rarity that it’s illegal to kill them in several states, including Illinois, Iowa, portions of Montana, Tennessee and Wisconsin.

Yet strangely enough, in scanning Google news recently searching for “albino deer,” the Ear found stories from four different states. This must be a banner year for albino deer.

In One Ear



by Elleda Wilson

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TERRIBLE TILLY TALES



Another blast from the past, a story about Oregon’s **Almost intriguing lighthouse, Tillamook Rock**, from Friday, May 3, 2013:

Ever wondered what it was like to live in the **Tillamook Lighthouse** when it was still operational? Thanks to **Jim Furnish**, who invited the Ear to lunch with **Lon Haynes**, a former lighthouse keeper on “Terrible Tilly” (pictured, lower left), the Ear had a chance to find out firsthand. Lon and his wife, **Lavina**, are pictured, upper left.

Coast Guardsman Lon was 18 or 19 when he was offered the post, and was taken aback when he realized it was on top of a rocky island. He had to get up to the lighthouse by breeches buoy, i.e. put on rubber pants attached to a line dangling from a boom attached to the island that jutted out over the boat. Then **Oswald Allik**, the last civilian lightkeeper, would swing the boom to hoist the hapless visitor onto “The Rock.”

Oswald got a bit slower as he got older. “One time I went into water with a cigarette in my mouth, hat on my head and a duffle bag, with Oswald on the boom,” Lon recalled, “and that’s the way I came out.”

Pictured right, from left, Oswald, **Alan Richards** and Lon, in a photo taken in front of the lighthouse.

Lon was stationed there for six weeks on and three weeks off for 20 months. “During storms, the waves came,” he said. “You’d hear a thump, count to four or five, then you would see the green water. Every third one or so came over the lighthouse.”

Sometimes the waves would even pick up rocks from below and hurl them through the light tower. Even so, Lon admitted that he’d go out for a quick look between waves, not even thinking of the danger.

Two of the highlights of his stay were the attic full of magazines to peruse (dating from the 1800s through World War II), and having a cozy private room with 3-foot thick walls that kept out the sound of the foghorn.

Lon’s detailed account of daily life on Terrible Tilly (with photos) can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/tillyrock>. The lighthouse is now both dark and silent, but fortunately, Lon’s memories help keep its history alive.

SOS



Maritime history buffs got their hopes up when **Crystal Cruises** announced their desire to purchase the grand old 1950s-era ocean cruise liner **SS United States** from its conservancy, and put her back in service — pending a feasibility study. Crystal Cruises’ illustration of the ship is shown.

Well, the study is back and sadly, the dream is crushed, gCaptain reports (<http://tinyurl.com/SSUSrebom>). “Regrettably, the technical feasibility study concluded that while the ship is remarkably intact and structurally sound, modifying the ship for today’s standards for oceangoing service (SOLAS) would require significant changes to the hull that would pose stability challenges,” a press release said.

So, Crystal won’t buy the ship, but instead will donate \$350,000 to help the conservancy’s ongoing efforts to save it from being scrapped. Since going back to sea isn’t possible, the conservancy now hopes to be able to find the ship a permanent home and turn her into a waterfront “mixed-use development and museum.” Fingers crossed.

ROCK YOUR WORLD



Here’s a quirky little way to amuse yourself while you’re out and about: **Finding Astoria Rocks**. No, not the music kind of rock. Real rocks.

Mindy Bizell and her children paint rocks and hide them all over Astoria where people can easily find them. “You can keep them, or re-hide, and please, make your own and hide them, too!” she explained. Their house rule: Find as many rocks as you like, but only take two to keep. Re-hide the rest.

Can anyone play? “The more the merrier!” she declared. Want to make some Astoria Rocks? Simply paint some small rocks with acrylics and write “Astoria Rocks” on the bottom in permanent marker. Then cover the rocks with shellac to protect them from the rain, and go hide them somewhere in town.

Naturally, there is a Facebook group for Astoria Rocks fans. You’ll find it at (<http://tinyurl.com/AstoriaRocks>).

There’s only one caveat, Mindy warns: “Only hide in public spaces, and do not hide in state or federal parks — they frown upon it.”

DID YOU SEE IT?



The Ear has heard of many **UFO sightings** over the years, but nothing lately. Time for an update.

An unusual daytime sighting of an Unidentified Aerial Phenomena (UAP) over Portland was reported to Latest UFO Sightings (LUFOS) recently: “A group of people and I witnessed several objects while at Oaks Amusement Park on Aug. 20, 2016, around 1 p.m. At first glance we figured they were balloons, however we noticed they were spiraling in a continuous circle, disappearing and then reappearing, (and) this was during a 100 degree day with very little wind ... We were all very puzzled were trying different explanations for what it was.”

You can try to guess for yourself what it was by looking at a film that was taken of the event at <http://tinyurl.com/ufopark>

Then the Ear checked out the Mutual UFO Network’s (MUFON) UFO Stalker site (www.ufostalker.com) to see what’s new. Just enter a zip code or city name, and see what happens. A screen shot of the map is shown.

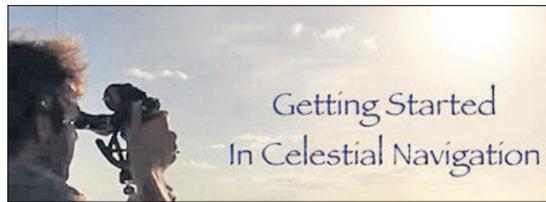
On June 11, in Vernonia: “We live very rural, a low flying bright white object making NO SOUND flew over our property. It was too low to be ISS (International Space Station) or a satellite. We have never observed anything like it before.”

On June 4, in Seaside: “Bright light, my amber/red tracking west to east, then light slowly went out.”

Over the last several years, there have been 10 UFO sightings reported in the **Seaside/Cannon Beach/Gearhart** areas, two in **Warrenton**, five in **Astoria**, four on the **Long Beach (Washington) Peninsula**, and one “Entity Encounter” in **Clatskanie** ... well, you get the drift.

So keep your eyes open — you might just see one, too.

IT’S IN THE STARS



Here’s a goodie for anyone interested in sailing (or even for arm-chair sailors): A 12-part video series on YouTube, “**Getting Started in Celestial Navigation**,” designed to “enhance understanding of the art of celestial navigation, from basic to advanced concepts” (<http://tinyurl.com/celesnav>). The series is produced and presented by **Christopher D. Nolan**, whose credentials being a merchant mariner and also a U.S. Coast Guard cutterman for 8 years.

Each how-to video also has extensive notes to expand your grasp of the topic, including links to information like instructions on how to make your own simple sextant out of a CD and its case, and where to download the full edition of “*American Practical Navigator*” (all 37 chapters). It probably wouldn’t hurt to check out *The Nautical Almanac* (www.thenauticalalmanac.com) while you’re at it, either.

No musty old classroom for this course — Nolan lectures from on board a boat. If zenith declinations send you into a tailspin, just check out the scenery.

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY

Angora Hiking Club — 9 a.m., Sixth Street parking lot, or 10 a.m. at trail head. Black Lake hike. For information, call Roger Westerman at 213-448-9441.

Regatta Fireworks Cleanup — 10 a.m., East End Mooring Basin breakwater. Volunteers needed to help clean up the fireworks pit. Goal is to pick up debris and then shovel the sand back into place so that it can be covered with a tarp and secured.

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

Chair Exercises for Seniors — 9 to 9:45 a.m., Astoria Senior Center, 1111 Exchange St. For information, call 503-325-3231.

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 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation \$3 for those older than 60; \$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call Michelle Lew-

is at 503-861-4200.

Columbia Senior Diners — 11:30 a.m., 1111 Exchange St. Cost is \$6. 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

Knochlers 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.

Mahjong for Experienced Players — 1 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, 1111 Exchange St. For information, call 503-325-3231.

Line Dancing for Seniors — 3 to 4:30 p.m., Astoria Senior Center, 1111 Exchange St. Not for beginners. 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 Christa Svensen at 206-790-2869.

TUESDAY

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.

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