

CONTACT US
ewilson@dailyastorian.com
(971) 704-1718

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IN ONE EAR • ELLEDA WILSON

HUNTING BIGFOOT



Just when you think you’ve heard it all, on Jan. 5, Oklahoma state Rep. **Justin Humphrey** proposed an official **Bigfoot hunting season bill**, House Bill 1648, to the Oklahoma House of Representatives, FieldandStream.com reports (bit.ly/OKbigfoot). Before you ask, yes the bill has provisions for the hunting season’s dates, regulations and tags.

Which should prove interesting to enforce, because a spokesman for the state’s Department of Wildlife Conservation has decreed that Bigfoot does not exist in Oklahoma, creating quite a legal conundrum for prospective hunters.

There is an ulterior motive in this bill. The annual Bigfoot festival takes place in Honobia, Oklahoma, in October, Humphrey, a Republican, explained, so he wants to use the monthlong Bigfoot hunting season to promote that area and the festival.

“This is tourism!” he told **Lacie Lowry** of News 9 in Oklahoma City (bit.ly/JHbigfoot). He is pictured, inset, courtesy of News 9.

However, fear not for Bigfoot’s safety if the bill passes. No guns are allowed; instead, the proposed law offers a bounty of \$25,000 to whoever produces a real-life Bigfoot.

“This is about trapping Bigfoot,” Humphrey insisted, “not killing Bigfoot.”

There’s no mention of what they would do with the critter, if someone actually caught one ... but they can worry about that pesky little detail later.

GUNNING FOR CLAMS



Fun rerun: “The late **John Newton** made his prized weapon in his wood shop,” **Marian Soderberg** noted, referring to a possible forerunner of the contemporary clam gun.

“John donated it to **Allan Doney** at one of the clam-bakes held by **Ken Doney** (pictured, with the ‘weapon’), Allan’s brother, at Roxy’s Motel in Seaside.”

“Legend has it that Allan was a champion clam digger,” Marian recalled, “because of this doomsday weapon.”

“According to bona fide witnesses, clams actually came up to the surface to check it out,” Ken explained, “even though the Chief Mama Clam kept warning them to flee if they ever saw that old Mr. Doney in the surf.”

“We are assured that this is not ‘fake news,’” quipped Marian. (*In One Ear*, 3/17/17)

UFO OVERLOAD



During this time of home confinement for so many, why not pass several hours (or days) and get all up to date on what the powers that be think about UFOs.

The Black Vault (bit.ly/BlackVaultUFO) contains a “**massive number of documents** obtained officially from the U.S. government and military via the Freedom of Information Act.”

Just a few of the items to peruse are: “**FBI File: Majestic-12**,” “**UFOs: The Central Intelligence Agency Collection**,” “**Area 51 – Declassified Documents**,” “**FBI Files: The Paranormal Collection**,” “**Project Blue Book**: Hartford, Connecticut — September 4, 1960,” “The ‘Guy Hotel’ Memo and the Crashed Flying Saucers of New Mexico, March 22, 1950” ...

Well, you get the idea. Enjoy.

‘UTTER UNSEAWORTHINESS’



When the passenger and cargo steamship **General Warren**, under the command of **Capt. Charles Thompson**, wrecked Jan. 31, 1852 on the Columbia River Bar, it was a disaster both financially, and in loss of life; 42 of the 52 aboard perished, including the captain.

She sailed from Astoria on Jan. 28, assisted by bar pilot **Capt. George Flavel**, but the venture seemed ill-fated from the start. Around midnight, the wind blew the foretopmast away. The grain cargo scattered, blocking the bilge pumps, and the vessel rapidly took on water.

The captain returned to the mouth of the Columbia for help. The next afternoon, Capt. Flavel re-boarded the vessel, but initially refused to take the her back across the bar because it was too dangerous. The passengers, terrified of dying on the leaking ship, implored Flavel to take them to Astoria.

The pilot acquiesced, but between the ebb tide and the water-filled hold, they weren’t making any headway, so he ordered the captain to lower the anchor. Thompson insisted Flavel beach it, instead — which he did, on Clatsop Spit.

At 3 a.m., the situation was dire, and the ship disintegrating under the pounding breakers. The captain asked Flavel to pick 10 stalwart volunteers to take a boat and get help. Most of the passengers preferred staying aboard, not wanting to take their chances braving the breakers in a small boat.

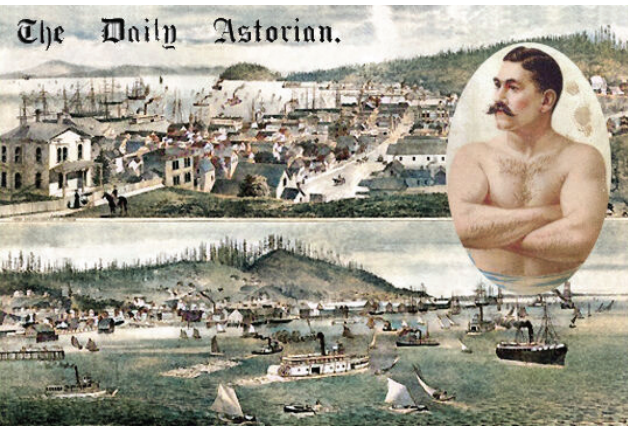
The volunteers made it to Astoria and brought a large whaleboat back to save those left aboard the **General Warren**.

“When they reached the spot where the doomed vessel had been the night before, she had disappeared from view,” Lewis & Dryden’s Marine History reports, “and the bloated corpses of the unfortunate passengers and crew, which drifted ashore on Clatsop Beach, were the only evidences of the disaster.”

Two years after the **General Warren** was lost, the entire ship’s stern frame was found on a beach 60 miles north of where she had vanished.

In a sad epitaph, a New York Times story noted “there seems to be little doubt that the catastrophe was a result of the utter unseaworthiness of the vessel, which was very old and rotten.” (tinyurl.com/Gen-Warren, bit.ly/GWarren1, bit.ly/GWarren2)

LOCAL BREVITIES



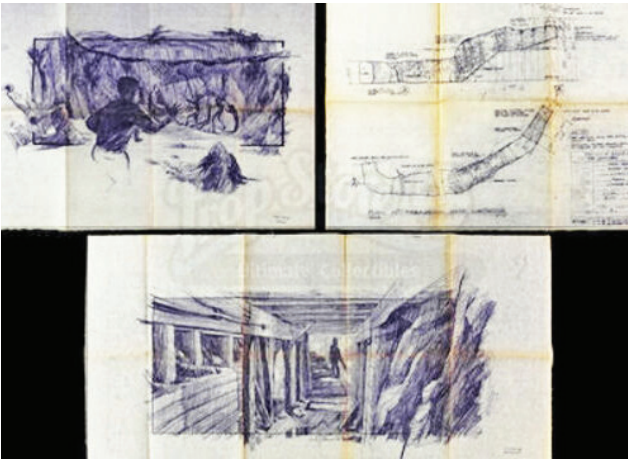
Tidbits form The Daily Astorian, Jan. 29, 1884:

- Sullivan will have a big house Friday night. Second only in attraction is Slade, the Maori giant.
- Note:** **John L. Sullivan** (1858-1918), aka the “Boston Strong Boy,” was a bare-knuckle boxer and one of America’s first superstar athletes. In 1884, he toured 28 states, offering a purse of \$50 (\$1,320 now) up to anyone who could go three rounds with him. Thousands came to see him on tour. He earned \$140,000 (\$3.7 million now). (bit.ly/JSully)

And from **The Daily Morning Astorian, Jan. 30, 1884:**

- It will be remembered that a few days after the loss of the pilot schooner **J.C. Cousins**, one of the yawls (the schooner’s small boats) came ashore on the beach. It now appears that the other is used by the Suislaw (southern Oregon) mail carrier. How it got away down there is a mystery.
- Note:** A luxury yacht used as a pilot boat, the schooner was homeported in Astoria. On Oct. 7, 1883, she was near **Clatsop Spit**, waiting to guide ships across the Columbia River Bar, when the wind suddenly changed and she ran into the beach.
- Rescuers only found one of the two yawls, the log and some papers; the four-man crew had vanished. Was it murder or mutiny? To this day, no one knows. (bit.ly/JCCousins)
- The project of cutting a **canal** through the **Nicaragua peninsula** is reported to have failed.
- Note:** While the project was seriously bantered about for several years, the U.S. dropped the plan when it bought the France’s interest in the Panama Canal, which opened in 1914. (bit.ly/nicacanal)
- **Major Blakeny** is going to establish a **life saving station** at **North Cove**, Pacific County, Washington Territory.
- Note:** A lighthouse, built there in 1858, had toppled by 1940, due to severe erosion. The lifesaving station and the North Cove community, established in 1884, met the same fate. A 2017 ecology report says erosion in North Cove, aka (aptly) **Washaway Beach**, has averaged “roughly 100 feet per year for the last century.” (bit.ly/washaway1, bit.ly/washaway2)

GOONIES GIFT



Want to give the ultimate “The Goonies” fan the ultimate **Goonies gift** for Valentine’s Day? Break out your wallet, some of the movie’s original production **storyboards** are for sale at **Propstore.com** (bit.ly/goonie-prop) for \$345 each.

Storyboards are drawn in pen and ink or pencil to visualize a scene shot by shot, with the director’s guidance. Copies are sent to department heads before production begins.

The drawing usually has the number of the shot in the story sequence, the characters involved, camera directions and notes about special effects, if any. Most of the drawings on Propstore are by **Dave Carson**.

A **blueprint set** previously owned by the artist, **Jack Johnson**, selling for \$1,495, also includes his handwritten notes and diagrams of the **Lighthouse Lounge** basement, which was built over the secret caves belonging to **One-Eyed Willy**. The set is shown, courtesy of Propstore.

By the way, Johnson worked as a production illustrator, conceptual artist or art director on more than 60 films, including “Edward Scissorhands,” “Jurassic Park III,” “The Perfect Storm,” “Independence Day” and “Beetlejuice.” (bit.ly/JJohnsonArt)

A WAY TO HEAL



“I really believe in this project out of Natick, Massachusetts,” Astorian **Judith Niland** avowed, referring to the **Rainbow Peace Flag Project**.

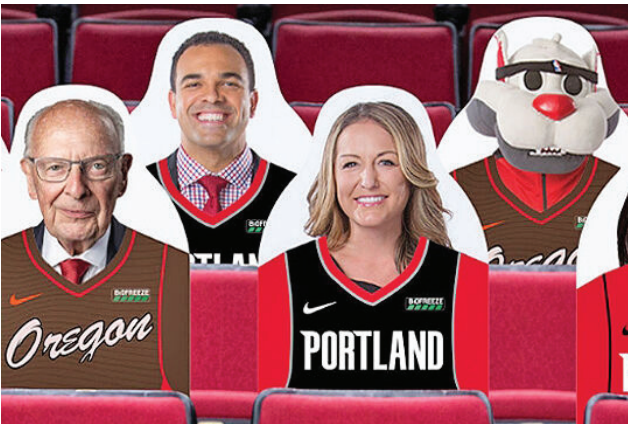
“Created by a small group of people at the **Common Street Spiritual Center**, they designed these flags to seek to extend kindness and caring across the nation with love that includes all.

“I received my first flag from my cousin (also) Judy Niland of Scituate, Massachusetts, and jumped on board. I have now donated to the center, and was sent over 70 flags, which I gave away within two days from Astoria to Chinook, Washington, and Warrenton to Arch Cape.

“To get your own flag, find them at bit.ly/MApeace. For a \$10 donation they will send you two 3-foot by 5-foot flags, one for you and one to give away.”

“Most people are seeking a way to heal and create a more unified country,” she added. “These flags help them find their own peace, while putting it out for all to see.”

GAME FACE



Blazers fan alert: Bummed out because you can’t attend a **Portland Trail Blazers** game in person? Well, now you can ... sort of.

How? You can appear in the Moda Center’s Fred Meyer Fan Zone as a **Blazers fan cutout** for \$99 and, 10% of net proceeds from each one goes to the Trail Blazers Foundation.

There are three different “decked out” cutout options. You can submit a photo wearing any Trail Blazers branded attire, but only one fan per cutout is allowed. And yes, you can use a pet photo instead. Your cutout might be seen on TV.

They will let you know where your cutout is sitting, but hold that thought, as the specific location could change at any time. If you want to keep the photo at the end of the season, just check that option when ordering.

Interested? Go to bit.ly/fancutout, and get your game face on.