

# THE DAILY ASTORIAN

144TH YEAR, NO. 15

DailyAstorian.com // THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2016

ONE DOLLAR



## Another way out of town

County looks at back roads near Astoria and Seaside as possible lifelines

By **KYLE SPURR**  
*The Daily Astorian*

Seldom used back roads outside Astoria and Seaside could offer a lifeline in a Cascadia earthquake.

Clatsop County Public Works is exploring ways to create alternate and evacuation routes and have identified several possibilities, including some that are

**MORE INSIDE**  
A map outlining possible evacuation routes the county is exploring is on **Page 10A**.

currently gated off on private timberland. County staff are proposing upgrades to Pipeline Road that connects Astoria

to the Svensen area, and the Lewis and Clark Mainline that runs outside Gearhart and Seaside.

Pipeline Road is an 11-mile county road, with only 2 miles that are maintained. Lewis and Clark Mainline is an old logging road that cuts along a ridge through the county.

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A car drives down Pipeline Road, a potential emergency evacuation route, on Wednesday in Astoria.

Danny Miller  
*The Daily Astorian*

## DOUGHBOY TURNS 90



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

*The Daily Astorian*

The Astoria Victory Monument, also known as the Doughboy Monument to World War 1, turns 90 years old today. ¶ The statue, whose official name is “Over the Top at Cantigny,” is named for the village in France where the first American battle took place in 1918. Designed by John Paulding and cast by the American Art Bronze Foundry of Chicago, the monument was presented to the city by the American Legion on July 21, 1926. ¶ American Legion Clatsop Post 12 and the Uniontown Association are sponsoring a rededication at 3 p.m. Saturday.

## Merkley on Trump, trade at town hall

Democratic Party is making strides toward unity, U.S. senator said

By **ERICK BENDEL**  
*The Daily Astorian*

With the Republican National Convention underway in Cleveland, U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley said at an Astoria town hall Wednesday that he is “very concerned” about the vision put forth by Donald Trump.

“It’s really one of tearing down various groups,” particularly Mexican immigrants and Mexican-Americans, the Democratic senator said before a crowd of about 50 at the Judge Guy Boyington Building.

Though he acknowledged his Trump comments were partisan, Merkley made them before a receptive audience that seemed to share the senator’s misgivings about the real estate mogul and reality TV star who took the Republican

nomination. “Most of us in this room are the children of immigrants. It’s what’s made America what it is,” he said, adding that “it’s been part of the creative power of our country to have this input from all over the world.”

Merkley also questioned Trump’s fidelity to American workers.

“When you look at the details: He cheated his subcontractors, he cheated his workers, he shipped jobs overseas, he brought in

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U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley

## Riverbank skeleton an unsolved mystery

4,000 new unidentified remains are found every year

By **NATALIE ST. JOHN**  
*EO Media Group*

CATHLAMET, Wash. — Wearing jeans, a red button-down shirt, gaiters and hiking boots, the skeleton recently found on the bank of the Columbia River looked like it was dressed for a hike.

By the time a boater discovered him in a remote area near Pillar Rock in late May, the unidentified man’s only pos-

sessions were a 1999 penny and a lens cloth in his pocket. But he still had his teeth, complete with quality, modern dental work.

To Wahkiakum County Coroner Dan Bigelow, it seemed like a decent starting point for an investigation, but two months later, he is still trying to find the man’s name. While his list of possible identities for the middle-aged man keeps growing, his list of promising leads has dwindled to practically nothing.

“Just about anybody who disappeared anywhere in the Columbia River basin could credibly be this person,” Bigelow said.

Despite these setbacks,

Bigelow is still trying to find out who the man was, and how he ended up in Wahkiakum County. He recently delivered the remains to the state’s only certified forensic anthropologist, and he is taking a closer look at missing persons cases from across the Northwest and beyond.

“It’s a hell of a shame,” Bigelow said. “I can’t help thinking there is somebody out there looking for this guy.”

### ‘Silent mass disaster’

In Washington’s smaller counties, prosecutors also serve as coroners. It’s an imperfect arrangement that has

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Wikipedia Commons

Unidentified human remains are found with surprising frequency around the U.S. each year, including in rural Washington state. Finding answers about them often is a difficult task, for which few resources are available.



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