

IN BRIEF

Warrenton man dies in collision with dump truck west of Naselle

NASELLE, Wash. — A Warrenton man died Friday at the Johnson's Landing intersection 5 miles west of Naselle when he turned onto the highway in his 2000 Nissan pickup and was struck by a 1999 Kenworth dump truck, according to the Washington State Patrol.

Just E. Mills, 22, was southbound on U.S. Highway 101 and stopped at the intersection where State Route 4 ends and Highway 101 continues toward the Long Beach Peninsula or Astoria.

He pulled out to make a left turn onto State Route 4 and was struck by the dump truck driven by Arlan J. Pellervo, 67, of Naselle, who had the right of way.

Although Mills was wearing his seatbelt, he died at the scene. Pellervo wasn't injured. The Nissan was totaled and the dump truck had to be towed. The highway was closed for a lengthy period for a crash investigation.

— *Chinook Observer*

Pedestrian struck by vehicle Friday on Marine Drive in Astoria

A man was struck by a vehicle Friday night between the 700 and 800 block of Marine Drive in Astoria.

The man was allegedly intoxicated and walked into the middle of the street when the driver of the vehicle struck him. The driver reportedly did not see him.

The pedestrian was conscious and was taken to Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria. He was later flown to Oregon Health & Science University Hospital for treatment a head injury.

Homeless man reportedly assaulted on Astoria Riverwalk Saturday

A homeless man was reportedly assaulted early Saturday morning on the Astoria Riverwalk behind Safeway.

The man reported he was sleeping on a bench behind the Astoria Riverfront Trolley stop when a man grabbed him from behind and started punching him in the face.

The man allegedly proceeded to throw and smash the victim's belongings before leaving through the Safeway parking lot. The victim did not know who the man was and was not able to give police a description of him.

The suspect was not located by police. People with information are asked to call the Astoria Police Department.

— *The Astorian*

Jury awards \$17 million to 3 plaintiffs in deadly Amtrak derailment

TACOMA, Wash. — A federal jury has awarded three people who sued over a deadly Amtrak derailment in Washington state nearly \$17 million for their pain and suffering.

An eight-person jury in U.S. District Court in Tacoma decided Friday to award \$7.75 million to Dale Skillingstad, \$7 million to Blaine Wilmotte and \$2 million to his wife, Madison Wilmotte.

— *Associated Press*

DEATHS

Sept. 14, 2019

MOBERG, Beverly Almeda, 93, of Astoria, died in Portland. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Sept. 13, 2019

BUTLER, Robert, 80, of Warrenton, died in Warrenton. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

HERTIG, Elnora Fay, 87, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Caldwell's Funeral & Cremation Arrangement Center of

Seaside is in charge of the arrangements.

MILLER-LEWIS, Ann Marie, 60, of Wheeler, died in Wheeler. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

WELCH, Timothy, 61, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Sept. 12, 2019

MOORE, Dolores, 89, of Seaside, died in Seaside. Hughes-Ransom Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

ON THE RECORD

DUII

• Timothy McCurry, 49, of Portland, was arrested Friday in Seaside for driving under the influence of intoxicants.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TUESDAY

Port of Astoria Commission, 4 p.m., Port offices, 10 Pier 1 Suite 209.

Astoria Historic Landmarks Commission, 5:15 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District Board of Directors, 5:15 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community

Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside.

Seaside School District Board of Directors, 7 p.m., 1801 S. Franklin.

Shoreline Sanitary District Board, 7 p.m., Gearhart Hertz Station, 33496 West Lake Lane, Warrenton.

WEDNESDAY

Seaside Tree Board, 4 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

DANCE IN THE FOREST



Lucy Kleiner/The Astorian

Hampton Lumber hosted a BodyVox dance performance in the heart of a working Douglas fir and hemlock forest on Saturday evening. Over 60 people were shuttled up steep gravel roads to the show, the first of its kind for both Hampton and BodyVox. BodyVox artistic director Jamey Hampton was welcomed back to the forest by his brother, David Hampton. 'It's kind of amazing for us to come up here and do something like this,' David Hampton said of his brother's performance. 'It brings tears to my eyes.'

Friends remember former Astoria police chief Deu Pree

By NICOLE BALES
The Astorian

Former Astoria Police Chief Rob Deu Pree lost his 10-year battle with cancer last week.

Deu Pree, 75, passed away at his home in Nevada, according to Astoria Police Chief Geoff Spalding. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, LaDean.

"Many of you in the community knew him well and know that he was a great man and strong leader in the community," Spalding wrote in a post on the Astoria Police Department's Facebook page. "Chief Deu Pree was a well-respected professional in the law enforcement community as well and contributed greatly to our profession."

Deu Pree was police chief from 1993 until he retired in 2007.

Prior to moving to Astoria, he spent nine years as police chief in Springfield and worked as second in command to the police chief in Arvada, Colorado. He was also a U.S. Army captain during the Vietnam War.

While working, Deu Pree earned his master's degree in criminal justice and graduated from the FBI academy.

"Rob was a dedicated professional," said Jeff Rusiecki, the emergency communications manager for Astoria 911 Dispatch.

"Most chiefs don't have the tenures that Rob had. But he expected people to do their job and do it to the best of their ability and if you did you got along well with Rob."

Rusiecki said Deu Pree brought a great deal of experience to Astoria and was a mentor who wasn't afraid to stand up for his people.

"And (he) probably advanced the police depart-



Renown Health

Former Astoria Police Chief Rob Deu Pree documented his battle with cancer for Renown Health in Nevada.

ment and police sciences in Astoria far greater than anyone has in 50 years," he said.

Deu Pree lost a campaign for Clatsop County sheriff to Tom Bergin in 2004. They debated issues pertaining to a new jail and drug enforcement.

When Deu Pree retired in 2007, he said one of the accomplishments he was proudest of was establishing community policing.

He also served as a community policing consultant for the U.S. Department of Justice and the Institute for Law and Justice and taught classes at the Western Community Policing Institute, according to his LinkedIn page.

Another accomplishment he was proud of was using technology to increase effi-

ciency, which enabled the police department to operate with the same number of officers he started with when he became chief in 1993.

"For Chief Deu Pree, being an officer was more than a job," said Willis Van Dusen, a former Astoria mayor. "It was his life's calling and he took it very seriously and he did a great job. Officers are sometimes referred to as peace officers, well that's what he did, he kept the peace and he will be greatly missed. He was a great father, husband and just a great man."

His hobbies included building model boats, leather craft and woodworking. He also enjoyed fishing, music and watching and performing in community theater.

"Chief Deu Pree was a great man and he was respected by everyone — the officers, citizens and even those who ran afoul of the law respected Chief Deu Pree," Van Dusen said.

"He's going to be missed."

Mitchell: About 890 in Oregon are awaiting organ transplants

Continued from Page A2

law that helps provide job security for organ donors by making it a procedure protected by the state's Family Medical Leave Act.

It was during the process that Mitchell told Donate Life Northwest she was interested in donating an organ.

"Most people don't have the ability to take four to six weeks off to do something like this," she said. "If we can eliminate those barriers to where this can actually be a reality for folks, my hope is more people take advantage of that opportunity."

Although Mitchell will not personally benefit from the law, which takes effect in January, it's something she wants to make available for others. Her donation is part of a paired exchange program, which allows people to swap kidneys among, in her case, three pairs of people who want to donate but are incompatible with the person they want to help.

"So there's three people who are going to get an organ out of this and to me that's incredibly exciting to know it's not just one organ, it's not just mine, it's three different people are going to benefit," she said.

Although she doesn't know any of the recipients, she is excited for them and their families, and hopes she gets the opportunity to meet them after the surgeries.

According to the United Network for Organ Sharing, about 113,000 people are waiting for organ transplants, including about 890 in Oregon.

"Statistically, for every year a person is on dialysis, they lose about five years off their life expectancy. It breaks my heart to think about the child who may lose their parent early, or the person that loses their spouse to kidney disease," Mitchell wrote in a Facebook post announcing her decision.

"If just 1 in every 10,000 people made the choice to donate altruistically — we could help to erase the list of people waiting for an organ in the United States."

As far as the medical concerns associated with organ donation, Mitchell, 35, said there is a lot of work done on the front end to make sure the donor is a good candidate for the surgery.

"They are very open with you in saying that there is a potential for complications, as there always is with any major surgery," she said.

"There is the potential that down the road if the other kidney goes then you're in trouble there. But they actually do a lot of work beforehand, and a lot of testing to make sure that the person who is donating is very healthy and the least likely type of person to develop kidney disease themselves down the road."

Mitchell encourages people to look into whether they are good candidates for organ donation. Above all, she said being able to give that gift to somebody and their family is "tremendously impactful."

"My hope is that through this experience and through publicly talking about it and undergoing it myself that it's something that people themselves will seriously consider in terms of deciding, yeah, this is something I would be willing to do," she said.

the Astorian

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