

# Crossing: Law will have support of her family

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## Family by her side

Before dawn on most weekday mornings, she walks from her Uppertown home — where she has lived since the early 1960s — to the Astoria Safeway and, before many customers have arrived, power walks the inside perimeter.

Completing a 6-mile hike in one session is not something Law is used to, but she'll have the support of her family — which is really what she's most looking forward to, she said.

"I think the latest I've ever seen her come in is around 8," said Debbie Cutlip, a Safeway store clerk who has known Law for years.

Law, who worked as a nurse for many years at the Astoria Clinic, Columbia Memorial Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital, began to take walking seriously back in the early 1980s, she said.

"She's a wonderful lady," Cutlip added.

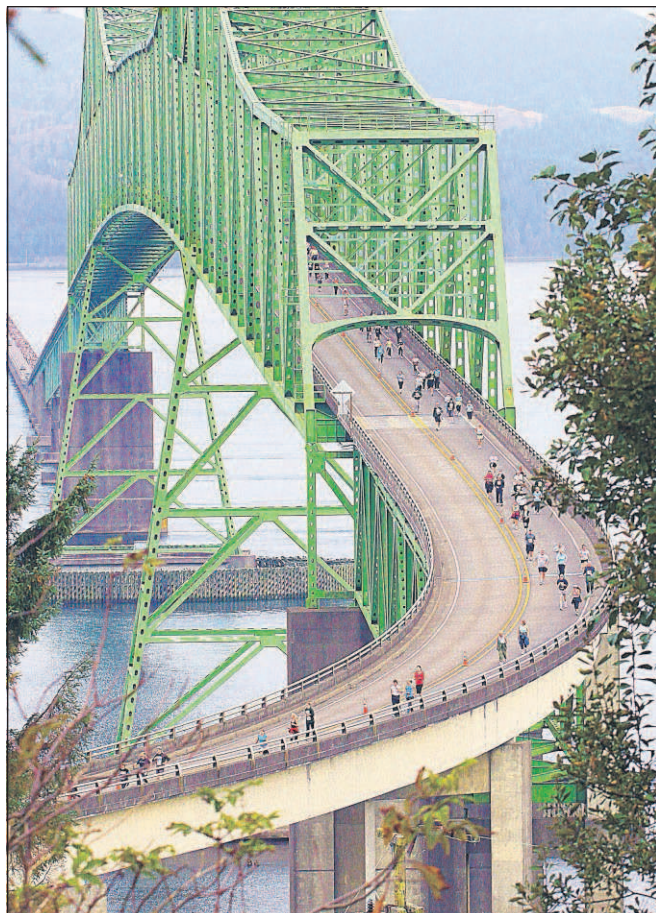
"I just enjoyed being outdoors. It's something you can do, you know, even at my age," she said.

For about 40 minutes, Law does full laps, hitting the far corners of the store. Afterward, Law treads along the Astoria Riverwalk with her equally avid walking buddies, completing her daily regimen.

But she doesn't call her walking "serious." "I call it fun!" she said. "In fact, it's a kind of a challenge to me because I wonder how much longer I can do this."

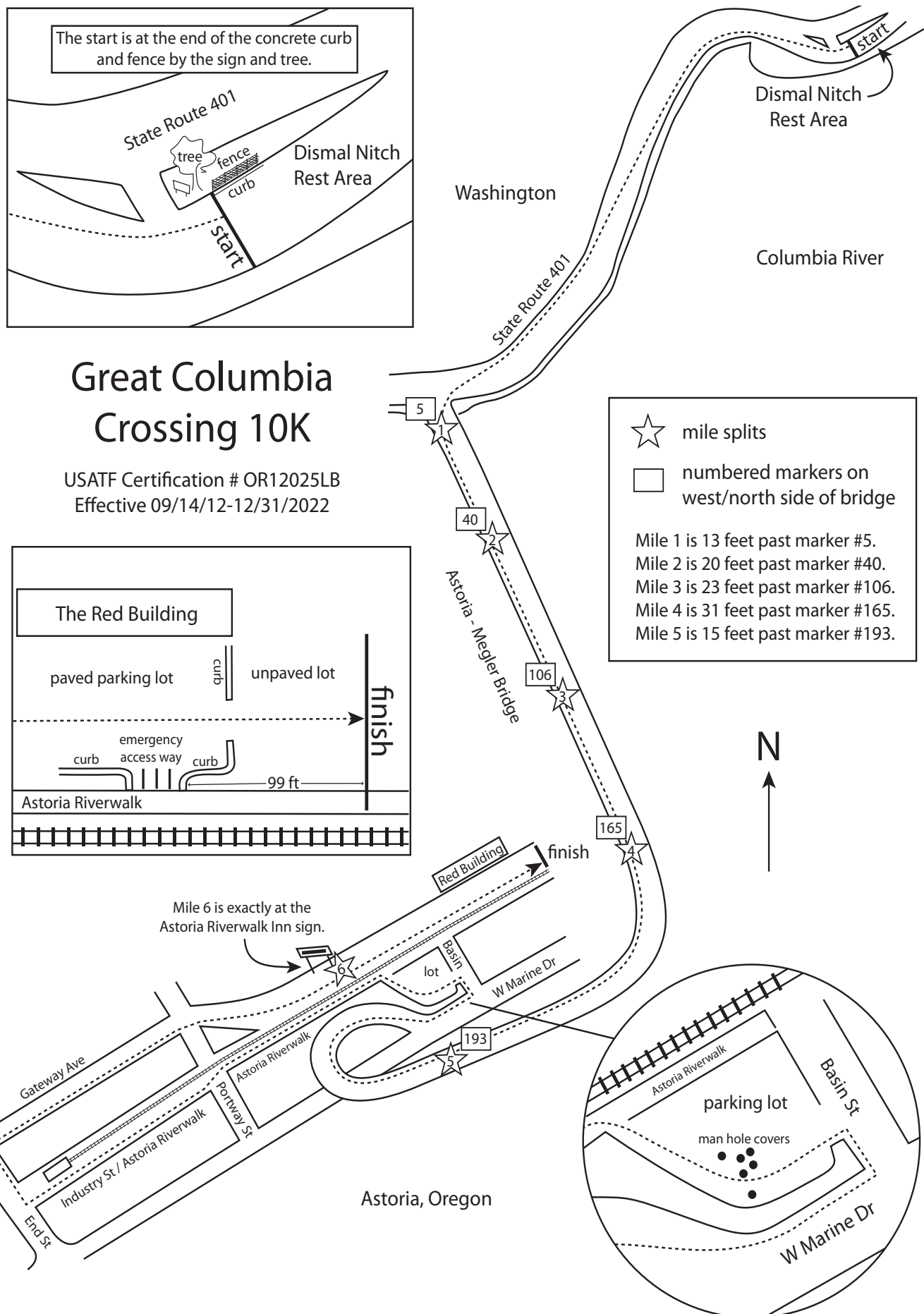
"Because I have the time, and I'm not working anymore, I find that I try to get in between 2 and 5 miles a day," she said.

Asked how it feels to be turning 90, she said, "No different than my younger years."



Don Anderson/For The Daily Astorian

A view from West Grand Avenue shows runners and walkers at the Great Columbia Crossing in 2013.



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Randy Roden's defense attorney Conor Huseby questions Dorothy Wing on the stand Thursday in Clatsop County Circuit Court.

# Trial: Case is expected to last about two months

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Roden is already serving an eight-year sentence after violating his probation from a 2013 domestic violence conviction by possessing marijuana, oxycodone and methadone and failing to report that he moved in with Wing.

## Wing a victim?

Roden's attorney, Conor Huseby, has accused Wing of causing her daughter's death through abuse, along with complications from the flesh-eating virus, methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus infection.

Wing had been charged in January with murder by abuse and six counts of criminal mistreatment, Huseby said, and faced life in prison with parole after 25 years. "You pled guilty (to manslaughter) not because you felt responsible, but you didn't want to serve a life sentence," he said.

Brown asked Wing about losing her daughter.

"It's ruined my life," she said. "It's taken a part of me that I will never get back."

She admitted to lying to police at times to protect herself and avoid jail, and that she caused her daughter's death by not getting her the help she needed. But she denied killing the child.

## After the abuse

He spent hours Wednesday and Thursday cross-examining Wing, looking to reveal inconsistencies in her previous interviews and testimony. He painted Wing as dishonest and a shoddy mother with a history of abusing her children, whose life and relationship with Roden was falling apart around the time of her daughter's death.

On Thursday, the prosecution called the boys' foster parents in Seaside and adoptive parents in San Diego, who described heavily abused children who have nonetheless gotten better over time. Wendy French, a foster parent

with her husband Todd in Seaside, picked the boys up from Randall Children's Hospital at Legacy Emanuel shortly after their sister's death.

French said she didn't have concerns about the flesh-eating disease, but that neither of the kids were comfortable with being touched or taking their clothes off, hiding in small areas like the dryer and dishwasher. But the two got better over time, she said, and she never saw the older brother harm his younger sibling.

The prosecution called Dr. Andre Nye, a family practitioner who assessed all three of the children between April and July of 2014. Nye noted no injuries and only minor skin issues with the boys such as eczema. He would have been required by law to report any child abuse.

Prosecutors are expected to continue calling witnesses into the middle of next week. The case, which started Oct. 4, is expected to last about two months.

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