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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

DRESSING WITH WOOD

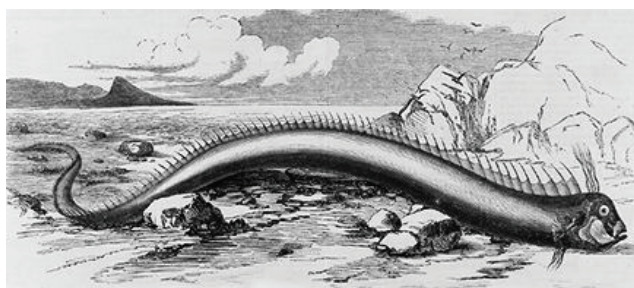


Thanks to Peter Marsh for pointing this out: **Aalto University in Finland** has come up with a sustainable fabric made of raw materials, including “wood, recycled newspaper or cardboard, and old cotton textiles” using a new technology they developed with the **University of Helsinki** called **Ioncell** (bit.ly/aaltoion).

Pictured, **Jenni Haukio**, with her husband, **President Sauli Niinistö**, in a gown made of 100 percent Finnish birch tree-based Ioncell. Photo courtesy of Vesa Moilanen/Lehtikuva. Textile fibers made from wood can reduce carbon emissions, are biodegradable, and the fabric is washable. It can even be recycled.

Right now, they’re just producing small batches, but pilot fiber production is set for 2020. If all goes well, industrial production could be a go for 2025.

MESSENGERS FROM THE DEEP



The Sun is only one of several news outlets covering the sudden appearance of **dead giant oarfish** on beaches recently in Japan, arousing fear and frightening the coastal residents as harbingers of disaster.

Because the 10-foot-plus creatures normally live at great depths, giant oarfish aren’t normally seen. They are called “**Messengers from the Sea God’s Palace**,” because when they rise to the surface and beach themselves, it is believed to be a frantic effort to escape an impending submarine earthquake. Adding fuel to this superstition, 10 oarfish beached themselves in Northern Japan a few months before the massive 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

“I believe these fish tend to rise to the surface when their physical condition is poor, rising on water currents,” ichthyology professor Hiroyuki Motomura told The Sun, “which is why they are so often dead when they are found.”

“The link to reports of seismic activity goes back many, many years,” he added, “but there is no scientific evidence of a connection, so I don’t think people need to worry.” Easy for him to say; they’re still worrying. (bit.ly/scaryoar)

HEROIC ENDEAVOR



A maritime item from the **Sunday, Feb. 8, 1885**, edition of **The Daily Morning Astorian**:

The news of the week involved a **naval court of inquiry** by the British vice-council regarding the conduct of **Capt. Paul James Paynter**, master of the **Embleton**, who was accused of brutality by some of his crew.

While in Acapulco, Mexico, after delivering a load of coal, the crew contracted what was then referred to as Mexican Coast fever, which was probably yellow fever or dengue fever. The crew had medical treatment at the port, and were convalescing when the ship set sail.

Everything went well for the first month at sea, but the crew fell ill again, and took to their bunks, leaving Capt. Paynter, who was sick himself, to sail the vessel. The brutality charge came about when he rousted some of the crew from their bunks to help. The court exonerated him completely, and commended him for bringing the ship into port under such trying circumstances.

START THE COOL MUSIC ...



A recommendation for your viewing pleasure: “Hey now! With this dreary chilly February weather maybe it’s a good idea to set the old Gearhart Way Back Machine to the summer of 1962,” **Jim Furnish** posted on the “A Million Friends Of Gearhart” Facebook page.

“Why, you ask? Because that was the summer when the popular TV show, ‘**Route 66**’ came to Clatsop County to film an episode of the show. Filmed mostly in and around Astoria, it’s a video time capsule of way back when.”

The episode he’s referring to is “**One Tiger to a Hill**” starring **Martin Milner** and **George Maharis**, with guest star **David Janssen** playing a drunken bully on the Astoria docks.

The action starts with the two stars cruising along the beach in a Corvette past the wreck of the “**Peter Iridale**,” as they’re heading to Astoria. Here’s the link to that 1960s nostalgia: bit.ly/66tiger. A screen shot is shown of (from left) Maharis, Milner and Janssen.

“One of the Corvette on the beach shots was right in front of the **Gearhart Hotel**,” Jim recalled, “and being as there weren’t any decent hotels or motels in Astoria or Warrenton, the TV production people were housed at the Gearhart Hotel, which really ramped up the excitement factor here, thinking all you had to do was stroll through the lobby or by the pool to see some genuine TV stars.”

“Didn’t work for me, though, because they wouldn’t be there in the daytime, they were out making their show — but at night, they probably relaxed and mingled with the locals at the Driftwood Lounge and the Sandtrap, which weren’t on this 11-year-old’s haunts.”

There appear to be a lot of locals used as extras in the show, so you might want to keep your eyes open for familiar faces ... and places.

“Maybe you’ll see someone you know,” Jim added. “I saw one old fisherman in there I used to visit with ... OK, start the cool music and enjoy.”

SHIP NOTES



A little more shipping news from the same edition of **The Daily Morning Astorian**:

• The channel cut through **Sand Island** a few weeks ago is washing away in the vicinity of the **Great Republic** wreck. The huge walking beam, which for six years has loomed up in ghastly remembrance of the disaster, sank into the sand last Thursday, and can now only be seen at extreme low tide.

Note: The sidewheeler **Great Republic** (pictured), at the time the largest passenger vessel on the West Coast, grounded on Sand Island on April 18, 1879. Fortunately, more than 1,000 people were successfully rescued, but the last 11 crewmen to leave were not so lucky; they drowned when their lifeboat overturned. (bit.ly/GrRepub)

• The English bark **Montgomery Castle**, arrived in yesterday 45 days from Autogofago (Chile). She ... is of more than passing interest to Astorians, for she is the **first iron ship** that ever entered the Columbia river. It was in the year 1870, and at the time she was a wonder. People came from Clatsop plains and other parts of the county, and when she went to Portland they thronged from all parts to see the ship built of iron that had come into the Columbia river.

The exact date of her entry is not attainable. E. A. Noyes, the O. R. & N. Co.’s agent, says that he crossed the bar on July 8th, 1870, and she was lying here then, at what was above the city, and is an object of interest.

Note: In 1843, the British ship, **Great Britain**, was the first ship to be built solely of wrought iron. Around the 1880s, ship builders started using steel, instead. The four-masted bark **Peter Iredale**, built in 1890, was built of both iron and steel. (bit.ly/shiphist)

WHAT IS IT?



Does anyone know what the **mystery caterpillar-looking object** in the photo is used for? There are 21 tires hung on a metal pole. Photographer **Nellie Hux** took the shot last Saturday on **Benson Beach**, near the campgrounds, on the Long Beach Peninsula in Washington.

Nellie wasn’t sure what it was, either, but noted that “the pole looked like it had bolts on one end, so it would have been upright.” Even her dog looks puzzled.

Any ideas? If you know what it is, please email ewilson@dailyastorian.com or call 971-704-1918.

ONE AND DONE



The topic of **Goonies 2** never seems to die. When asked about any possibility of a reboot of “**The Goonies**” by **TMZ** recently, **Jeff Cohen**, who played **Chunk** in the movie, had a few choice words to offer on the topic, which TMZ posted on Twitter (bit.ly/TMZcohen).

“Man, you know what? There’s no ‘Casablanca 2,’ you know?” Cohen replied. “There’s no ‘Citizen Kane 2.’ I think ‘Goonies’ — like one and done. Do it, do it right, it’s done.” Cohen is pictured, now and as **Chunk**, in a screen shot from the TMZ interview.

Actually, it probably doesn’t matter to him if there’s a **Goonie** remake or not, as he’s now an author and successful entertainment lawyer at **Cohen Gardner LLP** in Los Angeles (cohengardnerlaw.com).

His bio on the firm’s website ends with this parting shot: “Jeff has a unique background growing up as a child actor in the entertainment industry. His most notable role was playing ‘**Chunk**’ in the cult **Richard Donner/Steven Spielberg** film ‘**The Goonies**.’”

“He asks that you don’t hold that against him.”

NEWS FOR FINNS



I am assistant editor of a small monthly newspaper, “**The Finnish American Reporter**” (FAR, finnishamerican-reporter.com), owned by Finlandia University in Hancock, Michigan,” **Dave Maki** wrote in an email, “and I’m looking to get the word out about our publication to folks in your area, since many of your local folks have Finnish ancestry.”

Consider it done. The monthly publication, edited by **Jim Kurtti**, is in English, but is aimed at Finns everywhere, and claims to be the “most widely-circulated newspaper for Finns in North America.” Pictured, from the website, Kurtti (left) and Maki.

Someone missing in your Finnish family? Have a genealogy question? FAR will publish your query at no charge. They also welcome news and articles.

Ole hyvä ja nauti!

COMMUNITY NOTES

SATURDAY Lower Columbia R/C Society — 8:30 a.m., Buoy 9 Restaurant & Lounge, 996 Pacific Drive, Hammond. Local Academy of Model Aeronautics chartered radio control model aircraft club meets for breakfast and business. All model aircraft enthusiasts welcome. Call 503-458-5196 or 503-325-0608.

Chinook Indian Nation Tribal Council — 11 a.m., Chinook Nation Tribal Office, 3 E. Park St., Bay Center, Washington. Meeting open to all tribal members; attendees are reminded to bring a potluck item and to arrive on time. For questions, call 360-875-6670.

Sit & Stitch — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Homespun Quilts & Yarn, 108 10th St. Bring knitting, crochet or other needlework 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., Astoria Fiber Arts Studio, 1296 Duane St. Bring a spinning wheel. For information, call 503-325-5598 or go to astoriafiberarts.org

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.

Blacksmith Enthusiasts Meet — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Camp 18 Blacksmith Shop, 42362 U.S. Highway 26, Seaside. Participants can bring own forge and anvil setup. Metal available to experiment with; coal provided. No charge; donations to Camp 18 Loggers Memorial Museum welcome. For information, contact Mark Standley at 503-

434-0148 or Herman Doty at 971-306-1043 or ringingandvildesign@gmail.com

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 k7erowood@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 information, call 503-325-3231.

Astoria High School Class of 1970 — 11 a.m., Koffee Klatch at Rod’s Bar and Grill, 45 N.E. Skipanon Drive, Warrenton. 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 \$6 for seniors and \$7 for those younger than 60. For information, or to volunteer, call 503-861-3502 Monday or Thursday.

Astoria Rotary Club — noon, second floor of the Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. Guests always welcome. For information, go to AstoriaRotary.org

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