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# COMMUNITY

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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

## A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY



Thursday, April 11, we responded to a **striped dolphin** (*Stenella coeruleoalba*) which was washing ashore just north of Ocean Park, Washington,” **Keith Chandler** of the **Seaside Aquarium** wrote. “The female dolphin was nearly full grown at 6.5 feet — males can reach lengths of around 8.5 feet. Though sad, it gives us a unique opportunity to learn more about this animal and its activities along the Oregon coast.” His photo of the dolphin is shown.

“Striped dolphins prefer warmer waters and are typically found in the offshore waters off of California and Baja,” he explained. “Though they are uncommon to the area, it is not the first time a striped dolphin has washed ashore. Their sharp teeth are used for snatching up small fish such as herring or cod; squid also make up a majority of their diet. Striped dolphins occur either individually or in small schools.”

## HELPING PEOPLE IN NEED



Girl Scout **Ella Zilli**, an eighth-grader who lives in Astoria, has chosen running a **Peanut Butter and Jelly Food Drive** for her **Girl Scout Silver Award Project**, which entails doing something to make your community better.

“I am doing the drive in eight schools in Clatsop County and one school in Tillamook County, as well,” she wrote. “All the jars of peanut butter and jelly that I collect at the schools will be donated to local food banks to benefit people in need.”

“The schools that I am doing the drive in are: Astoria High School, Astoria Middle School, Lewis and Clark Elementary School, Astor Elementary School, Broadway Middle School, Seaside Heights Elementary School, Gearhart Elementary School, Hilda Lahti Elementary School and Garibaldi Grade School.” The school drive ends April 26, so you still have time to donate.

She’s also doing a Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive in the Tillamook, Seaside and Astoria Safeways from morning till afternoon on Saturday. There will be a Girl Scout table at the entry of each Safeway, and collection bins nearby.

“I will personally be at the Seaside drive in the morning and the Astoria drive in the afternoon on Saturday,” Ella added, “so please visit your local Safeway during the day to find the Girl Scout table.”

## ‘WE HAVE TO SHOOT THIS TOWN’



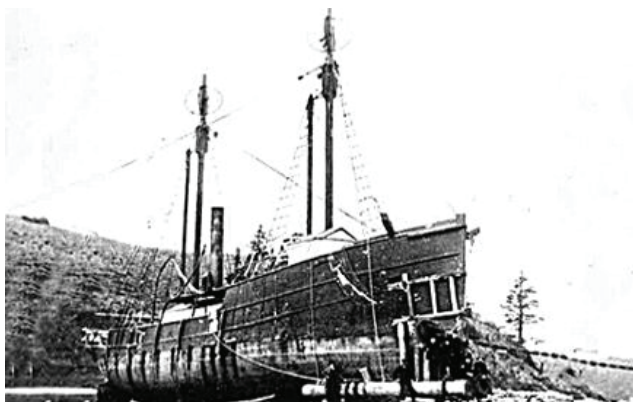
“Superfan” **Curtis Templeton** of “**Beyond the Backlot**” (pictured right, in a screen shot) filmed “**On Location: The Goonies**” in Astoria recently.

But before arriving, he interviewed the movie’s director, **Richard Donner** (inset), and asked why he picked Astoria for the film’s location. After driving up the coast from San Francisco, Donner explained, “when we first drove through Astoria, my reaction was: we have to shoot this town ...”

Then **Mac Burns** (left) of the Clatsop County Historical Society took Templeton for a ride in the Goonies Jeep, they sang, and laughed and ate crackers .... until the jeep started smoking on Eighth Street.

The episode ended with a visit to the **Goonie House** porch. Templeton, sighing over the view, concluded, “sometimes it’s worth the extra effort to go beyond the backlot.”

## A CHECKERED CAREER



From the **Friday, April 19, 1901** edition of **The Morning Astorian**:

• The steamer **Nahcotta** will leave Astoria Sunday, April 21, at 9:30 a.m. for Fort Canby. This excursion is ... an opportunity to view the **lightship (LV50)**, pictured) as she is being moved from MacKenzie Head to Baker’s Bay. Those who have seen her as she now lies in her cradle pronounce it to be a rare and unique sight. The owner of a Kodak or camera should not miss this opportunity to get a snapshot of old No. 50 ...

**Note:** According to the U.S. Coast Guard Lightship Sailors Association International Inc., LV50 was built in 1892 in San Francisco, and moved to Astoria the same year, where she had a rather rocky career.

As early as the summer 1894, the lightship was withdrawn from duty for repairs, then again in 1897 and 1899. Then in November 1899, she broke loose in a 74 mph gale, and stood offshore under sail.

When attempts were made to tow her, she ran aground just east of Cape Disappointment, where she was stranded on the beach for 16 months while unsuccessful efforts were made to refloat her.

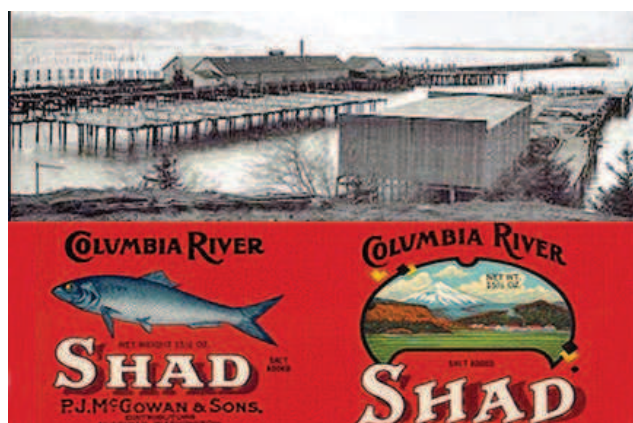
Finally, a marine railway was built, and the hapless lightship put on a cradle (the one mentioned in the newspaper story), and moved 700 yards overland to be relaunched at Bakers Bay.

But that wasn’t the end of the saga. She was repaired at Bakers Bay, then towed to Portland for even more repairs, and did not return to her lightship duties until August 1901.

There were several other repair issues, and she slipped her chain a few more times before she was finally withdrawn from duty permanently in 1909.

The noble lightship wound up with a rather ignominious fate: Condemned in 1915, she was sold at a public auction that same year. She eventually became a freighter in Alaska for the rest of her seafaring career, and was registered as **San Cosmo & Margaret** until 1935. (bit.ly/LightLV50)

## ‘A LOVELY LITTLE SPOT’



From the **April 19, 1987** edition of **The Daily Morning Astorian**, an anonymous letter about a trip to the town of McGowan, Washington:

“(I) landed at the dock of **P. J. McGowan & Sons’** cannery at Chinook point, and was met by Mr. McGowan, senior, and invited to a look about the cannery and grounds.

“The interior of the cannery is being whitewashed, and the machinery put in order for the season. Upstairs can-making is going on; in another part nets and seines are being made and repaired. Back of the cannery are thousands of feet of wire netting for fish traps ...

“They have several traps below their place, in Baker’s Bay, and their seining ground is on the beach in front of the cannery, extending up the river two miles. The cannery is built on solid ground some 200 feet from high-water mark, which looks odd to one accustomed to seeing canneries on piles.

“There is a large sewer under the cannery, which carries off all refuse matter; water is supplied from a large spring on the hill about seven hundred yards from the cannery.

“There is a wharf 800 feet long, leading from the cannery to deep water, where there is a small building which answers for a storehouse in shipping their salmon and receiving supplies.

“After having enjoyed half an hour’s stroll about the place, which is a lovely little spot, I boarded the steamer again ...”

**Note:** This cannery, built in the mid-1880s by Patrick James McGowan (who also owned three other canneries), evolved into the small town of McGowan, which included **St. Mary’s Catholic Church**, a store, a school, residences (including McGowan’s), a large dormitory/mess hall for cannery workers, and a good-sized vegetable garden.

The town began to fade when the railroad tunnel went through in the early 1900s, and it was easier to get to Chinook and Ilwaco. By 1911, there was no longer a cannery, and the once-thriving town slowly faded into obscurity. Now, all that remains of McGowan is **St. Mary’s**, standing sentinel near the Chinook tunnel. (bit.ly/jpmcgowan)

## BIRD’S EYE VIEW



It’s that time of year again, and the **Raptor Research Program’s Decorah** (Iowa) and snowy **Decorah North eagle cams** are up and running, so you can literally have a bird’s-eye view of the weeks-old chicks and their dotting parents.

At this point, the chicks are in the stumbling-around-the-nest phase — they will start to fledge in mid- to late June. A dinnertime screen shot from the Decorah North nest is shown. You can learn anything you might ever want to know about bald eagles, and watch the little families here: [tinyurl.com/iowaeagles](http://tinyurl.com/iowaeagles) (click on “Watch Birds”). Pull up a chair and check it out.

## WE REALLY LOVE YOU



So, fans of the **Portland Trail Blazers** contacted me asking ways they could reach out to injured center **Jusuf Nurkic**, who suffered compound leg fractures during the March 25 game against the Brooklyn Nets,” **Dave Nelson** of **KMUN** wrote.

“I knew of one fan in Portland,” Dave explained, “who was asking for donations of shirts to make a quilt for the ‘Bosnian Beast.’ I also heard a fan was setting up a GoFundMe account, to raise funds for a ‘We love you’ billboard near the Moda Center in Portland.

“I even received calls at **KMUN** wondering how to find the fundraising website so they could contribute themselves. However, a few didn’t want to brave the Portland traffic to see the final results.

“Of course, there’s no way to broadcast a picture on the radio, and one fan, **Steve Willis**, emailed Elleda to see if it could be published in her In One Ear column.” And, thanks to Dave, here it is, in all its glory. His photo is shown.

“For the record,” Dave added, “Nurkic tweeted ‘Love’ in response to it.”

## WEAR ORANGE FOR JACKSON



Meet 7-year-old **Coastie Kid Jackson**,” a post on **The Coastie Voice** announced on an “**I Wear Orange for Jackson T-Shirt Fundraiser**” page (bit.ly/CGjackson). “On Thursday, March 28, he was air lifted out of an Astoria, Oregon, emergency room to Doernbecher Children’s Hospital in Portland at 5:30 p.m., and by 8:30 that night, he was diagnosed with **Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia**.”

Jackson Humpal is pictured, inset, and with his Coast Guard family, his father, Petty Officer First Class **Christopher Humpal**, his mother, **Ashley**, and younger brother, **Wyatt**.

“We are selling T-shirts to help Jackson’s family,” the post continues, “to offset the cost of treatments, travel and overnight stays while he undergoes chemotherapy.” He is currently located at the Ronald McDonald House in Portland.

To place a T-shirt order, go to [bit.ly/CGjackson2](http://bit.ly/CGjackson2). Email the completed form to [USCGMSOY2015.StaceyBenson@gmail.com](mailto:USCGMSOY2015.StaceyBenson@gmail.com). The deadline is 3 p.m. April 26. At that time, the shirt orders will be placed, and will take seven to 10 business days to complete. To drop off an order form, or for information, call Benson at 401-302-7909.

“Jackson started his first round of chemotherapy on March 29, and took it like a champ!” **The Coastie Voice** added. “We do not know exactly how long he and his family will be in Portland for treatment, but we do know that he has a long road ahead.”

## COMMUNITY NOTES

**SATURDAY Seaside Duplicate Bridge** — 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Mary Blake Playhouse, 1215 Broadway, Seaside. Come with a partner or call ahead for one at 503-791-9745.

**Clatsop County Genealogical Society** — 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Clatsop County

Heritage Museum, 1618 Exchange St. Speaker is Karen Martin.

**Sit & Stitch** — 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Hometown Quilts & Yarn, 108 10th St. Bring knitting, crochet or other needlework projects to this community stitching time. All skill levels welcome.

**Columbia Northwestern Model Railroad Club** — 1 p.m., in Hammond. Org 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 informa-

tion, call 503-325-5598 or go to [astoriafiberarts.org](http://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.

**Cannon Beach American Legion Women’s Auxiliary Breakfast** — 9 to 11 a.m., American Legion, 1216 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach.

**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

See Notes, Page B3