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# COMMUNITY

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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

## OUTRUNNER, OUTGUNNER



Maritime history buffs might be interested to know that the **MUSS Constitution**, aka **Old Ironsides**, the oldest commissioned warship in the U.S. (launched Oct. 21, 1797), was recently refloated in Boston Harbor after a two-year restoration, gCaptain.com reports (<http://tinyurl.com/refloatConst>). The Constitution is pictured, courtesy of the U.S. Navy.

The copper sheathing below the waterline (protection from ship worms) was replaced, as were one hundred hull planks. The preservation and repair of the extensive sail rigging, upper masts and yardarms is ongoing. The ship reopens to the public in September.

The vessel was one of six original frigates of the new U.S. Navy, all of which were designed by shipbuilder Joshua Humphreys, and her hull is 22 inches thick at the waterline.

“When she was built, Constitution was among the best-designed ships in the world,” Naval History and Heritage Command Director Sam Cox said, “she could outrun anything she couldn’t outgun, and outgun anything she couldn’t outrun.”

## NAP TIME



“My husband ushered me quickly and quietly to the front door, and these two little ones, **twin fawns**, were resting peacefully in our front yard,” **LaRee Johnson** wrote. “The mom had dropped them off while she either took a break, or scoped the best roses on the block to munch on ...” LaRee’s husband, **Andy Cier**, took the photo of the pair that is shown.

“I sat out on the porch to watch them, off and on for about three hours,” she continued. “They were well hidden from the street, even though we are only a few blocks from downtown. They didn’t seem bothered by people or cars going by. Mom said to wait here, and they did.”

“I turned to go in the house to refresh my tea, and was dismayed to see they were gone. Quickly and quietly, mom must have come back to retrieve them. I now understand this is typical, and not to worry. So I just wanted to let your readers to know, if they are lucky enough to have these darling creatures stop by for a nap, please leave them alone — mom will be back. It is just one more magical sight in Astoria!”

## A HARD EGG TO CRACK



While out fishing recently, **Jesse Anderson** pulled up a trawl net from 450 feet deep and found inside, of all things, a 2.5 inch long **Common Murre egg** (pictured). “It had a beautiful green-blue tint to it,” he said.

As a side note, no one really knows why murre eggs are so strangely shaped, but the favored assumption is that if prodded, the eggs roll in a circle — which is important, since murre eggs lay their eggs on ledges of steep rocky outcroppings, and they’d be less likely to roll off (<http://tinyurl.com/eggnet>). But how the egg wound up deep in the ocean is anyone’s guess, much less how it has stayed intact.

Jesse delivered his little treasure from the deep to the **Wildlife Center of the North Coast** ([www.coastwildlife.org](http://www.coastwildlife.org)), which was delighted to receive it. “It is pretty heavy, so we know something is in it,” a WCNC representative said. “But we won’t be cracking it to find out — it will be a new addition to our education program.”

## RITE OF PASSAGE



**Patrick Hackett** (pictured) of Charleston, South Carolina, arrived in Astoria early this week after a **cross-country bike trip** that his mother, **Christine Hackett Eisenberg**, called a “rite of passage to manhood.”

In 1982, Patrick’s father, **Peter Hackett**, made a similar journey. “He regaled Patrick with stories of living by his wits, brawn and the kindness of strangers,” Christine explained. “So, from about the age of 9, Patrick has been dreaming about taking this cross-country trip.”

When Patrick graduated from college in December 2015, he began working, saving money and training to get ready. Early this May, he dipped the back tire of his bike in the surf at Sullivan’s Island, South Carolina, and set off on his “**4,000 mile odyssey**” to Astoria.

Patrick’s Instagram feed (@pat.hackett) contains photos (including those shown), along with stories about his adventures crossing the country, including this one, in Illinois: “Finally, staring at over a mile of open, muddy water between me and the highway, I had to choose: turn back 20 miles and try my luck on the interstate (or go forward). ... Needless to say, it was a loooong walk through waist-high waves ... but well worth it. If you can’t seem to find the right road, make it the one you’re on.”

Like his father, Patrick is grateful to have met many people who helped him along the way — which “did much to calm my worries as he has been making the trek,” his mother noted.

And then Patrick reached Oregon. “This state is certainly gorgeous,” he wrote, “and after the past 3,000 miles, I didn’t think I could still be surprised by the extent of the kindness of strangers, but Oregonians (Oregonites? Oregonos?) seriously have a collective heart of solid gold.”

“After such an incredible journey,” he concluded, “... I’m the luckiest guy in the world.”

## UNFORGETTABLE HAVORN



“We sailed our 43-foot Nereides teak ketch from Marina del Rey, California, to Auckland, New Zealand in 1995-1998, but it was the wooden Norwegian boat **Havorn** (pictured) that grabbed **Rick’s** heart,” **Toni Knier** wrote about her husband’s first encounter with the boat in the early 1970s, when it was in good condition. He “never forgot it,” she said. The couple are pictured, inset.

Built of wood in Norway in 1936 as a fishing boat, the Havorn was later converted into a cruising sailboat, with 1,650 square feet of sail (<http://tinyurl.com/havornsail>). “After moving to the Pacific Northwest in 2005, she was languishing in dry dock for three years in Port Townsend, Washington,” Toni explained.

“Rick purchased her and went to work with two shipwrights in Port Townsend making her seaworthy again, and brought her through British Columbia and the San Juan Islands to Astoria, where she has been ever since.”

“The sailing ketch, Havorn, presents a distinctive silhouette with her traditional double gaff rig,” Rick added. “This seaworthy craft sailed the dangerous North Sea. Until two years ago, you might have seen her tacking through the anchored ships (in Astoria). Then, with the sudden crack, the top third of her main mast broke off due to unseen decay. Thankfully, no one was hurt.”

At 35 tons, and 48 feet on deck, the Norwegian double-ender has two masts, and finding the right logs to replace the broken one was a challenge. Two larch trees were located and brought to Astoria from Idaho, after being partially shaped in the forest by Rick, who reports that the larger tree was 105 years old.

“This rig has loads of line and heavy wire cable,” he noted. “Forming and finishing the spars is just part of the job.”

“Hopefully,” Rick added, “you may see Havorn sailing in the river next year.”

## NEWSY NOTES



News of note 117 years ago today from the **Saturday, July 28, 1900**, issue of **The Morning Astorian** included the tale of a fisherman, known as **Russian Pete**, who discovered a keg of beer — “at a moment when both the tide and spirits were low” — that had been lost for more than a year on the bottom of the river.

“... Within a remarkably short time the keg was resting on a plank in a fishing boat with a spigot firmly attached in the head. Half a dozen swarthy fishermen participated in the obsequies, and all were agreed that the beer was by far the best they had ever drunk.”

Another item, noted “there is still some hope for Clatskanie,” mentioned that the phone company had put in some extra lines between the coast and Portland, and there was now a switchboard and a booth in the rear of Kratz’s store in Clatskanie, “so when you wish to talk to your ‘best,’ nobody will hear you.”

The county jail was a sore spot even in 1900. Two prisoners escaped by digging through the floor, which was supposedly cement. “The fact is that the contractor who put in the flooring either did the work under the instructions of an idiot, who chanced to be in authority at the time the contract was let, or he swindled the county most shamefully,” the newspaper huffed. “The floor of the jail is a mere shell.”

The duo were quickly apprehended, however, and “confined in dark cells” (hopefully with more secure floors) for a few days as punishment.

## SCARF TALES



Every scarf has a story

“Oh I’m excited,” **Brenda McKune** of Warrenton told the Ear. “I just received three scarves, and I collect them with their stories. I’m writing a book that adds everyone who gives me a scarf. It’s going to be great.” She’s calling it her “**Scarves of Life**” project.

“Some of the stories are amazing — you would be surprised to know what some simple material has been through,” she said. “If they could only talk. If anyone would like to add one, two or more, and wants to give me the story with or without adding your name, I would truly appreciate it. Have no worry of what it looks like, it’s an object that’s lived with you.” Interested? You can reach Brenda at 503-861-8126.

“You know,” she added, “I’m truly hoping this may help someone, as talking, and telling your story to someone — who would listen and care — makes you feel good. Maybe I can touch someone by caring. We all need that.”

## GONE FISHIN’



Well, it’s that time of year again in Southwest Alaska’s **Katmai National Park and Preserve**, when the salmon are swimming upstream to spawn, and the **bears** are calling it lunch. And you, along with millions of others, can watch the action on **webcams** set up by Explore.org. A still shot from one is shown.

Since the park is in a very remote area, the basketball-sized webcams are powered by solar generators, and installed in self-cleaning housings, the Alaska Dispatch News reports (<http://tinyurl.com/AKBears>). Forty volunteers operate the cameras remotely, and there is an interpretive ranger who interacts with the viewers via live chats and Facebook.

Pick your favorite bear and join the fun. It’s like watching an aquarium — but better.

## COMMUNITY NOTES

**SATURDAY** 4315.

**Sit & Stitch** — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Homespun Quilts & Yarn, 108 10th St. Bring knitting, crochet or other needlework projects to this community stitching time. All skill levels welcome.

**Angora Hiking Club** — noon, summer potluck and meeting. Bring a dish and beverage of choice. For information, call Phuong Van Horn at 503-325-2115, or Bob Westenberg, vice president, at 503-325-

**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**

**Lower Columbia Diversity Coalition** — 2 p.m., Room 219, Columbia Hall, Clatsop Community College. LCDC is a collection of groups and individuals engaging proactively with diversity issues in the region. Bring a friend and/or family and join a discussion of ideas and opportunities for connecting, energizing and creating equitable and inclusive communities. Refreshments will be served. For

information, call 503-470-0594 or 503-545-5311, or go to the “Lower Columbia Diversity Coalition” Facebook page.

**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.

**Seekers Group** — 6 to 7:30 p.m., Pioneer Presbyterian Church, 33324 Patriot Way, Warrenton.

Group discusses issues facing religious faith in the modern secular world. All are welcome. For information, call 503-861-2421.

**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 Foundation, 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.

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