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# COMMUNITY

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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

## BEST FRIENDS, BEST SELLERS



**M**et Josie Reeves of Astoria (left) and Ella Bankston of Seaside (right) of Girl Scout Troop 12175. Kimberley Chaput, Josie's mother, wrote, "They're best friends, and this year, they set a goal to sell 2,000 boxes each." And they did.

"These girls set a goal, made a plan and followed through," she explained. "They agreed that they would cheer each other on and help each other every step of the way. ... They really focused on asking customers to donate cookies to the military and to Meals on Wheels. ... Their work paid off — Troop 12175 will be giving away more than 300 boxes!"

"The rest of the troop has also done a fantastic job," Kimberley noted. "Most of them are on track to sell 400 boxes each."

"These girls, (Josie and Ella) ... are pretty amazing and pretty awesome. ... They really are best friends and best sellers!"

## 'GREAT FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES'



**M**y husband, former Clatsop County District Attorney Josh Marquis, was feted at the Elks last Saturday," Cindy Price wrote, "with distinguished author Buzz Bissinger ('Friday Night Lights,' 'A Prayer for the City,' 'Three Nights in August,' 'Father's Day') as emcee, music by guitarist David Crabtree, and dinner by Carruthers Restaurant and friends of Josh.

"Josh and I both are on to new endeavors: Josh as director of legal affairs at Animal Wellness Action, and I as a member of the Astoria Planning Commission — while continuing to head the restoration of the Astoria Ferry."

"Great friends and colleagues," she added, "make it easier for your husband to retire from a job he loved for decades."

## AN ACT OF KINDNESS



**I**'m a former U.S. Marine suffering from post traumatic stress disorder. PTSD, for short," North Coaster Temon Haynes wrote. "I had been searching high and low for a service dog since 2009. I had all but given up until my friend had said, 'No, we're getting you a dog.'"

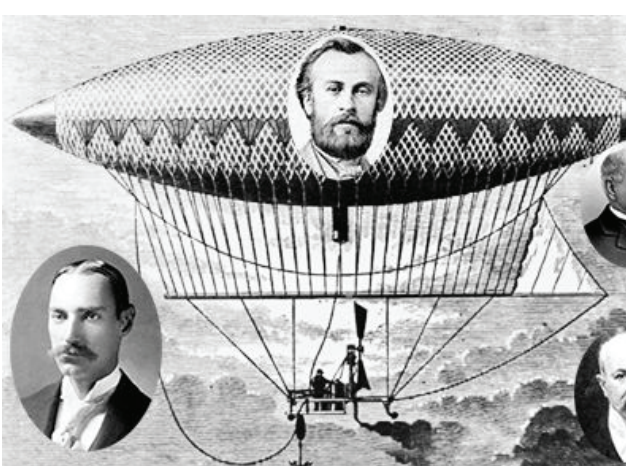
"We searched, and came up with a few leads, but still a dead end," Temon explained, "until on Facebook, Jessica Dyer came in like a shining star. She said they would like to donate a dog to me, that they had seen our post, and reached out to me. It just so happens that I went to Warrenton High School with her husband, Stephen — he was a grade above me."

"When we heard his story we knew right away we had to thank him for his service," the Dyers, who now live in Burns, wrote on Facebook, "and what better way than to help him on his journey by donating a pup to be trained as his service dog! ... These are the moments we cherish the most! Being able to pay it forward!"

Temon picked up the German shepherd puppy, Mera, on Saturday. She will be trained at the Arnicadia Dog Training Center in Seaside.

"These kind individuals, I can't thank them enough," Temon added, "(for going) out of their way to do this for me. I am a proud resident of Warrenton and I still, to this day, am blown away by acts like this in our community. To have a service dog has been a blessing for me, and for their act, I can't begin to repay them and express my gratitude."

## 'HOSS SENSE & NONSENSE'



**U**nder "Hoss Sense & Nonsense" in the March 8, 1900 edition of *The Morning Astorian*: If the Elkins-Widener syndicates keep on at the present gait, they will own the earth before long and be ready to take option on the other planets. There should be good times ahead for the inventors of flying-machines.

**Note 1:** Flying-machines in 1900? The Wright brothers didn't take flight until 1903. But Frenchman Jules Henri Giffard (center) made the first powered flight in the full-sized airship he built (a 143-foot dirigible, pictured), powered by a 3-horsepower steam engine, and flew it 17 miles at 6 mph, from Paris to Elancourt, on Sept. 24, 1852.

**Note 2:** William Elkins (top right) and Peter Widener (bottom right), both canny and highly successful Philadelphia businessmen on their own, got together and formed a powerful syndicate in 1873.

They wound up controlling the biggest share of trolley lines in the country, and wisely invested in electric lighting and power companies all over the U.S. — a wise move, since electricity would be in half of American homes by 1925. Widener was already worth almost \$3 billion (in today's money) by 1900.

Amazingly enough, the men also became good friends, and Elkins' daughter, Eleanor, married Widener's son, George. George and Eleanor and their son, Harry, set off on a European tour in 1912, after Harry graduated from college. They decided to return to the U.S. by sea — on the ill-fated maiden voyage of the *Titanic*.

George and Harry managed to get Eleanor safely into a lifeboat, and she was saved, but the father and son went down with the ship ... along with John Jacob Astor IV (bottom left), great-grandson of Astoria's namesake, who was on deck, and presumed to have been killed by a falling smokestack when the ship's bow plunged downward.

Incidentally, Astor's pregnant wife, Madeleine, also survived, giving birth to John Jacob Astor VI (V was already taken) in August. ([bit.ly/jgiffard](http://bit.ly/jgiffard), [bit.ly/ElkWide](http://bit.ly/ElkWide), [bit.ly/newlight](http://bit.ly/newlight), [bit.ly/jjaiv](http://bit.ly/jjaiv))

## TALES OF THE TOWN



**F**rom *The Daily Morning Astorian*, Saturday, March 1, 1890:

• The house of C.W. Durr at Grays River narrowly escaped destruction by fire yesterday morning. A fortunate accident delayed the steamer Rival, and her passengers saw the fire and put it out after the roof and some of the furniture had been burned.

• Work began yesterday on the motor line to Smith's Point (currently Port of Astoria Pier 3), an important enterprise. This is a sure thing; no talk, but work. A telegram yesterday says 150 tons of iron are on the way. This will lay 3 miles of road. The work will be pushed to successful completion.

**Note:** A cable railway deal fell through, but in June 1890, Judge Frank Taylor's Bay Railway Co. started running a steam dummy (a locomotive disguised as a passenger car) that went 3 miles from around Smith's Point to new housing tracts on Youngs Bay. ([bit.ly/smithcar](http://bit.ly/smithcar))

• Lots in Tract 3 of the beautiful suburb of Chelsea, only five minutes' walk from the steamer landing at Skipanon and terminus of A&SCR (Astoria & South Coast Railway). ... Prices from \$60 (\$1,650 now).

**Note:** Chelsea is lost to the ages. By 1891, the A&SCR had expanded, and operated from Skipanon (across from Astoria, on Youngs Bay) all the way to Seaside. ([bit.ly/asrailway](http://bit.ly/asrailway))

• The wrecker Whiteclaw is doing some work around the Astoria docks. Yesterday with her divers and apparatus a safe was raised off the Telephone's wharf, belonging to Foard & Stokes, and part of a stove in front of the U.P. dock.

**Note:** Diving? Yes, believe it or not, the equipment was already in existence. In 1842, when he was 22, James Buchanan Eads (pictured, inset) invented a salvage boat he called a submarine, but it was really a surface vessel he used to descend from in a diving bell, that he also created, to do salvage work while walking around on the Mississippi River bottom. He recovered enough valuable lost cargo to become a very wealthy man. ([bit.ly/eadsdive](http://bit.ly/eadsdive))

## COME SAIL AWAY

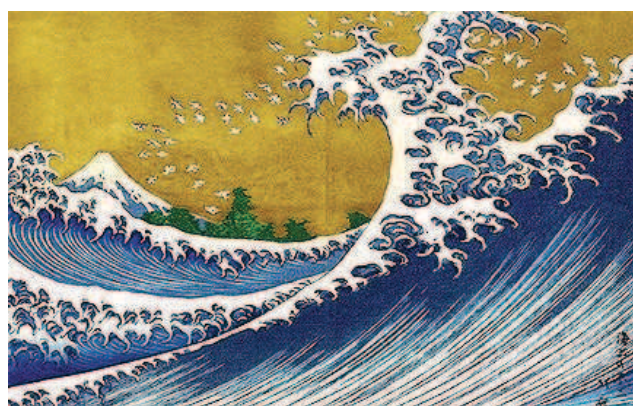


**T**hinking about the anniversary of the 2011 Japanese earthquake and tsunami brings to mind the various tiny bubble-shaped buoyant tsunami evacuation devices that are good for one or two people to ride out the waves.

But what if you're very claustrophobic, and/or have a big family? Tajima Motor Corp. has the answer: A drop-tested, self-righting, up-to-20-seat floating bus-shaped container, the Safe+ 600 ([bit.ly/safe600](http://bit.ly/safe600)). You can store water, food, etc. under the seats, which are equipped with four-point restraints. It is pictured, courtesy of Tajima.

And, for those in-between times, it has a flat bottom, so you can turn it into a guest house in your driveway. All this, and more, for about \$58,000 — not including customizing, taxes, shipping or delivery. So start saving your pennies ...

## A FEW ALARMING FACTS



**M**onday is the eighth anniversary of the devastating March 11, 2011 Japanese earthquake and tsunami, caused by an undersea subduction zone very similar to the nearby Cascadia, where the Pacific and Juan de Fuca plates meet.

Here are a few alarming facts to contemplate from LiveScience.com ([bit.ly/2011tsu](http://bit.ly/2011tsu)):

The shaking from the 9.0 magnitude earthquake — which shifted the earth on its axis, and shortened the length of a day by about a microsecond — lasted nearly six minutes.

In the year following the event, there were more than 5,000 aftershocks, the biggest being magnitude 7.9.

Honshu, Japan's main island, moved 8 feet eastward; the island's north coast dropped two feet.

The Pacific Plate slid 79 feet westward near the epicenter of the earthquake.

The tsunami wave reached a height of almost 128 feet at Miyako City in Iwate Prefecture, and flooded inland for 6 miles in Sendai, a city on Honshu. In all, approximately 217 square miles were flooded. A Hokusai wave drawing is shown.

An estimated 5 million tons of debris was swept out to sea in the tsunami's aftermath.

And, one last note: The earthquake's infrasound (low frequency rumble) was actually picked up by a satellite orbiting in space.

Is your "go bag" ready?

## IN 'JEOPARDY'

**THIS OREGON CITY ON THE PACIFIC OCEAN WAS FOUNDED AS A FUR COMPANY OUTPOST IN 1810**

**J**ohn Bruijn submitted the photo shown of a question from the ABC Network quiz show "Jeopardy" Wednesday night. The correct response would seem to be "Astoria," but the "what is" part is wrong on two points.

The first, and most obvious thing to note is that Astoria is not on the Pacific Ocean. At least it wasn't this week. Someone in the research department at the show apparently hasn't been checking Google maps very closely. But maybe they're counting brackish water as ocean water. Who knows.

And then there's a problem with the date mentioned. Astoria was not founded in 1810 at all, it was founded in 1811. John Jacob Astor founded the Pacific Fur Company in New York in 1810. The company's ship, the *Tonquin*, didn't arrive at the Columbia River until March 1811, and the city of Astoria's predecessor, Fort Astoria, was built over several months thereafter. ([bit.ly/astanswer](http://bit.ly/astanswer))

Shame on you, "Jeopardy."

## COMMUNITY NOTES

**SATURDAY Lower Columbia R/C Society** — 8:30 a.m., Buoy 9 Restaurant & Lounge, 996 Pacific Drive, Hammond. Local Pacific Drive, Hammond. Local Academy of Model Aeronau-

tics (AMA) chartered radio control model aircraft club meets for breakfast and business. All model aircraft enthusiasts are welcome. For information, call 503-458-5196 or

503-325-0608.

**Chinook Indian Nation Council** — 11 a.m., Scarborough House at Point Chinook in Fort Columbia Historical State Park in Chinook, Wash-

ington. Abbreviated monthly meeting, open to all tribal members, followed by a potluck lunch and storytelling. Bring a prepared item for the potluck, and arrive on time.

For questions, contact the Tribal Office at 360-875-6670.

**Sit & Stitch** — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Hometown Quilts & Yarn, 108 10th St. Bring knitting, crochet or other nee-

dlework projects to this community stitching time. All skill levels welcome.

**Columbia Northwestern**

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