Warrenton fulfills its own Christmas wishes

'Every kid goes home with a gift'

By EDWARD STRATTON The Daily Astorian

Santa's workshop on Friday was the cafeteria at Warrenton Grade School's cafeteria. Lining the benches where kids eat were black trash bags, stuffed with gifts and tagged with the Christmas wishes of anonymous families.

Warrenton-Hammond Healthy Kids, the nonprofit providing holiday dinners, gifts and daily living staples to local youth in need, collected donations for about 100 families and 250 kids to take home for Christmas gifts.

"Every kid goes home with a gift," said Debbie Morrow, head of the group and chairwoman of the Warrenton-Hammond School Board.

The district has consistently faced the highest rates of student homelessness, with large backpack food programs helping feed around 180 each weekend. The Christmas gift started three years ago providing for 150 kids, then grew to 238 the following year, Morrow said.

Families submit a form at the beginning of the year indicating whether they want to partake in the backpack programs, holiday meals and



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian Left to right: Mike, Connor and Serena Moha wrap presents for families in need at the Warrenton Grade School last week.

other services. For Christmas, they list their children's gender, age and interests. Families adopt and shop for others, while Healthy Kids fills the gaps with separate donations and shopping.

Overseeing such aid programs is Rosa Gilbert, the district's bilingual family liaison and federal programs coordinator.

"Our greatest need is with adolescents," Gilbert said.

Reaching out for help is more stigmatizing for teenagers, Gilbert said. The district tries to identify older kids in need though their parents and younger siblings. Separate gift drives run by the owners of Main Street Market and Warrenton Mini-Mart focus on older kids.

Gilbert's position was added after the district realized there was a barrier to parental involvement, Gilbert said. About 13 percent of the district is Hispanic, and 90 percent of the parents in those families don't speak English.

The district recently opened the Warrior Room. a resource center for families needing computer access or meeting space, and an environment to grow trust between parents and educators. The district offers classes in parenting, searching for colleges and special migrant students sections for kids whose parents have to move for work.

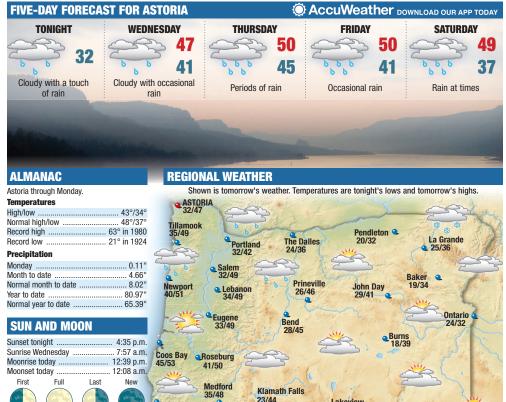
"It's all about what parents need to make sure their kids are successful," Gilbert said.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian Rosa Gilbert, left, helps students at the Warrenton Grade School move bags of gifts to the cafeteria.



Colin Murphev/The Daily Astorian Mason Vuylsteke checks bags of gifts ready for families to pick up at the Warrenton Grade School.



Study: Distance restrictions on orcas haven't hurt tourism

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Restrictions limiting boats from getting too close to endangered southern resident killer whales have not harmed the whale-watching industry, according to a new federal study.

The study by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration indicated that whale-watching tourism continues to grow even with the federal restrictions that require vessels to stay at least 200 yards from the orcas in Washington's Puget Sound, The Seattle Times reported.

Lack of food, environ-

threats to the survival of Puget Sound orcas, according to the agency. The population of southern resident whales is down to 76 — the lowest in 30 years.

Noise from boats can disturb orcas, causing them to spend less time looking for food and more time traveling, according to researchers. The restrictions enacted in 2011 were aimed at reducing the stress placed on the orcas from noise.

Departing from more than 20 locations on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border, about 400,000 people take commercial tour boats to

utive director of the Pacific Whale Watch Association.

When boats enforcing the restrictions are on the water, the study found the federal rules to be more effective with fewer violations by recreational vessels.

Washington Sen. Kevin Ranker said he plans to introduce legislation to fund an enforcement boat and two state Department of Fish and Wildlife officers to be on the water five days a week during peak whale-watching season. The Democratic senator said to preserve whale watching, it requires preserving the whales.

"We have to protect the orca whale from our stupidity," Ranker said.

2 22/41 Jan 16

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REGIONAL CITIES

City

Baker City

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: First Quarter Moon (1:20 a.m.).

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

Dec 26

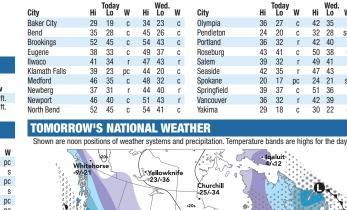
TOMORROW'S TIDES

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| niyii | Time | Low |
| 8.6 ft. | 1:03 a.m. | 2.0 ft. |
| 6.7 ft. | 2:33 p.m. | 2.1 ft. |
| | 8.6 ft. | 8.6 ft. 1:03 a.m. |

NATIONAL CITIES

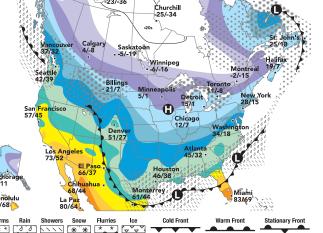
| City | Hi | Today Lo | w | Hi | Wed. Lo | w |
|----------------|----|-------------|----|----|------------|----|
| Atlanta | 50 | 34 | S | 45 | 32 | pc |
| Boston | 27 | 10 | рс | 22 | 6 | s |
| Chicago | 12 | -2 | C | 12 | 7 | рс |
| Denver | 23 | 5 | S | 51 | 27 | S |
| Des Moines | 12 | -4 | рс | 14 | 7 | рс |
| Detroit | 16 | 2 | рс | 15 | 1 | рс |
| El Paso | 69 | 39 | рс | 66 | 37 | рс |
| Fairbanks | -1 | -12 | рс | -4 | -15 | S |
| Honolulu | 81 | 65 | r | 80 | 68 | рс |
| Indianapolis | 16 | 1 | С | 15 | 6 | рс |
| Kansas City | 14 | -1 | С | 18 | 14 | pc |
| Las Vegas | 64 | 42 | рс | 65 | 43 | S |
| Los Angeles | 68 | 50 | рс | 73 | 52 | S |
| Memphis | 42 | 23 | рс | 34 | 20 | С |
| Miami | 82 | 69 | рс | 83 | 69 | рс |
| Nashville | 41 | 22 | pc | 34 | 19 | C |
| New Orleans | 59 | 45 | r | 51 | 42 | r |
| New York | 31 | 19 | рс | 28 | 15 | рс |
| Oklahoma City | 36 | 17 | рс | 32 | 22 | Ċ |
| Philadelphia | 34 | 22 | рс | 30 | 18 | S |
| St. Louis | 20 | 6 | C | 20 | 9 | рс |
| Salt Lake City | 42 | 30 | С | 44 | 29 | pc |
| San Francisco | 57 | 45 | s | 57 | 45 | S |
| Seattle | 36 | 29 | С | 42 | 39 | r |
| Washington, DC | 38 | 25 | рс | 34 | 18 | рс |
| | | | | | | |

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries sn-snow. i-ice.



W City

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Forecasts and graphics provided by Ac

Olympia



contamination and mental boat noise are the primary Michael Harris, former exec-

watch whales each year, said

DEATHS

Wed. Hi Lo W

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Dec. 23, 2017

FRANDSEN, Dale Rodney, 82, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of arrangements.

OUAINTANCE, Susan June, 63, of Cannon Beach, died in Seaside. Caldwell's

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Funeral & Cremation Arrangement Center of Seaside is in charge of arrangements.

Dec. 21, 2017

CHAMBERS, Claudia Jean, 71, of Warrenton, died in Warrenton. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of arrangements.

THURSDAY, Dec. 28

Clatsop County Recreational Lands Planning and Advisory Committee, 1 to 3 p.m., fourth floor, 800 Exchange St.

LOTTERIES

OREGON Monday's Pick 4: 1 p.m.: 3-2-0-3 4 p.m.: 3-7-5-7 7 p.m.: 3-6-4-5 10 p.m.: 5-5-8-2 Monday's Lucky Lines: 04-08-09-16-20-22-28-31 Estimated jackpot: \$35,000

Monday's Megabucks: 11-12-14-22-37-43 Estimated jackpot: \$5.8 million

WASHINGTON Monday's Daily Game: 1-9-3 Monday's Hit 5: 02-07-28-30-39

Estimated jackpot: \$120,000 Monday's Keno: 01-03-04-07-11-12-18-19-27-30-35-38-46-47-54-59-60-62-67-75 Monday's Lotto: 02-09-20-25-44-48 Estimated jackpot: \$1 million Monday's Match 4: 01-07-08-24

OBITUARY POLICY

The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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