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# COMMUNITY

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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

## EAGLE UPDATE



“Look who we found!” the **Wildlife Center of the North Coast** (coastwildlife.org) posted on its Facebook page March 16, referring to the **injured eagle** near the beach at **Fort Stevens** they’d been trying to bring in for treatment. “Thank you, Isaac, for calling us and staying with the eagle until our team could arrive!”

“Lead tests came back low, but X-rays show a wing fracture that has started healing on its own,” WCNC posted in an update March 21. “He is also very thin, resulting from an inability to hunt with a fractured wing. This handsome guy is currently out in our eagle flight aviary to mitigate stress while he heals, and has plenty of perching to move around on until he’s ready for flight.”

“For those of you wondering about a potential nest/mate, he doesn’t have any signs of a brood patch, which is present while incubating-males and females share in nesting duties. We presume he was in a fight while looking for a mate and lost. Poor guy!” He is pictured in photos by Beth Wise.

WCNC is grateful to the **Audubon Society of Portland** for the lead testing, and “Thank you to all those who helped in the search, and phone-in tips from those going through Fort Stevens.”

## MUSH!



In a coup for Scandinavians, a Norwegian, **Joar Leifseth Iulson**, 31, and his eight-dog team won the 2018 **Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race** with a time of 9 days 12 hours, according to the Anchorage Daily News (tinyurl.com/joarmush). He is pictured with his lead dogs Russeren, left, and Olive, in a photo by Loren Holmes/ADN.

The race’s ceremonial start was March 3 in Anchorage; it ended almost 1,000 miles later in Nome. To get some idea of how grueling the Iditarod is, watch a drone’s-eye view here: tinyurl.com/dronesled

Iulson’s grand prize was a brand new truck and a check “for at least \$50,000” (the total is calculated by how many teams actually reach Nome). Ironically, the prize was ideal — just before the race, his 1999 pickup broke down.

## NO. 9



The North Coast has been getting some love from the media of late. **Expedia Viewfinder** has declared that **Cannon Beach** is No. 9 in the list of “15 Places for the Perfect Childfree Getaway.” Photo of Cannon Beach courtesy of Yelp/Alex L.

If that particular honor doesn’t ring your chime, Cannon Beach also made the list of the world’s 28 most extraordinary beaches in 2017 (tinyurl.com/xtraCB).

**Astoria** got some love, too, as No. 9 (of 10) on **Smart Asset’s** “Best Places to Retire in Oregon” list. The factors they considered were tax rates; number of doctors’ offices and recreation and retirement centers; and number of seniors in each area.

And finally, a **CarRentals.com** blog places **Cannon Beach** at No. 9 (of 10) of the “Most Beautiful Places in the Pacific Northwest.”

“The list ... can start and stop with Cannon Beach,” blogger Chris Killen wrote. “With its mix of a charming downtown and stunning natural scenery, it’s no wonder why this place has been on so many postcards.”

## ‘BEYOND CONTROL OF MAN’



The British ship **Glenmorag** met her fate in the Graveyard of the Pacific on March 19, 1896 (tinyurl.com/fluxglen). She got lost in the fog and ran aground on the Long Beach (Wash.) Peninsula north of Ocean Park. The ship is pictured, courtesy of FluxStories.com

**Capt. Archibald Currie** had no idea where they were, and feared coastal rocks, so he rather hastily gave the abandon ship order. Lifeboats were lowered, with a disastrous result, as a large wave lifted one of them, crashing it into the **Glenmorag**, crushing two crew members and seriously injuring four others, including **William Begg**. If only the captain had waited for the tide to turn, everyone could have just walked ashore.

Begg (pictured left, courtesy of FluxStories.com) was taken to the Taylor Hotel in Ocean Park to recover, which took several months. While there, he was nursed by the hotel owner’s daughter, **Maude Taylor**, whom he eventually married. He stayed on the peninsula — where he introduced the game of soccer and created the county’s first soccer league — for the rest of his life. Begg is pictured, left, with the **Glenmorag’s** figurehead.

A Naval Court of Inquiry found that despite the two deaths (deemed “beyond control of man”), “the conduct and the discipline of the officers and crew was in every respect correct,” and that the **Glenmorag** was “safe from damage,” should stay put so she could be salvaged in the summer (tinyurl.com/glenwreck).

Unlike William Begg, the **Glenmorag** did not find a happy ending. According to HistorySpinner.com, the owners tried unsuccessfully to refloat her several times, finally sending for a “famous wrecker,” Capt. Burns. He is reported to have spent \$30,000 (\$840,000 now) trying to save the ship before giving up and going home.

Since the amount of money already expended on her rescue could have been more wisely spent building a bigger, better ship, the **Glenmorag** was finally abandoned to sink in the sand.

## LOCAL BREVITIES



From the **Thursday, March 23, 1893** edition of **The Daily Morning Astorian**:

• **Judge Cleveland** has much to answer for. He performed two marriages yesterday.

• The notorious blatherskite (windbag), **Sidney Dell**, sued the editor of **The Astorian** for libel. After a trial that helped to advertise **The Astorian** greatly, the jury disagreed — Tillamook Headlight.

• **Mr. C. M. Bryant** has started on his trip about the Nehalem district, where he has gone to collect mineral specimens for the World’s Fair.

**Note:** Mr. Wikipedia says the **World’s Columbian Exposition** (pictured) was held in Chicago from May 1 to Oct. 30, 1893, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus’s 1492 arrival in the New World. (tinyurl.com/WF1893)

• **A report on the jail:** The Astoria hired **Dr. J. A. Fulton** to examine the city jail, and his review was less than stellar. “None of the rooms, with one exception,” he wrote, “have received a single ray of sunlight for years ...” and the floor, where prisoners sleep, is always wet. The “water closets” (toilets) hadn’t been cleaned “since they were first used,” and the “smell is simply abominable, and a continual menace to human life ...”

“Twenty-four hours in any cell in the building,” he concluded, “would be too long for any human being, or a dog, either.”

• **“A useful life is over”:** The Astoria reported on the death of **Thomas Hodgkins**, of particular note because at Oak Point (near Clatskanie), in 1853, he “made and used the first salmon gill-net that was ever cast in the waters of the Columbia river. The following year he built the first fish tray ever constructed by white man on the river.” His early traps, made by driving stakes three feet apart, then weaving branches around them, were quite successful, and he often exported his smoked or salted catch to the Sandwich Islands.

• All hope of spring is not yet lost. The blue sky peeped out yesterday.

## BIGFOOT IS REAL?



**Claudia Ackley’s “Bigfoot is real” lawsuit** in the San Bernardino (Calif.) Superior Court — against the state Department of Fish and Wildlife and state Natural Resources Agency — has been dismissed, according to an article in the **The Sun** (tinyurl.com/ackleyreal). She filed suit to have the species officially recognized after claiming she and her daughters were frightened by three sasquatches last year.

She asked for the dismissal because her filing’s wording was incorrect, and the case would have been thrown out. Now she has a team of lawyers, is gathering proof and will refile at a later date.

Speaking of proof: In other bigfoot news, the UK Sunday Express ran a story about sasquatch hunter **Cliff Barackman** finding **enormous footprints**, 13 inches long by 5.5 inches wide, in Oregon’s remote **Alderwood State Wayside Park**, an apparent mecca for bigfoot sightings (tinyurl.com/bigfootfoot). Photos of one of the footprints is shown, courtesy of Pen News.

“We can never know for sure if a sasquatch made (the footprints) or not,” Barackman noted, “but they do appear to be authentic.”

## SEEING EYE TO EYE



More good news on the raptor front: It’s that time of year again, the **Decorah (Iowa) eagle cam** is up and running, and you can watch a pair of nesting eagles as they take turns incubating their clutch of eggs. Egg laying was in late February, hatching starts in late March or early April, and the chicks start to fledge in late June.

You can watch them here: tinyurl.com/iowaeagles. The webcam is so close, at times, you are literally eye to eye with mom and pop, which can be truly disconcerting with a full-screen view. Pull up a chair and check it out.

## ‘DRIFTING 3.11 POSTBOX’



Even though the March 11, 2011 Japanese earthquake and tsunami was seven years ago, the pain of loss is still fresh for many. To that end, the **Mori no Koya Cafe** in Ilwate Prefecture, one of the hardest hit areas, has a **special mailbox** out front. The Mainichi reports (tinyurl.com/morimail). It holds letters that friends and family members have written to their loved ones lost in the disaster.

The mailbox was in the news recently because it was returned to its owner, who lent it to the cafe’s operator, **Yuji Akagawa**, four years ago. The “drifting 3.11 postbox,” as Akagawa called it, has received more than 400 letters, and anyone who comes to the cafe can read them. However, some of the bereaved just talk to the mailbox, instead of writing.

The old mailbox was replaced by a new one, of a similar pillar design, that was originally on the grounds of a kindergarten in the city of Oshu, also in Ilwate Prefecture, for more than 20 years. “If it’s serving a purpose, you can use it for as long as you want,” kindergarten head Seiko Ogawara told Akagawa. The new mailbox (pictured left courtesy of The Mainichi) awaits new letters as the old one is taken away.

Akagawa understands the emotional outlet the mailbox provides, and said he is determined to keep it available at his cafe. “As long as I am physically able,” he said, “I want to protect this.”

## COMMUNITY NOTES

### SATURDAY

**Seniors Breakfast** — 9 a.m. to noon, Astoria Moose Lodge, 420 17th St. Cooked to order from menu, includes coffee. Cost is \$5 for seniors 62 and older, \$7.50 for those younger than 62. Breakfasts are open to the public. Proceeds, after expenses, help support local and other charities.

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.,

**Sit & Stitch** — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Homespun Quilts & Yam, 108 10th St. Bring knitting, crochet or

or go to astoriafiberarts.com

**Karaoke** — 7 to 8 p.m., Seaside Lodge and International Hostel, 930 N. Holladay Drive, Seaside. Free session, all ages, for those who love to sing karaoke. Refreshments served. For information, call 503-738-7911.

### SUNDAY

**Seniors Breakfast** — 9 a.m. to noon, Astoria Moose Lodge, 420 17th St. Cooked to order from

menu, includes coffee. Cost is \$5 for seniors 62 and older, \$7.50 for those younger than 62. Breakfasts are open to the public. Proceeds, after expenses, help support local and other charities.

**National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Support Group** — 2 to 3:30 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway. Family to Family Support Group, for anyone with friend or loved one suffering from a serious brain (mental

illness. For information, contact Myra Kero at 503-738-6165, or kero@rowood@q.com, or go to nami.org

**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.

### MONDAY

**Chair Exercises for Seniors** — 9 to 9:45 a.m., Astoria Senior Center, 1111 Exchange St. For in-

formation, 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 Senior Center, 1225

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