

EXPERIENCING
'ALONE' PART II
WEEKEND BREAK • 1C



EVERYTHING
AUTO
INSIDE

Health care provider tax barely passes

Bill now goes to state Senate

By **CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The state House of Representatives on Thursday narrowly passed an increased assessment on health care providers that is estimated to bring in more than \$600 million to help fund the Oregon Health Plan for the next two years.

The so-called provider tax would raise revenue from hospitals, insurers and coordinated care organizations — the regional networks of providers serving patients on the Oregon Health Plan — to help cover the costs of Medicaid and to pay for a reinsurance program, a reimbursement system protecting insurers from high claims.

The legislation required a three-fifths vote. State Rep. Sal Esquivel, R-Medford, was the sole Republican who voted with Democrats for the plan, giving it the required majority. Esquivel declined to comment after the vote.

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HONOR FLIGHT

One last mission for Navy veteran

Decades after Korean War, man finds some peace

By **PATRICK WEBB**
For EO Media Group

OCEAN PARK, Wash. — A tall, tough Texan who worked 30 years for the Public Utilities District is not prone to cry.

But it happened when Richard "Skip" Cochran glimpsed the Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Navy veteran broke down in tears as memories of his 1950s service came flooding back.

"I just lost it," said the 83-year-old Ocean Park, Washington, man, who recently returned from an expenses-paid Honor Flight to the nation's capital.

Cochran's emotion stemmed from his service as an aircrew member on the U.S.S. Point Cruz. The aircraft carrier's planes flew varied missions over Korea, some equipped with sophisticated cameras which photographed the results of bombing runs.

Cochran was assigned to catapult and landing crews which deployed cables and



Patrick Webb/For EO Media Group
Richard "Skip" Cochran displays the medal he received from the government of the Republic of Korea to commemorate his service in the Korean War during the 1950s. Six decades later, he can finally talk about his most traumatic experience when he pushed burning planes from the deck of an aircraft carrier into the ocean.

nets across the deck to bring aircraft home safely.

One incident is indelibly imprinted on his mind.

A plane trying to land missed the cable. "He caught the second cable, but it ripped the tailhook off. He landed on top of one or two more aircraft." The flight deck erupted in flames. "I grabbed a 'mule' (tractor) and pushed the planes off the side."

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Austin White/Submitted Photo

Holiday Friends, an Astoria-based alternative rock band, is set to release their newest album this month.

'NIGHT TERRORS'

ASTORIA BAND RECORDS 'THE MOST PERSONAL ALBUM WE'VE MADE'

By **ERICK BENDEL**
The Daily Astorian

Holiday Friends, an Astoria-based alternative rock band, christened their upcoming album "Night Terrors" for a special reason:

When Scott Fagerland, the lead singer-songwriter, began writing the eponymous track, he was having actual night terrors about the band's future, facing down his 30s, reckoning with life's disappointments.

The 11-track album comes during a time of self-reflection for Holiday Friends, which has taken various forms since its founding in 2008.

"We do it because we like it, and it's fun," Fagerland said. "But it comes with its fair share of frustrations," such as "trying to balance it with your daily life when it's not paying the bills."

The indie group, though indisputably popular on the North Coast, hasn't yet caught fire as they once hoped to do.

In addition, the four band members — now in their late 20s and 30s — are old enough to write songs about facing "certain things that didn't go exactly how you wanted them to," he said.

These feelings underscore the new album, where listeners will encounter a darker, edgier, more willingly vulnerable Holiday Friends than the ensemble that delivered the lighthearted "Chicks" in 2012 and "Major Magic" in 2014.

"This is, hands down, the most personal album we've made," bassist Zack O'Connor said.

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Cabell Tice/Submitted Photo

Holiday Friends is performing in Portland on June 23 for their record release.



Holiday Friends' new album comes during a time of self-reflection.

Cabell Tice/Submitted Photo

Possible shipwreck debris uncovered in Cannon Beach



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Christopher Dewey with the Maritime Archaeological Society examines a wood object recently uncovered near Cannon Beach that may be historically significant.

State will examine wood object

By **BRENNA VISSER**
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — What at first glance looks like one of the many logs that line Cannon Beach may be an uncovered keel of a boat from a possible shipwreck.

The wood object, which measures about 18 feet long and several hundred pounds, was found Wednesday afternoon on the beach close to the Taft Street access by Jeffrey

Smith of Portland. Looking for a place to rest after walking with his wife, he noticed rusty square nails, notches and square cutouts in the log and decided to call the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum.

"Maybe this isn't a big deal, but when you look at the square nails and the cutouts, it looks like this is from a very old ship," Smith said.

After Elaine Trucke, the museum's director, came out to take a look, she called the Columbia River Maritime Museum and Christopher Dewey from the Maritime Archaeological Society to help identify the object.

"Looking at the parts makes me think it could be from the mid-1800s, but I'm not an expert," Trucke said. "In general shipwrecks are pretty common on the coast, but if it were actually that old it would be a rare situation."

The wood is some variety of old growth timber, Dewey said, which would make the object historically significant.

But defining the age and exact nature of the wood will require an evaluation from the state archaeologist's office in Salem, Dewey said. Without a thorough examination, the object could be anything

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