

June 2025 • vol 26 • issue 296

HIPFISH MONTHLY

alternative press serving the lower columbia pacific region

Delight in FREE Music
Make Music Day
June 21

Marco Davis
shines bright in

Again!

The Act of Perfection

a new autobiographical
mini-musical
about growing up gay
in a small town

Community

PRIDE

Galore! p4

Q 10 YEARS OF
THE LOVE AND
GROWTH



IPA Evolutions
*the beer we
mostly drink*



There's Always Something New at The Liberty!

North Coast Symphonic Band

7:00 pm, Thursday, July 3 / Free

Join conductor Terry Dahlgren and special guest vocalist Deac Guidi for a lively celebration of American music. The program features patriotic favorites like "America the Beautiful" and "The Stars and Stripes Forever," along with nostalgic gems from the Great War, as well as Legends and Heroes, evoking the gold rush and the railroad boom. Enjoy light-hearted fun with "The Wild Wild West" TV theme, and hear Guidi perform the beloved Gershwin classic "They Can't Take That Away from Me," along with a stirring Salute to honor our military. An evening of music, history, and American spirit you won't want to miss!



An Evening with Colin Meloy

7:30 pm, Saturday, August 30 / \$37 — Sold Out!

7:30 pm, Saturday, August 31 / \$37 — New Show!

The multi-talented Colin Meloy — singer, songwriter, guitarist and author — promises to deliver an intimate show of original and cover hits in his return to the Liberty. Meloy is the frontman and songwriter for The Decemberists, Portland's famed Grammy-nominated band. Meloy has also recorded and toured as a solo artist, releasing a series of cover EPs, including "Colin Meloy Sings The Kinks." Other recordings feature the music of Morrissey, Shirley Collins and Sam Cooke, along with his live album, "Colin Meloy Sings. . . Live!"



2nd Show
Added!

Missoula Children's Theatre

Auditions: 10:00 am, Monday, July 7

Performances: 3:00 & 5:30 pm, Saturday, July 12

Getting your kids on stage has never been easier — or more fun! The Missoula Children's Theatre is coming to town with everything it takes to put on a play — except the cast. That's where you come in! We're looking for 50-60 local students (K-12) itching to get on stage and learn more about the art. The kid's hard work all caps off with two performances of this classic production you won't want to miss!



Pride Gayla 2025

7:30 pm, Saturday, June 14 / \$20 (adult), \$10 (youth)

Come enjoy an evening filled with joy, elegance and dazzling entertainment, as we live the theme "Celebrate Love," marking 10 years of Astoria Pride — complete with surprises guests!

Lower Columbia Q Center's Pride Gala

8:00 pm, Friday, June 20 / \$35

Join us for an unforgettable evening with guest emcee Marco Davis, hosting a fundraiser to support the LCQC, our local non-profit dedicated to inclusion and empowerment.

North Coast Comedy Night

8:00 pm, Saturday, July 5 / \$10 / 18+

Celebrate the holiday weekend with host Drew Wilson-McGrath, along with the hilarious Bo Johnson and Brandon Lyons.

Buy your tickets today! Online or at the Box Office.
www.libertyastoria.org

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Barbara Anne Oregon Folksinger stories & songs w/ NIALL and Chris McNeary Sunday, June 15, 7pm

FOLKSINGER BARBARA GAIDOSH, known lovingly on the north coast as Barbara Anne performs original songs and stories from her long career which began in the 60's playing coffee houses with her Martin guitar in hand, tooling around from gig to gig in her VW van.

Eventually she signed with a Seattle-based agency to be the lead singer in a country rock band, and toured all over the west coast and the mid-west. On her way up the music ladder she was on her way to being signed by a Southern California agent as a solo artist, when she was struck with a debilitating health issue. At this point in her life she had to put her music career aside

to heal and rethink life's path.

Barbara Anne moved to the Lower Columbia Pacific Region a couple decades ago, and after raising children and the passing of her husband she made the decision it was time to revisit her passion. In a former media interview she talked about how when her husband passed away, he left a letter requesting that she play Bob Dylan's "Knockin' on Heaven's Door," at his service. "It was, honestly, probably one of the hardest things I had ever done," she said of the performance. "... But after that, I thought, can I do this again?"

Today Barbara Anne, at 78 is playing on a weekly basis in a variety venues, from events to galleries to brew pubs. She loves connecting with young folks who enjoy hearing her stories about a different time. She's released several CD's, her latest entitled "New Beginnings." She also just recently wrote an original song written with Reba McIntyre in mind. She's sent it off to Reba.

In this special show at KALA, joining Barbara Anne, two veteran players, NIALL on lead guitar and Chris McNeary on guitar and harp form a lively trio to enhance Barbara Anne's personal stories and original songs, her lovely seasoned voice, and heart-felt tunes. In addition, the trio will perform some choice classics from the 60's and 70's.

Chris McNeary can also be heard with bands, The Villainous Things and Roostipher on the Oregon/Washington coast, and with singer Holly Jeffrey.

NIALL rocked the north coast with his band ThunderRoad for 15 years and continues as a solo artist, and backup guitarist.

Join the trio for an uplifting acoustic show on a June's eve, for a night of shared stories, humor and great music!

Show at 7pm. Doors at 6:30pm. Tickets: \$20

The Carpathian-Pacific Trio Klezmer and more! Sunday June 22, 7pm

ON A SUMMER TOUR that includes a headline date at the Backwoods Accordion Festival in Trego, Montana, The Carpathian-Pacific Trio will be stopping by the KALA stage to perform an intimate program of klezmer and Yiddish song, Romanian and Hungarian fiddle tunes, devotional Hasidic melody, Eastern European folk, American theatre and cabaret music, and much more.

Steeped in Portland's klezmer music community, the all-star trio is Jack "Yankl" Falk, on clarinet and vocals, Andrew Erlich on violin and Courtney Von Drehle on accordion.

For more than 40 years, **JACK "YANKL" FALK** has been at the center of Yiddish cultural life in Portland and beyond. His repertoire and performance reflects his long involvement with Hungary's premier Yiddish ensemble, Di Naye Kapelye, with whom he recorded three acclaimed CDs of Carpathian Jewish roots music and performed at festivals across Europe.

For more than 30 years, Yankl produced and hosted the Sunday morning Yiddish Hour on Portland radio. A traditional singer of Jewish liturgy, Yankl was featured in a 2013 New York Times article about itinerant High Holiday cantors.

ANDREW EHRLICH is a longtime klezmer and co-founder of his own band, Hora Tzigane, with Martin Morgenbesser, and is the leader of Dr. Ehrlich and the Magic Bullets. Andrew has served as concertmaster of the Portland Chamber Orchestra and the Portland Columbia Symphony. He is a former member



of the group "FEAR no MUSIC" and continues to play chamber music in recital.

COURTNEY VON DREHLE is a co-founder of Portland's acclaimed **3 Leg Torso** and a member of the Oregon Music Hall of Fame. He has been an integral member of Portland's klezmer music community for more than 35 years, serving as co-leader of the klezmer/jazz ensemble Klezmocracy and the Portland Klezmer All-Stars. Courtney is an Emmy-nominated composer as well as an accordion evangelist who teaches privately and at workshops throughout the US.

Vocalist Dinah Urell joins for a song spot.

Show at 7pm. Doors at 6:30pm. Tickets: \$20

KALA PERFORMANCE SPACE is an intimate cabaret concert venue with beverage bar. Limited seating. Located at 1017 Marine Dr. in Astoria. FMI: 503.338.4878. Tickets online at kalaastoria.com At the door upon availability.

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COMMUNITY PRIDE GALORE

Astoria Pride

10 Year Anniversary

Friday June 13 – Pride Pub Crawl. Starts at Fulio's FuBar@ 5:15pm. Visit special spots to kick of Astoria Pride Weekend

Saturday June 14 – Pride Parade. 3rd St and Astoria Riverwalk. Starts at 11am and ends at the Barbey Center.



Saturday June 14 – 10 Years of Pride, Pride Gayla. Cocktail reception in the McTavish Room, Cocktail with the Queens at 6:30 (\$35). Celebrate Love! Show at 7:30pm. \$20 Gen, \$10 (youth \$15 and under).

Astoria Pride honors Mr. Bill, longtime cherished friend to Astoria Pride since its inception. Mr. Bill has dedicated 50 years of his life to uplifting communities across the United States and Canada. From serving the International Court System to representing Oregon and the Rose Court of Portland as Rose Emperor XVI, Mr. Bill's legacy is one of love, generosity, and leadership

Sunday June 15 – Pride Brunch and Sip. 11am/Show noon. \$30 includes brunch and show. Performances, raffles, contest and cocktail specials. At Fulios Restaurant.

Lower Columbia Q Center Pride

Friday June 20 – Pride Gala Fundraiser, **Ten Years Loud, Ten Years Proud.** 8pm at the Liberty Theatre. Host Marco Davis. 18+ please. Tickets \$35. VIP Party in the McTavish Room (\$40). After Party at Inferno

Saturday June 21 – Block Party 11am – 3pm in collaboration with Fort George in the Little Miss Texas Brewery. Performers, poets,



zine making, face painting and more. Family friendly.

Wednesday June 11– Talk: Queer Maritime Animals. 1pm. Lovell Room Fort George. Presented by Columbia River Maritime Museum

Sunday June 29 – Pride March on Riverwalk, Meeting at Maritime Memorial
www.lcqc.org

2nd Annual Manzanita Pride

Saturday June 7 – Sordid Lives (Queer themes play) Riverbend Players @ the NCRD (group tickets available)

Wednesday June 18 – Queer Picnic & Sign Making for Pride Parade, 5-7pm at Manzanita Park

Saturday June 28 – Manzanita Pride Parade and Party 11-4pm. Parade meets 11am at Manzanita Beach - bottom of Laneda Ave. 11:30 Parade, 12:30 Pride Party @ Dirty Bird (corner of Division and Manzanita).



Seaside Pride Walk & Party

Saturday June 7 – Begins 12pm. Meet at the junction of 12th St, and the Prom (the sidewalk running along side the beach. There is parking on 12 St. Bring flags, signs, smiles, pets and

Pride!! From 12 St. the procession with walk toward the Turnaround. Feel free to join at any section of the Promenade. There is also public parking at the parking garage on Ave A.

AFTERPARTY: 6 – 9pm at Controversial Coffee! 111 Broadway St #7 (across the street from the bumper cars) Grab a drink, bring some friends, boogie down to celebrate community, found family, and the wonderful diversity of pride with tunes curated by DJ Sophia Starchild



Pacific County Pride Long Beach and Raymond Washington

Wednesday June 4 – Rainbow Business Mixer, 5:30–7:30pm. Location TBA. Network with LGBTQIA+ friendly businesses

Sunday June 8 – Pride Paddle on the Willapa River, 12:00-3pm. Bring your kayaks and canoes.

Friday June 20 – VIP Thank You Soiree. 6-8pm. Honoring sponsors/volunteers. Peninsula Arts Center

Saturday June 21 – Long Beach Pride Festival, (11am – 6pm). Pride Prance Parade. Starts from the Drop Anchor at 11:30am.

Veterans Field • Vendors & Real Live Drag Performances hosted by The Ladi Vixxen



June 22 – Raymond Pride. All Day!

9am – 12pm: Pride Brunch & Mimosa Bar at Alder+Co

12-5pm: Riverfront Celebration (vendors, food, music)

5:30pm: Pride Prance to Raymond Theatre

6:00–7:30pm: Drag Extravaganza (hosted by The Ladi Vixxen)

www.pacificcountypride.com

Welcome Inclusion Service Sunday June 15

PEACE FIRST Lutheran Church, 725 33rd



St, Astoria Oregon. Welcoming the LGBTQI2+ community. Featuring vocalists Deac Guidi, Walter TRubull and Dinah Urell. Sunday June 15, 2025 8:30am & 11am, peacefirstlutheran.com.





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Astoria's Repair Café is Back!

Bringing together people with broken stuff with people who know how to fix it—creating community around skill sharing, repair, and waste reduction

REPAIR CAFE IS BACK! RC is a community, mutual aid event. Volunteers give their time, supplies and expertise to fix your basic household items. General categories include electronics, clothing/fabrics, tool sharpening, bike repair.

Repair Cafe started in Astoria in 2016, and paused during Covid. When a person attends a RC event, their item will be assessed (each person allowed one item unless it's not busy) and assigned to a fixer. They can take this opportunity to learn from the fixer, if they're able to explain the process. The attendee should allow

for several outcomes: usually we can fix their item, sometimes they might be asked to return to the next meeting with a specific part or supply, and occasionally the problem isn't fixable.

Upcoming RC Events are as follows:

Weds June 11, 5:30-7:30 at Obelisk Brewing, 598 Bond St

Weds July 9, 5:30-7:30, at Shift + Wheeler, 1062 Marine Drive

Please look at the RC instagram for updates and guidelines! @repairastoria



Oregon legislature passes bipartisan bill to eliminate bags made of plastic film at checkout

SALEM, Ore.—The Oregon Senate passed on Tuesday Senate Bill 551, which would eliminate all bags made of plastic film at checkout at restaurants, grocery stores and other retail establishments in Oregon. The final, bipartisan concurrence vote was 22-8 in favor. The bill originally included provisions that would have required single-use plastic toiletries at lodging establishments to be available only upon request, as well as adding plastic utensils and condiments to Oregon's

existing "straws upon request" laws. However, the Oregon House removed both of those sections. The bill now heads to Gov. Tina Kotek for her signature.

Oregon state Sen. Janeen Sollman and advocates who supported the bill celebrated the passage of Senate Bill 551 as an important step forward for reducing plastic pollution. They also expressed their commitment to pushing additional, commonsense, plastic reduction policies in the future.

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INCO NEWS INDIVISIBLE

"Democracy is not just the right to vote, it is the right to live in dignity." – Naomi Klein

The Would-Be King

By Teresa Patterson

TRUMP plans a huge military parade for his birthday on June 14, 2025. It will cost up to \$45 million in taxpayer money. The parade is not to celebrate the end of a lengthy war, or a triumph in American ingenuity, or to honor the two-hundred and fifty years of this country. The parade is just for Trump, a narcissistic bully who must be in the limelight every second of the day to placate his fragile ego.

Not everyone in the country will be in Washington D.C. to watch this preposterously pompous parade. Thousands of people in America and other nations will be at rallies protesting this would-be king who is eroding our rights, stealing our money, and alienating our allies. Trump claims he doesn't know the Constitution which prohibits royalty in the U.S. Article One, Section Nine clearly states, "No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States." No king. No tyrant. No oligarch.

We do not need a monarchy in this country. We have a system in which we elect our officials. The system is not without flaws which the founding fathers knew. The Constitution states,

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish the Constitution of the United States of America.

We are always in the process of making this country a more perfect union. We continually strive for equality, justice for all and domestic tranquility. But that effort is interrupted when one person believes his way is the only way, that he is the most important person in the country, not for what he does for others, but because of who he is. He expects us to accept every lie he states in his effort to rule over all that he sees.

It may sound silly, but I have been thinking about Yertle, The Turtle by Dr. Seuss lately. In the children's book, Yertle lives in a beautiful, clean and warm little pond. There is plenty to eat, life is good for all of the turtles. But not for Yertle, "the king of them all, Decided the kingdom he ruled is too small." He bullies the other turtles into creating a new throne so that he can farther and farther. The turtles climb on each other's back, and Yertle sits on top of them all so that he can rule all that he sees. At the bottom of the pile, a turtle named Mack objects,

*But down here below, we are feeling great pain.
I know, up on top you are seeing great sights,
But down here at the bottom we, too, should have rights.*

Yertle yells that they have no right to complain to the "world's highest turtle." He decides that he wants to be as high as the moon and needs more turtles for his throne. But Mack has had enough.

*And that plain little lad got a little bit mad
And that plain little Mack did a plain little thing.
He burped!*

That little burp shakes the throne. Yertle falls from his throne into the pond becoming the king of the mud.

*And the turtles, of course . . . all turtles are free
As turtles, and, maybe, all creatures should be.*

The USA is touted as the land of the free and the home of the brave. Daily, our freedoms, our rights are threatened by the Trump administration. We must be brave and speak out like Mack against tyrants like Yertle. In history, the cruelty and corruption of many tyrants led to their own violent ends, either by their own hands or through the justice systems in their countries. We don't need violence in the United States to keep our country. Violence only breeds mor violence.

Let's throw a different party on June 14, one that is without soldiers, tanks or guns, a party that embraces our diversity, equality, inclusion. We need loud, clear voices -- like Mack the turtle -- joined in a community that promotes freedom, justice, kindness, and cooperation.

JUNE 14 PROTESTS

ASTORIA

WE THE PEOPLE ONE-MILE RALLY

noon - 1:30

South side of Marine Drive from 18th to 35th Streets
Indivisible North Coast Oregon and North Coast Action

SEASIDE

11:30 - 12:30

On the sidewalk along Highway 101 at the Seaside Outlet Mall
Indivisible North Coast Oregon

MANZANITA

noon - 2

The junction of 101 South and Laneda Avenue
Please don't park in Big Wave restaurant lot
Indivisible Tillamook Coast Action

TILLAMOOK

noon

Sue Elmore Park, alongside HWY 101, Front Street
and Ivy Avenue
Indivisible Tillamook Coast Action

LONG BEACH, WA

12 - 3 pm

Bolstad Pavillion, 420 Bolstad Avenue West
Indivisible Pacific County

RAYMOND, WA

12 - 3 pm

WBR Gathering Spot
U.S. 101 & Heath Street
Indivisible Pacific County



Indivisible North Coast Oregon (INCO) defends democracy by opposing authoritarianism, bigotry, and corruption. Sign up to get our weekly e-newsletter at www.incoregon.org, or contact incoregon@gmail.com. Indivisible North Coast Oregon is on Facebook.

IPA Evolves. the best selling craft beer

Story and Photos By William Dean

AN ASTORIA brewery recently released an IPA that stands out simply because it *doesn't* push the envelope.

There's no new combination of emerging hops and extracts to create bold aromas and intense flavors. No cutting-edge brewing techniques used.

Instead, the coppery India pale ale serves as something of a time machine, taking drinkers back a generation.

Buoy Beer Co.'s aptly named Throwback IPA is an attempt to recreate an early 1990s version of the beer style: packed with hops and lip-puckeringly bitter, with no milky haze, tropical aromas or finishing sweetness.

The potent brew illustrates just how far American IPAs have evolved, adapting to ever-changing palates.

The prestigious Great American Beer Festival, which judges the nation's best brews, didn't even have an IPA category until 1989. Now there are hop-rich substyles galore, drawing a flood of entries.



Buoy's Throwback IPA lives up to its name.

For nearly 15 years, IPAs have reigned as the bestselling craft beer, claiming four out of every 10 sales today, according to industry figures.

That kind of public demand is hard to resist.

When Buoy opened on the waterfront in 2013, head brewer Kevin Shaw wanted to focus on "classic lagers." So did the owners. On the original taplist, there were no IPAs.

But Shaw, now director of production, quickly realized it was folly to ignore what so many beer drinkers craved. Buoy IPA was released, becoming an immediate hit.

"It's been the No. 1 seller," he says. "You have to pay the bills, so ..."

—

By beer standards, IPAs don't have a long history.

The first heavily hopped pale ales were created in England roughly 230 years ago.

IPA got its name from the specially modified ale shipped to British troops in colonial India in the early 1800s. To prevent the brew from spoiling on the long sea voyage, brewers stuffed the batches with extra hops.

The new ale was a minor marketing success but remained largely confined to Great Britain until the 1970s, when emerging American craft brewers began putting their stamp on traditional European beers, using homegrown ingredients.

On the West Coast, fragrant Cascade hops grown in Oregon became the early signature of the style, in large part because the crop was both affordable and accessible.

The first American IPAs were bitter and strong, made with far more hops than the English variety. They were also worlds apart from the pale, low-alcohol, mass-produced lagers that had dominated the U.S. beer market for generations. (Budweiser and Modelo still do).

One of the first craft breakthroughs was San Francisco-based Anchor Brewing's Liberty Ale, which debuted in 1975, using



Head brewer Kevin Shaw inside Buoy's main brewing facility.

Cascade hops. It's considered the first example of what is now known as a West Coast IPA.

But few brewers thought IPAs would catch on 50 years ago. Many considered it a niche beer.

Two major breakthroughs changed that: hop farms and breeders created new strains that were more aromatic and flavorful; and brewers figured out how to balance out the bitterness with heavy, sweet malt bases and advanced techniques, such as dry-hopping (adding hops after fermentation).

None of that would have mattered, of course, if tastes hadn't also changed. They did, in a big way.

Shaw remembers making groundbreaking IPAs at BridgePort Brewing in Portland 26 years ago. Some 75 pounds of hops went into each batch – much more than any other style, he says.

Other West Coast brewers noticed and kept trying to turn up the volume. Call it the hoppy beer "arms race."

"There was more bitterness, more bitterness, more bitterness," Shaw recalls. "Those weren't really pleasant beers, if we're being honest about it. Thankfully, there was a transition. Once aromatics and flavors started to be prioritized over the bitterness, things kind of swung the other way. We started getting those balanced beers."

By the 2000s, American IPA brewers were embracing ever-more aromatic and flavorful hop varieties, including Simcoe, Amarillo and Citra. A flavor revolution ensued.

While the volume of hops used per batch continued to rise, detectable bitterness dropped, creating smoother, juicier and more fragrant beers. Distinct substyles also emerged.

Hazy (or Juicy) IPAs became a huge hit with consumers, characterized by a shift to tropical flavors and a smoother finish. "Hazies" became an enticing introduction to craft beer for many due to its softer, creamier taste.

IPAs have now evolved to the point that substyles straddle nearly every beer category. Some sip like lagers, others like sours and stouts. They come in all colors. There's even something called Brut IPA that tastes and looks a bit like champagne.

What will the future hold?

Some brewers predict a swing toward lower-alcohol "session" IPAs that retain hop flavor and aroma. That's already happening with Ballast Point Brewing's Even Keel and Sierra Nevada's Nooner Session.

Is it another pendulum swing or something more long-term? Nobody seems to know.

Buoy's Shaw, though, is fairly certain about one thing: IPA is the king of craft beer, and the throne is secure.

"I have a tough time seeing another style knocking it off its pedestal," he says.

—

When Vortex was introduced by newly founded Fort George Brewery 18 years ago, the "hop-forward" IPA was an instant success.

In the years since, the Astoria brewery has released dozens of other IPAs, some of them capturing major awards. But none has eclipsed Vortex as a perennial sales leader.


If you thought the Vortex recipe has remained the same, as in don't mess with success, you'd be wrong. It's been constantly

cont p8

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Further evolution: A hazy West Coast IPA from Astoria's Obelisk Beer Co. that's packed with flavor.

changing, much like the beer style itself.

The trick is to have Vortex fans think it's the same.

"What you're doing is making that beer taste the same to them even though it's different," says Michal Frankowicz, Fort George's head of brewery operations.

IPA EVOLVES.

The original Vortex tasted more bitter than the current version, with less aromatic qualities. Today's recipe uses a different combination of hops that are more flavorful with a smoother mouthfeel.

"Everybody is going to think that Vortex has been the same bitterness, but originally it was really, really high," Frankowicz says.

A typical IPA today is made with three times the hops per barrel than even 20 years ago, he says, but the key ingredient is more flavorful than ever due to horticultural advances.

"Even the concept of getting mango or passion fruit [flavors] out of a hop 20 or 25 years would be insane to think about," Frankowicz says, shaking his head. "We have a hop right now that when we did sensory on it, it was blueberry cheesecake."

There's no way of knowing which way trends will swing, from bitterness to sweetness and back again, so Fort George monitors closely which IPAs are selling best. In-house recipes are

adjusted. Sensory panels offer crucial feedback.

"It's a constant evolution. Almost monthly," Frankowicz says. "How the bitterness is handled is very, very important."

Astoria Brewing Co. opted not to adjust the recipe for its Bitter Bitch IPA, considered by many to be the most biting brew on the North Coast.

The beer had a cult following for more than 20 years, but as consumer tastes changed, sales plunged.

A few years ago, Bitter Bitch and its snarling dog logo were unceremoniously retired. The brewery's next IPAs would reflect modern tastes. A juicy. A hazy. A West Coast.

To nobody's surprise, they sold well.

WILLIAM DEAN is an author who also writes about craft beer and the people who make it. His blog is Astoria Beer Zone.

hf

MAKE MUSIC DAY

Join the worldwide celebration of Music on June 21 in Clatsop County

THE ARTS COUNCIL of Clatsop County joins the Make Music Day celebration for the fourth year on Saturday, June 21. Make Music Day is a one-day event where free, live musical performances and opportunities to make music take place around the world on the longest day of the year. Musical festivities in Clatsop County are part of a global celebration of music making in over 1,000 cities inspired by France's Fête de la Musique.

The Arts Council of Clatsop County invites everyone from professional musicians to people who have never picked up an instrument to join in the global music celebration by attending events around the county from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Hear songs inspired by the ocean at the Maritime Museum; join a bucket-drumming session; learn to play the harmonica or steel pan drum; play handbells as part of a large group;

or relax to the sounds of many local musicians. An up-to-date list of event locations and times can be found at makemusicday.org/clatsopcounty. Registration is still open for musicians and venues.

Make Music Clatsop County is inviting venues in Astoria, Cannon Beach, Seaside, and Warrenton to join in the one-day festival this year. Both artists and venues will have a profile on the website. Venue profiles include contact information, how long venues will host music, what kinds of music a venue is interested in booking, and what kind of equipment (chairs, electricity, water), if any, a venue can provide. Artist profiles include contact information and the type(s) of music an artist or



ASTORIA UKULELE ORCHESTRA takes the Ten Fifteen stage at 7pm. Find the schedule at www.makemusicday.org/clatsopcounty. This non-ticketed event lets you check out musicians and venues participating 2pm - 8pm on June 21.

band performs. Pictures, social media, and website links can be uploaded to venue and artist profiles. Venues and performers can register and create their profiles at clatsopcounty.makemusicday.org. Once finalized, performances are posted to the live, interactive map on the website.

Music has been shown to strengthen social connectivity, reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and stimulate memory. It is integral to a well-rounded, enjoyable life. By participating in Make Music Day, the Arts Council of Clatsop County encourages every form of music making.

By Dakayla Walters

Cele-gay-ting 10 years of the “Q”

TEN YEARS AGO, in 2015, the Lower Columbia Q Center (LCQC) first opened its doors to a 5-year run at the Astoria Armory Community Center. It was the same year that gay marriage in America was finally legalized thanks to a victory in supreme court case Obergefell v. Hodges, and the same year that name Caitlin Jenner was an inspiration—not an eyeroll.

Fast forward to 2025, and the LCQC has survived an arbitration over the ownership of Astoria Pride, moved to a new location, and maintained their status as a community stronghold for 2LGBTQIA+ support. Now, as a more conservative government peddles anti-queer agendas in the form of laws to “protect” the sanctity of marriage (never mind focusing in on the sanctity of their multiple failed marriages) and women in sports (but not women in danger of dying from their pregnancies), non-profits like the LCQC that protect and support queer people are more important than ever.

A Community Stronghold

The LCQC’s mission is to provide “outreach, education, and charity for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community and allies of the Lower Columbia Region of Oregon and Washington.” They host groups such as Gender Alliance, Queer Recovery Group, Trans Philosophy Club, and Youth Group. Along with hosting these spaces for members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, they also do focused outreach educating businesses or groups on how to better support transgender, non-binary, 2 spirit, and gender diverse people in outreach program Trans 101, lead by the LCQC’s executive director Bene-



On the iconic red couch in the first Q Center, that still furnishes with love and comfort today (L to R: student member, Tessa Scheller, Marco Davis, and Dee O’Brien)

of the Tessa J Scheller scholarship, named in honor of Tessa Scheller, a prominent community advocate for LGBTQ folks. The scholarship is offered to one adult and one child per year to support members of the community looking to further their education.

The non-profit also offers emergency funds for members of the queer community. “That could be putting someone in shelter for the night, or buying supplies that they need to be safe,” Ben said.

Another way the LCQC advocates for and supports members of the community is through their participation in the Patient Family Advisory Committee with Columbia Memorial Hospital. “We were brought on to that in response to a situation in town,” Ben said. “We guided them through big changes on their health platform. Before, there was no way for somebody to write in their chart what their pronouns were, or even if they had a preferred name outside of their legal name. Now, through our interactions with them, they’ve been able to update these... throughout the whole hospital system now.”

Amidst Political Attacks, Pride Persists

Since the new president elect has taken office, there has been an increased amount of anti-queer and specifically anti-trans bills proposed, passed, and in the process of passing. Transgender people are now not allowed to serve in the US military, with more bigoted policies potentially on the way: adoption agencies may soon be able to legally Discriminate Against Queer Couples Again!

Yet, as queer communities always have, we exist, and we resist. Pride Month is here, and the LCQC has big plans to celebrate queerness joyfully with their Liberty Theater Gala, Block Party at Little Miss Texas Brewery in Forth George Brewing, and, of course, the Pride March on the riverwalk.

“Everybody’s really excited for the Liberty Theater Gala,” board chair Adriana Guerrero (she/her) said. “That’s our bigger, classy, 18+ event.” This year, attendees can look forward to a variety show featuring favorite local drag/burlesque performers, a special

Queer organizing on the coast a bit of history

By Dinah Urell

IN THE EARLY 90’S, the north coast of Oregon saw citizens organize and come together to oppose anti-gay ballot initiatives sponsored by Oregon Citizens Alliance (OCA), and its infamous founder and Exec. Director Lon Mabon. In the Lower Columbia Pacific Region, the group Good Neighbors was formed.

After the OCA’s passage of Measure 8 in 1988, which was designed to overturn Governor Neil Goldschmidt’s executive order banning discrimination in state government based on sexual orientation, it was obvious that its follow-up in 1992, Measure 9, could not be ignored, requiring local education campaigns to prevent its passing. The measure would amend the Oregon constitution to recognize “homosexuality as unnatural, perverse” pairing it with bestiality.” It would also prevent any “special rights” for homosexuals and bisexuals.

It was a different time. The Good Neighbors were successful in raising awareness to defeat Measure 9 in our coastal districts and at the state level. Mabon and the OCA continued to pursue anti-gay legislation up to 2007, while they had some successes in small Oregon communities eventually their efforts to place anti-gay measures were unsuccessful, and they faded away. Today, Lon Mabon and his wife are in the gourmet salsa business.

Coming out of Good Neighbors organizing, the LGBTQ coastal community formed the North Coast Pride Network, (NCPN) made up of queers and allies. NCPN originally formed as a 501 non-profit, but at some point decided that continuing on as a grassroots volunteer human dignity group was a better fit for the times. It found support from Oregon’s Rural Organizing Project in developing its mission in service to the queer community. The group’s efforts from the mid-90s to 2000s, would take part in World Aid’s Day, National Coming Out Day, Stonewall celebrations, movie nights, potlucks, a well-received newsletter supported by many local businesses buying advertising, and a monthly mixer at local establishments. NCPN also eventually shared an office space with Clatsop County Aids Project in the No. 10 6th St. waterfront building in Astoria (destroyed by fire in 2010.)

The last organizing effort related to NCPN was to collaborate with Basic Rights Oregon in the Marriage Equality Campaign to win legal marriage for queer Oregonians through a voting measure. After two years of campaigning BRO made the decision not to put the measure on the 2013 ballot for fear it would not pass and alternatively create another barrier to legalizing marriage—it was a disheartening blow to a lot of hard work by many in a campaign that had reached out to thousands, on the ground and in the media. (It was in May 2014, that same-sex marriage became legally recognized in Oregon, in a District Court ruling that Oregon’s 2004 state constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriages discriminated on the basis of sexual orientation in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution. Oregon was the seventeenth U.S. state to legalize same-sex marriage.)

After the marriage campaign project, the organizing efforts for folks and North Coast Pride Network fizzled out as volunteer driven groups do, and had seen not-surprising lapses over its years of functioning as a grassroots human dignity group, participants oft at-odds in mission and direction. The broad LGBTQ+ coastal community had begun to fade into the woods in relationship to any central type of visibility organization.

In the meantime, The Lower Columbia Diversity Project under the umbrella of Clatsop Community College and coordinator Drew Herzig began to bring a diversity of speakers to the region on the topic of gender identity, an initiation to the region, it was Jenn Burlton of TransActive Education and Advocacy gave the presentation, “Of Trucks and Tiarras” at Columbia Hall. Soon a Trans Support group was formed in Astoria, and would develop into the North Coast Gender Alliance that took office/meeting space with The Harbor (former Womens’ Resource Center) in downtown Astoria. Recently transitioned activist and CCC Board member Tessa Scheller had come out in an article in the Daily Astorian.

The continuum of Queer activism then came to a new bridge when a meeting was organized in 2014 taking place at Clatsop Community College. The question raised, “Where is our LGBTQ community?” The rest is Queerstory!

The Lower Columbia Q Center was born. And determined to formalize as a 501 non-profit with staying power. Following along—the first Astoria Pride Festival, overwhelmingly successful, supported by allies, the city, everyone. Longtime Queer community members have worked together to forge a strong commitment to equality, non-discrimination and the inherent right to live true to who you are in the Lower Columbia Pacific Region.



Exec. Dir. Benedetto DeFrancisco and Board Chair Adriana Guerrero

detto (Ben) DeFrancisco (they/he). The LCQC has successfully taken these presentations to local high schools, the Liberty Theater, and CMH.

“We also do financial support,” Ben said. “We support gender affirming care, including binders and costs for things, but also the legal name change process. We’ll pay those fees... and make sure they get all the documents they need.” The LCQC’s newest financial support offered comes in the form

cont. p10

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interrupted by the pandemic in 2020.

For families looking to celebrate together, both the Block Party and the Pride March are ok for all ages to attend. "We have some local DJs, spoken word from local writers, and featured musicians," Adriana said about the Block Party. The Block Party will also have face painting, a zine workshop hosted by LCQC Junior Board member Noah Hawke, and more.

Expansion and Future Plans for "The Q"

The LCQC has seen a multitude of successful craft nights, Storytimes, and other offerings fill their cozy space on Bond Street in Astoria. Thanks to the popularity of their events with families and youth, the non-profit is looking to expand their space to somewhere that can host more people. "We need a bigger space, which is a huge goal for the future," Adriana said. "It gets really full in here, which is a fantastic problem to have. We're really grateful... but yes, we desperately need a bigger space."

The LCQC also hopes to partner with more local businesses in the future to increase community awareness. "Visibility and access have been a really big thing," Adriana said. "Partnering with local organizations is one of the ways we can do that. Making sure that we're visible to the community so that they know we're here and what we have to offer."

Queer youth are also high on the list of future priorities at the LCQC. "We've talked about youth leadership programs and trying to build up and boost our youth programming," Ben said, "anything to help them express their joy." The LCQC hopes to give queer kids more opportunities for new experiences and education by partnering with local businesses, whether it's skill building or finding a new hobby.

Supporting the LCQC

So, what's the best way to support this cornerstone in our community?

"Talking about us," Adriana said. "Participating in groups, and then sharing [your] experiences. Word of mouth is huge." Just like the LCQC shows up for the community members, community members need to show up for the LCQC. "Pride month has been really difficult since we re-started. I just really want people to participate and reach out if they're curious," Adriana said.

Community members are also welcomed to pitch ideas to the LCQC if they see a need that isn't being addressed. "If they have ideas and feel called to show up in a certain way with the Q, reach out," Ben said.

"All of the groups have been because there was a need that someone brought up," Adriana added. "We have room for more things, and we have room in the schedule, always."

Donations, of course, are a staple for non-profits like the LCQC. "99% of our events are free, and we want to make sure we're that accessible," Adriana said. To keep that accessibility, donations are vital, whether the contributions are based in time volunteering or money.

The LCQC hosts support groups and family events, provides resources and outreach to the Clatsop County area, and offers financial support in the form of scholarships, emergency funds, and gender affirming care. Find Out! online at <https://lcqcpide.org/>

Q Center video, Triple Moon Belly Dance, the return of Eugene friends the dynamic Work Dance Company, hosted by Marco Davis, who produced the first Pride Gala at the Liberty. It's an exciting return to a new tradition that was

AGAIN! The Act of Perfection

Marco Davis' autobiographical mini-musical

By Dinah Urell

"I was in an artistic desert," says Marco Davis, writer, director and featured performer of the Ten Fifteen Theater's current production, AGAIN! The Act of Perfection—a title itself that could easily conjure a Jean Paul Sartre satire, or in Greek mythology, "The Myth of Sisyphus" with a symbolic message—to embrace the absurd."

Davis is referring to a dry spell not that long before he submitted a directorial script to the Ten Fifteen's 2025 season call. The scenes for his autobiographical mini-musical began to flow on to the pages, inspired after attending the theater's summer 48-hour Performathon. Those scenes revealing the not-so-happy stories from his life as a gay boy growing up in a small town, the small town of Astoria. "I was blown away when they said yes," says Davis.

And that dry spell—a nice rest after many years of fruitful and generous creativity. Show producer, dancer, choreographer, costumer, drag queen, songwriter, blogger, community activist and organizer, cook and waiter at the iconic Columbian Café transforming to gourmet chef of delicious organic foods, born under the sign of Aquarius.

In 2023 Davis tore a calf muscle in preparation for a dance number to be performed at the Liberty Theatre for a Work Dance Company show. (Director Nate Boozer and company based in Eugene return this year to the Q Center Gala.) In replacement, a rehearsal video was shown of Davis performing the solo number to tune "Feeling Good." Ironically, that was the last public collaboration for Davis. As time went by concerns from friends, family, community and collaborators wondered, "Would he resurface?"



A chorus of bullies

In the early 90's when Clatsop Community College was investing in the performing arts through the PAC stage (now the Charlene Larsen Center on 16th & Franklin), 20-something Davis was costume assistant to Jeanine Fairchild, who dressed all the theater productions at the PAC and for many years the costumer for the Coaster Theater. (I myself was one of the first music majors at CCC in 1977 when the college first opened

the doors to the PAC, an observation into the continuing growth of the arts to this region). Eventually he would then work for Jeanine and her husband Uriah Hulsey at the Columbian Café. That was an on and off 23 year stint. The Columbian Café in Astoria was the toast of Bohemia, including the great jalapeno jams made by Hulsey.

Many people would get to know Davis, himself a people magnet with vivacious humor, through the mighty little diner. They would also get to know him as a dance choreographer for local musicals. Davis grew up in the Jeanne Maddox Studios, once above the Liberty Theatre. Davis eventually headed to Eugene and the U of O to formally study dance. He received a Masters in the study of The Male in Dance and Dance Education, and was a 3-year dance teaching fellow. He returned to Astoria in 2007.

Flashback 2009. Marco Davis puts on a show at the Columbian Theater for his 40th birthday. Various friends perform. He follows up with another show called The Event, a more focused performance art show. This is one where city councilor Andrea Mazzarella pulls a large plastic bouquet of flowers out of her bosom to her performance of "Like a Virgin."

Then comes THE ERUPTION. At this point, Davis's choreographic vision comes into play. Dancers and non-dancers together under his direction, create a pop-tech-no spectacle of numbers, from lantern carrying monks to the goddess Venus, a gift from Busby Berkley birthed in the Columbian Theater in Astoria.

Then all the stops came out. In 2012, Davis brought us Dragalution and his Drag persona Daylight. Male, female, gay, straight — all performers on deck, find your feminine drag persona. From comic, to sexy, sweet and inspiring, (or as written in a 2012 Hipfish article, daring, delicious and just a little dirty) Dragalution productions which occurred in summer Regatta weekends and New Years Eve, produced long audience lines around the block of the theater. Audience members also in drag. Packed houses. If there hadn't been a cultural movement going on in the world, there was one in Astoria.

Nurturing a growing list of performers and dancers, Davis, founding member of the Q Center and Astoria Pride transferred the Dragalution phenom to the first



The cast of AGAIN!: Back row L to R: Julia Shepard, Conner Price, Cameron Lira, Marc Weaver, Amanda Payne, Front L to R: Jessamyn Grace West, Marco Davis, Cameron Wagner

Pride Gala at the Liberty Theatre for a three year run until the pandemic put a hold on it. This year will see a return to the tradition birthed from the spirit of Dragalution.

Davis' autobiographical work would not be true to his spirit as a solo show. A tap dancing Greek chorus better fits the bill, to emphasize the absurdity of pain, reflections of the past and the beauty of human expression. The Dirty Boy Band; Tyler Little on drums, Skyler Butenshon on keys and Olaf Ydstie on bass are tucked just stage right, fitting perfectly for a first time live music theater band ensemble at 1015.

Davis introduced his lyrics and melodies to Skyler Butenshon who has helped to craft them into Broadway style tunes, maybe with a little bit of "punk." Two

stand out original numbers from Dragalution, "I AM" and "Butterfly Fleet," both techno-pop numbers will be performed live for the first time, originally produced by Tyler Little.

Jessamyn Grace West and Cameron Wagner, long-time Dragalution dancers join Davis in this production as Davis calls them, the grounding goddesses. Coaster staples Cameron Lira and Amanda Payne, along with Sarah Elder, Conner Price, Julia Shepherd and Marc Weaver complete the Greek!

At this writing the first two performances are sold out. Next shows: June 6-7, 12-14 at 7:30pm, June 1 and 8 at 3:30pm. A community discussion will follow the June 8th performance, hosted by members of the Lower Columbia Q Center. Tickets are \$25



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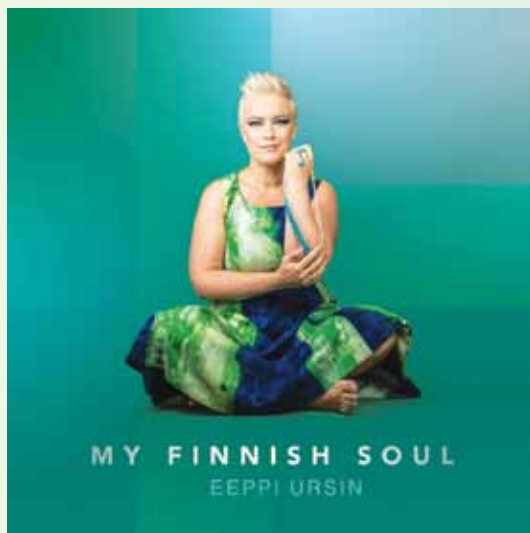
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Eeppi Ursin At the Midsummer Festival June 20-21

Time for the deep dive into Scandi roots and Astoria Midsummer Festival. Music, dance, tradition, crafts and lots of delicious foods. It's a 3-day affair of communing and community and lots of accordion to be sure!

Featured musical guest this year, New York based platinum-selling, award-winning singer, songwriter and pianist, also originally from Finland, the beautiful Eeppi Ursin. Known for her angelic voice and vocal skill showcasing top-class performances, her stage presence combines warmth, style and humor.

Eeppi's recordings and performances range from pop, jazz, dance and a cappella music. In January, 2023, Eeppi released her 5th solo album entitled; "My Finnish Soul". In 2022, Eeppi released an album called "Speechless", which contains a combination of pop, soul and folk traditions. She's appeared on over 40 recordings of which 5 are platinum or gold-selling albums.

You may have caught her show at the Charlene Larsen Center in Astoria several years back or the Naselle FinnFest. Performing on the grand piano, Ursin is an impeccable pianist accompanying herself, on originals and her own versions of memorable Finnish songs. She'll perform 5 shows over the festival

For a full Festival schedule: astoriascanfest.com

Kate Dinsmore

A dynamic performer and vocalist, Dinsmore brings her songs to the stage with an undeniable presence. Her music is powerful and emotional, with influences ranging from Jazz to Rock to Americana. Dinsmore's performances quickly gained a following in Seattle, allowing her to open for notable artists such as Pat Benatar, Colin Hay, and the Dip.

Sunday, June 8, 6-8pm at Fort George in Astoria. No cover.



Ilwaco Cider Co Bash w/ Pretty Penny



Saver the delicious juiciness at Ilwaco Cider Co' first anniversary party. Portland's premiere **STONE TEMPLE PILOTS TRIBUTE BAND** Pretty Penny pays homage to the late, great Scott Weiland, deceased frontman for STP.

Scott's unique voice & charismatic stage presence were instrumental in shaping the sound of the 90's, and Pretty Penny honors his legacy! From the unforgettable melodies in "Plush" & "Wicked Garden" to the driving power of "Crackerman," you'll be transported back to the glory days of 90's iconic rock!

Saturday, June 28, 7pm at Ilwaco Cider Co. No Cover.

Wednesday 4

MUSIC

The Sweet Old Souls. No cover, 7:30 – 9:30pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

LECTURE & LITERARY

Tsunami 101 Roadshow A free discussion and practical steps you can take to stay safe before, during, and after a disaster. Presented by the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM), the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), and the National Weather Service (NWS). 8am - 5pm at Pine Grove Community House in Manzanita.

Thursday 5

MUSIC

The Sweet Old Souls. No cover, 7:30 – 9:30pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

HAPPENING

Goonies Weekend 40th Anniversary Events. In Astoria. See schedule and buy tickets at gooniesweekend.com

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Again! The Act of Perfection. An autobiographical, one act, one man quasi musical written, choreographed, and performed by Marco Davis. \$25, 7:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Friday 6

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Again! The Act of Perfection. An autobiographical, one act, one man quasi musical written, choreographed, and performed by Marco Davis. \$25, 7:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Sordid Lives. Southern-fried comedy, intended for mature audiences. \$10 - \$25. 7pm at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem.

HAPPENING

Goonies Weekend 40th Anniversary Events. In Astoria. See schedule and buy tickets at gooniesweekend.com

The Great Cannon Beach Treasure Hunt. Free, 11am – 5pm in Cannon Beach. cbhistory.org/events-exhibits

Saturday 7

MUSIC

Terry Robb. Blues. \$25, 4pm at the Peninsula Arts Center in Long Beach.

Lili St Anne & Erika Lundahl. Art-Folk. Free, 8 – 9:30pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

ART

Create 8X8. Fundraiser Celebration, Raffle, and Silent Auction Event. With live music by Joey Altruda. 5 – 7pm at AVA in Astoria.

First Saturday Art Walk. 5 – 7pm in downtown Seaside.

LECTURE & LITERARY

NW Authors Series. Jane Kirkpatrick, author of historical fiction. 2pm at the Cannon Beach History Center, 5:30pm at the Cannon Beach Library.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Again! The Act of Perfection. An autobiographical, one act, one man quasi musical written, choreographed, and performed by Marco Davis. \$25, 7:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

The Norwegians. Dark Comedy. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

Sordid Lives. Southern-fried comedy, intended for mature audiences. \$10 - \$25. 7pm at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem.

Fort Columbia Open House. Live music, guided tours, walking tours, and more. Free, 11am – 3pm at Fort Columbia State Park, Chinook.

Nehalem Bay Crab Derby. Derby plus Oyster Eating Contest, Games & Crafts, Raffles & Silent Auction, live music with "Uncle Jerry" from 6 – 8pm. All day fun from 9am – 5pm at Kelly's Brighton Marina on Nehalem Bay. kellysbrightonmarina.com

Sunday 8

MUSIC

Kris Stuart. No cover, 7:30 – 9:30pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

Kate Dinsmore. Jazz/Rock/Americana. No cover, 6pm in the Lovell Taproom at Fort George in Astoria.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Again! The Act of Perfection. An autobiographical, one act, one man quasi musical written, choreographed, and performed by Marco Davis. \$25, 3:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Sordid Lives. Southern-fried comedy, intended for mature

audiences. \$10 - \$25. 2pm at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem.

HAPPENING

Goonies Weekend 40th Anniversary Events. In Astoria. See schedule and buy tickets at gooniesweekend.com

Monday 9

MUSIC

Kris Stuart. No cover, 7:30 – 9:30pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

Tuesday 10

MUSIC

Kris Stuart. No cover, 7:30 – 9:30pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

Wednesday 11

HAPPENING

Repair Cafe. Bring your broken stuff to people who know how to fix it. 5:30-7:30pm at Obelisk Brewing in Astoria.

Thursday 12

MUSIC

George Coleman. No cover, 7:30 – 9:30pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

The Minntah and Friends Seasonal Jazz Series – Summer. 7 – 9pm at Cargo Astoria.

Chris McNeary. Free, 4 – 6pm at North Jetty Brewing in Seaview.

Adams and Costello. Free, 5 – 6:30pm at the Cannon Beach City Park Band Stand.

LECTURE & LITERARY

Shipwrecks on the Graveyard of the Pacific. Presented by Julia Triezenberg. Free, 4 – 5pm at the Cannon Beach History Center.

Friday 13

MUSIC

Artist/Music Showcase. Free 7 – 9pm at the Fairview Grange in Tillamook.

LECTURE & LITERARY

My Own Flag to Raise. With Jessica Rehfield. 6 – 7pm at the Hoffman Center in Manzanita.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Again! The Act of Perfection. An autobiographical, one act, one man quasi musical written, choreographed, and performed by Marco Davis. \$25, 7:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Sordid Lives. Southern-fried comedy, intended for mature audiences. \$10 - \$25. 7pm at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem. 6 – 7pm at the Hoffman Center in Manzanita.

HAPPENING

Muscle and Chrome Car Show. Featuring vehicles from 1979 and older and includes 1979 to current factory performance vehicles. FMI seasideor.com/events

Saturday 14

MUSIC

Cascadia Chamber Opera Fund-raiser. Dinner and Opera music. \$100, 3pm at Fulio's in Astoria. Get tickets at cascadiaconcertopera.org

Mimi Gilbert. Alt-Folk. Free, 8 – 9:30pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

Waikiki Beach Concert Series. Fog Holler. 7pm at the Waikiki Beach Amphitheater at Cape Disappointment State Park, Ilwaco.

Folias Duo. Free, 2pm at the Seaside Library.

North Oregon Coast Symphony. Echoes of the World. Classical. \$10, 3pm at the Nehalem Elementary School.

ART

Astoria's Second Saturday Artwalk. Noon – 8pm in downtown Astoria.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Again! The Act of Perfection. An autobiographical, one act, one man quasi musical written, choreographed, and performed by Marco Davis. \$25, 7:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

Sordid Lives. Southern-fried comedy, intended for mature audiences. \$10 - \$25. 7pm at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem.

HAPPENING

Pride Gayla. \$20 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Liberty Theater in Astoria. \$20, 8:301m – Noon

World's Longest Beach Run. 5K walk/run or 10K run on the beach in Long Beach. \$20, 8:30am – Noon. Race starts and ends at Veteran's Field. Register at get-merged.com

Muscle and Chrome Car Show. Featuring vehicles from 1979 and older and includes 1979 to current factory performance vehicles. FMI seasideor.com/events

Soccer in the Sand. 8am – 5pm on the beach at Seaside.

Sunday 15

MUSIC

Barabara Anne. Oregon Folksinger in concert. 7pm. Tickets \$20 kalaastoria.com

North Oregon Coast Symphony. Echoes of the World. Classical. \$10, 3pm at the Larsen Center in Astoria.

Dhejemke. Jazz fusion/Jam band. No cover, 6pm 6pm in the Lovell Taproom at Fort George in Astoria.

Brubeck Brothers Quartet. Jazz. \$45, Social 2pm, concert at 3pm, at Chinook School Event Center in Chinook.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Sordid Lives. Southern-fried comedy, intended for mature audiences. \$10 - \$25. 2pm at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem.

HAPPENING

Soccer in the Sand. 8am – 5pm on the beach at Seaside.

Monday 16

MUSIC

Ezza Rose. No cover, 7:30 – 9:30pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

Tuesday 17

MUSIC

Ezza Rose. No cover, 7:30 – 9:30pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

Tavern Jam. 7pm at North Beach Tavern in Long Beach.

Wednesday 18

MUSIC

New Age Phonograph. Rock/Blues. 7pm at Xanadu Astoria.

Ezza Rose. No cover, 7:30 – 9:30pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

LECTURE & LITERARY

Ric's Open Poetry Mic. 7pm at KALA in Astoria. Readers sign-in at 6:30. 5 min per reader. Featuring local and regional readers. \$5 suggested donation.

HAPPENING

Pancake Breakfast. \$15, 9 – 11am, at the American Legion in Cannon Beach.

Thursday 19

MUSIC

Bruce Smith Band. Free, 5 – 6:30pm at the Cannon Beach City Park Band Stand.

Friday 20

MUSIC

Bryce Van Perys. Rock/Country/Blues. 7 – 9pm at North Jetty Brewing in Seaview.

LECTURE & LITERARY

Poetry Night. Details TBA. 5 – 7pm at the Bay City Arts Center. baycityartscenter.com

HAPPENING

Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. astoriascanfest.com

Clatsop Care Auxiliary Rummage Sale. 9am -4pm at Clatsop Care in Astoria.

Pride GALA Fundraiser. With guest emcee Marco Davis. \$35, 8pm at the Liberty Theater in Astoria.

Cork & Brew Tour. \$50, includes a Cork & Brew cup, beverages, music, and more. 5 – 8:30pm in



THIS PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN concert will feature familiar musical medleys from Little Shop of Horrors, Sweeney Todd, and Jesus Christ Superstar as a well as spotlight the talents of individual singers in a special talent show. Cash and check donations at the door in any amount accepted with a suggested donation of \$15.

Sunday, July 6, 4pm Charlene Larsen Center for the Performing Arts 588 16th Street in Astoria



Labyrinth Walk CONTEMPLATE, pray, meditate in motion. Walk the Summer Solstice Labyrinth on Saturday, June 21st from 5-7pm at Grace Episcopal Church Parish Hall, 1545 Franklin, Astoria. Contemplative music by Jennifer Goodenberger. No charge. Donations accepted.

Panda



Known for kicking out the jams at festivals and clubs from San Francisco to Bellingham, The Everett Herald called them a "high energy party band" and they've fully embraced that vibe! With a few different lineups all bringing killer grooves over the years, they throw a party everywhere they play.

Sunday June 22, 6-8pm at Fort George in Astoria. No cover.

downtown Tillamook. corkand-brewtour.com

Saturday 21

MUSIC

Make Music Day. Free and open to the public, taking place at various venues in Astoria. makemusicday.org

The Arts Center Hootenanny. \$, 4pm at the Peninsula Arts Center in Long Beach. FMI peninsulaartscenter.org

Live Music. Free, at Snow Peak Campfield, Long Beach.

Erisy Watt. Folk. Free 8 – 9:30pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

John Stowell. Free, 7 – 9pm at the Bay City Arts Center. baycityartscenter.com

HAPPENING

Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. astoriascanfest.com

Clatsop Care Auxiliary Rummage Sale. 9am -4pm at Clatsop Care in Astoria.

Summer Solstice Labyrinth Walk. Contemplative music by Jennifer Goodenberger. 5 – 7pm at Grace Episcopal Church Parish Hall in Astoria.

Crawfish Festival. Crawfish boil and live Zydeco/Cajun music. Price varies. 2 – 6pm at the Tokeland Hotel in Tokeland. Get tickets at tokelandhotel.com

Pacific County Pride Festival. At Veterans Field in Long Beach.

Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest. On the beach at Cannon Beach.

Sunday 22

MUSIC

Carpathian-Pacific TRIO. 7pm. Tickets \$20. kalaastoria.com

Red, White and Blue with the American Legion Band of Olympia. Patriotic. Free, 2 – 4pm at the Raymond Theater in Raymond.

Panda Conspiracy. Funk/Reggae/Rock. No cover, 6pm 6pm in the Lovell Taproom at Fort George in Astoria.

ART

Best of Both Worlds. Van Halen tribute band. \$30, 7pm at the Liberty Theater in Astoria.

Soulful Art Making. Free, 1 – 3:30pm at the Bay City Arts Center. baycityartscenter.com

HAPPENING

Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. astoriascanfest.com

Pacific County Pride Festival. At Riverfront Park in Raymond.

Don't Get High Tea. An afternoon of savory and sweet options and specialty teas. Plus silent auction. \$40, 1pm at Pacific Restaurant in Tillamook.

Thursday 26

MUSIC

Barbara Anne. Folk. Free, 4 – 6pm at North Jetty Brewing.

Fox & Bones. Free, 5 – 6:30pm at the Cannon Beach City Park Band Stand.

Saturday 28

MUSIC

Lloyd Jones. Blues. \$25, 4pm at the Peninsula Arts Center in Long Beach.

Waikiki Beach Concert Series. Shidaa. at Waikiki Beach, Cape Disappointment State Park, Ilwaco.

Pretty Penny. Stone Temple Pilots tribute band. 7pm at the Ilwaco Cider Company.

BELEZA! Jazz. Sliding scale tickets start at \$5. 4pm at the Cannon Beach History Center.

Benefit Concert for the North County Food Bank. Jazz. \$200 at the Neahkahnie Clubhouse in Nehalem. Get tickets at tickettomato.com promo code: hunger

Jesse Lee Falls. Free, 7 – 9:30pm at the Bay City Arts Center.

ART

Tillamook Downtown History Art Walk. 1 – 3pm in downtown Tillamook.

HAPPENING

Netel Grange June Market and Craft Fair. 10am – 4pm at Netel Grange, Astoria.

Corgi Beach Takeover. \$10, 10am – 4pm on the beach at Seaside. oregonhumane.org/corgi-beach-takeover

Manzanita Pride Parade and Party. 11am - 4pm. Meet at beach at bottom of Lanada Ave. Parade 11:30. Pride Party 12:30pm @ Dirty Bird (corner of Division and Manzanita).

Tillamook June Dairy Parade. 11am – 1pm in downtown Tillamook.

Sunday 29

MUSIC

Just Clark. Singer/songwriter. No cover, 6pm 6pm in the Lovell Taproom at Fort George in Astoria.

LECTURE & LITERARY

Women Who Write to Heal. Three writers will share excerpts about their healing journeys. Free, 5 – 6pm at Sleeper Coffee in Astoria.

HAPPENING

Netel Grange June Market and Craft Fair. 10am – 4pm at Netel Grange, Astoria.

THEATRE/PERFORMANCE

'Take out' a friend to see some really nice hit men in 'The Norwegians' at the Coaster Theatre

IF YOU'RE A WOMAN SCORNED in Minnesota and you want your ex whacked, who ya gonna call? Find out as the Coaster Theatre Playhouse presents "The Norwegians," by C. Denby Swanson, opening May 16.

"The Norwegians" is a strong, bitter comedy about two women who have been dumped and the really, really nice gangsters—Norwegian hit men—they hire to take out their ex-boyfriends. Two transplants from Texas and Kentucky, Olive and Betty were not prepared for the Norwegian men they would fall for in Minnesota: the practical, warm, thoughtful, destructive, evil, jilting kind. Betty has referred Olive to Gus and Tor, a partnership in the whacking business. What Olive doesn't know is that Gus is Betty's own ex and that Betty has already put out a hit on him with a Swiss firm. Can Betty call off the job in time to let Gus do his? Should she?

Directed by Deanna Duplechain, "The Norwegians" features Cyndi Fisher, John Hoff, Ryan Hull and Sara Spangler, with Nancy Watkins as understudy. The production crew



Cyndi Fisher and Sara Spangler plot a kill in the Norwegians

includes Cindy Karr, Monica Blaze Leavitt, Sondra Gomez, Mick Alderman, Sam Dinkowitz, Juan Lira, Tod Adamson and Nancy McCarthy.

"The Norwegians" runs from May 16 to June 7, and all 10 performances are at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 and \$30 and are available at coastertheatre.com, at the theatre box office or by calling 503-436-1242.

Know better way to kill an evening! Get your tickets now—if you know what's good for you....

SORDID LIVES

Riverbend Players



RIVERBEND PLAYERS Community Theater is thrilled to present SORDID LIVES, the raucous and touching comedy by award-winning playwright Del Shores. The production opens Friday, May 30th, at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem and promises to deliver an unforgettable night of laughter, drama, and outrageous Southern charm.

Directed by Frank Squillo, Sordid Lives is a sharply funny, deeply human story set in a small Texas town where family secrets erupt after the sudden death of the family matriarch. With unforgettable characters—a Tammy Wynette-obsessed cross-dresser, a family in crisis, and more—this cult classic explores

themes of love, acceptance, and finding your truth in a world full of judgment.

"This play is outrageous, heartfelt, and incredibly relatable," says Squillo. "Audiences will laugh, cry, and hopefully leave with a little more compassion for the colorful characters in all of our lives."

Performances: 7pm, running Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through June 15th. Location: NCRD Performing Arts Center, 36155 9th Street, Nehalem, OR. Tickets are available now at riverbendplayers.org or at the door.

MUSICONSTAGE

The Brubeck Brothers A Fundraiser for Ilwaco High Music Students

WATER MUSIC SOCIETY presents the world-famous Brubeck Brothers Quartet in concert on June 15, 2025, at the Chinook Event Center.

Not only will attendees hear the very best in traditional jazz, but they will also be supporting the Ilwaco High Music Department. A fundraiser for the Department, all of the school music groups will take part in the concert, either during the social hour or at intermission. If hearing world-class music and supporting the music students is not enough, an interactive video will be shown at various intervals during the concert which highlights music by Dave Brubeck and interviews with him and with other famous artists, and even Presidents.

Tickets are NOW on sale at WaterMusicSociety.com or at the door, should any tickets remain. And it is Father's Day so treat your hubby or Dad to this amazing concert. Listen to sensational music, support the music students, and enjoy tasty appetizers and desserts, beverages, and a no-host wine bar. Social hour begins at 2pm, with the concert to commence at 3pm.



North Coast Symphonic Band Celebrates American Music

THE NORTH COAST Symphonic Band concludes its 45th season with a FREE concert titled "Americans We" at the Liberty Theatre Thursday, July 3. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the concert begins at 7 p.m. The event is sponsored by a generous donation from the Astoria Clowns.

Conductor Terry Dahlgren said, "The concert will feature a celebration of American music that's sure to have something for everyone."



Conductor Terry Dahlgren



Soloist Deac Guidi

In addition to the patriotic standards "America the Beautiful" and "The Stars and Stripes Forever," the program will feature songs of yesteryear with the piece, "Songs from the Great War: The Music of World War I," arranged by Andrew Glover, and Pierre La Plante's "Legends and Heroes," which features tunes from the days of the California Gold Rush and the great railroad expansion west.

"There's plenty of lighthearted fare as well," said Dahlgren, "including Stephen Roberts' arrangement of the TV series theme 'The Wild Wild West.'" Special guest vocalist Deac Guidi will be featured with the band on the Gershwin classic, "They Can't Take That Away from Me." Guidi will also be on deck for a rousing version of U.S. military themes, "Salute To America's Finest."

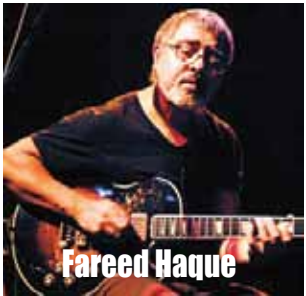
Rehearsals for the band's 46th season will start in the fall at the Charlene Larsen Center for the Performing Arts (PAC) in Astoria. Musicians interested in joining should email Personnel Director Lee Stromquist at encore1@charter.net or call (503) 861-1328. Potential new members should read music, own their own instruments, and have advanced high school level performance skills or higher.

Jazz Benefit for the North County Food Bank

JOIN THE NORTH COAST MUSIC PROJECT for a benefit concert featuring the Willie Waldman Project! This special event at the Neahkahnie Clubhouse includes a catered dinner buffet, open bar and a poster signed by the artists. Every ticket purchased provides crucial support to the North County Food Bank.

Artist Line up:
Willie Waldman - Trumpet (Phil Lesh, Tupac, Snoop Dogg, Rob Wasserman, Stephen Perkins), Fareed Haque - Guitar (Billy Cobham, Garaj Mahal, Paquito D'Rivera, Sting), Norwood Fisher - Bass (Fishbone), Tony Austin - Drums (Kamasi Washington, Santana)

Saturday, June 28 at 4pm. Only 75 Tickets sold. Tickets online at tickettomato.com9446



art happens *openings and news in the LCPR*

Sointula: A Place of Harmony Astoria Visual Arts

OREGON-BASED ARTISTS, Agnes Field, Arielle Brackett, and Kate Speranza, have come together to share their artwork in an exhibition, *Sointula: A Place of Harmony*, inspired by their individual artist residencies at Arteles Creative Center in rural Finland. The show, opening June 14 and running through July 6, features a variety of sculptural and two-dimensional mixed-media works that explore themes of sauna culture, meditation, and water.

Established in 2010, Arteles Creative Center is a multidisciplinary artist residency set in the tranquil countryside of Hämeenkyrö, Finland. Each year, it hosts over 120 international artists, writers, and creative professionals for one-

month residencies that emphasize mindfulness, introspection, and deep connection with nature. Surrounded by forests and lakes, the center invites residents to engage with the landscape as both a source of inspiration and a springboard for deep introspective work.

Astoria artist Agnes Field conceived the show based on her residency at Arteles in 2013. Being of Finnish and Native American

heritage, Field draws a connection between the sauna ritual of Finland and the Native sweat lodge experience, both of which are of great importance within these cultures. Field summarizes the nature of the ritual, "Without clothes we begin from zero—no pretense; nothing hidden and we become clean both physically and mentally—respectfully together. Cleansing with steam, heat, and cold water."

Field invited Astoria artist Kate Speranza, who attended two winter residencies at Arteles Creative Center in 2020 and 2024. The quietude of winter provided space for Speranza to explore meditation in the daily group sessions offered by the residency program. It was there that she developed a meditation and mindfulness practice and further deepened it during her second residency. Since returning from Finland last year, Speranza has incorporated meditative actions into her art practice. She starts each studio session with a simple repetitive process for a silent duration of 20 minutes. From these actions she builds her work upon each process—allowing the work to unfold organically, rather than planning ahead.

Additionally, Portland metalsmith and mixed-media artist, Arielle Brackett, will show work from an on-going series—which she began during her time in Finland—of sculptural jewelry and objects based on observing the constant flux of water patterns which became a daily mindfulness practice. Brackett describes her process, "I primarily work with hand-dyed indigo fabrics, gel medium, thread, steel wire, paper, ceramics, sterling silver, wood, and found objects to create line, texture, and volumetric forms. The water series has become the center of my art practice and embodies a variety of interpretations of place through the context of water."

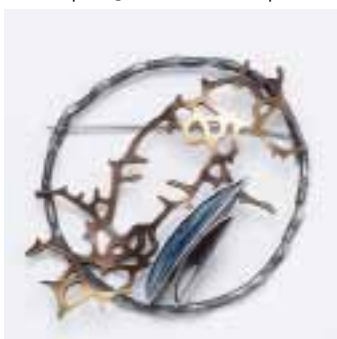
The exhibition runs June 14 through July 6 at Astoria Visual Arts in downtown Astoria, 1000 Duane Street. The gallery is open Fri - Sun from 11-3pm. There will be an opening reception on June 14 from 5-8pm and a closing reception on July 5 with artist talks beginning at 1pm. Founded in 1989, Astoria Visual Arts is a cornerstone of creative expression and community connection providing dynamic exhibitions, youth-focused initiatives, and support for artists at every stage of their careers. Learn more at <https://astoriavisualarts.org>.



Kate Speranza, *Metsä (Forest)*



Agnes Field, *Snow Sauna*



Arielle Brackett, *Water & Lichen Brooch no. 2*

Stan Peterson Stories Worth Remembering at IMOGEN

STAN PETERSON returns for his fourth solo exhibition at Imogen. He brings a new series of his delightful carved and painted wood sculpture and paintings. Within this new collection, *Stories Worth Remembering*, Peterson takes us along for a journey through storytelling. Join Imogen for ArtWalk June 14, 5 – 8 pm and have a chat with Stan, he will have many remarkable stories to share about his work and experiences. The exhibition will be on display through July 7.

As an artist who delights in storytelling, Peterson has created yet another fantastical body of work still based on the figurative, whether it be a hybrid creature of his brilliant imagination or a more literal depiction of birds, dogs, horses or human figure, each piece always lends to story.

Within his woodcarving and painting process, he narrates stories told to him as well as from his own experiences, creating compelling imagery through thoughtful use of form and color. His love of nature and its creatures become the focal point of his work, with depictions of a shared sense of compassion and kindness between man and animal. This series, intended as a thoughtful look at those unique relationships that do not rely on verbal dialogue, instead a simple appreciation for the other conveyed by connection



The Fish Feeder

though gaze, and/or an extended hand of trust. These fascinating bonds convey peace, understanding and appreciation for the other. Simply said, Peterson's work is a collection of life stories, observations, and honoring acts of kindness.

Peterson, a self-taught artist has been exhibiting his narrative and figurative sculpture since the 1980's and has long utilized animal form as a vehicle to explore human interaction and connection. As a retired postal carrier, walking is something he has always enjoyed, whether it be the city streets or remote beaches; long sidewalks give way to stretches of beach where he can observe both domestic and wild animals and where his source of inspiration begins. These elements give him the time and space for introspection of daily experience and random encounters that quite often become center stage in his finished work.

Imogen Gallery is located at 240 11th Street in Astoria. Hrs: Thursday-Mon, 11 to 5pm, Sun 11-4, closed Tue/Wed. 503.468.0620 www.imogen.com

Summer Magic ~ The Cloistered Crones At Bay City Arts Center

A COLLABORATIVE EXHIBITION of paintings, drawings, and photographic media at the Bay City Arts Center. The show will enchant and enlighten all ages. This exhibit can provide a place for meditation, reflection, introspection as well as inspire joy, smiles, and optimism.



Robin Clear, *The Hangout*



Christine Eagan, *Three Graces*

The Cloistered Crones are Cheryl St. Pierre, Chris Williams, Christine Eagan and Robin Clear. All reside full time on Oregon's North Coast.

Summer Magic in on exhibit, June 2 – 28. An opening reception takes place Friday June 6, 5-7pm, and closing reception June 28, 2-4pm. Galleries are open during BCAC events and by appt. To schedule a visit, contact baycityartscenter@gmail.com 5680 A St. in Bay City , OR.

Two Artists Inspired By Elements Of Nature at Riversea Gallery

TWO VETERAN Pacific Northwest creatives join forces this summer at Made in Astoria for “Concrete and Targets,” a dual exhibition featuring the imaginative assemblages of mixed-media artist Greg Carrigan and the bold hand-sculpted forms of concrete sculptor Jeffrey Owens. The show runs June 14–July 6, with an opening reception during Astoria’s Artwalk on June 14 from 5:00–7:00pm.

Carrigan’s work explores the theme of target through found-object assemblage and complex, mixed media collage. From the metaphysical realms of death and memory to the charged arenas of political critique, Carrigan’s work invites viewers to peer to ask questions about life, society and acceptance. A Las Vegas native, Carrigan began his artistic career in the 1970s at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he and classmates built large-scale installations from desert refuse. This formative experience launched his enduring interest in found-object assemblage and unconventional collage techniques.



Jeffrey Owens, Moai Heads

Each piece is created without molds, using non traditional techniques and a deep sense of intuition. By integrating materials like glass and quartz into his concrete sculptures, Jeffrey creates unique textures and striking contrasts that invite touch and contemplation.

Despite divergent media, Carrigan and Owens are united by curiosity and craftsmanship: both artists continually experiment, evolve, and take joy in the act of making. Their work speaks to a universal creative impulse—one that transcends material, geography, and generation.

Made in Astoria is open Wednesday through Monday from 12:00 to 5:00pm and by appointment. Stay connected through social media or visit made-in-astoria.com.



Greg Carrigan, Gay Rainbow

Jeffery Owens, owner of Almosta Creations, has spent a lifetime exploring artistic expression through various mediums, including music, painting, and most recently, concrete sculpture. After 30 years immersed in Portland’s rich creative community, Jeffrey relocated to Seaside in search of a slower pace and more dedicated time for his craft. His current body of work focuses on hand-sculpted concrete forms, notably his popular series of Easter Island-inspired moai heads.

CREATE 8X8 AVA Benefit Night

JOIN AVA for the 2nd annual CREATE 8X8, a benefit exhibition supporting Astoria Visual Arts, June 5th – 8th. All are invited to bid on artwork and unique items during AVA’s open hours, Thursdays through Sunday, 11:00am – 3:00pm, and to indulge in an evening of art, food, drinks and entertainment on Saturday, June 7 from 5:00 – 7:00pm. Enjoy live music by Joey Altruda that spans generations and genres, along with an assortment of beverages and light fare provided by Laurie Anderson, former co-owner of the Shelburne Inn for 40 years. Guests will receive exclusive access to silent auction and raffle items available only during the event. Bidding closes at 3:00pm on Sunday, June 8—don’t miss your chance to take home a unique piece of art and support the creative community of Astoria!

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE. Astoria Visual Arts invites local artists residing in Clatsop or Pacific County to apply to be AVA’s next artist-in-residence. One artist will be selected to receive a rent-free studio space at the Astoria Studio Collective, located at 372 10th Street, Astoria, for a period of six months, July 1 through December 30, 2025. Artists working in any media are encouraged to apply. The deadline for applications is June 10.

The AVA a-i-r program is designed to encourage the creative, intellectual, and professional growth of local artists. Finalists are chosen on the basis of need and merit by an independent selection panel of arts professionals and patrons. Artists who have applied in the past may reapply with an updated portfolio and statement reflecting updates and changes. Visit astoriavisualarts.org for more info.

Mechanisms Of Belief: Cathie Joy Young at Riversea Gallery

RIVERSEA GALLERY presents vibrant, narrative paintings by Cathie Joy Young in an exhibition titled, Mechanisms of Belief. The show opens Saturday, June 14, during Astoria’s Artwalk. Meet the artist at the evening reception from 5:00 to 8:00 pm and enjoy jazz guitar by John Orr with Clarence Robinson on string bass. The artwork will remain on view through July 8, 2025.

On Saturday, June 21, from 3:00 to 4:00 pm, Young will give an artist talk and presentation at the gallery. She’ll reveal the inspirations behind her artwork, go over her unique multi-step process, and show examples of paintings in various stages of completion.

Young creates expressive, loosely narrative paintings that are teeming with implied stories and vibrating with sizzling, saturated colors. Mysterious figures are interlaced with meandering lines and patterns that create intrigue, leading the viewer to discover a seemingly never-ending series



Protect the Cute

of relationships. The artist describes her work as, “an ongoing conversation of images reflecting my passion for history and nature, and my concerns with technology and systems of belief.” In this show she explores the themes of “excess information, ambiguity, the pace of change, and the clash of truth versus belief.”

Working in acrylic on wood panels, Young begins with layers of glazes and washes of color to create a saturated, mottled surface. Her eye is drawn to variations in color, tiny striations and spaces on the surface,



Panning for Gold

and the way the paint settles and dries to create organic patterning. Her process involves finding random patterns while painting and encouraging them to evolve into symbolic figures, relationships, and structure. She works inch by inch, using small brushes to create tiny marks, interconnecting and crowding out negative space with highly detailed shapes and figures. Due to this intense complexity, her paintings are especially time consuming to complete. In this latest body of work, the subject matter often relates to technology and machinery versus nature and history.

A well-known artist whose work is easily recognizable throughout the Pacific Northwest, Young moved from Colorado to attend Pacific Northwest College of Art in Portland, Oregon where she received a BFA in Painting in 1989. She now lives and works in Vancouver, Washington. Since 2005, she has been exhibiting her artwork in galleries and juried art shows regionally and nationally, and her paintings were featured in several episodes of the television series, Portlandia.

RiverSea Gallery is open daily at 1160 Commercial Street in the heart of historic Astoria. 503-325-1270, or visit the website at riverseagallery.com.

INDIGENOUS VISIONS

Indigenous Artists & Poets of Oregon and The Greater PNW: Send Your Work!

This November Ponca poet Cliff Taylor will be curating an art show at the Anita Building in Astoria, Oregon, titled INDIGENOUS VISIONS.

INDIGENOUS VISIONS aims to celebrate and showcase Native artists and poets of the region, by sharing the works of their creativity, imagination, and soul. “The time of Indigenous invisibility, misrepresentation, and silence is over,” Cliff Taylor says. “Now is our time to be seen, to be heard, to share our stories, our visions, and our worlds, in ways that heal and make our people proud.”

INDIGENOUS VISIONS will also be producing a poetry chapbook as a part of the show, making a unique, Astoria-birther contribution to the ever-growing, vibrant body of contemporary Native literature.

This show is open to all kinds of Native art, visual, traditional,

sculptural, and otherwise.

Artists may submit up to five images (.jpg/.tif/pdf please) and should also feel free to include a link to their art website or Instagram if applicable. Please include a CV and brief Artist’s Statement/Letter of Interest. Those selected for the show will receive a small honorarium.

Poets may submit up to five poems. Please include a small bio of 250 words or less. Those selected for inclusion in the chapbook will receive two contributor’s copies of the chapbook.

All submissions should be sent to theanitabuilding@gmail.com. The submission window is open from May 12th to August 9th.

Email theanitabuilding@gmail.com with any questions. The Anita Building is located at 1312 Commercial in downtown Astoria, OR. Instagram: @anitastoria @cliffponca

Art Camps for Kids at Fort Stevens

ASTORIA VISUAL ARTS is hosting a series of summer Art Camps for youth for a 4th year, offering creative, outdoor activities for kids at Fort Stevens State Park. Three camps will be held in June, July and August, each open to kids ages 5 to 13. Activities are hands-on, designed to encourage imagination, build creative confidence, and encourage connection. Up to 50 kids can join in each session, which are led by the Art Room team of experienced art educators and professional artists.

Camps will be held Tuesday – Thursday from 10:00am – 1:00pm

- Brushstrokes & Beyond – June 24–26
- Scraps to Sculpture – July 22–24
- Prints, Patterns & Perspective – August 19–21

The cost to attend is \$80 per child with scholarships and sibling discounts available, thanks to support from local businesses and community members. Learn more and register online at astoriavisualarts.org.

ANIMAL LOVE

By Kate Cooper • Animal Rescue Volunteer



Licorice

Meet Lovely Licorice! Are you looking for a pup who's equal parts curious explorer and world-class snuggler? Look no further than Licorice, a six-month-old pup with a heart full of love and a tail that never stops wagging.

Licorice is a well-mannered, intelligent boy who is already learning commands like "sit" and "down." He walks well on a leash, though his enthusiasm for sniffing every blade of grass sometimes gets the better of him. What can we say, the world is just too exciting! He loves going for car rides and will happily curl up next to you, making him the perfect road trip companion.

When full-grown, Licorice will weigh around 45 pounds, a great medium size for both cuddles on the couch and outdoor fun. He enjoys the company of other dogs and would thrive in a home where play-time and socializing are part of daily life. He hasn't met any cats yet, so we're not sure what he thinks about feline friends.

Licorice is a great fit for an active family or person who wants a pup to join in on all of life's adventures, whether that's hiking on trails, exploring new parks, or cozing up for movie night. His gentle demeanor, eagerness to learn, and love of companionship make him an all-around amazing pup.

Ready to meet Licorice? Submit your adoption application today, he can't wait to meet you!

word wisdom

By Tobi Nason

Dreams turn into Nightmares

Today I read about "entrepreneurs." Everybody wants to be one. Perhaps aiming to be a successful trendy one. The new American Dream!

It appears to have evolved from disillusionment with corporate jobs. You know, the jobs of the 50's through the 80's. Loyalty to "The Company" was once valued, supposedly, until workers discovered it wasn't. So some disillusioned dreamers came up with clever gadgets and products. Extend-a-mop, a home-made face cream, extra special cookies, and don't forget the personal computer created in a garage...

Entrepreneurs became the latest brave, intelligent, creative beings, honored, respected, revered for pursuing and succeeding at achieving a personal dream. Magazines highlighted stories and interviews with a rags-to-riches format. They were ordinary people (like you! like me!) and they made fortunes on cookies and face cream. And computers. Who wouldn't want to join that crowd??

The problem is that there's a huge degree of non-success (aka failure) rate. Those unsuccessful people did not get highlighted in magazines or glamorized in any way. Relatively anonymous endeavors. Often costly and emotionally devastating.

Our spirits want to be free. We'd love to earn our keep by knitting sweaters, baking crafty cookies or producing a home-made face cream... or artwork, computer upkeep, maybe even a book. . . "How I became a millionaire selling my cookies!" That's an entrepreneur for you. Self-sufficient. Successful to those who equate



making money with success. Confident. No failure anticipated.

Here's an alternative thought. Corporations can treat employees as if they were as unique and clever as any budding entrepreneur. Let employees shine in the areas that bring out their best. Determine their strong points and let them blossom.

Use the talent as it exists. Emotionally, it would satisfy that entrepreneurial spirit without personally risking all. The employee would feel valued, successful, and necessary. And get a regular paycheck to cover those pesky living expenses, like food and car insurance.

But that's not going to happen. Corporations are profit based, not person centered.

The dark side of entrepreneurship—think of Steve Jobs... Elizabeth Holmes... Bernie Madoff. Elon Musk. Egos loom large. Fraud and deception creep in. These entrepreneurs failed as people. They're greed-fueled by-ego harmed so many people.

Counselor's advice: We all wish to shine brightly in this world for our skills and masteries. Find a calculated balance between shining and laboring for a paycheck to pay living expenses. Simplify. Live within your means.

Do what you love without a profit motive. Enjoy the most precious gift—you own life. Enjoy your life. Today.

Tobi Nason is a Warrenton counselor. Call for an appointment (503) 440-0587.

ASTORIA REAL ESTATE

940 Astor St., Suite B, Astoria OR 97103

PETE & JANET WEIDMAN
Co-Principal Brokers

Office (503)325-3304
Cell (503) 741-0345



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FROM THE WORLD OF JOHN WICK: BALLERINA (JUNE 6) In the 2021 Bond movie *No Time To Die*, actor Ana de Armas achieved the nearly-impossible task of stealing an action scene from Bond. Now Armas topline her first actioner under the shadow of another legendary male action character – John Wick. Set between the events of the third and fourth John Wick films, Armas plays Eve Macarro, a ballerina training to be an assassin in the ways of the *Ruska Roma*. After her family is killed by the Chancellor's hitmen, Eve seeks revenge against him. However, doing so would force Eve to leave the protection of *Ruska Roma*, eventually conflicting with the Director (Angelica Huston), who sends her top hit man to stop Eve – John Wick.

STICK (JUNE 4 APPLE TV) In this sports dramedy series, Owen Wilson plays Pryce Cahill, one-time pro golfer who disgraced himself with a meltdown on live TV. Now, 15 years later, his pro career a distant memory, Cahill works at a sporting goods store and gives private golf lessons to grannies. He mopes through life. His wife Amber-Linn (Judy Greer) has given up on him and wants a divorce. Then he discovers Santi (Peter Dinklage), a troubled 17-year-old phenom who has a natural gift for the sport. Seeing a way out of the rut he's in, Pryce re-kindles his love for the sport through Santi. "This game takes and it takes. The game's finally giving me something back," Pryce explains to best friend

Mitts (Marc Maron). Toward that end, Cahill reconciles with Amer-Linn, convinces Santi's skeptical Mom, and goes on the road with his prodigy with his whole crew in tow, risking everything for one last shot at life.

ECHO VALLEY (JUNE 13 APPLE TV)

Julianne Moore and Sidney Sweeney star in this thriller where dark family secrets are combined with murder. Moore plays Kate Garretson, who boards and trains horses on her secluded farm. Late one night, her troubled daughter Claire (Sweeney), a drug addict, shows up at her house in a panic covered in someone else's blood. Claire explains that she argued with her boyfriend, the argument turned violent and she killed him. Story focuses on how far a mother will go to protect her child. Kate takes the body and sinks it in a nearby lake. Kate thinks the death is buried, but local criminal Jackie Lyman (Domhnall Gleeson) shows up at her door, telling Kate he knows everything and will expose their plot unless she gives him what he wants.



28 YEARS LATER (JUNE 20) Twenty three years after director Danny Boyle unleashed his terrifying zombie horror on the world -- *28 Days Later* -- he returns to the franchise. Jodie Comer, Ralf Fiennes and Aaron Taylor-Johnson star as survivors who face a new outbreak of the virus. Synopsis: It's been almost three decades since the rage virus escaped from a biological weapons laboratory. Still living in a ruthlessly enforced quarantine, some have found ways to exist amid the infected. One such group of survivors lives on a small island connected to the mainland by a single, heavily defended causeway. When one of them decides to venture into the dark heart of the mainland, he soon discovers a mutation that has spread to not only the infected, but other survivors as well.

THE BEAR SEASON 4 (JUNE 25 HULU)

The acclaimed series returns for its 4th season. In Season 4, Carmy (Jeremy Al-

len White), Sydney (Ayo Edebiri) and Richie (Ebon Moss-Bachrach) face an intense challenge to save their restaurant, "The Bear," as their investor, Jimmy Cicero (Oliver Platt) puts them on a literal countdown clock. When the clock reaches zero, the restaurant will close. While striving for culinary excellence and financial solvency, the team struggle with personal issues, with Carmy still struggling to deal with his breakup with Claire, which Sydney believes is hurting him personally and professionally. "I get it, you know, chaos and turmoil. But it's a problem when you're letting it fuel you and fuel the food," Sydney tells Carmy.



F1: THE MOVIE (JUNE 27) Brad Pitt stars in this Formula 1 racing movie. Dubbed "the greatest that never was" Sonny Hayes (Pitt) was the most promising phenom of the 1990s until a horrific accident on the track nearly ended his career. young driver until a horrific accident nearly ends his career. Thirty years later, he's a nomadic racer-for-hire when he's approached by his former teammate Ruben Cervantes (Javier Bardem), owner of a struggling Formula 1 team that is on the verge of collapse. Ruben convinces Sonny to come back to Formula 1 for one last shot at saving the team and being the best in the world. He joins Ruben's team where he's teammates with Joshua Pearce (Damson Idris), the team's hotshot rookie. Instead of being supportive, the two take an instant dislike to each other, with Pearce considering Hayes a washed-up has been, while Hayes



thinks the kid has a gigantic ego without accomplishing anything on the track.

SQUID GAME SEASON 3 (JUNE 27 NETFLIX)

The third and final season of global phenomenon *Squid Game* drops. Synopsis: A failed rebellion, the death of a friend and a secret betrayal – *Squid Game* Season 3 picks up in the aftermath of Season 2's bloody cliffhanger. Although Gi-Hun is at his lowest point yet, the *Squid Game* stops for no one. So Gi-hun will be forced to make some important choices in the face of overwhelming despair as he and the surviving players are thrust into deadlier games that test everyone's resolve. With each round, their choices lead to increasingly grave consequences. Meanwhile, In-Ho resumes his role as Front Man to welcome the mysterious VIPs, and his brother Jun-Ho resumes his search for the elusive island, unaware there's a traitor in their midst. Will Gi-Hun make the right decisions or will Front Man finally break his spirit?



FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

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h	r	♂	↑	☉	♋	♊	♈
11°	6'	27°	7'	15°	54'	0°	48'

JUNE 2025

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The strongest, most enduring parts of China's Great Wall were the 5,500 miles built during the Ming Dynasty, 1368-1644. One secret to their success was sticky rice, an essential ingredient in the mortar. The resulting structures have been remarkably water resistant. They hold their shape well, resist weed growth, and get stronger as time passes. I hope you will find metaphorical equivalents to sticky rice as you work on your foundations in the coming months, Aries. Proceed as if you are constructing basic supports that will last you for years.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The world's most expensive spice is saffron. To gather one gram of it, workers must harvest 150 flowers by hand. Doesn't that process resemble what you have been doing? I am awed by the stamina and delicacy you have been summoning to generate your small but potent treasure. What you're producing may not be loud and showy, but its value will be concentrated and robust. Trust that those who appreciate quality will recognize the painstaking effort behind your creation. Like saffron's distinctive essence that transforms ordinary dishes into extraordinary ones, your patient dedication is creating what can't be rushed or replicated.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Gemini author Jean-Paul Sartre was offered the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1964. But he rejected it. Why? He said that if he accepted it, he would be turned into an institution and authority figure, which would hinder his ability to critique politics and society. He was deeply committed to the belief that a writer has an obligation to be independent and accountable only to their conscience and audience, not to external accolades or validations. I think you are in a Sartre-like phase right now, dear Gemini. You have a sacred duty to be faithful to your highest calling, your deepest values, and your authentic identity. Every other consideration should be secondary.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You are now highly attuned to subtle energies, subliminal signals, and hidden agendas. No one in your sphere is even half as sensitive as you are to the intriguing mysteries that are unfolding beneath the visible surface. This may be a bit unsettling, but it's a key asset. Your ability to sense what others are missing gives you a unique advantage. So trust your intuitive navigation system, Cancerian, even if the way forward isn't obvious. Your ability to sense underlying currents will enable you to avoid obstacles and discern opportunities that even your allies might overlook.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Underground fungal networks are essential for the health of ecosystems. They connect plant roots and facilitate transfers of nutrients, water, and communication signals between various species. They enhance the fertility of the soil, helping plants thrive. In accordance with astrological indicators, I invite you to celebrate your equivalent of the underground fungal network. What is the web of relationships that enables you to thrive? Not just the obvious bonds, but the subtle ones, too: the barista who has memorized your order, the neighbor who waters your plants when you're away, the online ally who responds to your posts. Now is an excellent time to map and nurture these vital interconnections.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Virgo author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie warns about "the danger of a single story." She tells us that authentic identity requires us to reject oversimplified narratives. As a Nigerian woman living in the US, she found that both Western and African audiences sought to reduce her to convenient categories. She has not only resisted that pressure, but also outwitted and outflanked it. Her diversity is intriguing. She mixes an appreciation for pop culture with serious cultural criticism. She addresses both academic and mainstream audiences. I offer her up as your role model, Virgo. In the coming

weeks, may she inspire you to energetically express all your uncategorizable selves.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Where have you not yet traveled but would like to? What frontiers would your imagination love for you to visit, but you have refrained? Now is the time to consider dropping inhibitions, outmoded habits, and irrelevant rules that have prevented you from wandering farther and wider. You have full permission from life, karma, and your future self to take smart risks that will lead you out of your comfort zone. What exotic sanctuary do you wish you had the courage to explore? What adventurous pilgrimage might activate aspects of your potential that are still half-dormant?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Astrologers say that Scorpio is ruled by three creatures that correspond to three ascending levels of spiritual maturity. The regular Scorpio person is ruled by the scorpion. Scorpions who are well underway with their spiritual work are ruled by the eagle. The Scorpio who has consistently succeeded at the hard and rewarding work of metaphorical death and resurrection is ruled by the phoenix—the mythical bird that is reborn from the ashes of its own immolation. With this as our context, I am letting you know that no matter how evolved you are, the coming weeks will bring you rich opportunities to come more into your own as a brilliant phoenix.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Seas off the coast of Singapore are heavily polluted. Some of the coral reefs there are showing resilience, though. They have developed symbiotic relationships with certain algae and bacteria that were formerly hostile. Their robustness lies in their adaptability and their power to forge unlikely alliances. That's a good teaching for you right now. The strength you need isn't about maintaining fixed positions or rigid boundaries, but about being flexible. So I hope you will be alert and ready to connect with unfamiliar resources and unexpected help. A willingness to adjust and compromise will be a superpower.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Sometimes, disruptions are helpful prods that nudge us to pay closer attention. An apparent malfunction might be trying to tell us some truth that our existing frameworks can't accommodate. I suspect this phenomenon might be occurring in your world. An area of your life that seems to be misfiring may in fact be highlighting a blind spot in your comprehension. Rather than fretting and purging the glitches, I will ask you to first consider what helpful information is being exposed. Suspend your judgment long enough to learn from apparent errors.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): This isn't the first time I've said that your ideas are ahead of their time. Now I'm telling you again, and adding that your intuitions, feelings, and approaches are ahead of their time, too. As usual, your precociousness carries both potential benefits and problems. If people are flexible and smart enough to be open to your innovations, you will be rewarded. If others are rigid and oblivious, you may have to struggle to get the right things done. Here's my advice: Focus on the joy of carrying out your innovations rather than getting caught up in fighting resistance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Sunlight can't penetrate deeper than 3,280 feet into the ocean's depths. Even at 650 feet down, a murky twilight zone prevails. But nearly 75 percent of deep-sea creatures can create their own light, thanks to a biochemical phenomenon called bioluminescence. Jellyfish, starfish, and crustaceans are a few animals that glow. I propose we make them your symbols of power in the coming weeks, Pisces. I hope they incite you to be your own source of illumination as you summon all the resilience you need. If shadowy challenges arise, resolve to emit your steady brilliance. Inspire yourself and others with your subtle yet potent clarity.

Cannon Beach Library Fourth of July Book Sale: A Fundraiser Celebrating Books and Community

THE CANNON BEACH LIBRARY'S Annual Fourth of July Book Sale, a beloved community tradition, returns this Fourth of July Weekend. Mark your calendar: the four-day sale takes place from Thursday July 3rd through Sunday July 6th at the library, 131 N Hemlock Street, in the heart of downtown Cannon Beach. Experience the THRILL of uncovering literary gems!

Sale hours are Thursday, Friday, Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. On Sunday, don't miss the famous \$8 fill-a-bag sale (bags provided).

Whether you're a seasoned bibliophile, a casual reader, or a book reseller, you're sure to leave with amaz-

Cannon Beach Library Invites Summer Readers to Level Up

The Cannon Beach Library is the place to be for Summer Reading fun, prizes, and special events! From June 14th through August 23rd, summer readers of all ages are encouraged to "Level Up at Your Library." During the nine-week program, the library will host a range of free activities that explore books, games, puzzles, the environment, and new hobbies.

The program launches Saturday, June 14th with a lively Kickoff Party and Game Day. Participants can play games, including Twister, board games, card games, and puzzles. Free snacks and other goodies will be provided, and all ages are wel-



ing bargains. THOUSANDS of gently used books await, including fiction, classics, mysteries, contemporary bestsellers, mass-market paperbacks, non-fiction, cookbooks, gardening books, travel guides, holiday books, audio books, old and rare books, and a large selection of books for children and young adults. Additionally, explore our selection of DVDs, music CDs, and vinyl records. Plus, buy raffle tickets for an amazing Cottage Tour retreat and the annual quilt raffle (tickets available online).

The Fourth of July Book Sale is a vital fundraiser supporting the Cannon Beach Library, one of the oldest non-profit libraries in Oregon. Every purchase helps the library continue to provide essential library resources and services to our community of locals and visitors. CBL needs your help! Over 120 volunteer slots need to be filled during the sale. To volunteer or for more information, visit www.cannonbeachlibrary.org.

Please note: The library will be closed for all regular services from July 1st through July 6th, though books can still be returned via the outside drop box.

come. Each child who registers will receive a backpack and FREE BOOK. Registration is open both online and at the library, and non-local participants are welcome to join.

Other events include Bilingual Story Time and crafts, in-library Minecraft scavenger hunt, program and touch tank with the Seaside Aquarium, Musical Story Time with the North Oregon Coast Symphony, and Author Program with Wendy Gorton, "50 Hikes with Kids Oregon and Washington."

"We encourage both local and visiting families to come discover what our library has to offer," said Jen Dixon, Library Manager. "We like to say 'no rules, just read' so kids have a chance to read what they want and explore reading as recreation."

Participants will track their daily reading habits and earn prizes for reading every day, with opportunities to enter raffles for larger prizes including gift certificates for pizza, North Coast Pinball, toys, books, and more.

The Cannon Beach Library is committed to supporting literacy for all. To learn more about our Summer Reading Program, please call 503-436-1391 or visit our website: www.cannonbeachlibrary.org.

HOMEWORK: WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND WELL AND SHOULD SHARE WITH OTHERS WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM IT? FREEWILLASTROLOGY.COM

Thank A Veteran; Don't Jeopardize Their Healthcare

MY FATHER was a classics scholar, special education teacher, poet, improvisational cook, aspirational handyman, and World War II veteran. His military experience left him with an irreverent sense of humor and a lifelong skepticism toward conventional pieties. (He stuck a Fordham University bumper sticker on the toilet lid so he could contemplate its motto, "Sapientia et doctrina"—wisdom and knowledge associated with Tradition—on the throne. It was his own quirky protest and also an expression of a characteristically soldierly humor.)

A modest man, Dad never wore an old uniform or did anything else that would draw attention to his service history. He winced at the irony of performative thankfulness to veterans while many struggled with unemployment, service-related injuries, and a gulf between their experiences and family members' well-meaning ignorance about the realities of war and militarism. It incensed him that it took so long for the military and psychologists alike to recognize PTSD as a clinical entity, not "battle fatigue," cowardice, and duty shirking. Like others of his generation, he was stoic about pain and illness and rarely saw a doctor, but he praised the Veterans' Administration for offering the closest to a single-payer healthcare system available in the United States.

As I write this on Memorial Day, I imagine the salty condemnations Dad would've poured forth about huge proposed reductions in staffing at the VA and cuts to other services that veterans

rely on. A superficial glance makes it seem as if the outlook is better for the VA than other federal agencies, with a proposed 4% budgetary increase. A closer look shows a focus on enhanced border "protection" and defense spending, as well as encouraging "choice" in healthcare



by directing some funds for veterans' care to private insurance companies (Shane, Leo, III, "White House Budget Plan Gives 4% Boost for VA Amid Other Agency Cuts," The Military Times, May 2, 2025. Meanwhile, proposed cuts threaten programs that provide actual care, such as a servicemembers' suicide hotline and research trials of treatments for cancers associated with occupational exposures (Umansky, Eric and Coleman, Vernal. "Internal VA Emails Reveal How Trump Cuts Jeopardize Veterans' Care, Including To 'Life-Saving Cancer Trials,'" ProPublica, May 6, 2025.

Some of the flag-waving folks who voted for Trump don't realize that

cuts to Medicaid and SNAP spending would harm veterans. The Center for Budget and Policy Priorities reports that veterans are more likely to experience food insecurity, and 1.2 million veterans live in households that receive SNAP food benefits. Stringent new work requirements for Medicaid eligibility could impact veterans, and cuts to federal rental assistance are likely to increase the number of homeless veterans. ("2025 Budget Stakes: Veterans Could Lose Vital Health, Food and Other Assistance," April 23, 2025. Staffing reductions at the VA are likely to increase wait times for medical care and to reduce the quality of service...a problem the tech bros at DOGE propose to solve by increasing the role of AI in healthcare. (Thanks, RoboDoc!) And because

federal jobs prioritize veterans in hiring and retention, almost 30% of federal workers are veterans, and half of them have disabilities. Thus, massive layoffs of federal workers have disproportionately impacted veterans. (Rowen, Jamie, "Five Reasons Why Federal Cuts Are Hitting Veterans Especially Hard," The Conversation/PBS, March 16, 2025.

Like everyone else, military servicemembers vote across the political spectrum, but I believe the majority would agree that the best form of gratitude for their service would be to keep intact the medical care and other supportive programs that they need.

Death Café in Astoria
June 29

MAKING VISIBLE THE INVISIBLE: A Community Conversation about Death and Dying. Applying the values of Acceptance, Belonging, Connection, and Legacy, Death Cafe is a co-generational gathering that aims to create a comfortable and open space for people to gather and discuss topics related to death, dying, and mortality and all that it is to be human navigating the most profound transition of our lives. It provides a platform for individuals to share their thoughts, fears, and experiences surrounding death in a supportive, non-judgmental, and safe environment. Adhering to Death Cafe's mission, participation is free; however, contributions to the Collective are welcome.

AT ASTORIA VISUAL ARTS, 1000 Duane St. in Astoria. Last Sundays of each month

Registration is required. Co-Facilitators: Margo Lalich, MPH, RN, Dardi Troen and Dell Hambleton. Questions: welcome@northcoastcollective.com

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FOOD GROOVE

CHEW ON THIS!

by Merianne Myers



SNAP!

OUR HOUSE sits on a curve of land that sweeps into the captivating tidal flow of the Skipanon River as it meanders a short while further along to meet the mighty Columbia. The location and endless changeability of water/no water at 6 hour intervals, is home to umpteen kinds of water fowl, otters, nutria, beaver, the occasional seal or sea lion, yard elk and every other creature smart enough to live around these parts. Our landscaping philosophy can be summed up in three words: DOWN IN FRONT!.

We plant nothing that obscures the view. In truth, we plant nothing period. We did put in a trio of fruit trees a decade or so ago and realized our folly as the beaver stole in under cover of darkness, gnawed them down and swam off with them leaving 3 pointy sticks in the ground.

Same attitude with our yard. At least, that's what we call it. I have never been impressed or envious of vast expanses of perfect lawn. Much like the voracious Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors, lawns seem to scream Feed Me, Water Me, Weed Me, Mow Me! Way too needy. Exhibiting further proof that I married the perfect person, my husband's theory is, "If it's mostly green and I need to mow it, it's a yard." Yes, we leave the dandelions to bloom for the bees, yes we let the whole thing turn brown in summer with the exception of the green patches around the bird baths.

Spring heralds its arrival here with river otter pups, ducklings and fledgling sparrows literally piled up on the river logs and fence rails. Baby birds have no concept of personal space. And, on the table, peas! Sugar snap peas are everywhere right now. I recommend:

- First and foremost, eaten right off the vine or out of the carton on your way home from the farmer's market.

-Sliced raw and tossed into a pasta salad, green salad, carrot salad, tomato salad, all the salads really.



-Crispy cold and sprinkled with sea salt. Like edamame you don't have to shell!) Perfect to serve with a crispy cold martini. Rule of thumb: green olives in the rainy/foggy months, sugar snap peas in the sunny months.

-Shelled and folded into steamy buttery mashed potatoes.

-Precipitously sautéed in your stir-fry of choice. My choice: prawns or tofu.

-Barely steamed then anointed with melted butter, flaky salt and herbed or plain black pepper. It's a side dish unless nobody's looking at which point, it's a big, old bowl of buttered peas just for you.

I could go on, but it seems I already have.

A particularly inspirational bit of literature from the 6th Century tells of the aphrodisiac potential of peas: boiled with onion and spiced with

cinnamon. Peas aside, *The Perfumed Garden of Cheikh Nefzaoui* is poetically erotic and filled with helpful hints, fables, warnings and steamy bits. Couldn't hurt to share some spiced peas and onions with a special friend, read a couple of chapters to each other over a glass of wine and see what develops.

In ages past, British etiquette for pea eating mandated peas be squashed on the back of a fork as the proper method of getting them from plate to mouth. Manners aside, as they all too often are, peas have been eaten by every culture in every way since long before we started writing stuff down. There's a reason for this. If you've forgotten what that reason is, eat a spring sugar snap pea.



Hosts Linda Perkins and Merianne Myers talk about home cooking successes and failures, where they find inspiration and what's for dinner. This locally produced program about life in the kitchen airs twice monthly.

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Send comments, questions, and haikus to: foodtalkkmun@outlook.com

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The Architect Hound



Brownsmead RR Depot

WHERE is Brownsmead and what is the Architect Hound doing poking around the backroads of this legendary locale on the south side of the Columbia River? Maybe it's the mystique of a 19th century fishing enclave that is now a mix of farms and scattered rural residences that evokes a community unlike any other on the North Coast?

Located about twenty miles upstream from Astoria the flat topography is comprised of alluvial soil deposited by the ancient Columbia River. The earliest settlers in the area were Finnish fishermen who kept to themselves and named the rural hamlet Brody. After the decline of the fishing industry in the early 20th century, the



area was developed into farmland by investors who paid for improvements including bridges, dikes and hard surface roads. The developers hired an engineer from Portland named G. F. Brown who designed the dikes and tide gates that altered the face of the land. In 1919 the area was granted a post office and renamed Brownsmead; a combination of the last name of the dike engineer and the Anglo-Saxon name for 'meadow'.

Today the area is crisscrossed by dikes, channels and a labyrinth of blacktop and gravel roads that evoke a unique sense of place.

One of a very few historic period buildings still standing in Brownsmead is the

By Eric Wheeler

railroad depot that sits on the historic Portland-Astoria rail line. After several failed attempts, the Astoria and Columbia River railroad was completed from Portland to Astoria in 1898; finally connecting Astoria to the trans-continental rail network. Highway 30 today closely follows the historic railroad right-of-way with a few significant exceptions. In 1907, the A and CR line was taken over by James J Hill's Spokane, Portland and Seattle railroad and hauled passengers and freight from Astoria to Portland for much of the 20th century. Passenger service ended in 1952, but freight service continued into the 1990s; before both services lost out to trucking and automobiles.

However, from 2003 to 2005 there was regular scheduled passenger service from Portland to Astoria in celebration of the Lewis and Clark bicentennial. Reportedly, this train service was very popular, but was only intended to run for a limited time. The operation depended on volunteers to open and close the many swing bridges along the rail line. Today the only activity on the former Astoria and Columbia River line is freight service from Portland to the lumber mill in Wauna.

A reminder of the historic Astoria and Columbia River rail line are a few surviving depots along the former line. One of these is the Brownsmead Rail Depot, one of a cluster of three buildings in the center of the Brownsmead community. This simple one-story wood-frame structure served Brownsmead for decades with a small freight room and equally tiny passenger waiting room. In recent years, maintenance and stewardship of the depot is a project of the Historic Preservation Program at Clatsop Community College in Astoria. Hats off to the student volunteers who have helped preserve this architectural memento of our region's transportation history.

Contact the Architect Hound: ericwheeler2@gmail.com

ASTORIA UPPERTOWN FARMERS MARKET Moves Outdoors for Summer on the Riverwalk Every Thursday, 2-6 PM

THE UPPERTOWN FARMERS MARKET is headed back outside! Beginning May 22nd, the community can enjoy local flavors, fresh finds, and river breezes every Thursday from 2-6 PM along the scenic Riverwalk at 36th Street, continuing through October 16th.

The summer location offers a grassy gathering space just steps from the Columbia River, with the Old 300 trolley rolling by and views that make shopping feel like a stroll through a postcard. This move wouldn't be possible without the generosity of Floyd Holcom, who owns the former seafood lab property and is once again welcoming the market with open arms—just as he does with Pier 39, the market's winter home.

"We extend sincere thanks to the Port of Astoria for working with us to secure special 36th Street parking accommodations, making it easy for vendors and visitors to access the site," says President Stacy Stahl.

The Uppertown Farmers Market is hosted by the Astoria Uppertown Business Association (AUBA) and features a rotating lineup of local farmers, foragers, makers, and musicians.

Interested in vending? Contact Market Manager Amy Cords at amy.ufm@gmail.com to learn more.

Website: uppertownbusinessassociation.com/farmers-market

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The Astoria Sunday Market is a program of the Astoria Downtown Historic District Association.

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Sign-up 6:30
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Beer/Wine/Snacks \$5 Sugg Donation
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TICKETS/INFO: **Doors open 1/2 hour before showtime**
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