

IN BRIEF

Father, son injured in crash on New Youngs Bay Bridge

A father and son suffered injuries after a car crash on the New Youngs Bay Bridge on Thursday morning.

Police said the driver of a Volkswagen Jetta crossed the center line and crashed into a Ford Fiesta.

The Warrenton Fire Department used the Jaws of Life to extricate a 6-year-old boy and his father from the Ford Fiesta. They were taken to Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria. The boy had serious injuries and was flown to a Portland area hospital.

The driver of the Volkswagen Jetta declined any medical treatment.

Police referred the case to the district attorney's office.

Drop box available for property tax payments

A curbside drop box for tax payments will be in front of the Clatsop County Assessment and Taxation Department through Friday.

The department is at 820 Exchange St.

Tax payments can also be made in person or by mail to the assessment and taxation office, or online through apps.co.clatsop.or.us/property/

Students vote on school name, colors and mascot

Students at The Heights and Gearhart elementary schools got a taste of a critical democratic process during Election Day on Tuesday as they cast ballots to determine the name, colors and mascot for the new combined elementary school.

One by one, the students stuck their ballots in voter boxes at each school, which were presided over by Gearhart Mayor Matt Brown and Seaside Mayor Jay Barber. After voting, they received an "I Voted" sticker.

For school names, the options are Trillium Elementary, Coho Creek Elementary and Pacific Ridge Elementary. For school mascot, the choices are the osprey, sea stars, or puffins. The choices for school colors are red, white, and blue; turquoise, black and silver; and blue, green and silver.

The options that receive the most votes will be presented to the Seaside School District's board on Nov. 19. The winners will be announced to students on Nov. 20.

— *The Astorian*

DEATHS

Nov. 7, 2019

QUIGLEY, Richard Edward, 63, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

THOMPSON, Barbara Susan, 71, of Seaside, died

in Seaside. She was the wife of Roger Thompson.

Nov. 6, 2019

VAN WINKLE, Estel Vira, 92, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

MEMORIALS

Tuesday, Nov. 12

CLARK, Solveig Dorothy Rynning — Memorial at 1 p.m., Peace Lutheran Church, 565 12th St. A reception follows at the church.

Nov. 16, 2019

THOMPSON, Barbara Susan — Service at 1:30 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 1545 Franklin Ave.

CORRECTION

Last name misspelled — Jorge Gutierrez is the former executive director of the Lower Columbia Hispanic Council. His last name was misspelled as Gutierrez in an In Brief item on A2 on Thursday.

ON THE RECORD

Harassment

• **William Douglas** Hearn Jr., 53, of White Salmon, Washington, was arrested Wednesday on U.S. Highway 30 for harassment.

Concealed weapon

• **James Wayne** Connell, 55, of Astoria, was arrested Wednesday for carrying a concealed weapon, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY

Youngs River Lewis & Clark Water District Board, 6 p.m., 34583 U.S. Highway 101 Business.

Cannon Beach Rural Fire Department Board, 6 p.m., Fire-Rescue Main Station, 188 Sunset Ave.

TUESDAY

Clatsop County Planning Commission, 10 a.m., Judge Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial St.

Astoria Historic Land-

marks Commission,

5:15 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

Warrenton City Commission, 6 p.m., City Hall, 225 S. Main Ave.

Lewis & Clark Fire Department Board, 6 p.m., main fire station, 34571 U.S. Highway 101 Business.

Clatsop Community College Board, 6:30 p.m., Integrated Manufacturing Tech Center, 6540 Liberty Lane, Astoria.



Astoria students explore murder and mystery in fall production

The Astorian

For their fall production, Astoria High School students performed "Clue," a theatrical adaptation of the popular board game. The play features well-known characters like Wadsworth, Miss Scarlet and Colonel Mustard as they try to solve a murder amid blackmail and distrust. The play opened last weekend and closes after productions on Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Astoria High School auditorium.

Photos by Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian
ABOVE: Sean Cooney, as Wadsworth, leads the characters on a hunt for the murderer in the mansion. BELOW: Christian Womack, left, and Brandy Larsen adjust sound and read through the script during a rehearsal of 'Clue.'



Medals sit unclaimed in Salem

State hopes to return the honors

By **SAM STITES**
Oregon Capital Bureau

SALEM — Tucked away inside a vault within the Oregon Department of State Lands sits several safes.

Inside these safes rest mementos such as old photos and baseball cards, money and coins, jewelry, gold bars, rings and stamp collections.

Even odd things like baby teeth and locks of hair are secured in the state safes.

This week, the agency put out a call ahead of Veterans Day on Monday to reunite families with military medals and artifacts that fell to the state's care.

The agency's charge is to try to return such items to their owners or heirs where others have failed.

The medals and other possessions were left inside safe deposit boxes held by banks or assisted living facilities and law offices where their owners either forgot about them or died without a will or known heir.

While most items are either auctioned off to raise money for the state Common School Fund or destroyed after a period of time, military effects are protected under Oregon law in perpetuity.

A bank box rented to Richard Rolfe Scott, of Portland, yielded U.S. Army items that included 10 patches, seven ribbons, five medals, four rank and insignia and three pins.

A box rented to Barbara G. Roney, of Portland, held four medals, four ribbons and two pins from the Army.



A World War II Victory Medal was found in a safety deposit box owned by a Richard Scott Rolf sent to the Department of State Lands by a Bank of America branch in Portland.

A box rented to George B. James, of Bandon, contained a U.S. Navy insignia.

The military medals program and corresponding registry is fairly new, according to Claudia Ciobanu, manager of the agency's Trust Property Division. While no veterans have yet been reunited with their property, the state hopes a fresh push will allow veterans or their heirs to more easily identify their items.

"The law was passed to manage these things differently in order to honor the courage and sacrifice that they represent. We recognize the history and symbolism behind these medals and want to do our best to return them to their owners," Ciobanu said.

The list includes 18 medals, countless ribbons and dozens of insignia pieces from all branches of the U.S. military.

From a now defunct bank in Grants Pass to a Key Bank in Portland, the military heirlooms have come into the state's possession from far

and wide.

The oldest and most common medals in the state's possession date back to World War II, including two for service in the European and African theaters from 1941 to 1946 and a handful of Victory Medals, as well as corresponding awards for service in the American and Asiatic-Pacific campaigns.

Several National Defense Service Medals are included in the collection, as well as an Army Good Conduct Medal — one of the oldest American military awards established in 1869.

One Purple Heart is in the state's possession, too, the oldest award continuously issued to those either injured or killed in combat since its original form, the Badge of Military Merit, was awarded to members of President George Washington's Continental Army. The medal was established in its current form in 1917.

The collection also holds three medals issued for service during the Vietnam War, including one with three bronze stars denoting that its owner served three separate tours.

"Our veterans and their families have sacrificed so much, and these medals and insignia are physical representations of that sacrifice and their service," said Vicki Walker, director of the Department of State Lands. "On this Veterans Day we want to make a special push to help reunite vets and their families with these highly significant keepsakes."

Veterans or family members seeking lost military medals can check the state's online registry which includes information on what bank or institution the deposit box came from, to whom it was rented and the corresponding address of that person.

According to Ciobanu, the process can take as little as a couple of weeks if the claimant is the owner, but much longer if an heir does not have proof of their relation to the original owner.

Offices close for Veterans Day

The Astorian

In observance of Veterans Day on Monday, all federal, state, county and city offices and services, including Astoria, Warrenton, Gearhart, Seaside and Cannon Beach city halls, are closed. All U.S. post offices are closed, and there is no mail delivery.

Astoria, Jewell, Knappa, Warrenton/Hammond, and Seaside (including Cannon Beach and Gearhart) school district schools, and Clatsop Community College, are closed.

The Astoria Library, Seaside Library and Warrenton Library are closed. The Port of Astoria administration offices are closed.

Garbage collection through Recology Western Oregon and the city of Warrenton garbage collection are not affected by the holiday. Recology Western Oregon's transfer station is open.

The Sunset Pool in Seaside is closed until Nov. 25. The Astoria Aquatic Center is open.

The Clatsop County Heritage Museum is closed. The Oregon Film Museum and Flavel House are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the Carriage House is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Uppertown Firefighters' Museum is closed.

Lil' Sprouts is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Fort Clatsop is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Columbia River Maritime Museum is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Seaside Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunset Empire Transportation ("The Bus") is running.

The Astorian offices are open.

the Astorian

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