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# COMMUNITY

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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

## SPOOKTACULAR



**H**appy Halloween! The annual **DK Warren House** (dkwarrenhouse.com) **Halloween Light Show** is up and running every evening at dusk until 10 p.m. Teale Adelmann posted on Facebook recently. The house is in Warrenton, at 107 N.E. Skipanon Drive.

"This holiday season, all donations go directly to Warrenton-Hammond Healthy Kids, Inc. The donation box is located on the telephone pole next to the 'Tune to 95.7' sign.

"Drive up and tune in your radio. We try to contain spirits to the yard, but you may want to lock your car doors (you're guaranteed a scary visitor, if you park in front of our neighbor's driveway.)"

"As always," she added, "respect each other (and our neighbors who deal with our obsession)." Boo!

## BAD THINGS ARE HAPPENING



**L**ast summer, you couldn't help but notice that the crew from the popular show "Ghost Adventures" was filming in Astoria. Locals were delighted to run into the show's adventurers, **Zak Bagans, Aaron Goodwin, Billy Tolley** and **Jay Wasley**, around town.

Now, at last, you can see what they found, ghost-wise, in our fairly haunted city and the surrounding areas, when the four-part miniseries, "Graveyard of the Pacific," begins at 6 p.m. Saturday on the **Travel Channel**.

The ghost hunting team covered Astoria's underground shanghai tunnels and Norblad Hotel, Fort Stevens, and the North Head Lighthouse, where many ships wrecked against the cliff below, and a lighthouse keeper's wife committed suicide.

The "Ghost Adventures" team is pictured at the Iredale shipwreck (courtesy of a Travel Channel video), close to Clatsop Spit, where thousands of ships were wrecked and countless souls lost. As a result, Zak Bagans is convinced that "bad things are happening to the living."

So break out the popcorn and get ready to shiver yer timbers. Goulies, and ghosties, and demons, oh my!

## LOCAL BREVITIES



**T**idbits from the **Tuesday, Oct. 9, 1883** edition of **The Daily Astorian**:

• The rediscovery of tin is reported about four miles north of MacKenzie's Head in Pacific County. ... The Columbia canners use an immense amount of tinned sheet iron every year, and a new industry in its manufacture could be created.

• **What's in a Name?:** Notice is hereby given that the city assessment roll for 1883 is now in my hands for collection ... **J. G. Hustler**, City Treasurer

• **L. A. Loomis** (pictured inset) and others interested in the matter are moving to have a daily mail established between Astoria and Oysterville (Washington), and a tri-weekly between Astoria and Olympia (Washington). It is a much needed facility.

**Note:** Loomis' vision and efforts helped make transportation options to and on the Long Beach Peninsula available, thereby turning the peninsula into a lucrative seaside resort area.

## BEST PEOPLE EVER



**Pauline Morrell Mondeaux**, widow of a Korean War veteran, wrote to the **Astoria Senior Assistance Program** (did you know there was one?) for help painting her mobile home in Warrenton. Pictured left, as you can see, it looked pretty drab.

When her letter arrived, **Larry Miller** "started this dream come true," Pauline's daughter, **Lorinne Mondeaux**, said. He's the executive director of the Astoria Senior Center.

The ASAP put out a call for volunteer help to paint the place, and **Cindy Johnsen, Courtney Johnsen, Aaron Blum, Aaron Toledo, Casey Johnsen** and **Dave Johnsen** stepped up. The job was done in two days, and the mobile home is now looking pretty spiffy (pictured, right).

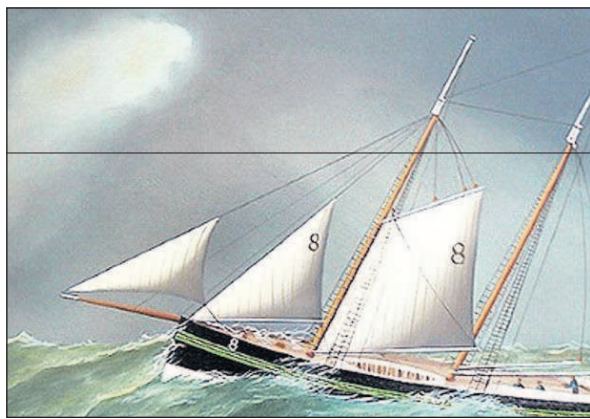
The Assistance Program "paid for everything, and helped Mom out so much!" a delighted Lorinne exclaimed. "They even fixed loose porch boards and loose porch railings, fixed trim and window screens!"

Mrs. Mondeaux isn't the first senior the group has helped, either, especially since that's their whole reason for being. "Our goal is a city in which no senior is homeless," the program's Facebook page (fb.me/AstoriaSeniorAssistanceProgram) says: "Our mission is to help seniors in danger of becoming homeless secure and maintain adequate housing."

The program works on donations, so contributions are always needed so they can assist more seniors. To help, contact Larry Miller at the Astoria Senior Center (astoria-seniorcenter.org) at 503-325-3231.

"This is the most wonderful group of people!" Lorinne declared. "They helped me get my 83-year-old mom's house painted, and safe. Best people ever."

## A VERY FAST SAILER



**W**hatever happened on the schooner **J. C. Cousins**, a pilot boat in competition with **Capt. George Flavel's** monopoly, is still a mystery. What is known is that she left Astoria the morning of Oct. 6, 1883, with four men aboard — just the boatkeeper, two sailors and the steward. A similar schooner, by **Jerome Howes**, is shown.

She was seen passing Fort Stevens, and at anchor (or perhaps aground) that afternoon near Clatsop Spit. That evening, a tug crew in Baker's Bay saw her sail out through the breakers. She was seen again the next morning tacking off shore. Then that afternoon, running before the wind, she ran aground on Clatsop Spit at 2:15 p.m.

Those who rushed to examine the vessel were in for a shock: She was unmanned, and all of the ship's papers were missing, along with her two small boats. The Daily Astorian reported Oct. 9 that the tugs **Brenham** and **Columbia** vainly searched for the crew. One of the Cousins' small boats came in on the beach, but the oars were still lashed, meaning it had probably washed overboard.

The likely scenario was that the four men panicked when they realized the vessel was adrift the previous afternoon, piled into one of the small boats, and were washed away in the breakers before they could make it to shore. They, and the boat, vanished. The Cousins was a total loss.

So many ifs. If only those who were watching the schooner had realized she was adrift, if only they had intercepted her, if only the crew had stayed aboard, they probably would have survived ...

Fanciful rumors quickly flew about town that boatkeeper had been hired to wreck the Cousins and run off, and in later years reports reached Astoria that he'd been seen in various spots around the world. Of course, none of this was ever proven.

**Lewis & Dryden's** Marine History of the Pacific Northwest gave the once-elegant vessel a proper epitaph: "The Cousins was a very handsome piece of marine architecture. ... Her interior furnishings were elegant, and she was a very fast sailer." (bit.ly/LDMarine, bit.ly/DACousins)

## LEIF ERIKSON DAY



**D**ust off your Viking hats, Tuesday is national **Leif Erikson Day**. (Spelling alert: For the purposes of this story, we'll stick with the local Sons of Norway Nidaros Lodge No. 60 spelling.) He is pictured in a **Hans Dahl** painting.

**Oct. 9** is observed to honor the Icelandic/Norwegian explorer for being the first European person to visit continental North America, around 1000 AD (take that, Christopher Columbus). He visited and settled on previously undiscovered land west of Greenland, now known, appropriately, as Newfoundland, Canada.

It's believed — but not proven — that Leif even managed to travel as far west as Minnesota. At least Minnesotans must think so, as there's a Leif Erikson statue near the state capitol building in St. Paul.

Strangely enough, the date Oct. 9 has no significance in Leif Erikson's life. It's actually the anniversary of the day that the ship **Restauration** landed in New York from Stavanger, Norway, in 1825, marking first organized immigration from Norway. (bit.ly/LeifEDay)

## ONE IN 30 MILLION



**Y**et another **ultra-rare lobster** has been found off the coast of Maine; this one's **calico**, the **Portland (Maine) Press Herald** reports (<http://bit.ly/calicolob>). Calico coloring occurs about once in 30 million lobsters, according to the University of Maine's Lobster Institute.

Named **Friendly Krueger** — in honor of her Halloween colors and the "Freddy" horror movies — the critter is shown in a photo by **Anthony Belanger**, who works at **Scarborough Fish & Lobster** in Scarborough, Maine, where she is residing for now.

"My boss and the lobstermen we get our lobsters from have never seen one like it," Belanger noted, "and they've been in the business for decades."

Never fear, a dinner plate is not in her future.

## CALL THE MOUNTIES



**W**hat to do when an 8-foot, 300-pound, 75-year-old **sturgeon** became stranded in a shallow pond off the **Fraser River** in **Agassiz, British Columbia**? Why, call the **Royal Canadian Mounted Police**, of course, **CBC.ca** reports ([bit.ly/movefish](http://bit.ly/movefish)).

More specifically, the **First Nations Police** division, with assistance from government biologists and volunteers from the **Lower Fraser River Guardians** showed up to rescue the critter, as he's a member of a white sturgeon species that's 65 million years old and considered endangered.

Yes, it practically took a village to corral the beast with a net, wrangle him into a sling (pictured, courtesy of the **RCMP**), then lift that ponderous but precious load into a tank in the back of a pickup truck. He was then driven to the main part of the river and released.

And hopefully, he'll live happily ever after.

## COMMUNITY NOTES

### SATURDAY

**Angora Hiking Club** — 9 a.m., Sixth Street parking lot. McKenzie Head Trail/Cape Disappointment hike. Membership is not required to participate. For information, call **Kathleen Hudson** at 503-861-2802 or go to [angorahikingclub.org](http://angorahikingclub.org)

**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.

**Detachment 1228 Marine Corps League** — noon, **El Compadre**, 119 Main Ave., Warrenton. For information, contact **Lou Neubecker** at 503-717-0153.

**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 [astoriafiberarts.com](http://astoriafiberarts.com)

### 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.

**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 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.

**Astoria High School Class of 1970** — 11 a.m., **Koffee Klatch** at **Rod's Bar and Grill**, 45 N.E. Skipanon Drive, Warrenton. For information, call **ShawnAnn Hope** at 503-791-1231.

**Senior Lunch** — 11:30 a.m., **Bob Chisholm Senior Center**, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside. Suggested donation \$3 for those older than 60;

\$6.75 for those younger than 60. For information, call **Suzanne Bjaranson** at 503-861-4202.

**Columbia Senior Diners** — 11:30 a.m., 1111 Exchange St. Cost is \$6. For information, or to have a meal delivered, call 503-325-9693.

**Warrenton Senior Lunch Program** — noon, **Warrenton Community Center**, 170 S.W. Third St. Suggested donation of \$5 for seniors

See **NOTES, Page 4B**