

Halloween: 'It's our way to give back to the community'

Continued from Page 1A

This year, the storytelling baton passes to Ilwaco, Washington, resident William Ham, a community theater actor, radio host at KMUN and Coast Weekend contributor, who anticipates using his experience to deliver a unique performance.

"Halloween is always a great time to get theatrical and to do something off the beaten path," he said.

Entertaining the audience, pulling them into the spirit of the event, is what motivates him.

"It's nice to bring an audience along with whatever story you're trying to tell, whether it's a play or a reading or something along these lines," he said. "It's gratifying when you get an audience in the palm of your hand."

The unpredictability of a live performance aboard a haunted trolley may require a certain spontaneity. Ham sees this as part of the fun — and a way to bond with the crowd. A child-packed audience and the special setting also make the Halloween Night Run a rare opportunity for him.

"That's probably part of the reason I'm psyched about doing this, because it is a little bit different," he said. "And kids, of course, are sometimes the best audience when you're telling stories or performing. They are so

open to things. You get them on your side, and they'll follow you anywhere."

The crew decorates the trolley about a week before Halloween, so people who don't take the Halloween ride can still see it decked out during a regular weekend ride.

A community courtesy

The Astoria Riverfront Trolley, a self-sustaining nonprofit, tries to offer free rides on Halloween — and, typically, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's as well — as a treat to local residents. Those are occasions when locals often have family and guests visiting from elsewhere, and they can experience Astoria in a way only accessible via the trolley.

"It's our way to give back to the community," Winiarz said.

The trolley, built in 1913 and fondly known as "Old 300," is operated by about 40 certified conductors and motormen who are all volunteers. During the summer, it runs six hours a day, seven days per week, at \$1 per ride. In the fall, the trolley usually operates on weekends, weather permitting.

This year, Winiarz said, except for a few special events, the trolley will shut down for winter after Halloween for engine maintenance. Runs should resume in late February or early March.



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Passengers are seen reflected in the windows of the Astoria Riverfront Trolley during the 2015 Halloween Night Run.

Windswept: No injuries were reported

Continued from Page 1A

As sparks flew from the power line in the first few minutes after the collapse, the three men tried to reroute traffic until authorities arrived.

The building had been vacant since last year, when Dane Gouge opened the new Astoria Ford at the North Coast Retail Center in Warrenton. Barry Hess, owner of NAPA Auto Parts in Mill Pond, is in the process of buying land on the site to build a new store. Demolition crews had torn down part of the building, and construction had begun on the side closest to the highway.

Hess had hoped to move into the location by January and, while damage is still being assessed, he is optimistic the project will remain on track. He had already planned



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Visitors to Fort Stevens State Park endure high winds on Wednesday as the National Weather Service predicted sustained winds on the North Coast up to 45 mph with gusts as high as 65 mph possible in some areas.

to replace the front wall, and the roof itself did not appear to sustain any damage. The back part of the building facing the

bay — and the wind — did not have windows at the time of the collapse

Starting next week, workers will begin constructing a new wall and lifting the roof. The project's timing will depend largely on scheduling.

"We didn't really lose anything of value. It's just the time loss that is going to hurt," Hess said. "It does not look like it's going to be a big deal."

Police and fire personnel also responded to downed power lines, street signs and fences as high winds swept through Clatsop County.

A sheet metal roof atop an abandoned building at 1233 Duane St. flew off just after 1:30 p.m. The roof hung from another building before coming to rest underneath the sidewalk. No damage or injuries were reported.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian
Some food cart vendors across from Astoria City Hall are looking for new locations because of uncertainty about the future of the property.

Food carts: Some worry about losing foot traffic

Continued from Page 1A

For the food cart vendors, the property was a convenient location in the heart of downtown. Though the danger of tax foreclosure has passed, some of them have opted to close up shop.

The owners of Nourish Juice Bar see the situation as an opportunity to jump into a brick-and-mortar location elsewhere, a move they had

planned to take eventually.

"We couldn't be more excited," said Jackson Boone, co-owner of Nourish.

The juice bar will reopen on the ground floor of the historic Astor Hotel on Commercial and 14th streets.

Boone said they plan to open the juice bar sometime in early November with expanded food offerings and indoor seating. Their cold press juice and smoothie options will remain

similar to what their cart offered.

For Olaf Ydstie, owner of Good Bowl, the future feels less certain. He is actively looking for a new location but said there are few options downtown. He estimates that the majority of his regular customers worked downtown and walked to his cart for lunch. If he has to move too far away he worries he will lose that foot traffic.

Food cart vendors said they

had understandings with Judith Stokes to operate on the property and paid rent to her. Stokes owns the makeup store Flourine and Co. and the food cart Snackle Box.

Stokes said she has an agreement to continue to manage the property and do business. "The two food carts Nourish and the Good Bowl left at their own will before the agreement was attained," Stokes said in a statement. "Moving on."

Chinook: The Coast Guard is looking into Martinez's death

Continued from Page 1A

Patana, 63, said he went in after Albelo Martinez after he fell into the water, but couldn't pull him back on deck. It was a while before help reached them in the ocean a couple of hundred miles from Ilwaco.

They usually spent a couple of weeks on the Summer Breeze before returning to shore. After the accident, Patana sailed alone, making the day-and-a-half-long trip to bring Albelo Martinez home.

He said he wakes up at

night, wondering what he could have done to prevent his death.

Death at sea

The Coast Guard is looking into it, too. Petty Officer 1st Class Levi Read said it's routine to investigate any accident that resulted in a death at sea.

Read said there are fewer than five deaths at sea, on average, a year in Pacific Northwest waters.

When Albelo Martinez first came to work for Patana, he thought the younger man

had a lot to learn. Patana soon decided he liked Albelo Martinez because he hadn't done the same kind of work before so he didn't have bad habits. He wasn't one of those young guys who want to do it their way either.

Albelo Martinez, an experienced forklift operator and cranberry farmer, didn't talk much. He watched and learned, Patana said.

"I had high hopes for him and he pretty much exceeded my hopes," Patana said. "He understood we were out there

to work and catch fish and get those fish on board."

He was a fast learner and he worked hard, Patana said. A deckhand with those qualities isn't easy to come by these days.

"Most people think hard work kills you," Patana said. "Guys like Juan, they look at grizzly old guys like me and they think, 'I could do that.'"

Patana often lets his deckhand sleep in because he gets up about an hour before daylight. Albelo Martinez was the one waking Patana up in the morning.

"He was a proud guy," Patana said. "He didn't want to be someone who was only doing part of the job."

The lighter side

Being serious about his work didn't stop him from joking around. On days when they weren't catching much, Albelo Martinez would tell Patana he'd be so broke by the time they got home, he'd have to ride a donkey around town if their luck didn't change soon.

Albelo Martinez liked to call his family before he went to bed

at night. He leaves his partner of 20 years, Lourdes Sebastian Salvador; his daughter, Ana, 20; and son, Juan Manuel, 15.

Donations can be made for Lourdes at any Bank of the Pacific branch.

Patana is organizing a barbecue dinner and auction to raise money for the family. He's looking for volunteers who can help and anyone who wants to donate items to for the live and silent auctions. The fundraiser is scheduled from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 11 at the Chinook Gymnasium.

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