

Great Coastal Gale tales recorded at Heritage Museum

Stories saved on DVDs and stored in museum's collection

By JOE GAMM
The Daily Astorian

It was frightening and prolonged. And folks who weathered the Great Coastal Gale will probably never forget the sound of the wind.

But what some people remember best about the storm is neighbors helping neighbors in the recovery effort.

On its one-year anniversary, the Clatsop County Long-Term Disaster Recovery Committee and the Clatsop County Heritage Museum teamed up to record the stories of people affected by the storm.

Turnout was lower than hoped for at Tuesday's event, but a variety of speakers shared their experiences.

Some commonalities emerged from stories about the storms. Waiting through the night as the constant wind rattled the windows. The bumping and thumping as trees fell and debris blew through.

Sara Meyer was awoken by a call early Dec. 3, alerting her and her husband that windows

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RIGHT: Standing inside a cherry picker high off the ground, Mike Newby, of Arbor Care Tree Specialists, removes limbs from a western red cedar tree that needed to be cut down earlier this fall. The crotch of the cedar had developed a large crack that posed a threat to neighboring apartments along 45th Street in Alderbrook. Arbor Care is providing free assessments of trees that are of concern to home owners as the cleanup from the December 2007 storm continues.

ALEX PAJUNAS — *The Daily Astorian*



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