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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

HELP THE ASTORIA FERRY



One of our biggest challenges today is raising money to haul the ferry out to inspect the hull and integrity of all fasteners and wooden components under the water line," a new post on the **Astoria Ferry** Facebook page says. "We have researched hauling out at Tongue Point, but that option is sadly looking like no option, because of the possibility of damaging the boat, and the cost of creating a cradle that could hold it.

"So, we really need your help to reach our goal of making the **Tourist No. 2** a regular vision on the Columbia. Which means, if you are as passionate about this goal as we are, we need you to reach into your pockets for some \$\$\$ and send us whatever you can."

Want to help out this nostalgic enterprise? Click on the "Donate" link at www.astoriaferry.com, mail a check to the Astoria Ferry Group, P.O. Box 261, Astoria, OR 97103, or send a pledge email to astoriaferry@gmail.com

"We promise we will put (your donations) to good use!"

BIGGEST BOX



The Who's Got the Biggest Box Ship battle on the high seas wages on. The last winner was Mitsui O.S.K. Lines (**MOL Triumph**), built by Samsung Heavy Industries. At 1,312 feet long, and 192 feet wide, it can carry 20,150 containers.

Only launched a month or two ago, **Triumph** has already been eclipsed by the newest heavy-weight on the block, the Orient Overseas Container Line (**OOCL Hong Kong**). The ship, which will also serve in the Asia-Europe area, is pictured, courtesy of Maritime Executive.

The recently christened behemoth — also built by Samsung — while almost identical in length and width to the **Triumph**, can carry **21,413 containers**. However, its deadweight is only about 4,300 tons more than the **Triumph**, according to Maritime Executive (<http://tinyurl.com/OoclHK>) — which means it would have to carry some lighter containers, or some empty ones, to reach maximum load capacity. So, the Ear feels compelled to ask: What's the point?

TO GOON OR NOT TO GOON



And the **Goonies 2** speculation grinds on. For one thing, if anything is happening (as so many are claiming), then why is there a "The Goonies 2" Internet Movie Data Base (IMDB) listing for it (<http://tinyurl.com/goon2list>)? Details are few and far between, only listing **The Donners' Company** as the producer and **Chris Columbus** as the writer.

Sean Astin (pictured in photos from his Facebook page), aka Mikey in "The Goonies," does a lot of interviews, and someone always asks him about it. "There should definitely be a remake," he told Mlive.com at the Motor City Comic Con May 21 (<http://tinyurl.com/AstinMlive>). "I used to really want a sequel, a proper sequel, and at this point I don't know if that makes as much sense now. But if they rebooted it, and gave the original Goonies a little cameo or something like that, I would think that would be cool. And it will happen. **Steven Spielberg** just has to say yes."

And there's the rub, apparently. If Spielberg continues to stay mum, at some point, Astin speculates, "in a few decades" when the director has "finished his journey on earth," then Warner Brothers "will, absolutely, like immediately, go into production." "Maybe the reboot sucks," Astin speculated. "Maybe it's great. But why not? People love it so much."

In other words, we still don't know nuthin'.

GLIMPSES OF 1890



Glimpses of life in Astoria from the **Thursday, May 29, 1890** issue of **The Daily Morning Astorian**:

- **A.W. Utzinger** has a handsome new rig, and is delivering bottled beer in all parts of the city.

- The engine house of **Astoria No. 1** will be moved forward 20 feet and stalls erected for the fine span of black horses which are to be purchased to draw the steamer.

- Returning Astorians from California say much interest is manifested in San Francisco and elsewhere regarding Astoria property; everybody realized that our seaside city is destined to have a splendid future.

- There seem to be no law breakers here, for the police make no arrests. When **Officer Beasley** was asked by a reporter last evening what he was doing, replied: "Nothing, only polishing the nail-heads in the plank sidewalks."

- The sidewalk now building in front of **The Astorian** building is the fourth built there in the last dozen years. The remains of two of the former ones are visible.

- **Ed. Frazer**, chief carpenter, and two assistants arrived yesterday with all the scenery of the "After Dark" company, including a 2,000 gallon tank, which was put in position (at Ross's opera house) and will be filled at 10 o'clock this morning.

- **Cathlamet** real estate is looking up. A man named Harrington recently bought the John Docker place for \$20,000 (about \$518,000 now).

- Children cry for **Pitcher's Castoria**. (It was laxative containing "senna leaves, bicarbonate of soda, essence of wintergreen, extract of taraxacum — a fancy word for dandelion — sugar, water, pumpkin, anise and worm seed, Rochelle salts, peppermint and 3 per cent alcohol (<http://tinyurl.com/castlax>)). No wonder the children were crying.

MEMORIAL DAY ONE



Have you ever wondered when the first **Memorial Day** (first known as **Decoration Day**) and which originated during the Civil War) took place? After a little research, here's one answer, anyway, from an 1898 source:

"On the sixteenth of **April, 1862**, some ladies and a chaplain from Michigan were chatting together at **Arlington Heights (Virginia)**. They were talking about the horrors of the war and one lady said: 'How lonely and cheerless the bare graves of the soldiers look.' Another proposed gathering some flowers and laying them on the graves of the Michigan soldiers that day.

"They did so — and the next year they decorated the same graves. The third year (1864) the same chaplain and ladies were in Fredericksburg (Virginia), and they decorated the soldiers' graves there. So the beautiful custom grew and spread its influence with its flowers each year." (<http://tinyurl.com/DecDay1>)

Not so fast. **Columbus, Mississippi**, has a dog in this who's-first fight, too: "In the spring of 1866 Miss Matt Moreton, Mrs. J. T. Fontaine and Mrs. Green T. Hill ... were in the habit of visiting Friendship cemetery and cleaning off as best they could the weeds and briars and decorating with flowers the neglected graves of the Confederate dead. This ... resulted in a determination to make the decoration of the soldiers' graves an annual occurrence, and the first celebration to take place was **April 25, 1866**.

"... Decoration Day (has) its origin with the ladies of Columbus ... (which) also claims the distinction of being the first to decorate the graves of both Confederate and Federal soldiers alike." (<http://tinyurl.com/DecDay1>)

And that's just the tip of the iceberg. Many locations staked a claim in the who-started-it tiff, but **President Lyndon Johnson** settled the matter in 1966 by declaring — right or wrong — that **Waterloo, New York**, is the birthplace of Memorial Day (www.usmemorialday.org). Why? Probably because New York was the first state to officially recognize the holiday, in 1873.

THIS IS WHERE THE MAGIC HAPPENS

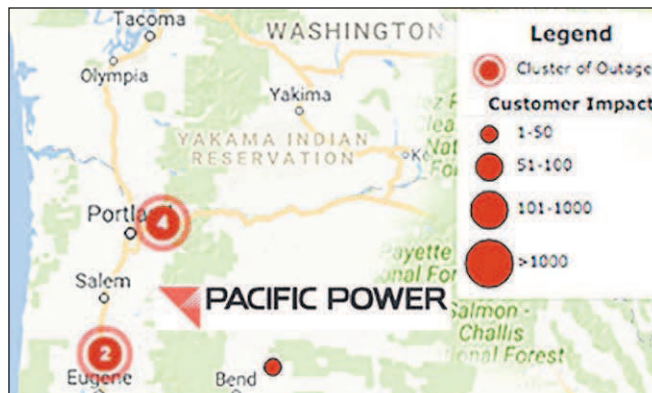


Airbnb has earned quite a reputation as a great way to find inexpensive overnight housing for those who are traveling. The idea caught the attention of Sweden's tourism authority, **VisitSweden**, who put the whole country up for rent, for free, on Airbnb. You can see the video ad at <http://tinyurl.com/bnbsweden>

The unconventional listing is based on **Allemansrätten**, Sweden's constitutional Right of Public Access, which allows everyone in Sweden the "freedom to roam just about anywhere in the countryside, as long as we do not disturb or destroy" (<http://tinyurl.com/roamsweden>).

In VisitSweden's view, that makes Swedish nature "just like a regular home." Amenities, aside from eye-popping views, include "100,000 tempered infinity pools" and a natural bathrooms ("Swedish minimalistic style"). It's easy to believe the ad's narrator when he says: "This is where the magic happens."

LIGHTS OUT



The Ear can't count how many times people have posted questions about power outages on Facebook, looking for information about how long it will last, etc. Worry no more, **Pacific Power** now has an **online outage map**, that updates every 15 minutes, showing locations and estimates about how long they will last in Oregon, Washington, and even California. You can find them at <http://tinyurl.com/outandon>. Just pick a state, and start zooming in.

Two caveats, though: Don't take the pinpointed locations too literally, they're approximations, and mark an area affected, not necessarily the exact location where the outage happened; and, the restoration time is a "best estimate," according to the press release. Want to report an outage? Call 877-508-5088.

Nope, this service isn't available on the Pacific Power app yet, but that's expected to happen in coming months.

THIS 'N THAT



A few little local tidbits to consider:

- **Stacy McKenney** of Astoria called in to say that her daughter, **Rhiannon McKenney**, was heart-warmed to see a police officer changing a tire for a stranded motorist on the New Young's Bay Bridge, and thought he ought to get a shout out. A little digging revealed it was Warrenton Police Department's **Senior Police Officer Len Mossman** who helped the motorist. So, a collective, and well-deserved thank you goes to Officer Mossman. "You always hear bad, bad, bad," Stacy said, "and it's time for some good news." Indeed.

- Seen the **petition** "Preserve Local Businesses, Art and Community in Astoria's Historic **Odd Fellows Building**" by the Lower Columbia Coalition for a Sustainable Community on Change.org? It's a plea to save the building, and the existing local businesses inside it, from change (aka the nasty "G" word, gentrification) by potential out-of-town buyers. Want to read it and/or sign it? Go to <http://tinyurl.com/nochange-odd>

- Remember the **prodigal chicken** that hopped into a truck in Rosburg, Washington, and hopped out at U.S. Bank in Astoria? She stayed in the bank's parking lot all summer, perched in trees nearby, judiciously used the crosswalks, and even laid an egg or two. She was a wily bird, and eluded capture for months; many were concerned she would not make it though the winter. Well, worry no more. It turns out someone finally did catch her, and she was returned to her owners in November. She is just fine, thank you, although the Ear will surely miss those odd moment chicken sightings.

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY

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

Line Dancing — 5:30 to 8 p.m., Seaside American Legion, 1318 Broadway. For information, call 503-738-5111. No cost; suggested \$5 tip to the instructor.

MONDAY — MEMORIAL DAY

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 — No lunch served today.

Columbia Senior Diners — No lunch served today.

Warrenton Senior Lunch Program — No lunch served today.

Astoria Toastmasters — 6:30 p.m., Hotel Elliot conference room, 357 12th St. Vis-

itors welcome. For information, go to www.toastmasters.org or call Christa Svensson 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.

Columbia Senior Diners — 11:30 a.m., 1111 Exchange St. The cost is \$6. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

Astoria Lions Club — noon, Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Prospective members welcome. For information, contact Charlene Larsen at 503-325-0590.

See NOTES, Page 2B