

## HELP PIERCE RECOVER



Astorian **Pierce Christie** (pictured), musician and owner of **The Malternative** music shop, suffered a severe stroke in September. Initially, he was 90 percent paralyzed, but he is now in a care facility in Portland, working hard to recover.

"He is making small but steady progress every single day, but he needs support," **Bridget Kitson** wrote on Pierce's GoFundMe page. "Many friends and community members have reached out for an opportunity to help, so here it is." And here's your chance — you can donate at [www.gofundme.com/christierecovery](http://www.gofundme.com/christierecovery)

You can also show your support by attending a fundraiser at 8 p.m. tonight at the Port of Call Bistro and Bar, 894 Commercial St. The **Jesse Lee Falls Band** is performing. Friends are encouraged to bring an instrument and sit in with the band for a song.

Pierce's daughter, **Heather Christie**, recently posted a hopeful message from him. Heather's daughter, **Christina**, helped Pierce spell out the words: "I learned a lot today. I will recover."

"We are so incredibly grateful to feel the love, support and prayers from all of you who have been reaching out and helping any way you can," Heather said. "Thank you."

## BEST BIRTHDAY EVER



When we were at the Clatsop County Fair this year, **Kayti** got a little foam police car," **Samantha Rose Stoffelsen** wrote. "She took it to school, to the store, to grandma's, she slept with it and bathed with it. One day she had it in her mouth and her big sister went to pull it out of her mouth. The car ripped in half. Kayti was devastated."

Samantha contacted the sheriff's office, and they offered to bring Kayti a new one on her birthday. When the day arrived, "**Deputy Kimberly Barrows** and **Deputy Siscilee Gouge** and rolled up playing the Happy Birthday song over their loud speakers," Samantha wrote. "Kayti was so excited. She has a fascination for police officers, so seeing them any day is excited, but on her birthday was over the top!"

"Not only did they bring her one car, but two! Along with a huge 'Frozen' balloon, a cake, and a baby doll. It's been a few weeks, and she still hasn't stopped talking about it. Thank you so much Clatsop County sheriffs, for making her birthday the best ever ... how awesome our local law enforcement is!"

## ROLLS ROYCE KEEPS DRONING ON



**Rolls Royce** is the industry leader in promoting the development of an autonomous **drone vessel fleet** to handle commercial shipping. The idea might become a reality a lot sooner than later, now that two Scandinavian countries are interested, according to a story on [gCaptain.com](http://gCaptain.com) (<http://tinyurl.com/dronetst>). A drone ship is pictured, courtesy of Rolls Royce.

Norway has officially opened the world's first drone ship testing area in a large fjord along the Norwegian Sea. "We do not yet know how widespread autonomy will be in future shipping," a Norwegian Maritime Authority representative said, "but ... it is imperative to be a central participant in this development."

The **Finnish government** has a pony in the race, too. In September, Finland set a target of having the "first unmanned maritime products, services and a 'vivid ecosystem'" by 2025.

## In One Ear



by Elleda Wilson

ewilson@dailyastorian.com (503) 325-3211, ext. 257

## SNIPPETS



A few snippets of this and that for your perusal:

• **Gimme shelter:** The Ear knows you don't need any more bad news, but Kiplinger.com has come out with a bumper of a report naming **Oregon** as **No. 4** in the top 10 of "**least tax friendly states for retirees**" in 2016 (<http://tinyurl.com/ORTaxed>). They only found one "bright spot" for Oregon: No sales tax.

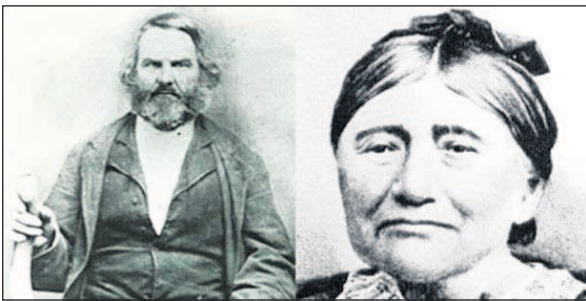
Just so you know — Vermont came in at No. 1 for least tax friendly, and the No. 1 most tax friendly state is Alaska. Go figure.

• **In Jeopardy:** Astoria has hit the big time. **Laura Sellers-Earl** noted our city was included in a question on the ABC TV show "**Jeopardy**" question Monday Night. Question: There's a maritime museum named for this river near its mouth in Astoria, Oregon. Answer (but you already know this): Columbia.

• **Light 'em up:** Thinking about Halloween already? Get in the spirit with **Mike and Teale Adelmann**, who own the **DK Warren house**, 107 N.E. Skipanon Drive in Warrenton. The couple are putting on a **Halloween light and music show** every night from 6 to 10 p.m. through Oct. 31. It's 5,000-plus lights, synchronized to music — just pull up and tune the car radio to 95.7 FM to get the full effect.

• **Gimme shelter 2:** The **prodigal chicken** has been rambling around the U.S. Bank parking lot area since April, but winter is coming, and she's going to need shelter. **Sharon Stanovich** has tried to catch the wily hen a few times, but figures what's really needed is a **long pole fishing net** to get the job done. Is there a fisherman out there who would be willing to loan Sharon one? If so, please call her at 503-325-3211, ext. 237, or the Ear at 503-325-3211, ext. 257. "I feel really bad for her," Sharon told the Ear. "It's getting cold out there."

## SET IN STONE



You never know what gems you'll find perusing old issues of **The Daily Morning Astorian**. In the **Friday, Oct. 16, 1885** issue, for instance, there's a story, "Early Settlers and Settlements on Clatsop Plain."

One of the most prominent historical figures featured is **Celiast (aka Helen) Coboway Smith** (1801-1891), daughter of **Chief Coboway**, and wife of **Solomon Howard Smith**. The couple are pictured. With her son, **Silas B. Smith** interpreting, she repeated the oral tradition of how the Clatsops came to settle on the North Coast.

Tahlipas, "a great and superior being" brought her tribe the plain, she said, and gave the land to them. He also taught them how to hunt, fish, make canoes, cross the waters, weave nets and make fire. Mrs. Smith explained that the word Clatsop "was handed down from father to son from generation to generation, as the name by which that part of the country was known."

Tahlipas was always watching over the Clatsops not only so he could reward the good, but so he could punish the wicked, who were sometimes changed into inanimate objects. And that, according to Indian tradition, is how **Tilamook** rock and its smaller surrounding rocks came into being. A tribal member and his family disregarded Tahlipas' teachings and waded into the water, and they were turned to stone to serve as a warning to others.

Some still didn't listen. Pillar rock on the lower Columbia is a warrior who disobeyed Tahlipas, and disregarded "the customs of his forefathers" by wading into the river instead of using a canoe. Maiden rock, off Chinook Point, was once a young Indian woman who was punished for "bathing in too public a manner." The Ear can't help but wonder how many others there are.

Surely Mrs. Smith must have had several more tales to tell, but that's another story for another day.

## PUMPKIN PADDLING

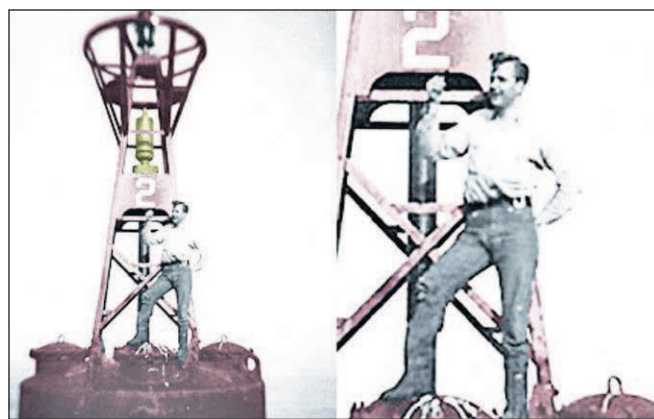


Leave it to a Pacific Northwest to tackle this challenge: **Charity Marshall** of Castle Rock, Washington, paddled a 1,000-pound hollowed out Atlantic pumpkin 15 miles down the Cowlitz River, officially breaking the Guinness World Record for the **longest pumpkin paddle**, The Daily News of Longview, Washington, reports (<http://tinyurl.com/pumppad1>).

The voyage took six hours, and Charity handily beat the last title holder, **Todd Sandstrum** of Massachusetts, who paddled a mere 8 miles in September. She is pictured in photos courtesy of her Facebook page.

"Charity's a thrill-seeker. She's not scared of much of anything," her husband, **Lance Marshall**, told TDN (<http://tinyurl.com/pumppad2>). "I love watching Charity do crazy stuff ... Life is short. You only get one chance."

## 'A TRULY EXCEPTIONAL MAN'



Some time ago, this column carried a photo (shown) sent in by Astorian **Jeffrey Nelson** of his father, **Donald T. Nelson**, taken in 1948, when he was a deckhand on the Pilot Boat Columbia, standing on Buoy No. 2. The elder Nelson, now in his 80s, wound up holding the record (50,000 plus) for the most crossings of the Columbia River bar in his long career as a bar pilot.

As luck would have it, **Ed Jahn**, senior producer of **OPB's Oregon Field Guide** saw the photo and story, and wrote to the Ear. The show was doing a story on the Columbia River bar pilots, and Donald Nelson looked like a good fit. And so he was. The show airs at 8:30 p.m. Thursday, again at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 23, and later online at [www.opb.org](http://www.opb.org)

"We spent an afternoon with Donald T. Nelson," Ed told the Ear, "and got to hear from a truly exceptional man with an amazing life experience. Our story captures Donald's experience, as well as the larger story of modern-day pilots, the history of the Peacock and the evolution of piloting as helicopters came onto the scene."

"... We certainly captured the hair-raising aspects of the job, but we also aimed to give our audience a greater sense of the people who do the work, the history of the job, as well as its importance for the economy of our region. I wanted people to look at those ships that pass by the Astoria waterfront and truly rethink what it took to navigate those ships safely to that point."

"And thank you for leading us to Donald Nelson," Ed added. "He was a joy to be around."

## POOP DU JOUR



**Oregon State University** researchers are in the news again, according to a story on [KGW.com](http://KGW.com) for a rather unusual study: For the last two summers, they have been **pooper-scooping whales** (<http://tinyurl.com/poop-whale>) off the Oregon coast. And it's serious business. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration funded project aims to find out how ocean noise is affecting whale health. If there's a negative impact, it's hoped new regulations may go into effect to lower the volume.

But collecting the "specimens" is no easy feat. Marine ecologist **Leigh Torres** and her team follow the whales in a small inflatable boat and wait. And wait. "When it happens somebody yells out 'POOP!' and we all spring into action," Torres told KGW. Overhead drones let the scientists know when the deed is done.

"Yeah, poop doesn't seem great," Torres noted, "but it's actually a rich biological gold mine of information."

## COMMUNITY NOTES

## SATURDAY

## Document Shredding Event

— 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Seaside High School parking lot, 1901 N. Holladay Drive, Seaside. Free event. Canned food donations welcomed for Clatsop Community Action Regional Food Bank.

## 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

— 11 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

## Cannon Beach Auxiliary Breakfast

— 9 to 11:30 a.m., American Legion, 1216 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach.

## 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 Lewis 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](http://www.AstoriaRotary.org)

## 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.

## Mahjong for Experienced Players

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

## Astoria Alzheimer's &amp; Other Dementia Family Support Group

— 2 to 3:30 p.m., first-floor conference room, Clatsop Care Center,

646 16th St. Open to all family members of people with dementias.

For information, call Rosetta Hurley at 503-325-0313, ext. 222, or email [support@clatsopcare.org](mailto:support@clatsopcare.org)

## 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](http://www.toastmasters.org) or call Christa Svansson at 206-790-2869.

## TUESDAY

## 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.

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