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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

DAISY'S WHEELS



Daisy the Labrador retriever's story, which the Ear first read about in The Daily News of Longview, Washington, (<http://tinyurl.com/TDNdaisy>), is a cautionary tale: Don't let dogs ride in the back of your truck.

Daisy's original owner did just that, and Daisy fell out. Then she was run over. He didn't bring her in for treatment, and Daisy lost the use of her front legs. But wait, it gets worse. Then he couldn't deal with Daisy's medical issues, so he dropped her off at a vet's office to be euthanized.

So here's where the good news starts. The vet called **Shelly Westby**, co-founder of **Rescued Paws** of Longview (www.facebook.com/rescued.paws), who immediately agreed to be Daisy's foster mom. Shelly figured maybe a wheelchair was the answer for Daisy, so she tried to raise the money for one (they run about \$600).

When she found out about **Gunnar's Wheels** in Wisconsin (<http://tinyurl.com/GunnarsWheels>), a foundation that provides free wheelchairs for dogs in need, she appealed to them via Facebook. **Jason Parker**, founder of the nonprofit, contacted Shelly quickly, and a new wheelchair arrived within a week. "He was happy to help, and I am beyond thrilled," Shelly said.

One problem: The wheelchair arrived in what seemed like a zillion pieces. Shelly's husband, **Ted**, took a crack at it, but then Shelly came up with the idea of asking a bicycle shop to assemble it. That's when she turned to **Bob's Sporting Goods** in Longview, who readily offered to help.

So, Daisy now has her new wheelchair, but it's going to take some getting used to. "I was really hoping she would take off," Shelly said, "but there's a learning curve."

But Shelly is a believer, and thinks Daisy will get the hang of it. "She's just an amazing dog."

LOST AND FOUND



Last week there was a story about **Sarah Martin** in Australia looking for **Jeanne Lake (Miller)**, who visited Australia as an exchange student from Astoria in 1972, and stayed with Sarah's grandparents. Sarah's parents, **Phillip and Jackie Donkin** had lost touch with Jeanne, and hoped to find her. The couple is pictured, with Jeanne (at right).

Well, they found her, although Jeanne's no longer in Astoria — she lives in Salem and Enterprise. Her former husband called and told her about the story, so she contacted the Ear, and the rest is history. "The Donkins were absolutely wonderful people," she said. "Sent (Sarah) a long email summarizing the past 45 years!"

"Looking forward to receiving a reply and reuniting with a wonderful family I knew a lifetime ago," Jeanne added. "It's kind of like Christmas."

WHAT IS THAT?

"We just found one of our crab pots!" **Kari Petersen** posted on Facebook. "It is like finding a needle in a haystack. Big ocean." The crab pot is pictured. "What in the world is on this crab pot?" she asked. "That crab pot has been in the ocean for years... It is all over the rope and pot."



The Ear sent out a few queries. "The consensus of the researchers here at Point Adams is that this **anemone** is of the genus *Metridium farcimen*, otherwise known as the Gigantic Anemone," **Michelle Rub**, a fisheries biologist at NOAA Fisheries in Hammond wrote. But, she cautioned, "it's hard to say definitively without seeing the plumes."

Kelsey Adkisson of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Marine Resources Program, also replied. "Our biologists said they are a type of anemone called pile or plumose anemones. Scientifically, they are in a genus collectively referred to as 'Metridium,'" she wrote.

So, there you have it: Anemone, genus *Metridium*; exact species — hard to say, under the circumstances.

JEREMIAH'S NOTE



This is a little late for the anniversary of the **Titanic** sinking on April 15, but the Ear just found this little nugget: Did you know there was a message in a bottle sent from the Titanic? No, it wasn't from John Jacob Astor's namesake, **John Jacob Astor IV**, who died in the disaster.

It was sent by 19-year-old **Jeremiah Burke** (pictured) of Glanmore, County Cork, Ireland, the youngest of seven children, who was being sent to join two of his sisters, who were living in the U.S., according to IrishCentral.com (<http://tinyurl.com/BurkeNote>).

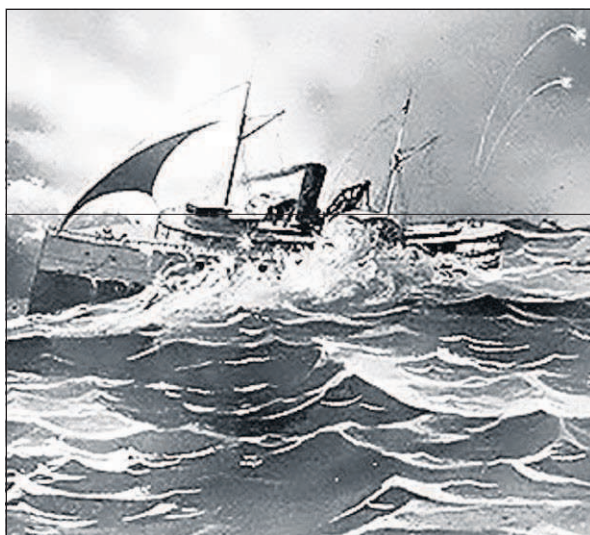
Strangely enough, even though the Titanic sank off the coast of Newfoundland, around 3,000 miles west of Ireland, Jeremiah's note came ashore a few miles from his family home about a year later. The message was short but sweet: "From Titanic, goodbye all, Burke of Glanmire, Cork."

A relative, Mary Woods, told the Belfast Telegraph that a few days after the bottle was found, "a person came up to (Jeremiah's mother) and said 'I'm sorry for your loss.' It was only then that she found out what had happened."

There was no doubt the note was from young Jeremiah, as once his mother saw it, she recognized his handwriting. And, the bottle it arrived in originally contained holy water, and she had given it to her son when she saw him off. He used one of his shoelaces to tie up the note before tossing the bottle into the ocean.

"(His mother) died of a broken heart within the year," Mary observed. The note and bottle stayed in the family until 2011, when they were donated to the Cobh Heritage Centre in County Cork.

THE WRECK OF THE ALASKAN



From **The Daily Morning Astorian, May 19, 1889**: "That was a touching sight when the ten-year-old son of **Jas. Stephens** went trembling to the dock at Portland, asking for news of his papa, who with many other hapless souls went tossing on the water from the wreck of the **Alaskan**."

According to Wikipedia, the 276-foot long **Alaskan** (pictured) was an iron-hulled side-wheel steamboat whose regular route was the Columbia River and Puget Sound (<http://tinyurl.com/AlaskanSank>). With 34 on board, but no freight or passengers, it crossed the Columbia River bar on Saturday morning, May 11, 1889, heading for some underwater work and hull maintenance at a shipyard in San Francisco.

By Sunday afternoon, about 18 miles off Port Orford, the waves were large and rolling, and the **Alaskan**, which was not designed for heavy seas, was in trouble. The side-wheels kept being pulled out of the water by the waves, so forward progress became almost impossible.

Soon the aftercabin came loose, the wooden upper works were being torn away, and the ship was taking on water. Around 6 p.m. Sunday, the port paddle box tore off, leaving holes in the hull, and the water came in faster than it could be pumped out. By midnight, the only power the **Alaskan** had left was an emergency sail.

Several abandoned ship on three lifeboats, which were then tied to the **Alaskan** on a line. The captain and four other crewman stayed aboard and launched distress rockets. By 1 a.m., the captain had to cut the line to the boats, and those left on board the **Alaskan** were stranded.

Fortunately, the tug **Vigilant** saw the distress signal, and arrived Monday evening. Three crew members were rescued from the pilot house, one from a raft, one boatload was picked up, and the captain was found hanging onto a deck fragment after 33 hours in the water. The second boat made it to shore, but the third disappeared with all hands. In all, 21 of the 34 perished, and **Jas. Stephens** was probably one of them.

BABY TEA RULES THE ROOST



A tiny Golden Polish chick in Naselle, Washington, named **Baby Tea**, who was raised by **Christy Fetzer**, earned a big title: Purina Poultry's **2017 Cutest Chick in America**.

The contest was conducted on Purina Poultry's Facebook page, which Christy follows, and she and her son, **Jacob**, couldn't resist entering the photo shown of the adorable **Baby Tea**, who was victorious over more than 1,100 other chicks vying for the title.

The newly minted celebrity is a member of Christy's backyard flock, affectionately known as The Breakfast Club, so the winner's prize will come in handy: A year's supply of Purina organic poultry feed.

"I obviously love my chickens, I have 37 of them!" Christy confessed. "It's an honor to have the Cutest Chick in America living in my backyard coop. And since the girls love to eat, they are happy with the grand prize of 14 bags of organic feed!"

BREAD, MILK AND A LIFEBOAT



It's not often one would associate corporations with caring, but convenience store **Seven-Eleven Japan Co.** is equipping three of its stores with **unsinkable lifeboats** for the safety of their employees and customers, according to The Asahi Shimbun (<http://tinyurl.com/711boats>). The outlets chosen, which are in high tsunami risk zones, and have no evacuation sites nearby, will have the lifeboats installed in their parking lots.

The capsule-shaped boats are about 28 feet long, 11 feet wide, are made of fiber-reinforced plastic, and can right themselves if flipped. One is pictured, courtesy of Shigi Shipbuilding Co. Each boat can carry up to 25 passengers, who are strapped in with three-point seat belts, fastened at both shoulders and waist. A week's supply of food and water can be stored under the floor.

Better yet, if the lifeboat gets sucked out to sea by a tsunami, there's also an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon on board, so the Japanese Coast Guard can hopefully find it and bring it back.

For forward out-of-the-box (store) thinking: Kudos to Seven-Eleven Japan.

UNEXPECTED CARGO



From Clatsop Current News (<http://clatsopcurrentnews.com>): "In the early morning of Friday, May 5, a concerned citizen called in to the Astoria Dispatch team to report a suspicious circumstance. They had happened to find a **dead dolphin** in the bed of (a) truck.

"The police determined that the vehicle was property of the Seaside Aquarium and the driver was authorized to transport such marine mammals. That solves the who and the what, but we're all still wondering why?"

"It was a five-foot male, white sided dolphin," **Tiffany Boothe** of the **Seaside Aquarium** explained. "It washed in near the South Jetty, and had been dead for a while before washing in. We retrieved the animal from the beach, which was transferred to Portland State University, where Dr. Debbie Duffield will perform the necropsy."

And now you know.

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY

Meet with Tom Brown — 9 a.m., 3 Cups of Coffee, 279 W. Marine Drive. Meet with Astoria City Councilman Tom Brown.

Angora Hiking Club — 9 a.m., Sixth Street parking lot. Cape Falcon Road south to Short Sands hike. For information, call Jan Coughlin at 503-791-3521.

Sit & Stitch — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Home-spun Quilts & Yarn, 108 10th St. Bring knitting, crochet or other needlework projects to

this community stitching time. All skill levels welcome.

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

Cannon Beach American Legion Women's Auxiliary Breakfast — 9 to 11:30 a.m., American Legion, 1216 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach.

Bingo & Dessert Auction — 1 to 4 p.m., Astoria Moose Lodge, 420 17th St. Games begin at 1 p.m., desserts auctioned between games. Bingo packets \$10 for 10 games; extra games \$1 per sheet. Fund-raiser for Astoria Moose Trekkers Relay for Life team, all proceeds donated to Relay for Life — American Cancer Society.

Angora Hiking Club — 2 p.m., Spring Potluck and Meeting, Seaside Hotel, 930 N. Holladay Drive, Seaside. For information, call Nguyen Trung, club president, at 503-739-0243.

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.

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