

February 2025 • vol 26 • issue 293

HIPFISH MONTHLY

alternative press serving the lower columbia pacific region



Flash Cut's Oscar Picks!

Forest Visions: Take action for Oregon Forests

Chihuahua Nation: Big Hearts for Tiny Dogs

Au Naturel returns after 5-year pause

28th Fisher Poets Gathering!

Catch a preview p8

A detailed collage illustration. In the foreground, a large fish with a crown of seaweed is leaping out of a body of water. To the left, a small wooden house with a chimney sits on a green hill. The background features a landscape with mountains, a large white sailboat on the right, and two birds in flight. The entire scene is composed of various paper scraps, including newspaper text and patterned paper.

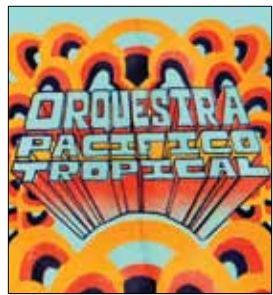
Loki evades
the gods

There's Always Something New at The Liberty!

Orquesta Pacifico Tropical

7:00 pm, Saturday, February 8 / \$27 - \$17 - \$10

You won't want to miss this high-energy show that's sure to warm up your February – and get you dancing in the aisles! Portland's "Cumbia" band, Orquesta Pacifico Tropical, blends the traditional infectious rhythms of Columbia, Peru and Mexico, all with a



modern twist. Founded by drummer David "Papi" Fimbres, the band's roots run deep in the Latin music traditions that shaped his childhood, bringing authenticity and heart to every note and making this show a celebration of culture and unity.

Delfeayo Marsalis Jazz Orchestra

7:00 pm, Tuesday, March 4 / \$57 - \$47 - \$37

In 2007 NEA Jazz Master and Grammy Award-winning trombonist Delfeayo Marsalis formed the Uptown Jazz Orchestra, with the goal of keeping important jazz music traditions alive – such as riff-playing, spontaneous group improvisations, and collective



New Orleans instrumental polyphony. Since then, UJO has grown into one of the premier large ensembles in the world, releasing three CDs to critical acclaim, touring internationally, and presenting their traditional, classic and modern compositions with authenticity.

Come See the Tribute Bands You Love!

Hysteria: Def Leppard Tribute

7:00 pm, Saturday, March 15 / \$24 (advance), \$30 (day of)
Album-perfect performance along with the stage persona of one of the most powerful, iconic bands in rock history.

Icons of Rock Tribute Event

7:00 pm, Saturday, March 29 / \$25 (advance), \$27 (day of)
THREE premier tribute bands in ONE night! You'll get the best of AC/DC, Van Halen, and the rocking Ladies of the 80s!

Liverpool Legends: Beatles Experience

7:30 pm, Friday, May 2 / \$65 - \$55 - \$45

Note-perfect vocals, precise attention to every musical detail, costume changes, vintage instruments and state-of-the-art multimedia takes you back to the front row of the 1960s.

Oregon Truffle Festival

Friday-Sunday, February 14-16, times vary / prices vary

Come explore three days of truffle-related treats and treasures, including small plates, movies, education and cooking demos.

The FisherPoets Gathering

5:00 - 11:00 pm, Friday and Saturday, February 21-22 / \$20 Button

A weekend celebration of the commercial fishing industry in poetry, prose and song – powerful, moving and authentic.

Comedian Sam Miller

8:00 pm, Saturday, March 8 / \$20 / 18+

Join us for a live recording of Sam's second comedy special.

Chocolat (2000)

3:00 and 6:30 pm, Saturday, March 22 / \$13

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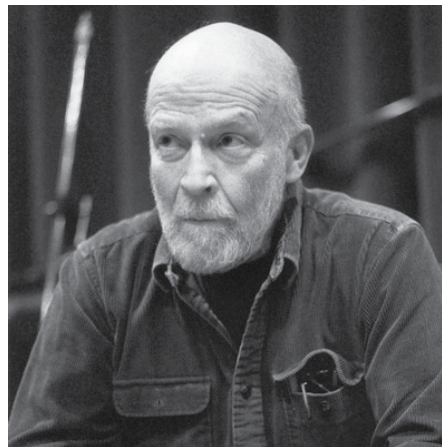
COMING UP AT KALA

28th Fisherpoets Gathering Fisherpoets perform at KALA February 21-22 + Fisherpoet Dance Friday Night after 10pm

* SAVE THE DATE March 21 Charles Goodrich, Fisherpoets and the Ghost of Clem Starck

Oregon poet, novelist, gardener Charles Goodrich and local fisherpoets gather Friday, March 21 at KALA to share original poetry and song in honor of Clem Starck who died at spring equinox in 2024. Clem's poetry – lean, honest, vocational – inspired the first FisherPoets Gathering years ago and Clem became a regular, cherished participant. Through his poetry, Clem, too, will join us.

Fisherpoets Geno Leech, Jon Broderick, Jay Speakman and Moe Bowstern who each spent many agreeable hours themselves at Clem's table join Charles to read - or sometimes sing – their own work and Clem's.



Oregon Poet the late Clem Stark

The Stunning Rayguns coming up March 15

Early Bird Special!

BANDLEADER and Flugelhorn player Dmitri Matheny & The Matheny Quintet bring a jazz-filled night of music celebrating American film score composer Henry Mancini.

"Mancini is my hero, not just for his award-winning scores and orchestrations, but because of his unparalleled gift for songcraft. There's nothing like a Mancini melody! Whimsical, romantic, or sinister, his songs always deliver."

—Dmitri Matheny

And learn more about the acclaimed international jazz artist at dmitrimatheny.com

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL/Matheny plays Mancini: Tickets on sale now through the month of February \$25. After that date tickets are \$30. KALA Performance Space is an intimate cabaret concert venue with beverage bar. Limited seating. 21+ please. Located at 1017 Marine Dr. in Astoria. KALA is the sponsored space of Hipfishmonthly. FMI: 503.338.4878. Tickets online at kalaastoria.com



Matheny plays Mancini

The Henry Mancini Centennial Celebration Friday, April 11, 7:30pm

HIPFiSHmonthly PUBLICATION AND PRINT

THIS JANUARY 2025 HIPFiSHmonthly began printing services with Carpenter Media Group at its printing facility in Lakewood, WA. This comes after the Mississippi-based Carpenter Media Group acquired The Astorian and other EO Media Group newspapers in November 2024.

Along with the Astorian building on 949 Exchange, serving the paper and the region since 1970, we say goodbye to the paper's printing press, the only press on the North Oregon coast. As printed in the Astorian, Kari Borgen, The Astorian's publisher, said the company remains committed to local journalism and providing vital local news and information on the North Coast.


The trend in the newspaper industry has been to centralize printing operations in fewer, more efficient press locations and to reduce the size of newspaper office footprints. In April, former owners EO Media Group sold the office housing the Chinook Observer in Long Beach, Washington, and the Observer staff in the area now work remotely. Things are looking different today.

In accord with the Lakewood facility's available printing and cargo schedules **HIPFiSH will be distributed the first Tuesday of each month.** If you would like to publicize an event or timely news brief that occurs on the first weekend of the month, plan to submit info/advertising to the issue which is a month prior to your event, on or before the deadline date, the 20th of the month.

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FOREST VISIONS

by roger dorband



PHOTO: ROGER DORBAND

Taking Action For Oregon Forests

IT IS UNFORTUNATE, but telling of our penchant for denial when it comes to climate change, that it has taken the L.A. fires to rekindle Oregonian's anxiety about the potential impact of wildfires in our state.

I doubt that many citizens are aware that according to the Northwest Interagency Center, 2024 set a new record for the number of acres burned in Oregon, 1.49 million acres. Much of that occurred in grasslands so the fires didn't grab the newspaper headlines here on the coast that the fires of 2020 did. The Labor Day fires that year burned 1.14 million acres, destroyed over 4 thousand homes and was the direct cause of 8 people losing their lives.

A cursory look at recent Oregon wildfire history suggests that the North Coast is climatically safe from wildfires. Our predominantly rainy climate here and the absence of any major fires in recent memory suggest this may be true. Is it really?

Shortly after one of the Oregon coast's epic series of wildfires, that together became known as the Tillamook Burn, writer and historian, Stewart Holbrook wrote:

"Reforestation can never compensate for that tragedy we call the Tillamook Burn, as somber a sight to be viewed this side of the river Styx. There they stand, millions of ghostly firs, now stark against the sky, which were green as

the sea and twice as handsome, until an August day in 1933, when a tiny spark grew into a hurricane of fire that removed all life from 350,000 acres of the finest timber ever seen. It was timber, too, that had been 400 years in the making. It was wiped out in a few seething hour which Oregon will have reason to remember well past the year 2000. To this day the forest stands powerless against the threat of wildfires."

The fire of 1933 was the first of four fires in the northern Coast Range, the last of which was in 1951, that in total destroyed 750,000 acres of forest land, 350,000 of which was virgin old growth. But could a wildfire possibly impact Astoria with the same devastation as we've seen in L.A.? Unfortunately, yes.

Wildfires burn hottest and fastest in monocrop tree farms planted to replace previously harvested forests. Our east county has thousands of acres of such replants. The climate forecast recently published by 65 scientists from Oregon State University, the Oregon Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Agriculture predicts longer and more severe droughts during summers and more rain and less snowpack during winters.

Tinderbox forest conditions need only a sharp rise in temperature, ignition and a strong wind to turn a controllable wildfire into an unstoppable, fast moving holo-

caust. Several years back Astoria experienced two days of strong, steady wind out of the east that brought atmospheric temperatures into the high 90s. The east wind brought smoke from fires burning in Canada but nothing burned here on the coast. If a wildfire had been raging in east county at that time those two days of strong east wind could have swept it right over Astoria to the ocean.

This year Oregon has a Democrat governor and Democrat majorities in both the house and senate. It seems an ideal time to make changes in forest policy in response to the growing danger created by climate change. Citizen's input can make a difference in this process.

Cal Mukumoto, currently the Chief Forester of the Oregon Department of Forestry, has recently proffered his resignation. The Oregon Board of Forestry will be making recommendations to the governor regarding a new Chief forester. Citizens can weigh in with the OBF or directly with the governor's office regarding qualifications for the position.

Choosing someone from outside of the ranks of the ODF who is willing to make the climate crisis' a central theme for changes in the management of Oregon forests, could have a profound effect, especially if the legislature finds a way to adequately fund the fight against wildfires. Likewise, choosing someone from outside the department should help obviate the political pressure that the timber industry has historically brought to bear on the leadership of the ODF in order to facilitate private timber sales on state land.

Thus far Governor Kotek and the legislature has given little more than lip service to the climate crisis as it relates to forestry. This has been due in part to the timber industry's political power in the state and a lack of funding. Senator Jeff Golden has been trying to get legislative support to increase the wildfire mitigation budget by reinstating a severance tax on the timber industry. Those monies would be apportioned between combating wildfires and providing funds for county services as it did in the past.

Golden's efforts are receiving organizational support from outside of Salem. Ralph Bloemers, co-founder of the Craig Law Center, president of the Green Oregon Alliance, environmental activist and filmmaker, is seeking support for a proposal to reinstate the severance tax and develop

funding to combat wildfires. Donations toward these endeavor can be made on the Green Oregon Alliance website.

Connecting with Senator Golden, or Ralph Bloemers, in support of their efforts could help move our state forward on the path to both combating the adverse effects of climate change and pushing Oregon forest management in a healthy and sustainable direction. Governor Kotek needs to hear from citizens that we support the reinstatement of the severance tax.

Federal forests are also of immediate concern due to the Forest Service's proposal to make changes to the Northwest Forest Plan written into law in 1994 during the Clinton administration. The plan protects 24 million acres of old growth and mature trees on federal land in order to preserve habitat for endangered salmon, the marbled murrelet and the now iconic spotted owl.

During the thirty years since the NFP enactment over 7% of the old growth in those forests have been lost due to wildfires which are increasing dramatically due to climate change. This has prompted the Forest Service to propose increased logging, burning and thinning in over 19 million acres of national forests in order to "make forests more resilient to increased frequency and severity of fire."

Thinning of forests in the immediate perimeter of populated areas could help lower the risk of loss of property in those areas. Taking out younger trees and undergrowth in forested areas that have become overgrown due to "no logging" protection could also provide some protection. But the wholesale thinning of areas of federal forest land including some old growth and mature trees as planned by the Forest Service would not enhance the goal of wildfire mitigation. In fact, taking out larger trees can open a forest to greater fire risk by giving a fire more breathability, to say nothing of habitat loss or the negative impact on drinking water sources.

UNTIL MARCH 17TH citizens can send comments to the federal Forest Service encouraging them to preserve all old growth and mature trees now protected under the Northwest Forest Plan.

For more information and to submit personalized comments go to: <https://oregonwild.org/comments-the-northwest-forest-plan/>



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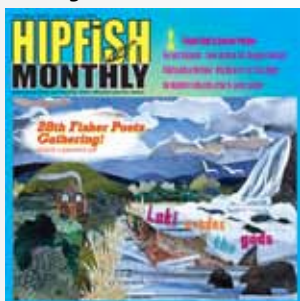
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ON THE COVER:
Loki Evades the Gods by Lindsey Aarts.
 View her work at RiverSea this month
 and at lindseyaarts.com

Cultural Coalition Distributes \$11,500 in Grant Awards

DURING an award ceremony Friday night, the Clatsop County Cultural Coalition awarded \$13,000 to local organizations for projects, programs and events centered on the arts, heritage, and humanities. The ceremony took place at the Columbia River Maritime Museum's Barbey Maritime Center. Jessamyn Grace West—the executive director of the nonprofit Astoria Arts and Movement Center and a founding member of the North Coast Arts Leaders group—was the special guest speaker. She highlighted the positive economic and social impact that arts and heritage nonprofits have on their respective communities. Coalition co-chair Charlene Larsen emceed the evening and Grupo de Danza Folklórica Mestizo, from El Centro NW, provided entertainment.

The grant awards distributed during the ceremony are funded by the Oregon Cultural Trust. They will go to support projects, programs, events, and capital improvements scheduled to take place during 2025. Here is a full list of award recipients and the intended use for their grant funding:

- Community Library: \$2,500 to partially fund an ADA-approved automatic door opener.
- North Coast Symphonic Band: \$2,000 to replace a set of four timpani drums used by performing arts groups for rehearsals and performances in Astoria, Ore.



Grupo de Danza Folklórica Mestizo

- Sunset Park and Recreation Foundation: \$2,000 to purchase a main curtain, valance, and side leg curtains as part of a project to create a performance venue in Seaside.
- Friends of Suomi Hall: \$2,000 to produce 10 Kanteles,
- El Centro Northwest: \$1,500 to help present a Dia de los Muertos event.
- Seaside Museum & Historical Society: \$1,500 to help create a new exhibit that will focus on non-tourism businesses in Seaside and the people who owned and worked them.
- Partners for the PAC: \$1,500 to hire professional Mariachi musicians to present at the Larsen Center at the Day of Culture with the Astoria School District. "Thank you to all who donate to the Oregon Cultural Trust and receive a tax credit on their state taxes, and congratulations to this year's deserving awardees," Coalition Co-Chair Janet Bowler says.

Senior Citizens in Astoria: Volunteer Assistance Available for Household Chores

SENIOR CITIZENS in Astoria needing help around the house now have an extra pair of hands just a phone call away. Whether it's dusting in hard-to-reach places, vacuuming, moving furniture, yard work, or organizing a garage, basement, or shed, assistance is readily available.

Youth missionaries from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are offering their services to local seniors on a volunteer basis. These missionaries are part of an 18-month mission program and spend six weeks in Astoria, lending their support to the community.

For seniors living outside Astoria, arrangements can be made with other youth volunteers through the Astoria contact number.

Volunteers are available every day except Mondays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For assistance, seniors can call 360-919-6411 for female volunteers or 360-771-1757 for male volunteers. While the missionaries rotate every six weeks, this program operates year-round, ensuring ongoing support for the community.

LNCT Community Garden Registration open Feb 1



REGISTRATION for the 2025 season at the Lower Nehalem Community Trust (LNCT) Community Garden at Alder Creek Farm will open on February 1, 2025.

Spring is just around the corner and it is time to start thinking about the garden season. If you have ever wanted to learn to grow more of your own food, this is your opportunity!

The LNCT Community Garden at Alder Creek Farm is operated cooperatively by 40-50 members who grow, learn and share together as a team. The garden is a program of the Lower Nehalem Community Trust, a non-profit organization dedicated to conservation, education and nurturing a community of stewardship in the lower Nehalem watershed.

LNCT garden season runs from late February through October with "work parties" Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9am - noon; garden members commit to working a minimum of three hours a week. We harvest food for members and to share with local food partners including the North County Food Bank, Nehalem Bay Community Services, Nehalem Bay Health Center outreach programs, and others. Through this program, we aim to increase our community's access to healthy local food, nurture relationships between our community and the land, and share our harvest amongst growers.

Registration opens February 1st on a space available basis. We welcome new and seasoned gardeners alike. No prior garden experience is necessary. For more information about the program and to register, please visit our webpage at: <https://www.nehalemtrust.org/alder-creek-farm/community-garden/garden-guidelines/>

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North Coast INCO NEWS INDIVISIBLE

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

"A MOUNTAIN OF OPPORTUNITIES"

"IF YOU FEEL FURIOUS Today about the fact that people who made a mockery of our democracy have skirted accountability for their actions and are set to retake power -- we're right there with you. If you feel dejected seeing how badly the system has failed us -- we understand. But instead of giving in to despair, let's put our anger to use. Let's let it fuel us. We're not sitting back while Trump and MAGA continue to dismantle our democracy. We're going to fight, and we're going to build a movement strong enough to stop him and hold those who abuse their power accountable.

"Accountability won't come easily. It's something we must actively demand and pursue, through every avenue we can. Over these next four years, we're not just going to watch helplessly as Trump consolidates his power; we're going to act, organize, and fight harder than we ever have before.

"We've got a mountain of opportunities ahead to block Trump's toxic policies and to chip away at the Republicans' fractured coalition, so let's get ready -- because democracy doesn't defend itself."

-- Indivisible, January 6, 2025; www.indivisible.org; www.incoregon.org.

CHOICES

"The worst illiterate is the political illiterate, he doesn't hear, doesn't speak, nor participates in the political events. He doesn't know the cost of life, the price of the bean, of the fish, of the flour, of the rent, of the shoes and of the medicine, all depends on political decisions. The political illiterate is so stupid that he is proud and swells his chest saying that he hates politics. The imbecile doesn't know that, from his political ignorance is born the prostitute, the abandoned child, and the worst thieves of all, the bad politician, corrupted and flunky of the national and multinational companies."

Bertolt Brecht, German playwright and poet, died 1956

"All day today, reporters fact checked Trump's statements, proving them lies. But lies have never damaged him; they reinforce his dominance by forcing subordinates to agree that

the person in charge gets to determine what reality is. Victims must surrender either their integrity or their ownership of their own perceptions; in either case, once they have agreed to a deliberate lie, it becomes harder to challenge later ones since that means acknowledging the other times they caved.

"That's why the lie about the size of the crowd at Trump's inauguration is so important: it is the foundational lie on which all the others stand."

— Heather Cox Richardson, Letters from an American, September 11, 2024

ONWARD!

"At root, however, we must acknowledge that what we are experiencing is not normal. Indeed, it is unprecedented in the history of our nation. Feeling overwhelmed, confused, anxious, or angry is a normal human reaction. Indeed, not experiencing those feelings (to some degree) is not a normal human reaction.

"... Watching billionaires surrender to Trump from fear or greed should make us feel like superheroes of the resistance.

We do not have the insulating wealth of Musk, Bezos, and Zuckerberg. And yet, we have found the courage and moral clarity to stand our ground against Trump's agenda.

".... We are standing on the bulwarks of democracy, defending the rule of law. We have no time for the naysayers and issue spotters. We have real work to do. Stay strong, keep the faith, and keep your eyes on the horizon!"

-- Robert Hubbell, Today's Edition, January 8, 2024

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.

Basic Rights Oregon Here's what Oregonians should know about the anti-trans executive order

ON JANUARY 20, the new presidential administration issued a slate of extremist executive orders (EOs), including one that targets transgender and non-binary folks.

The EO states that it is now the policy of the federal government to recognize only two genders, male and female, and that these genders are universally determined at birth. It calls on federal agencies to adjust their communications and policies to reflect that ideology.

This belief is both factually wrong, and intended to put transgender folks in a permanent state of fear and uncertainty. Here's what Oregonians should know about this executive order right now.

As of this moment, nothing changes under Oregon law.

Some federal-level policies that will stem

from this EO, such as not allowing "X" gender markers on passports, will impact Oregonians. But many aspects of LGBTQ+ rights are determined at the state level, and Oregon remains one of the best states in the country for queer and trans rights.

Oregon law protects LGBTQ+ people when it comes to employment and housing discrimination, safe and affirming schools, gender markers on state IDs such as driver's licenses, access to healthcare and more. This EO does nothing to immediately repeal or change those state laws.

We can't know everything that will happen moving forward, but we'll be here no matter what.

The EO was vague in some areas, and directed each federal agency to adhere to it within 30 days. We don't know for sure

right now how the EO will impact things like federal funding for schools and shelters, or whether or not transgender people's current passports will be revoked.

What we do know is that this EO is likely the first of many anti-LGBTQ+ actions from the new administration, and that Oregon is poised to fight them. The Oregon Legislative session is about to begin, and Oregon remains one of the best places for LGBTQ+ folks to live and work in the US, despite the national landscape.

Here at BRO, we are remaining diligent and connected with other organizations, and are going to continue advocating for Oregonians no matter what.

Find resources and get connected. BRO/basicrights.org. Lower Columbia Q Center/lcqcastoria.org

Big Hearts for Tiny Dogs

By
Dakayla
Walters



Robyn and Robb Koustik and their beloved canine family!

CHIHUAHUA NATION SANCTUARY started somewhat by accident. Robyn and Robb Koustik were driving down a road on one of their work routes when, one day, they noticed a little dog jumping out of the bushes on the busy highway.

“Robyn goes, ‘there’s a dog, we need to turn around’ as I’m going 50 miles an hour down the road,” Robb said. So, like any good partner would, he turned around. Robyn ran over to help the pup. “All of the sudden this little brown thing is popping out of the ivy, and he came right up to Robyn.”

“He was so emaciated you could see all of his ribs,” Robyn added.

Robb just couldn’t believe that a dog with such a sweet personality would have been dumped on the road. But, after scouring the internet for posts about lost dogs and checking for posters around the area, he found nothing. So, they kept the little guy and named him Nugget.

“He was the happiest little dude,” Robb said. “He would have the biggest smile when you came home.”

“Our neighbors would actually line up at the door to see his smile.” Robyn laughed.

Then, of course, they decided that Nugget needed a buddy. “We went to the Orange County pound and we found Maddy. She was a little white terrier chihuahua mix, just the sweetest thing. She put her head in Robyn’s hand

and we both said ‘This is it. These guys need some love.’”

From there, the dogs started multiplying (no, not like that—spay and neuter your pets, people!). The couple found a Shih Tzu named Newton, took in an abandoned chihuahua from one of their neighbors, and then found Sherman, their first medical rescue.

“There was a lady slinging dogs in a Petco parking lot, and I saw Sherman,” Robyn said. “We made eye contact... and I just knew Sherman had to go home with us. Unfortunately, the lady got frustrated and stepped on him and broke his pelvis and dislocated his hip and tail. That was a \$6000 surgery right there, and that’s where it [the sanctuary] really started.”

Since the medical sanctuary began in California in 2007, Chihuahua Nation has worked with the ASPCA, The Humane Society, and Angels for Sara. They also frequently take in elderly dogs for “Pawspice.” Since moving to Oregon in 2011, they’ve accrued two more folks on their team: Gigi, who assists Robyn with event organization, dog care, and other logistic work, and Emily, who manages Chihuahua Nation’s social media and web page.

But even with the extra help, the schedule is rigorous. Robyn and Robb work regular jobs on top of providing care for their pack, and it’s rare that they adopt dogs out due to the medical issues the dogs they take in have.

“Right when I wake up I’m going. Cleaning, medication, feeding, coordinating with the dog sitter... I clean twice a day, especially in the winter because of the mud.” Robyn said. “It’s difficult caring for animals that have been severely injured or paralyzed. You’re changing diapers, you’re helping express bladders, you’re doing water therapy in the hot tub.” (A note to the readers here: ordinary hot tub temperatures are too hot for dogs, so the sanctuary keeps their tub lowered to a safe temp for the pups).

Recently, the sanctuary has expanded past chihuahuas and taken in a husky mix, a giant labrador, and a Frenchie. It’s a full house.

While the work is tough, the labor of love is deeply rewarding. “When dogs are brought to us and we’re told they won’t last a week and they last for years, when you get a dog that’s so broken down and they finally decompress and their personality

comes out, the first time you see them lay on their back sound asleep... I’m pretty proud of that,” Robb said with a smile.

Chihuahua Nation aspires to adopt or foster out their pups, but that isn’t always easy when working with dogs with serious medical needs. Younger, healthy dogs are easier to adopt out. “We want to focus on keeping medical rescues and the ones more in need with us. The younger ones, the more adoptable ones, we definitely try to place them [in homes].”

If you’re feeling the puppy love and want to help Chihuahua Nation Sanctuary out, you can apply to foster—even if you’re not directly in the area. “We can work out travel or plane fare if there are fosters that want to work with us,” the couple told me. Fosters can be needed for as little as a few days, or as long as a couple months, and foster fails are whole heartedly welcomed.

If you don’t have the resources to foster, donations are always welcome—between medications, food, and more major care like surgeries, anything helps. You can apply to foster, donate or purchase merch with Nugget’s hallmark grin at their website <https://chihuahuanationsanctuary.org/>, and you can follow along with the pack on Facebook on the page “Chihuahua Nation Sanctuary.”



The 28th Fisher Poets Gathering February 21-23

HIGHLIGHTS

THE FISHERPOETS GATHERING is back in Astoria February 21-23 celebrating for the 28th year commercial fishing and its community in story, song and poetry.

At Obelisk Beer Co. about 8 o'clock Thursday night fans and startled regulars might find a few fisherpoets at the mic warming up, though scheduled performances don't begin until the following day.

Fisherpoets take to stages Friday and Saturday evenings from 5 or 6 to 10 p.m. at seven venues downtown: **the Astoria Brewing Company, the Columbian Theater, Fort George's Lovell Taproom, KALA, the Liberty Theatre, the Ten-Fifteen Theater and Xanadu.** Fans of fisherpoetry can expect to hear authentic creative voices from Alaska, British Columbia, the West Coast and clear from New England. The complete current schedule, available at www.fisherpoets.org, guarantees at each venue a variety of pleasant surprises and old favorites so fans who choose to can sit tight and worry less about chasing radio fish.

Following evening readings, the FisherPoets Gathering continues until hosts chase guests out. **Friday night at KALA drop in for DJ D'Fish annual Fishermen's Dance. Elsewhere, the Columbian Theater hosts the annual FisherPoets at the Line Poetry Slam.**

Special Events at the FisherPoets Gathering start Friday afternoon this year, at the Columbia River Maritime Museum's Ford room and downstairs at the Hotel Elliott, with songwriting and performance workshops aimed at amateurs like most of us.



Darren Orange, *Salmon*. A curated group show at AVA Gallery in various media, in conjunction with FPG

Saturday's Special Events schedule is packed with workshops and presentations at **Pier 39, the Columbia River Maritime Museum, the Hotel Elliott, Cambium Café and Pacifick Distillers.** Learn how to tie useful knots; how traditional salmon reefnetting works; how progress continues toward healthier watersheds, oceans and fisheries; how to sing harmony with confidence; how women are succeeding in commercial fishing careers; and more. Honor Native voices

with Ed Edmo and friends; consider our region's tribal history, then explore the Cedar and Sea and ntsayka ilii ukuk – This is Our Place exhibits at the museum. The first 50 attendees will receive free admission to the museum, supported by a grant from the Roundhouse Foundation.

But first, at 9 a.m., Rob and Tiffani Seitz invite fans to South Bay Wild Fish House for a speed BS session.

Friday and Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m. WineKraft Wine Bar hosts the Gathering's Open-Mic. Everyone with a FPG event button is welcome to have a go. Sign up on site.

Look for visual art by fisherpoets in galleries downtown: Gyotaku prints by Duncan Berry at the RiverSea Gallery, photographs by Pat Dixon and Veronica Kesler at South Bay Wild Fish House and watercolors by George Wilson at Imogen Gallery. Astoria Visual Arts hosts an invitational group show. (Read more about art on page 16) The Columbia River Maritime Museum offers a Friday gyotaku workshop by Berry at the Barbey Maritime Center for fisherpoets and their friends. See the fisherpoets.org website to learn if any of those limited tickets remain. All proceeds go toward encouraging young fisherpoet writers.



Duncan Berry, *Entwined Octopus*, Gyotaku prints at RiverSea Gallery + Netted, a group show

Saturday afternoon at the Columbian Theater, the Story Circle returns, followed by Campbell's Last Set, a cheerful affair where various fisherpoets celebrate the works of those whom the Gathering now misses and wants to remember.

Saturday night, following evening readings, the **Ump-teenth Annual Fisherpoets Gathering Poetry Contest begins at 10 p.m. at the Liberty Theatre.** All fisherpoetry fans bearing an event button are welcome to have a go. Rules will be announced Friday at the Gathering. Elsewhere Rebecca Kraft invites us to linger at WineKraft's annual Singers' Circle. Beerman Creek and the Brownsmead Flats will continue their late sets a while.

The FisherPoets Gathering winds up Sunday morning at the Columbian Theater, first with a Gospel Harmony Sing-Along just for fun, followed by the Readers' Farewell Mic, a very short last poem from everyone who's still around and already awake.



FPG 2023

PHOTO: PAT DIXON

Fans, though, will still find a bit of fisherpoetry at 4 o'clock **Sunday afternoon at the Cannon Beach Arts Association Gallery** where each year the FisherPoets Gathering peters out, at last, like a salmon run.

The FisherPoets Gathering Gearshack will pop up this year, thanks to Mimi and Will Rose, at **1174 Commercial St.** There fans can buy their \$20 event

button good for all events all weekend. Those 18 years and younger are admitted free so bring the kids, though high-schoolers may be disappointed to learn that fisherpoets have agreed to watch their language.

Buttons are also available now at Astoria Brewing Co., the RiverSea Gallery, Imogen Gallery, Old Town Framing and the Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of Commerce.

Fisherpoets, trying to recoup travel expenses or remediate poor fish prices, again offer books, cds, art for sale at the Gearshack. Thanks to local and sometimes distant generosity, the FisherPoets Gathering Silent Auction posts up there again, too. Bidding closes at 4 p.m. Saturday. The FPG Gearshack will be open mid-morning until 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

KMUN will broadcast and stream performances live from 6 to 10 p.m. from the Liberty Theatre for those who can't make it.

Details and further reliable information on these Special Events, the Evening Reading Schedule and the 2025 FisherPoets Gathering itself can be found at the FisherPoets Gathering website www.fisherpoets.org.



Watercolorist and Fisherpoet George Wilson presents a solo show at Imogen Galley, *The Place We Call Home*

Big River Book Festival

March 1-2 at Little Island Creamery

LITTLE ISLAND CREAMERY is presenting the Big River Book Festival on Saturday and Sunday March 1 and 2. The festival will feature over 25 local and regional authors. Readings, writing workshops and open mic opportunities will be offered throughout both days. Noon Saturday features **Emmett Wheatfall** as keynote speaker. At noon Sunday **Cliff Taylor** is the keynote speaker.

The festival will showcase local authors of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Some of the genres represented include fantasy, young adult, novels, short stories. Authors will read from their books and writings and offer workshops. They will also have books for sale.

Other activities include a Youth Writing Contest, scavenger hunts and raffle prizes. Refreshments and concessions will be available for sale.

Admission for both days is free. 448 E. Little Island Creamery, Cathlamet WA 98612, Events@littleislandcreamery.net

An Evening of Poetry and Conversation with Kim Stafford

The Big River Book Festival also welcomes Poet Kim Stafford for an Evening of Poetry and Conversation. Kim will read poems from two recent books:

As the Sky Begins to Change

A Proclamation for Peace Translated for the World

Kim Stafford is the founding director of the Northwest Writing Institute at Lewis & Clark College and is the author of some twenty books of poetry and prose, including *The Muses Among Us: Eloquent Listening and Other Pleasures of the Writer's Craft* and *Having Everything Right: Essays of Place*. He has taught writing in Scotland, Mexico, Italy, and Bhutan, where he teaches and travels to raise the human spirit.



Performance Barn at the Creamery

Saturday, March 1, 7:30-9:30pm Admission: \$15 at the door or Eventbrite Info: events@littleislandcreamery.net

To learn more about these and other books by Kim Stafford: <https://www.kimstaffordpoet.com/books-by-kim-stafford>

And to read his new poem posted daily:

www.instagram.com/kimstaffordpoetry



Spring Retreat: Writing at the Edge of the Sea

AUTHORS Marianne Monson and Tele Aadsen will lead a guided writing retreat April 10th-13th at the Sou'Wester Lodge in Seaview, Washington.

During this writing retreat on the Oregon coast at the historic Sou'wester Lodge, participants will reconnect with their creative spirit and the land and sea that sustain and inspire us. Guided writing practices offer an opportunity to connect deeply, open our senses, and allow thoughts to flow freely. In the mornings, participants will walk, read, and write together with engaging prompts to prime the creative well; afternoons offer free time to write, rest, or explore on their own; evenings will be for sharing writing, discussion, and reflection.



Novelist Marianne Monson

Tele Aadsen is a commercial fisherman, an essayist and creative nonfiction writer, and a lapsed social worker. She is the author of *What Water Holds*, an award-winning memoir of lyrical essays, and performs annually with Astoria's FisherPoets Gathering.

Marianne Monson is a poet, novelist, editor, and author who focuses on retelling women's stories from history. The author of twelve books, she is the founder of The Writers Guild and co-host of KMUN's River Writers. She's been teaching creative writing for more than two decades. **All writing levels and genres welcome. Registration for this retreat is available at: <https://www.thewritersguild.org/spring-retreat>**

The Writer's Guild of Astoria is a nonprofit that promotes the literary arts throughout the lower Columbia region. Learn more at www.thewritersguild.org.



Fisherpoet Tele Aadsen

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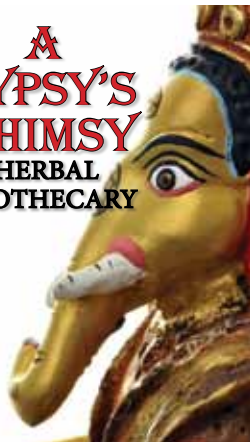
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WORD

Queen of the Coast: 100 Years of Astoria and the Liberty Theatre LCPS Free Monthly Lecture

2025 MARKS the official centennial of Astoria's beloved Liberty Theatre and what better way to celebrate than a new book and lecture about the grand lady. This month's guest lecturer, E. Michael Friend, is author of the recently penned "Queen of the Coast," a short published work exploring 100 years of the Liberty Theatre and its home, Astoria, Oregon.

E. Michael Friend's book focuses primarily on the linked history between the city and the historic theater, which was built as a grand gesture to make opulence available to every man as part of Astoria's rebirth following the disastrous fire of 1922.

Opening in 1925 to great acclaim then eventually falling into neglect, the Liberty was one of the last vaudeville/movie palaces constructed in Oregon at a time when Astoria was seen by developers as a major West Coast port city that could rival New York City. What follows is a story of boom and bust.

Join the Lower Columbia Preservation Society for this interesting story! Tuesday, February 11th at 7pm at Pacifick Distillery housed in the historic Astoria Wharf and Warehouse, 55 4th St. Come early to secure a seat and enjoy a refreshment. Dining and beverage menus are available.

NW Author Series Rachel King

CB Library welcomes author Rachel King reading from her new release of short stories, *Bratwurst Haven*.

Over the course of twelve interrelated stories, Rachel King gives life to diverse, complex, and authentic characters who are linked through the sausage factory and through their daily lives in a vividly rendered small town in Boulder County. The internal and external struggles of Bratwurst Haven's population are immediately and intimately relatable and resonant: these people seek answers within the world they inhabit while questioning what it means to want more from their lives.

Rachel King is the author of the novel *People along the Sand*. Her short stories have appeared in *One Story*, *North American Review*, *Green Mountains Review*, *Northwest Review*, and elsewhere. A graduate of the University of Oregon and West Virginia University, she lives in her hometown of Portland, Oregon.

Emotionally resonant short fiction! —Kirkus Review

Saturday, February 22, 2pm. FREE Event. At the Cannon Beach Library, 131 N. Hemlock. Or watch online via Facebook.

Beginners Poetry Group

A BEGINNER'S Poetry Group led by Terri Martin in collaboration with the Astoria Library takes place in the Flag Room every second Wednesday at 5:30 pm. For info email: writers2go@yahoo.com

Ric's Open Poetry Mic

Every first Tuesday of the month. Sign-up beginning at 6:30pm. 5 min. per reader (or you get the hook). Readings 7-8:30pm. At Winecraft in Astoria.



BOOK AND MEDIA SALE @ GRACE EPISCOPAL

AN EVENT FOR ALL BOOK LOVERS!! Ready to make more room on your shelves for more books? Grace Episcopal Church in Astoria is looking for book and media donations for a Book and Media Sale to be held on the same weekend as the Fisher Poets Gathering.

DONATIONS OF BOOKS and media will be gladly accepted from 9:30-11:30am on Tuesday and Thursday, February 11 & 13, and also from 9:30-11:30am on Monday through Wednesday, February 17-19. The Book Sale may even have some poetry books or fish tales at the sale!

THE SALE EVENT HOURS are Thursday 2/20 from 12-4pm; Friday 2/21 from 10am-4pm; Saturday 2/22 from 10am-12noon, free from 12-1pm. 1545 Franklin Ave, Astoria, OR

For more information, see www.graceastoria.org

RAIN Magazine 2025

RAIN MAGAZINE, Clatsop Community College's long-running literary arts publication, welcomes art, photography, poetry, nonfiction, and fiction submissions now through Sunday, Feb. 23, 2025 for the 2025 edition.

Rain welcomes submissions from the public as well as all Clatsop County college and high school students, however all non-student submissions will be charged a \$10 fee to assist with growing costs of the magazine's publication. This payment can be made to the college's business office over the phone and/or by mailing a check to Clatsop Community College, with "Rain Magazine" in the memo line.

This year's theme section challenges us to think about our "Dreams". This could include daydreams, chasing goals, what we dream about when no one is looking, what we'd pursue if there were no challenges, and more—however the writer or artist interprets the concept.

All general submissions of art, fiction, poetry, and nonfiction not adhering to the theme will also be considered for the first half of the magazine.

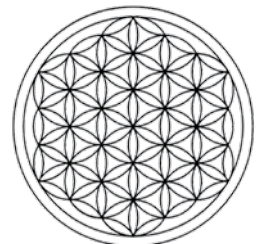
For submission guidelines go to clatsopcc.edu or email rainmagazine@clatsopcc.edu.



Fort George "Wit & Wisdom" Philosophy Talk

What is "Sacred Geometry"? Join Speakers Rich Beveridge & Seth Tichenor, and dive deep into the geometric patterns found in nature and believed to be the building blocks of the universe.

Thursday, February 13, 7-8pm. Doors open 6pm for food and beverage. Free admission. Fort George Lovell Showroom in Astoria.



RIFFS

by dakayla walters

on music in the Lower Columbia scene

Puking and Screaming: Talking Metal with Local Musician Taylan Brooking

IT ALL STARTED with a hopper ball.

Taylan Brooking described himself to me as "a loner in middle school." Without many friends to hang out with, Brooking spent a lot of time listening to CD's or the radio. One day, though, inspiration (or boredom) struck, and Taylan reached for some kitchen spoons to start jamming out on the hopper ball his little siblings had left out.

"From that day on, I was doing it every day after school," he said. "And then my parents noticed, and were like 'oh, we should probably buy him a drum set.'"

At 15, Brooking started his first band. 21 years, two more self-taught instruments (guitar and piano), and several venues later (ranging from Portland, Seattle, Newport, Eugene, Centralia, Aberdeen, and Salem), he currently plays in two bands: local favorites Dr. Onion & the No-No Mamas, and his own project, Tapedeck.

Tapedeck began just two years ago. "Originally, it was just my solo stuff," he said. "I went to the studio to record some songs, put it online, and then my friends heard it and said 'oh, we should make a band out of this.'" He hadn't expected this out of his solo project, but it worked well. "The band formed, we started playing shows, and started writing more songs."

While Brooking's personal style gravitates towards metal, he has played in a range of bands from hipster indie to jazz and even hip hop. For Tapedeck, though, his influences remain in the rock sphere and include Deftones, Smashing Pumpkins, and "any modern shoe gaze band."

What exactly is shoe gaze?

"Heartbroken, sad boy music," Brooking explained. "Kind of noisy but atmospheric, with pretty melodies but dark and heavy at the same time. Heavier subject matter too." Indeed, when writing his own music, Brooking has been called out by friends asking if he could ever write a happy song. "I gravitate towards [writing about] past relationships, seeing close friends of mine struggle with addiction, and family issues." Dark subject matter, but relatable and important, too.

Just like Brooking taught himself piano, drums, and guitar, he also taught himself how to sing. Specifically, he taught himself the quintessential sound a metal music frontman must have: he taught himself how to scream. "I went on YouTube and watched some tutorial videos of vocalists. I would try to do what was



PHOTO: JACKSON HAGEN

taught from the videos... I mixed what they taught and then did what was natural for me." Brooking's major takeaway from the YouTube learning? "You know, you gotta scream from your diaphragm."

Brooking took inspiration from Alex Koehler (Chelsea Grin), Mitch Luker (Suicide Silence), and Chino Moreno (Deftones) to fuel his signature scream, heard on Tapedeck's tracks Sinking, Trauma Bond, and more recently, Infection.

When Brooking isn't busy with his own band, he's holding down the drums with Dr. Onion & the No-No Mamas and, sometimes, puking. The performance jitters are tough.

"I'm fine until we go, then as soon as I hit those first four counts it's game on and all the adrenaline and nerves kick in. I'm on total autopilot. Usually towards the end of the first song I'm wanting to hurl."

"Every time?" I asked.

"Every time," Brooking confirmed, laughing. "Every show." And, more often than not, he does end up puking. But, hey, what's more metal than throwing up while playing the drums?

Despite the nerves and adrenaline, Brooking tells me that his music career has been really rewarding. Without music, "I wouldn't have met Sarah [Brooking's partner]. Playing shows is rewarding, having people come up to you and tell you 'wow, I felt something from your music' is rewarding. All the people that have come into my life because of it."

Brooking's personal work, Tapedeck, is available on all streaming platforms, and Dr. Onion will be playing a show in Portland on February 26th.



PHOTO: RYAN BURKE



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REVERIE: A Celebration of Live Music & Dance

REVERIE invites the audience to embark on a journey through whimsical daydreams and visionary experiences, seamlessly blending the timeless beauty of classical music with dynamic and intricate dance. This performance features a stunning selection of works by some of history's greatest composers, including Chopin, Schubert, Debussy, and Tchaikovsky, among others.

Under the direction of **Ping & Woof Opera's** Jocelyn Claire Thomas, a celebrated soprano, and featuring the musical talents of cellist Hannah Hillebrand and pianist Susan McDaniel, these three acclaimed musicians will bring the works of the great masters to life with unparalleled virtuosity and passion.

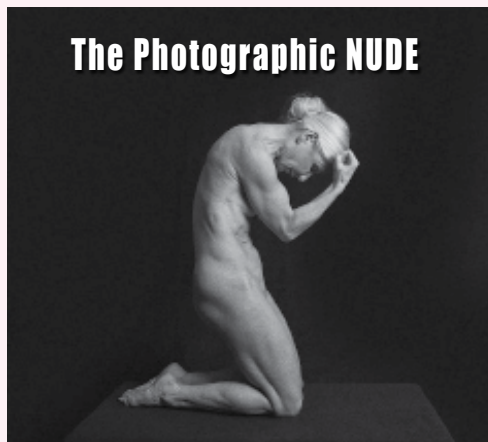
On the dance side, the innovative choreography of Amelia Unsicker Logan and Kelly Koltiska, PDC's visionary directors, will showcase a breathtaking array of movement, performed by the extraordinary dancers of **Pathways Dance Company**: Kelsey Adams, Annabel Kaplan, Ophélie Martin-Weber, Anna Olmstead, and Willow Swanson. Their fluid and emotive performances will mesmerize as they interpret the music with grace, precision, and creativity.

This performance is an invitation to revel in the beauty of collaboration, where two art forms converge to create an unforgettable experience for the senses. REVERIE offers an ideal blend of tradition and innovation, making it a must-see event for lovers of classical music, contemporary dance, and the arts in general.

Sunday, February 16 at 3pm. Charlene Larsen Center for the Performing Arts in Astoria. Tickets \$25. Online at partnersforthepac.com.

LIGHTBOX PHOTOGRAPHIC GALLERY opens **The Photographic Nude 2025** on Saturday, February 8th from 4-7pm. The Photographic Nude 2025 at LightBox Photographic Gallery consists of the work of 28 photographers from around the nation. This exhibit is in its 15th year celebrating the Nude in Fine Art Photography.

Complete show info is on the LightBox website, lightbox-photographic.com. LightBox also features work from The Guild at LightBox consisting of Jim Fitzgerald, Jody Miller, Julie Moore, Marc McVey, Rachel Wolf, Kathy Radie, Michael Puff and Loren Nelson. LightBox is located at 1045 Marine Drive, hours Wed. - Sat., 12 - 5:00pm



The Photographic NUDE

Sabine, Photo by Steve Lease



Musical Storytime

MUSICAL STORYTIME, a hands-on activity for preschoolers, will be offered twice, at 10 a.m. February 6 in the McTavish Room at the Liberty Theatre, and again at 10 a.m. February 10 at the North Tillamook Library in Manzanita.

The free readings, for children ages 3 to 5, will feature live percussion accompaniment by North Oregon Coast Symphony musician Carol Shepherd. This month's story is "Tanka Tanka Skunk," by Steve Webb.

It's a tale of best friends, an elephant and skunk, who beat out the name of their various friends with drums. With colorful illustrations and repetitive rhythms preschoolers will love to participate in this fun story. After the reading, children will be able to play a variety of percussion instruments and learn about drums, the tambourine, and rhythm sticks as Shepherd demonstrates her instruments.

Similar events are being planned monthly in partnership between The North Oregon Coast Symphony, North Tillamook Library and Astoria Library. For more information, visit the symphony's website at www.nocsymphony.org, <https://www.astoria.gov/dept/Library>, or call 503-325-4108.

ORQUESTRA Pacifico Tropical is a vibrant Pacific Northwest Cumbia band hailing from Portland, Oregon. Bringing together a rich tapestry of sounds from Colombia, Peru, and Mexico, reimagining traditional rhythms with a modern twist, their music is a fusion of infectious 50's, 60's, and 70's Cumbia, along with original compositions that capture the essence of their diverse influences.

Sunday, Feb 8, 7pm. Reserved seating, \$27 - \$17 - \$10. Libertyastoria.showare.com



Orquesta Pacifico Tropical

Tuesday 4

LECTURE & LITERARY
Ric's Poetry Open Mic. 7pm at WineKraft in Astoria.

Wednesday 5

MUSIC
Treadmill. Celtic. \$25, 4pm at the Peninsula Arts Center in Long Beach.

HAPPENING
February Movies Celebration Black Artists. The Wiz. Free, 6 - 8pm at the Tillamook Library.

Thursday 6

LECTURE & LITERARY
Liberty Factory: The Untold Story of Henry Kaiser's Shipyards. With Peter Marsh. 4 - 5pm at the Cannon Beach History Center and Museum.

Seasonal Blues. Helen Beaman will discuss the myths and facts on seasonal patterns of depression. 2pm at the Tillamook Library.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

One Act Wonders. Presenting 3 one act plays. Identity Crisis, Out at Sea, and Conflict. \$25, 7:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

HAPPENING

Musical Storytime. The free readings, for children ages 3 to 5, will feature live percussion accompaniment by Carol Shepherd. This month's story is "Tanka Tanka Skunk," by Steve Webb. 10am in the McTavish Room at the Liberty Theater in Astoria.

Friday 7

MUSIC
Raeanne Phillips. 7 - 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

One Act Wonders. Presenting 3 one act plays. Identity Crisis, Out at Sea, and Conflict. \$25, 7:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

Saturday 8

MUSIC
Orquesta Pacifico Tropical. Cumbia. \$10 - \$27, 7pm at the Liberty Theater in Astoria.

Tony Furtado and Stephanie Scheiderman. \$25, 4pm at the Peninsula Arts Center in Long Beach.

Kris Stuart. 7 - 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

Weezy Ford. 7 - 9pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

ART

Astoria Artwalk. Noon to 8pm in downtown Astoria.

LECTURE & LITERARY

Library After Dark. Local Author Spotlight. With Jennifer Nightingale. 4pm at the Warrenton Library.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

One Act Wonders. Presenting 3 one act plays. Identity Crisis, Out at Sea, and Conflict. \$25, 7:30pm at the Ten Fifteen Theater in Astoria.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

HAPPENING

Power of the Cranberry. 10am - 4pm at the Cranberry Museum, Long Beach.

Lunar New Year Celebration. Live music by Shelby Natasha, lantern making workshop, Tre-Fin seafood tasting, and more. Free, noon - 6pm at Snow Peak Campfield, Long Beach.

Hope is in the Water. Screening + Panel. \$10-\$20 with add-on food options available for purchase. 5 - 8pm at the Cannon Beach Chamber Community Hall.

Sunday 9

MUSIC

Gold Souls. Soul/Funk from Sacramento, CA. 6pm at Fort George in Astoria.

HAPPENING

Temaki Night at Basalt Studio with Ippai PDX. Chef Jane Hashimawari will highlight the seasonal bounties of the pacific northwest with this interactive temaki night. \$90, at Basalt in Cannon Beach. Get tickets/reservations at winterwaterspnw.com/events/ippai-temaki

Monday 10

HAPPENING

Musical Storytime. The free readings, for children ages 3 to 5, will feature live percussion accompaniment by Carol Shepherd. This month's story is "Tanka Tanka Skunk," by Steve Webb. 10am at the Manzanita Library.

Tuesday 11

LECTURE & LITERARY

LCPS Presents. Queen of the Coast: 100 Years of Astoria and the Liberty Theater. With E Michael Friend. Free, 7pm at Pacific Distillery in Astoria.

Friday 14

MUSIC

Joel Underwood. \$25, 5pm at River City Theater in Ilwaco.

George Coleman. 7 – 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Dear Jack, Dear Louise. \$16, 7pm at the Fort Columbia Theater, Chinook.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

HAPPENING

Oregon Truffle Festival Masquerade Noir. A costumed night of food, drinks, and live music. \$175, 21+. 6:30 – 10pm in the McTavish Room at the Liberty Theater in Astoria.

Tillamook Elks Valentines Dinner Dance. With DJ Mike Bentley. \$10 dance only, \$20 - \$30 for dinner. Dinner at 5pm, dancing starts at 7pm. At the Elks Lodge in Tillamook.

Saturday 15

MUSIC

The Rogue Trio. 7 – 9pm at the North Beach Tavern in Long Beach.

JT Trawick. 7 – 9pm at Pickled Fish in Long Beach.



TOMO NAKAYAMA

is an artist whose melodic, complex and emotionally compelling music has been praised by the likes of NPR, New York Times, and The Stranger. Beginning as frontman of indie bands Asahi and Grand Hallway, and a successful solo career spanning two decades as a singer, songwriter, composer, producer, actor, and curator, Nakayama is one of the most active and recognizable figures in Seattle music.

Saturday, Feb 15, 7-8:30pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview. No Cover.

Tomo Nakayama. Indie Folk/Synth Pop. 7pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Dear Jack, Dear Louise. \$16, 7pm at the Fort Columbia Theater, Chinook.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

HAPPENING

Nordic Winter Market. Scandinavian designed creations, art and crafts, jewelry, pottery, Nordic vintage collectibles, delicious baked goods and more. a traditional Pannukkku Breakfast and coffee will be available to purchase beginning at 10:00am. Free admission, 10am – 3pm at Soumi Hall in Astoria.

Roaring 20s Speakeasy Casino Night at The Heritage Museum. 6pm. Black Jack, Roulette, Craps, and (for an additional fee) Texas Hold'em poker—prizes for the top chip holders and the best 1920s costume.

Oregon Truffle Festival Fungi Film Foray. Munch on truffle treats during the screening of "Fungi: Web of Life" and "The Truffle Hunters." \$40, 4 – 7:30pm at the Liberty Theater in Astoria.

Crab Crawl. A celebration of all things crab, including a vendor art market. 11am – 4pm at the Port of Ilwaco.

Sunday 16

MUSIC

Weezy Ford & Friends. Americana - Portland, OR. 6pm at Fort George in Astoria.

The Sirens Trio. Classical. 4 – 6pm at the Venue at Little Island Creamery, Puget Island, Cathlamet.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

REVERIE: A Celebration of Live Music & Dance. Presented by Ping & Woof Opera and Pathways Dance Company. \$25, 3pm at the Larsen Center in Astoria.

Dear Jack, Dear Louise. \$16, 2pm at the Fort Columbia Theater, Chinook.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 3pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

HAPPENING

Oregon Truffle Festival. Oregon Fresh Truffle Showcase. Food, wine, and cider tasting, demos, and fresh truffle sales. \$30 - \$40, 11am – 2pm at the Liberty Theater in Astoria.

Artful Breakfast. All you can eat eggs, pancakes, and more. \$5, 9am – noon at the Bay City Arts Center.

Wednesday 19

HAPPENING

February Movies Celebration Black Artists. Black Panther. Free, 6 – 8pm at the Tillamook Library.

Thursday 20

ART

Community Reception. Au Naturel: The Nude in the 21st Century. 6pm at the Royal Nebeker Art Gallery at CCC in Astoria.

LECTURE & LITERARY

Book & Media Sale. Noon – 4pm at Grace Episcopal Church in Astoria.

Friday 21

LECTURE & LITERARY

Book & Media Sale. 10am – 4pm at Grace Episcopal Church in Astoria.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Dear Jack, Dear Louise. \$16, 7pm at the Fort Columbia Theater, Chinook.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

Things My Mother Taught Me. \$20, 7pm at the Barn Community Playhouse in Tillamook.

HAPPENING

The FisherPoets Gathering. At venues in Astoria. Schedule at fisherpoets.org/2025.html

Saturday 22

MUSIC

Babes in Canyon. Synth Folk, moody Pop. 7pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.

ART

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

LECTURE & LITERARY

Book & Media Sale. 10am – noon. Unsold items free from noon - 2pm. At Grace Episcopal Church in Astoria.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Dear Jack, Dear Louise. \$16, 7pm at the Fort Columbia Theater, Chinook.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

Things My Mother Taught Me. \$20, 7pm at the Barn Community Playhouse in Tillamook.

HAPPENING

The FisherPoets Gathering. At several venues in Astoria. Schedule at fisherpoets.org/2025.html

Mind bending, soul soothing, booty shakin' boogie music! 8-piece cosmic soul sensation The Gold Souls' uniquely modern retro sound is driven by deep grooves, soaring horns, and powerhouse vocals. Serving up forward-thinking funk that moves the mind and the dance floor, The Gold Souls bring a sound that is fresh yet classic, with catchy original songs that are both profound and uplifting. The Gold Souls bring a distinct touch to each performance, making every live show a feast for the senses.

Sunday Feb 9, 6-8pm Don't miss'em. Fort George Lovell Room in Astoria



The Gold Souls

Film Screening. "Glory" a 1989 Civil War Film. Filmmaker Mike Cville will give a presentation on the film and the history the movie is based on. Free, 1pm at the Seaside Library.

Three Capes Marathon Relay. From Cape Meares to Pacific City. FMI and registration at three-capesrelay.com

Sunday 23

MUSIC

Red String Theory. Rock/Funk - from Seaside. 6pm at Fort George in Astoria.

The Wardens. Mountain Music. \$5, 2pm at the historic Raymond Theater in Raymond.

Oyster Crackers. Admission by free will offering. 2pm at the River City Playhouse in Ilwaco.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Dear Jack, Dear Louise. \$16, 2pm at the Fort Columbia Theater, Chinook.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 3pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

Things My Mother Taught Me. \$20, 2pm at the Barn Community Playhouse in Tillamook.

HAPPENING

The FisherPoets Gathering. At several venues in Astoria. Schedule at fisherpoets.org/2025.html

Wednesday 26

HAPPENING

February Movies Celebration Black Artists. Akeelah and the Bee. Free, 6 – 8pm at the Tillamook Library.

Thursday 27

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

Friday 28

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Dear Jack, Dear Louise. \$16, 7pm at the Fort Columbia Theater, Chinook.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

The Mousetrap. Murder mystery. \$10 - \$25, 7pm at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem.

Things My Mother Taught Me. \$20, 7pm at the Barn Community Playhouse in Tillamook.

Saturday 1

MUSIC

Gretta Seabird. Soul/Pop. 7pm at the Sou'wester Lodge in Seaview.



Poet, Author and Oregon's 9th Poet Laureate **KIM STAFFORD** presents Poetry and Conversations at the Big River Book Festival, March 1 at 7:30pm held at the Little Island Creamery.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Dear Jack, Dear Louise. \$16, 7pm at the Fort Columbia Theater, Chinook.

The Mystery of Marie Roget. Mystery. \$30 - \$35, 7:30pm at the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach.

The Mousetrap. Murder mystery. \$10 - \$25, 7pm at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem.

Things My Mother Taught Me. \$20, 7pm at the Barn Community Playhouse in Tillamook.

ART

Seaside Art Walk. 5 – 8pm in downtown Seaside.

HAPPENING

Sip-Wrecked. A curated cocktail journey. \$85, 5 – 7pm at the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum in Ilwaco. Call 360-642-3446 for tickets.

LITERARY/LECTURE

Big River Book Festival. Pacific Coast authors, readings, workshops, food, + Kim Stafford Poetry and conversation(7:30pm) 10-6pm. Little Island Creamery in Cathlamet. More info littleislandcreamery.net

Sunday 2

MUSIC

Live Music. 6pm at Fort George in Astoria.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE

Dear Jack, Dear Louise. \$16, 2pm at the Fort Columbia Theater, Chinook.

The Mousetrap. Murder mystery. \$10 - \$25, 2pm at the NCRD Performing Arts Center in Nehalem.

Things My Mother Taught Me. \$20, 7pm at the Barn Community Playhouse in Tillamook.

LITERARY/LECTURE

Big River Book Festival. Pacific Coast authors, readings, workshops, food, and more 10-4pm. Little Island Creamery in Cathlamet. More info littleislandcreamery.net

Tuesday March 4

MUSIC

Delfeayo Marsalis and the Uptown Jazz Orchestra. Jazz! \$57, \$47, \$37. 7pm at The Liberty Theater.

THEATRE/PERFORMANCE

The Mystery Of Marie Roget Local Playwright Teams Up with Edgar Allan Poe at Coaster Theatre Playhouse

COASTER THEATRE Playhouse kicks off the 2025 season on Feb. 7 with "The Mystery of Marie Roget," a spellbinding detective story with an Edgar Allan Poe pedigree—and roots in Oregon's North Coast.

It's 1841, and all of New York is talking about the murder of Marie Roget, a young shop clerk whose body was found floating in the Hudson River. Amateur investigator C. August Dupin is paid a visit from Lon Garrison, the state attorney general, who also happens to be Roget's guardian. Garrison entreats Dupin to help him clear the name of his son, a prime suspect in the murder. Dupin agrees to examine the facts but warns that Garrison must accept his conclusion no matter who it implicates.

Written by Astoria native Michael Alderman, "The Mystery of Marie Roget" was inspired by a Poe story that was based on a real murder case. This adaptation weaves in the facts of the actual case to keep audiences guessing right up to the final shocking revelation.



L-R Bennett Hunter, Katherine Lacaze and Rhonda Warnock in Marie Roget

"The Mystery of Marie Roget" is directed by Susi Brown and features Bennett Hunter, Katherine Lacaze, William Ham, Ethan Taylor and Rhonda Warnock.

Playwright Alderman is doubling as lighting designer and set builder. The production crew also includes Colleen Toomey (stage manager), Sondra Gomez (costumer), Juan Lira (set painter) and Nancy McCarthy (sound and light operator).

PERFORMANCES: Feb 7 – March 1. Fri/Sat at 7:30pm, Sundays 3pm. Tickets \$35 and \$30. Thursday Feb 27, is a pay what you will performance. For more info and tickets go to coastertheater.com and call the box office 503-436-1242. 108 N. Hemlock in Cannon Beach.



L-R Ethan Taylor and William Ham duel it out.

Things My Mother Taught Me Comedy at the Barn Playhouse

THE TILLAMOOK Association for the Performing Arts (TAPA) brings this funny, generational romantic comedy by Katherine DiSavino to the stage at The Barn Community Playhouse.

Olivia and Gabe are moving into their first apartment together. They've just packed up all of their belongings and driven halfway across the country, to start a new life together in Chicago. Their moving day doesn't go exactly as planned, though, and things become slightly more complicated when all of their parents show up to help! Can a two bedroom apartment contain all of the love, laughs, worry, and wisdom that's about to happen?

Sometimes parents pass their best lessons on to their children without meaning to. Funny and touching, this play will make you laugh out loud and fall in love all over again.



CAST Front row: Fred Foster, Mackenzie Wingate, Valerie Sewell, Dennis Darling. Back row: Matt Bergkamp, Jeannie Foster, Elianna Maciel

Directed by Ann Harper, Bree Maciel is stage manager, and CarolAnn Sisco is tech.

PERFORMANCES: Feb 21, 22, 28, March 1, 7, 8 at 7pm and Sun Mats-Feb 23, March 2, 9 at 2pm. Doors open half-hour prior to curtain. Tickets on sale now at tillamooktheater.com or call the TAPA box office at (503) 812-0275. Opening Night Gala includes a beverage ticket and complimentary Hors D'oeuvres.



'Identity Crisis by Christopher Durang. CAST L to R: Dylan Disch, Jaime Britton, Cyndi Fisher, John Hoff, Sara Spangler

One Act Wonders

A Friendly Competition to Kick Off Ten Fifteen's Fifth Year

A COLLECTION of one-act plays, collectively known as One Act Wonders will begin Ten Fifteens Productions' 2025 season. The three selections have their own directors, but will feature an ensemble cast, and there's a twist.... The audience will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite, which will then be entered into the American Association of Community Theatre's One Act Competition. (The same competition the nonprofit theater placed second in the region during the most recent cycle.)

About the Shows:

'Identity Crisis by Christopher Durang, directed by Ryan Hull

Recovering from a nervous breakdown, Jane is nursed and nagged by her relent-



Out at Sea by Slawomir Mrozek
L to R: Simon Caron, Deac Guidi, Max Chase

Out at Sea by Slawomir Mrozek, directed by Karen Bain

Three men starving on a life raft must determine which of them is to become dinner for the other two. One is thin, one is medium, and one is fat. After the men employ a hilariously logical series of civil procedures to arrive at a solution, guess which one has to volunteer!

Conflict by Wade Bradford, directed by Deborah Jensen

A very amusing explanation of how we crave stories in which the protagonist experiences all kinds of hardship.



Conflict by Wade Bradford. Under Umbrella: Jaime Britton
Others, L to R: Sara Spangler, John Hoff, Max Chase

lessly cheerful mother, and confused by her oversexed brother—who keeps changing into her father, her grandfather and her mother's French lover. Eventually all (including Jane's psychiatrist, who undergoes a sex change operation and swaps places with his wife) change characters again and become Jane herself—leaving her with no identity at all and pointing up the near impossibility of self-identification in our uncertain times.

One Act Wonders. Directed by Karen Bain, Ryan Hull, and Deborah Jensen.

January 24th, 25th, 31st, February 1st, 6th, 7th, and 8th at 7:30pm

January 26th and February 2nd at 3:30pm

Tickets are \$25, and are available online at www.thetenfifteentheater.com.

The 15th Annual Au Naturel: The Nude in the 21st Century Returns After Five-Year Pause

The fifteenth annual international juried exhibit, *Au Naturel: The Nude in the 21st Century*, will be on display from January 23 through March 13, 2025, with a community reception on February 20th, 2025, at 6pm at Clatsop Community College's Royal Nebeker Art Gallery, located at 1799 Lexington Avenue, Astoria, OR.

This marks the first full return of the Au Naturel exhibition since 2020, following a pause during the pandemic. While a smaller invitational version of the show was held last year, this year celebrates the revival of the full-scale competition that has garnered widespread recognition.

2025 Au Naturel juror Laura Ross Paul will be present during the community reception to give a brief gallery talk. Awards to be announced at the reception include cash prizes, purchase awards, a special exhibit award for the 2025–2026 exhibition season, and a select number of workshop awards. This reception is free and open to the public.

A post-reception gathering will be held in downtown Astoria (location TBA) immediately following the reception.

Gallery visitors are invited to cast their vote for their favorite piece during the exhibition. Ballots will be tallied at the close of the show, and the winner of the People's Choice Award will be announced.

This year, over 350 images were submitted for consideration by artists from 17 states and Canada. The 2025 exhibit will

feature works by 41 artists representing 13 states across the U.S. as well as Canada. Local artists from the greater Astoria community who have been selected for the 2025 show include: Brian Holbein, Roger McKay, Yasmina Nysten, Ben Rosenberg, Roy Sanchez, and Blaine Verlay.



Nanette Wallace, *Playa Float*

This year's juror, Laura Ross Paul, is a celebrated artist and art educator based in Portland, Oregon. She is renowned for her mastery of figurative painting, combining expressive

figurative imagery with evocative symbolism and vibrant color. Her work is represented in prestigious public and private collections, including the Portland Art Museum, the Seattle Art Museum, the Tacoma Art Museum, the Arnot Museum (NY), the Palm Springs Art Museum, the Art Gym and Portland Institute of Contemporary Art. Ross Paul explores unique alternative approaches in her painting practice, layering oil and wax over watercolor and iridescent inks, which lends her work its distinct textural and luminous qualities.



Bryan Hobein, *Samuel*

Ross Paul brings her unique perspective to the selection process, stating:

"The nude form offers infinite possibilities for storytelling, emotion, and connection. My selections emphasize work that reveals vulnerability, resilience, and authenticity—qualities that transcend boundaries and resonate universally."

Ross Paul will be leading a hands-on life-drawing workshop on Saturday, February 22 from 10 to 3, including a brief lunch break, which will be open to the general public for a \$30 fee. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. For further details about the workshop, a materials list, and to register, contact Kristin Shauck by phone (503-338-2472) or e-mail kshauck@clatsopcc.edu.

For more information about all artists participating in the 2025 show, please visit the Au Naturel website to explore the 2025 online gallery.



COLLABORATION Janet Darcher and Sahar Rosenbaum

SOU'WESTER ARTS & Ilwaco Artworks are delighted to announce *COLLABORATION*, a dynamic exhibition showcasing the work of fiber artists Janet Darcher and Sahar Rosenbaum. On display from January 23rd through March 4th, 2025, at Ilwaco Artworks Gallery, this show celebrates the rich interplay of colors, styles and techniques.

Visitors are invited to a **special reception on Saturday, March 1st**, from 6pm to 9pm, featuring an Artist Talk at 7pm, where Darcher and Rosenbaum will share insights into their collaboration and artistic journeys. This free event offers a rare opportunity to explore the intersection of two unique artistic visions while connecting directly with the artists.

Janet Darcher is a dynamic fiber artist whose journey began with traditional quilting in the early 2000s. While she admired the precision and artistry of conventional techniques, Janet found her true calling after experiencing her first art quilt exhibit in 2007. This pivotal moment inspired her to explore surface design and innovate storytelling through textiles.

Born in the Middle East and raised in South Africa, Sahar Rosenbaum's artistic vision has been shaped by a rich cultural tapestry. With a mother who was an artist and an upbringing in a society that celebrates vibrant colors, Sahar developed a profound appreciation for bold palettes and intricate textures.

Since retiring to the Pacific Northwest, Sahar's work has embraced the region's serene beauty, reflecting a softer, more introspective color palette and mood. Her fiber art combines her multicultural influences with the tranquil inspiration of her surroundings, resulting in pieces that are both vivid and contemplative.

Since meeting Janet, Sahar has been inspired to explore further reaches of fabric art.

Grand Opening of PIER 11 STUDIO:

A New Creative Haven on the Astoria River Walk

PIER 11 STUDIO is excited to announce its grand opening on February 8, at Suite A, 77-11th Street, in Astoria.

This inspiring space is dedicated to fostering creativity in a supportive environment, offering adult art classes, atelier services, website design and education for artists, and a unique print gallery wall for art enthusiasts to shop.

Founded by Oregon painter and printmaker Elise Wagner and multi-media creative Ren Allen, Pier 11 Studio is designed to be a collaborative space where artists and creators of all levels can thrive. With a focus on community and artistic growth, the studio aims to provide an inclusive atmosphere that encourages self-expression and creativity.

Join Pier 11 Studio for its grand opening event on February 8th from 12pm to 8pm. Visitors will have the opportunity to tour the art classroom and studios, meet the founders, and experience firsthand the vibrant community it aims to cultivate. Light refreshments will be served, and attendees can explore our print gallery wall, showcasing an array of stunning works by local artists.

"We believe that creativity is a vital aspect of life, and we want Pier 11 Studio to be a place where everyone feels inspired to explore their artistic potential," said Elise Wagner. "Whether you are a seasoned artist or just starting your creative journey, our studio is here to support you every step of the way."

Pier 11 Studio is committed to offering a variety of classes and services tailored to meet the needs of the community. From beginner workshops to advanced techniques, there is something for everyone. The print gallery wall will also serve as a platform for local artists to showcase and sell their work, promoting the vibrant art scene of Astoria.



AAUW presents Women in Fine Arts

American Association of University Women, Astoria Branch presents "*Women in Fine Arts*" with Anna Magruder, Audrey Long and Kirista Trask. The latter two women are owners of the Cambium Gallery, located at 1010/1030 Duane Street in Astoria. This event will be held at the Cambium Gallery on Tuesday, February 18th, at 6 pm.

Anna Magruder, a Portland oil painter, is a recipient of a 2014 Regional Arts and Culture grant for her "Oregon's Painted History" series and was honored with a 2015 Artist Residency at the Helene Wurlitzer Foundation in Taos, New Mexico. In 2012 she was a featured artist on Oregon Art Beat.

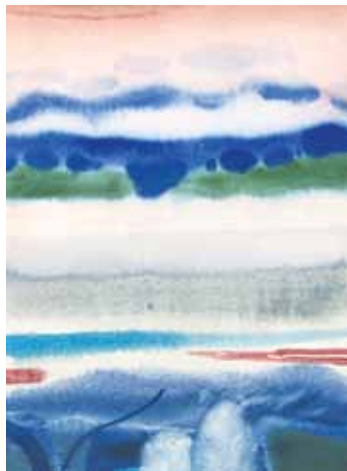
Audrey Long, a ceramist, has shown her work at the Astoria Market and at her gallery, Cambium Gallery. Kirista Trask, an abstract artist, is the executive director of the Portland Open Studios representing 100 artists. Both Audrey Long and Kirista Trask teach classes at the studio connected with the gallery. In addition, the gallery also functions as a coffee shop. The vision of the gallery is to connect art, coffee, and community and to provide a space for underrepresented and marginalized artists.



Anna Magruder, "Oregon's Painted History"

This Place That We Call Home Paintings by George Wilson at IMOGEN

IN HONOR of the annual FisherPoets Gathering, Imogen welcomes back all fisher folk to Astoria with an exhibition by an artist who is as comfortable working in the studio as they are setting nets to haul in that big catch. This year IMOGEN hosts a solo exhibition for George Wilson, a Fisher-Poet, commercial fisherman and talented watercolorist. The exhibition, *The Place that We Call Home* opens Saturday, February 8th during Astoria's artwalk 12 – 8 pm. Stop in between 5 – 8 pm to meet George and say hello. The exhibition will be on view through March 3rd.



Youngs Bay Dawn, wc on paper 14x10

George Wilson brings his latest series, *The Place That We Call Home*, a new collection of dreamlike watercolors depicting the quiet moments of a life inspired by living at the water's edge. From his homeland in Scotland to Portland, Oregon; places and the wildlife that inhabit them become muse and inspiration for his soothing compositions, always allowing his chosen medium of watercolor to find its own path of narration. Wilson, born into a multi-generational fishing family on coastal Scotland, utilizes the landscapes he knows and loves for his subject matter, creating a bit of a visual love letter to the places he finds comfort, places he calls home.

Wilson's relationship to water has always been a part of his existence, as well as a source of livelihood. His work is infused with his experiences as a fisherman, bringing the beauty of solitude as surveyor of land, water and its inhabitants. His profound connection has culminated in an enchanting series of paintings that serve as visual poetry to places he has known, reflecting the shore-

line and its ever-changing edges as weather fronts work to shape and define.

His painting style is as gentle as his imagery, allowing the saturation of pigment on paper to gently pool, emulating the climate and impact of atmospheric quality. Trees, depicted as evidence of fall sets in, glow, still lush with life and radiating an offer of optimism and light for the future. He shares with the viewer his love of the land with dreamlike renditions of places that resonate with a deep and rooted sense of nostalgia.

About this series he reflects, "After living in a village on the coast of Northeast Scotland for forty-nine years in a landscape my family has inhabited for generations I moved to Portland Oregon twelve and a half years ago. Where is my home? At times I feel dislocated. In my head I am neither here nor there. This show is a search for images that have meaning and are particular to a place. A place that could be called home."

Wilson who has painted as long as he's fished, eventually found himself entering the academic world with studies at Gray's School of Art, one of the United Kingdom's most prestigious art schools located in Aberdeen, Scotland. After graduating with a focus on painting and drawing, he found his way back to the sea where his time was shared between fishing trips and the studio. His work is a beautiful balance of both worlds with one love always merging with the other.

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

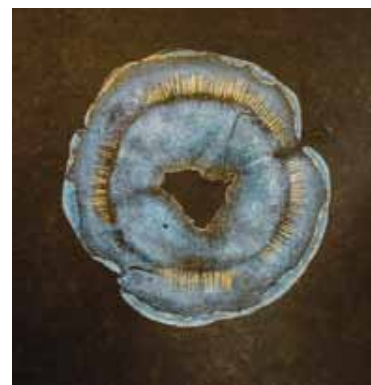
Two Shows at RiverSea Gallery Celebrate The Ocean's Bountiful Harvest

IN HONOR of Fisher Poets Gathering and the Winter Waters festival, RiverSea Gallery presents two shows relating to fishing and the ocean's bounty. *Netted* is a group show curated around a theme, and Duncan Berry is featured in a solo show of his sealife gyotaku prints.

View the exhibitions during the Astoria Artwalk on Saturday, February 8 from 12pm to 8pm. Duncan Berry will demonstrate his gyotaku printmaking process from 4:00 to 5:30. Meet the artists during the evening reception from 5-8pm with music by guitarist John Orr, and complimentary refreshments. Both shows continue through March 4, 2025.

Netted is an invitational theme show featuring nine local and regional artists: Lindsey Aarts, Duncan Berry, Rose Covert, Jeremy Furnish, Gregory Gorham, Stirling Gorsuch, Marie Powell, Penny Treat, and Judy Vogland. The title and theme of this exhibition is conceived as a metaphorical connection to the fishing community and the age-old practice of harvesting

from the sea. Participating artists have been asked to create works reflecting upon some of the connotations that *Netted* brings to mind: caught, ensnared, entangled, trapped, landed, captured, snagged, hooked. This



D. Berry, Illuminated Glass Jellyfish, 12x12

show displays a delightful variety of works in printmaking, painting, collage, works on paper, fiber arts, assemblage, and sculpture, all creatively interpreting the theme.

In a separate solo show, Duncan Berry offers eloquent gyotaku prints that capture the rhythm of ocean life. His one-of-a-kind print impressions are taken



S. Gorsuch, Remnant of a Dream

directly from the inked surface of fish, sea creatures, and plants, printed on mulberry paper and mounted on birch panels. Berry is an Oregon Coast printmaker, photographer, poet, and environmental advocate who regularly performs at Astoria's annual Fisher Poets Gathering.

In conjunction with Fisher Poets Gathering, the gallery will host a special event and second reception on Saturday, February 22, from 2:30 to 4pm. Surrounded by his art exhibition, Berry and a cohort of fellow fisher poets will perform their poems, sea shanties, and songs—stirring tales of the sea and the fisher folk who venture out upon its rough waters.

This event will also introduce a collaboration between Berry and local ceramic artist Randy McClelland. Working with scanned images from Berry's prints, McClelland fired these into the surfaces of a very limited number of his woodfired tankards and platters, fresh from his kiln in Naselle, Washington.

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.

Beneath the Surface - A Fishing Community • Astoria Visual Arts



Aimee Matilla, Salmon Swim, monoprint watercolor

FOR MUCH of Astoria's history, fishing wasn't just a way of life—it was the heart of the community. To honor this legacy and the enduring resiliency of the salmon, Astoria Visual Arts (AVA) welcomes artists who create fish-inspired work to come together for *Beneath the Surface - A Fishing Community*.

Now in its fifth year, this annual exhibit, presented in conjunction with the FisherPoets Gathering, highlights the talents of Pacific

Northwest artists working in a variety of media. The exhibition pays tribute to Astoria's rich commercial fishing heritage, with a spotlight on the salmon. These remarkable fish, whose annual migration up the Columbia River symbolizes strength, perseverance, and cultural significance, remain a vital part of the region's identity—even as their populations face challenges.

Beneath the Surface will be on display at AVA through March 2. The gallery, located at 1000 Duane Street in Astoria, is open Fridays through Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with extended hours during the Fisher-Poets Gathering.

A Fisherpoets Gathering Retrospective,

photography by Pat Dixon and Veronica Kessler will be exhibited at South Bay Wild in Astoria over the FPG weekend.



ANIMAL LOVE



GET READY FOR SOME PUPPY LOVE! We have two gorgeous pups who are ready to complete your family. They are available separately or together.

Meet January. January is a 4-month-old cattle dog/terrier mix with a sweet and affectionate personality. This clever girl loves to play ball and is already learning commands like "sit" and "lay down"!

Unlike her more energetic siblings, January has a calm and collected de-

meanor, making her the perfect companion for someone looking for a loving and easygoing pup. She gets along wonderfully with her canine foster brothers and is working hard to respect her feline foster siblings (even though she sometimes wants to play!).

Meet Eve, an adorable 4-month-old cattle dog/terrier mix with a heart full of love and an endless supply of energy! This little firecracker is the perfect mix of playful and affectionate—she'll zoom around the yard one minute and curl up for snuggles the next.

Eve is a curious and eager learner who's already working on basic commands like "sit," though slowing down can be a challenge when there's so much to explore! She also gets along great with her foster dog siblings and is doing her best to understand that her feline foster sisters may not always be up for playtime! With her lively spirit and sweet nature, Eve is sure



to bring joy and laughter to her forever home.

If you think January or Eve, or both could be what you are looking for, please get in touch!

Please contact SPCHS if you're interested in meeting Porsha and Maverick

www.beachpets.com or

By Kate Cooper • Animal Rescue Volunteer

word wisdom

LSO MANY LOVELORN characters are found in fiction and plays... they're the ones unhappy due to unrequited love. Scarlett O'Hara, for one—and Cathy, the one who had a heart for Heathcliff. Unrequited love makes any person lovelorn.

Lovelorn also means to be unhappy IN love. A bit of a contradiction, I think. One type of lovelorn due to unrequited love, the other due not being happy while in a relationship. Sounds to me like any unhappy person could qualify as lovelorn.

I have not been lovelorn since my teens and early twenties, much of this column is from distant memory and googling. Lovelorn-ness (word I just made up) is a bit of high drama. Pretty much an "inside the head" scenario. Yearning, wishing and hoping, daydreaming about the way things could be... and wanting something that's not being offered to you.

Valentine's Day just may pull you into lovelorn-ness. All those cards and candies. Maybe you had and lost a love who used tokens of love. That love got lost somewhere. Or maybe you've never had someone celebrate in that way with you—that's when you may realize you're unhappy in the current relationship. You have a desire for more fluff and fun. You want the highs of being in love, only

you're the one putting in all the effort. Lovelorn.

Maybe you get into a friendly relationship where you love the other person's laugh, the hugs, the caring. It stops there. The other person is seriously interested elsewhere. Lovelorn.

Your significant other is a nice person. You both are committed but at times you yearn for more, more passion, more of something. Lovelorn.

Lovelorn can take many shapes; a sad inner yearning, quiet and secret to one's heart. Then there's the craziness of a borderline personality: Think: Glenn Close in "Fatal Attraction."

I remember taking a writing class and the instructor clearly took me under his wing. The class was weeklong at Cannon Beach. The class involved interviewing random residents. This instructor and I walked along the waves, insulated it seemed from the laughing kids and volleyball players. He asked me about my life, my opinions, my thoughts. Within a few days I was smitten. A grown-



up crush. The right time, the right place, the right person. It satisfied my sense of romance.

Being lovelorn just may highlight areas of your life that have nothing to do with the other person.

Loneliness, a lack of a special person, lack of fun can probably make one lovelorn. I also think we are grossly influenced by our society as far as expectations of love, what it should look like. Romantic gestures are lovely but is the other person willing to do the laundry?

Maybe the best thing to aim for is a grounded balance. Reality with spice. One last observation: lovelorn-ness is a one-person show. If the other person is reciprocating, you will not be lovelorn. You'll be in love.

Tobi Nason is a counselor in Warrenton, offering sliding fee scale and crazy hours that suit your schedule - (503)440-0587

By Tobi Nason

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**A Special Request from the
Dogs & Cats at the**

CLATSOP COUNTY SHELTER

**We're a little low on supplies.
Would you please help?**

Dog Food – Nature's Domain (Costco)

Cat Food – Nature's Domain (Costco)

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BEST PICTURE

Prediction: Emilia Pérez French director Jacques Audiard's crime musical has racked up 13 nominations – only a handful of Best Picture noms have ever received more. Story opens with Rita (Zoe Saldaña), a Mexican lawyer fed up with her job defending lowlifes. Rita's state of mind seems to be recognized as she receives a mysterious phone call offering her the chance to become rich. Intrigued, she shows up to the meeting and finds herself face to face with her mysterious caller -- the notorious cartel leader Manitas (Karla Sofía Gascón). Rita is shocked when the sweaty, stringy-haired Manitas informs her he has been receiving female hormone treatment and wants to become a woman. Rita brokers a deal with top surgeon, Dr. Wasserman, who operates on Manitas. After his transformation, Manitas fakes his own death and disappears, telling no one, even his wife and children. Years later, Rita is living well in London when she meets Emilia Perez, Manitas's new persona, who wants Rita to reintroduce her to her wife and children, creating an enormous complication. Despite the Academy's obvious love, Mexican and Trans persons have derided the film for being inauthentic to their cultures. Other Nominees: *Anora* / *The Brutalist* / *A Complete Unknown* / *Conclave* / *Dune: Part Two* / *I'm Still Here* / *Nickel Boys* / *The Substance* / *Wicked*



BEST DIRECTOR

Prediction: Brady Corbet (The Brutalist) Director Corbet produced a 3 ½ hour visually ravishing film on a less than \$10M budget that critics are calling a masterpiece. Film tells the story of Hungarian-Jewish architect László Tóth (Adrian Brody), who lands in America after being separated from his wife and niece during World War II. A Bauhaus-trained architect, László and brother Attila are hired by the son of wealthy industrialist Harrison Van Buren (Guy Pearce) to renovate his library while he is away. Upon returning, Van Buren is appalled by the surprise renovation, fires Attila and László, and refuses to pay them. Years later, László, now a heroin addict, encounters Van Buren again. After receiving praise for his new library, Van Buren now wants László to create a grand new project. To prove his sincerity, Van Buren expedites the emigration of László's wife

Erzsébet (Felicity Jones) and niece Zsófia (Raffey Cassidy) to America. Both arrive in poor shape. László begins work on the project, a tortuous process that nearly destroys him and everyone around him. Other nominees: *Sean Baker (Anora)* / *James Mangold (A Complete Unknown)* / *Jacques Audiard (Emilia Pérez)* / *Coralie Fargeat (The Substance)*

BEST ACTOR

Prediction: Timothée Chalamet (A Complete Unknown) Timothée Chalamet embodies Bob Dylan in this biopic that covers the legendary musician's rise from his beginning as a folk singer in Greenwich Village to his controversial shift to rock. In 1961, Bob Dylan arrives in New York City and immediately seeks out his hero Woody Guthrie, who is hospitalized. At the hospital, Dylan sings Guthrie and Pete Seeger (Edward Norton) a song. Seeger is impressed and befriends Dylan, who begins playing coffee houses. He meets and starts a relationship with Sylvie Russo (Elle Fanning). Preparing for a trip, Russo argues with Dylan, frustrated with him concealing his past. While Russo is gone, Dylan is entranced by Joan Baez (Monica Barbaro). After his first record flops, Dylan begins writing protest songs and becomes a star. But fame and fans' expectations weigh heavily on him. The folk scene that made him famous begins to feel like a box that he cannot escape from, causing him to take a radical new turn. Chalamet did his own singing for the role. Other nominees: *Adrian Brody (The Brutalist)* / *Colman Domingo (Sing Sing)* / *Ralph Fiennes (Conclave)* / *Sebastian Stan (The Apprentice)*



BEST ACTRESS

Prediction: Demi Moore (The Substance) Demi Moore has a lifetime-best performance in *The Substance*, playing a fading Hollywood star who goes to extreme measures to regain her youth in Coralie Fargeat's body horror. Moore plays Elizabeth Sparkle, who is fired from her popular aerobics show when she turns 50 when



her sleazy producer Harvey (Dennis Quaid) deems her too old. Desperate and distraught, Sparkle begins taking the Substance, a serum that promises "a younger, more beautiful, more perfect" version of herself. After injecting the Substance, Sue (Margaret Qualley) emerges from a slit in her back. Just as promised, Sue is the younger, better version of Sparkle, inhabited by the consciousness of Sparkle. The catch: Sparkle can only inhabit Sue for 7 days after which she must return to her old body. "Sue" becomes an overnight sensation. But despite a warning from the Substance rep that Sparkle and Sue are one and the same, the two begin seeing each other rivals and begin to sabotage each other's lives with disastrous results. Other nominees: *Karla Sofía Gascón (Emilia Pérez)* / *Mikey Madison (Anora)* / *Cynthia Erivo (Wicked)* / *Fernanda Torres (I'm Still Here)*

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Prediction: Kieran Culkin (A Real Pain) Culkin is perhaps the surest lock of the major awards. In Jesse Eisenberg's mismatched pair dramedy he plays Benji, wild and impulsive cousin to more reserved David (Eisenberg). While David is a responsible husband and father, Benji is a pot-smoking drifter. The Jewish cousins embark on a road trip from New York to Poland to re-discover their family's roots. There, they join a Holocaust tour group. At first, Benji's humorous-bordering-on-inappropriate antics are refreshing. But as the group travels from one sobering reminder to another, Benji's outbursts reveal a deep inner pain, confirmed by a suicide attempt he had made six months previous. Other nominees: *Yuri Borisov (Anora)* / *Edward Norton (A Complete Unknown)* / *Guy Pearce (The Brutalist)* / *Jeremy Strong (The Apprentice)*



BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Prediction: Zoe Saldaña (Emilia Pérez) While competing in the Supporting Actress category, it is actually Zoe Saldaña's character Rita that carries the movie. Rita, a lawyer who distastefully represents criminals, must take on the worst client of all – cartel king Manitas who wants to transform into a woman. As a not-quite-objective third party, Rita must carry out Manitas (later Emilia's) bidding but also express her own moral

reservations to helping, even befriending a person who has caused great harm and suffering in her country. In a mashup of a movie that mixes styles and tones at the drop of a hat, Saldaña is a quick change do-everything artist – acting, dancing, singing from one moment to the next without a false step. Other nominees: *Monica Barbaro (A Complete Unknown)* / *Ariana Grande (Wicked)* / *Felicity Jones (The Brutalist)* / *Isabella Rossellini (Conclave)*

HOW THE OSCAR WINNERS ARE CHOSEN

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was founded by Hollywood mogul Louis B. Mayer in 1927 as a labor dispute organization consisting of 36 members. After foundering in that function, it morphed into an honorary awards organization, but not for high-minded reasons. Mayer said "I found that the best way to handle [filmmakers] was to hang medals all over them ... If I got them cups and awards, they'd kill themselves to produce what I wanted."

The first Oscars in 1929 was a blind-of-an-eye 15-minute ceremony where 12 golden statuettes were handed out. Today, the Academy boasts nearly 10,000 voting members. 24 Oscars representing 24 disciplines will be awarded during the telecast that routinely exceeds 3 ½ hours. The Academy is divided in to 17 branches. Individual branches vote for nominees – actors for actors, directors for directors, etc. with the exception being Best Picture, where everyone can vote.

Voters can include 5 nominees per category. For Best Picture, 5-10. For the winners, in all categories except Best Picture, the formula is simple: the nominee with the most votes wins. For Best Picture, the plot thickens. When the Best Picture nominees expanded from 5 to up to 10 in 2009, the Academy realized that with up to 10 nominees a film could win a popular vote with only the support of a minority of members.

To avoid that, the Academy implemented a voting system designed to favor the most widely-liked film. Voters must rank all nominees from best to worst. If no film appears at #1 on more than 50% of all ballots, PriceWaterhouseCoopers removes the film with the fewest #1 votes. The #2 choice of the ballots voting for the removed film gets applied to the remaining films. The process repeats until a film receives more than 50% of the #1 votes.

The 97th Academy Awards will be held Sunday, March 2, 4 p.m. PDT.

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

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FEB 2025

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In medieval Europe, beekeepers made formal reports to their hives of significant events in the human world, like births, deaths, marriages, and departures. They believed the bees needed to be continually informed so as to ensure robust honey production. The practice was called “telling the bees.” Let’s make this an inspiring story for you in the coming weeks, Aries. I invite you to keep your community fully apprised of what’s happening in your life. Proceed on the assumption that sharing your plans and changes with others will generate harmony and support. Like the beekeepers, you may discover that keeping your community in the loop will strengthen your bonds and sweeten your endeavors.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A regular guy named Jesse Ronnebaum bought an old painting at a yard sale for 50 cents. For the next ten years, it hung on the wall in his living room. Then he noticed a dim inscription on the painting that suggested maybe it was more valuable than he realized. Consulting an art dealer, he discovered it was an unusual composition that featured the work of seven prominent artists—and was worth a lot of money. Ronnebaum said, “Years of struggling, barely making bills, and the whole time there’s \$50,000 hanging over my head, literally.” I am predicting metaphorically comparable events unfolding in your life during the coming months, Taurus. Hidden value will no longer be hidden. You will potentize neglected sources of wealth and finally recognize subtle treasures.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In Namibia’s arid grasslands, fairy circles periodically emerge. They are highly regular rings of bare land encompassed by vegetation. What causes them? Supernatural entities, as believed by the local people? Sand termites or hydrogen-loving microbes, according to a few scientists? As yet, no definitive explanation has emerged. I love that! I cherish mysteries that thwart attempts at rational explanation. In accordance with astrological omens, Gemini, I invite you to specialize in tantalizing and unsolvable enigmas in the coming weeks. Your soul needs rich doses of provocative riddles, mysterious truths, and fun puzzles. Exult in the liberating declaration, “I don’t know!”

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Wherever you wander, be alert for signals that remind you of who you used to be. This will stimulate your creative speculation about who you want to evolve into during the next few years. As you ruminate about your history, you will get inspirations about who you want to become. The past will speak vividly, in ways that hint at your best possible future. So welcome clues from people who are no longer alive. Be receptive to old allies and influences that are no longer a central part of your world.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): “Crown shyness” is a phenomenon seen among some trees like lodgepole pines. In forests, they grow big and strong and tall, yet avoid touching each other at their tops. This creates canopies full of pronounced gaps. What causes this curious phenomenon? First, if branches don’t brush up against each other, harmful insects find it harder to spread from tree to tree. Second, when winds blow, branches are less likely to collide with each other and cause damage. There’s a third benefit: More sunlight penetrates to the forest floor, nourishing animals and other plants. I propose that you adopt crown shyness as a metaphor for your use, Leo. Express your beauty to the max—be bold and vivid and radiant—but also provide plenty of space for your allies to shine. Be your authentically amazing self, but create boundaries that allow others to be their amazing selves.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Some astrologers assert that you Virgos suffer from an ambition deficit. They authoritatively assert that a fiery aspiration to achieve greatness never burns hot within you. But in the coming months, I will work to show you

a different perspective. Let’s start now: Many of you Virgos are highly skilled at being self-sufficient. But sometimes this natural strength warps into a hesitancy to ask for help and support. And that can diminish your ability to fulfill your ambitions. My goal will be to celebrate and nurture your self-sufficiency even as I coach you to be dynamic about gathering all the assistance you can.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Life is not fair. In the coming days, you will be odd proof of this fact. That’s because you are likely to be the beneficiary of uncommon luck. The only kind of karma that will be operating in your vicinity will be good karma. X-factors and wild cards will be more available to you than usual. Your timing will be impeccable, and your intuition will be extra incisive. You may even be tempted to theorize that life is conspiring to bring you an extra supply of meaningful experiences. Here’s the clincher: If anyone in your sphere is prone to feeling envy because you’re flourishing, your charm will defuse it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Here are three questions to ruminate on: 1. What resources are you afraid you will run out of or squander? 2. What if your fear of running out or squandering these resources obstructs your ability to understand what you need to know and do so that you won’t run out or squander them? 3. How can you dissolve the fear and feel confident that the necessary resources will keep steadily flowing in, and you will use them well?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Most stars have at least one companion star, sometimes two. Our sun, which is all alone, is in the minority. Astronomers have found evidence that our home star once had a companion but lost it. Is there any chance of this situation changing in the future? Might our sun eventually link up with a new compatriot? It’s not likely. But in contrast to our sun’s fate, I suspect that 2025 will offer you a significant diminishment in your personal loneliness quotient. If you crave more camaraderie and togetherness, the coming months will be a favorable time to seek them out. Your meditation question: What’s the opposite of loneliness?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In the coming weeks, your authenticity will be your greatest strength. The more genuine and honest you are, the more life will reward you. Be alert for situations that may seem to demand camouflage when in fact they will ultimately reward your complete transparency. You will be most powerful and attractive as you allow yourself to be fully seen. You can even use your vulnerability to your advantage. Be openly, clearly, unabashedly yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): As I envision your life in the coming weeks, I am moved to compare you to certain birds. First, there will be similarities between you and the many species that can literally perceive Earth’s magnetic fields, seeing them as patterns of shadow and light overlaid on their regular vision. You, too, will have an uncanny multi-dimensional awareness that helps guide your travels. Secondly, Aquarius, you will be like the migrating songbirds that recalibrate their internal compass every day when the sun sets. In other words, you will make steady efforts to ensure that your magical ways of knowing are grounded in earthy rhythms.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In some Polynesian cultures, there is a belief that one’s mistakes, including excessive anger, can cause physical sickness. Hawaiians traditionally have employed a ritual remedy for such ills called ho’oponopono. It includes acts of atonement, forgiveness, and correction. It may even involve a prayer conference where all the people involved talk about their mutual problems with respect and compassion, seeking solutions and restitution. The coming weeks will be a fantastically favorable time for you to carry out your own version of ho’oponopono, Pisces.

HOMEWORK: MAKE TWO PROMISES TO YOURSELF: ONE THAT’S EASY TO KEEP AND ONE AT THE EDGE OF YOUR CAPACITY TO FULFILL. NEWSLETTER.FREEWILLASTROLOGY.COM



CLOUD & LEAF BOOKSTORE HOLDS A LIVE AUCTION

JOIN OWNER HOLLY LORINZ and company on Saturday, February 15, from 6-8pm, at Cloud & Leaf Bookstore for a live auction event.

In the recent move to the other end of Laneda Ave in Manzanita, (Buildng 447) a shop with more room, bringing community together in the bookstore is a big part of the dream. But to make hosting events manageable, Cloud & Leaf needs to pay for a few building improvements (including modifications to the private restroom so it is accessible/usable during events). There is also build-out that still needs to happen after the recent move, like adding a bookcase to the children’s section. Proceeds from the auction will go toward the cost of these space improvements.

Five percent of the proceeds will go to Nehalem Elementary School in the form of store gift cards, to be offered by the school principal to students in need or deserving through achievement.

The generously donated items are geared toward those who love the arts and our community. Auction items will be updated at www.cloudandleaf.com and social media pages as they come in. Some of the items are now on display behind the counter at the bookstore.

Some of the auction items include:

- “In the Library” diorama by successful artist & children’s author Maggie Rudy. Maggie, creator of Mouseland, has constructed a reading mouse from felt for this auction.
- Signed First Edition Books by Chuck Palahniuk, Willy Vlautin, Molly Gloss and a signed collection by Jess Walter
- “Cloud & Leaf, Feather & Page” by nationally-acclaimed Deborah DeWit. A gold-framed, one-of-a-kind montage (20”x20”) of original oil paintings, this is a unique archival ink jet print created especially for the Cloud & Leaf auction.

- Host a Private Event at the Cloud & Leaf, a cool venue for an intimate gathering, be it a private dinner, game night, wedding reception or just a wild soiree for up to 20.



“In the Library” diorama by Maggie Rudy.

How it will work.

1. Bidders are to sign in with the host before the bidding begins.
2. Bidding will start at 6:15 pm. The auctioneer will manage the bids from the floor.
3. A buyer may use a proxy by phone. The proxy must provide contact information for the buyer when they sign in.

Items must be paid via cash, Zelle, Venmo, or an approved check by the end of the evening. Once paid, the item will be transferred to the buyer. If shipping is necessary, the buyer will pay the shipping.

Plan for a fun night, enjoying a glass of wine and the dulcet tones of auctioneer Chip MacGregor. For Auction Updates go to www.cloudandleaf.com

When Adolescent Moods Are More than Just a Phase

NOTHING VEXED my adolescent heart more than hearing adults pass the judgment “It’s just a phase” about some new belief or behavior I’d adopted. I loathed the implied condescension and seethed at yet another example of adults not taking teenagers seriously.

Alas, this approach hasn’t gone out of style like the music and clothing of my adolescence have. Perhaps it’s a defense against the frustration adults often feel about issues that don’t seem big to them but are titanic to teens. But routinely dismissing teenage angst as a dramatic but inevitable aspect of development isn’t just disrespectful. Stereotypes about adolescent moodiness can prevent adults from digging deeper and identifying more serious causes than hormones gone wild.

Depression and anxiety are the most common mental-health conditions people of any age experience, and teenagers are prone to them for a variety of reasons, chief among them the pressure to meet (sometimes contradictory) expectations from peers, parents, and teachers. Along with irritability, sadness, and hopelessness, depression manifests as lack of motivation and loss of interest in activities they previously enjoyed. Frequent and/or excessive worrying, restlessness, and difficulty controlling emotions suggest the possibility of anxiety.

Insufficient sleep and/or food intake can cause grouchiness. Teens might miss meals or a full night’s sleep because of overscheduling and pressure to accomplish too

many things, but fatigue can also be related to depression, and insufficient food intake or unhealthy eating patterns (such as skipping breakfast and eating a huge dinner) might be associated with an eating disorder. Eating disorders affect people of all



genders; they’re sometimes missed in boys because they might look like an obsession with muscularity and weight training rather than weight gain and calorie counting. So be alert to your teen’s eating and sleeping habits and give them a nudge in a healthier direction (in a way that doesn’t shame them or put them on the defensive) and talk to a healthcare provider if you suspect an underlying condition.

Mood and behavior changes can also be associated with substance use. Each substance has different characteristic effects on emotions and actions; familiarize yourself with the most common recreational substances and signs of addiction and dependency. Experimentation of any

sort is common at this life stage, and parental attitudes vary from discouraging any substance use to accepting occasional experimentation. My main point is to keep substance use in mind as a cause of erratic behavior and intervene with good judgment and compassion.

Bipolar disorder is a misunderstood condition. I often hear people call anyone who has mood swings “bipolar.” But the moods associated with this condition are extreme, alternating between the depression picture I’ve described and agitation and/or grandiose, impractical ideas expressed in a frenetic way. Teens might try to spend in excess (with money they don’t have) or attempt reckless things...again, activities that are stereotypically associated with the boundary-pushing of this age group, but taken to extremes. Borderline personality disorder is another uncommon condition that’s characterized by marked difficulty regulating one’s emotions and a pattern of unstable, volatile relationships. People with BPD need specialized psychological intervention because of the severity of the condition and a characteristic difficulty people with personality disorders have with recognizing they have a problem.

Most of the time, the feeling that your sweet child has been secretly replaced with a growly space alien typifies this life stage, but it’s essential not to let the stereotype of the moody adolescent interfere with recognizing the signs of a more serious condition.

CMH OFFERING DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT CLASSES

Patients can learn how to live a full, healthy life with diabetes
ASTORIA, Ore. — Patients can learn how to live a full, healthy life with diabetes by attending a Diabetes Self-Management Class Series in February or March this year.

Classes include a one-on-one consultation with a Certified Diabetes Care and Education Specialist to set a personalized diabetes plan. Four in-depth, in-person classes will help patients put the plans into action.

Two series of four classes each will be held on Thursdays in February (6, 13, 20 and 27), and Tuesdays in March (4, 11, 18 and 25). Call 503.338.4012 to enroll.

Classes are covered by most insurances (patients should check with their insurance to verify coverage). Those attending are welcome to bring a family member or friend to the classes for no additional charge.

Classes will be held in the Coho Conference Room on the second floor of the OSU Seafood Center/Duncan Law Building at 2021 Marine Dr., Astoria.

Learn more about CMH’s Diabetes Education department at www.columbiamemorial.org/diabetes.

The North Coast EOL Collective

Death Café— Making Visible the Invisible: A Community Conversation about Death and Dying. **Sunday Feb 9** at the Mary Blake Playhouse in Seaside. 3pm – 4:30pm. (Please register at northcoasteolcollective.com). Facilitated by Margo Lalich, MPH, RN, Co-Founder - North Coast EOL Collective. **Tues Feb 11, 3-4:30pm** North Coast Rec. District in Nehalem

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For more details and registration, please visit: <https://events.humanitix.com/shamanic-breathwork-journeys>

Starts Thursday, January 16, 2025, 6-8pm (Session dates: 1/16 - 3/20. No session on 2/13). St. Catherine’s Sanctuary, 36335 N Hwy 101, Nehalem, OR 97131

VETERANS!

Honoring all who served, The Elks in Astoria is now hosting **FREE COFFEE AND PASTRIES**, every Thursday, 9am – 11am, on the second floor. \$2 for non-veterans. Come socialize. Astoria Elks – 453 11th St.

FREE VETERAN’S BREAKFAST. 1st Thursday of each month. 8-10am at Lum’s Auto Center, 1605 SE Ensign Ln. Warrenton. A Veteran service Officer will be present at the event to answer questions and schedule meetings with veterans.

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CHEW ON THIS!

by Merianne Myers



SOUP JAZZ

THE BACKSIDE of the holiday season always leaves me feeling immensely relieved and vaguely queasy. There's just something about blinky colored lights, chirpy holiday music, relentless ad campaigns and thirty minute check-out/gift exchange lines that makes the prospect of January and February's cold drizzle and short, dark days seem positively cheery.

The state of the world being what it is - a bleak, scary, hurtful mess - I'm worried for dear friends and fearful for us all. Because worry and fear do not sit comfortably within me for long, my self defense system busies itself converting those things into rage which burns with a fiery brilliance until I find something useful and calming to do. In this instance, that thing turned out to be making soup.

Not making soup from a new recipe. Not making soup from ingredients I needed to run out to get. I wanted to clean out the fridge and, with a bit of help from the pantry, make something utterly delicious for dinner. Setting the mis en place for a cooking project has long been my favorite part. Getting the countertops clean and clear, the ingredients, utensils and cookware assembled. It's a ritualistic dream and an extremely good balm for elevated blood pressure.

Not being tied to a recipe means I can listen to an audio book and lose myself in the story and the process. Some luxurious pork sausage links, a gift from a best friend returning from Puerto Rico, made a belated escape from the bottom of the freezer to the dutch oven. It was soon joined by the remains of two onions, one red, one yellow. Then carrots, kale, a couple of chunked up sweet potatoes, a tin of white beans and another of pigeon

peas, a handful of garlic cloves, fresh bay leaves and a smattering of dried herbs. A dollop of chicken stock paste, another of white miso and a couple quarts of water allowed everything to get acquainted. Less than an hour after I started, a pot of simmering sumptuous was smelling up the place in the loveliest way.

A warm baguette, some stinky cheese, a ripe pear and a bowl of truly good soup left me feeling better able to remember what a happy life I have and how lucky I am to have it. Of course, the world has always been a flippin' train wreck. Of course, we can't

You can do what I did thinking I might need an additional night to regain my attitude regarding the 'milk of human kindness' as Shakespeare would have it. (Note: it occurs to me that perhaps the whole problem with the world is lactose intolerance... Just a thought.)

I let the leftover soup simmer down, along with my fury. After a bit, it was more stew-like than soupy. The potatoes are most helpful with this part. Then into a casserole dish where it was topped with leftover mashed potatoes and a sprinkle of grated Parmesan and stuck into the oven until it bubbled and browned. Very Shepherd's Pie like.

Except for the ground lamb and, of course, the shepherd. Never mind. It was really good.

I hope for us all a happy New Year and for our beloved U.S. Constitution safe passage through the stormy seas of the next four years. It's getting bumpy out there.

Make soup.



fix it. Not for real. Not for good. Seems to me the best we can hope for is to do some helpful things when we can and try not to screw too much up in the process. Not easy, with all of humanity forming an endless Mobius strip of alternating brilliance and disaster.

Soup is affordable, fragrant, fortifying, delicious therapy for your body and your psyche. You don't need an appointment or medical insurance to have it. You can make it once and enjoy it for days. You can stash the leftover in the freezer and grant your future self a night off. Actually, soup truly is 'all good' in a way that nothing else ever really is.

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.

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

*Food Talk airs live at 9:30am on the first and third Mondays each month on KMUN 91.9 fm. Or available as a podcast at kmun.org.

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The Architect Hound



By Eric Wheeler

The Flippin Castle in Clatskanie

ONE of the most enjoyable aspects of my role as Architect Hound for this *monthly alternative* is having the opportunity to explore parts of the North Coast for architectural delights that I might otherwise have overlooked. The Thomas Flippin House (1900) in Clatskanie, known locally as 'The Castle', certainly rates as one of those finds.

Last year, on a visit to the Clatskanie library, I introduced myself as an architectural historian looking for information about the history and architecture of Clatskanie. The librarian perked right up and asked me if I knew about the "flippin' castle"? Somewhat taken aback, I allowed that did not, but was keen to have a look. I got directions to the 'The Castle' at 620 SW Tichenor, about six blocks south-west of Highway 30. Upon arrival, I immediately understood why the house gained the moniker of 'castle'. The grandiose, twin-towered, two-story late Victorian mansion certainly looks like it was built for royalty.

Thomas Flippin (1868-1942) was the son of Oregon Trail pioneers who settled in the lower Columbia area in the 1850s. Thomas started modestly in the logging industry as a 'skid greaser'. He was able to purchase a large tract of timber at a good price that he was able to turn into a fortune at a rather young age.

To show off his wealth, he hired an architect from central California to design his 'castle' in 1898. Completed in 1900, the Flippin House is an unusual blend of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival architectural styles.

The prominent twin towers, open front porch, variety of windows and dormers, and decorative shingle cladding are all typical elements of the Queen Anne style. However, the massing and overall appearance of typical Queen Anne style residences are always asymmetrical. The Flippin House facade is completely symmetrical! The central entry, evenly spaced windows and dormers, and open portico (porch) with classical columns and decorative railing atop, are all elements of the Colonial Revival Style. The formal bilateral symmetry of this turn-of-the-century mansion places it clearly in the Colonial Revival tradition. Is it then, a Queen Anne or a Colonial Revival?



It is both. The Flippin House is a great example of West Coast fusion architecture that is both Queen Anne and Colonial Revival!

Another architectural treat of the Flippin House is the group of decorative shingle symbols in the south gable end (pictured). It is not too much of a stretch to see a comet, star and man-in-the-moon in the black on white shingle pattern. Why those symbols?

It is theorized that the Flippins might have been fans of the very popular English author and futurist, H G Wells. His fantasy novel "The First Men on Moon" was published in 1900; the year the Flippins moved in to their new house.

Apparently, Mrs. Flippin was tired of town life and the Flippins left the house and were divorced within three years. The house changed hands a number of times over the years but has remained essentially intact both inside and out. This National Register listed property is owned by the Clatskanie Senior Citizens, Inc. since 1979, and is operated as a house museum and special events venue by the Clatskanie Historical Society.



Deb Hazen, the president of the Clatskanie Historical Society, will present a program on the Flippin House on MARCH 11 AT 7:00 PM as part of "LCPS Presents" at the Pacifick Distillery located on Astoria's riverfront.

Reprint from March 2023. Architect Hound is on a short hiatus and will return with more great architectural topics

Astoria Senior Center Reopens for Lunch After Pandemic Closure Affordable, Savory Meals Served Daily to ASC Members

AFTER THE LONG PAUSE due to the pandemic, the Astoria Senior Center (ASC) is once again serving lunch to its members. For just \$6, ASC members can enjoy a wholesome, affordable meal every weekday. ASC membership is available for only \$20 per year.

The driving force behind this revitalized lunch program is Osarch Orak, known as "Oz," a dynamic local figure with a passion for helping others. Currently, around 15 meals are served daily from Monday to Friday, with hopes of expanding the program as more members take advantage of the nutritious meals offered between 12pm and 1pm.

Oz's path to this role has been anything but straightforward. For much of his early life, he would visit his uncle, Ken Nelson, who worked as a maintenance man at Tongue Point. Along the way, Oz faced and overcame significant challenges, including homelessness. In 2018, he relocated permanently to Astoria to attend the Marine and Environmental Research and Training Station (MERTS) at Clatsop Community College.

In 2020, Oz became the Executive Director of Filling Empty Bellies, where he began to combine his cooking skills with his passion for community service, overseeing various programs for those in need.

Looking to the future, Oz hopes to secure a grant by Spring 2025 to fund kitchen staffing and an office to oversee the food program. Until then, he is cooking out of Life Boat Services, located at 1440 Commercial Street in downtown Astoria. With the grant, Oz plans to move the meal preparation to



Osarch Orak, known as "Oz," And son, Belau

the ASC kitchen, marking a significant step forward for the program.

Each week, LifeBoat Services receives about 300 pounds of food, some of which Oz uses to prepare meals for the ASC lunch program. "It's like a 'surprise box,'" Oz explains. "I never know exactly what we'll get, so I have to be flexible and creative with the menu, while ensuring that it's always delicious and nutritious."

The ASC lunch program has already received positive feedback from members, and the outlook for growth is promising. Volunteers are always welcome to help with the program. For more information, contact Oz directly at 503-468-8176 or email oz@lifeboat-services.org.

The Astoria Senior Center is located at 1111 Exchange Street. Hours: Mon – Fri 8am – 4pm. Saturday 11am to early afternoon (free movie and popcorn). For more info go to: astoriaseniorcenter.org, 503-325-3231.

A Nordic Winter Market + Pannukakku Breakfast Suomi Hall • Astoria

SUOMI HALL welcomes the public to its annual Nordic Winter Market featuring Nordic and vintage collectables, Scandinavian designed creations, arts and crafts, local paintings, jewelry, pottery, traditional baked goods and a White Elephant table of treasures. FYI: Most vendors require cash payment.

The same day, Suomi Hall puts on a Pannukakku Breakfast (Finnish Oven Pancake, is a



thick baked pancake with a custardy interior) which includes pannukakku, fruit, sausage and coffee for \$12, starting at 10am.

**Saturday, February 15, 10am to 3pm,
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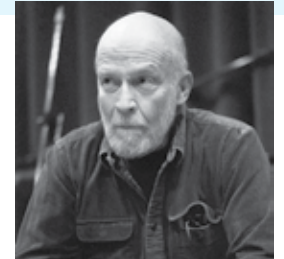
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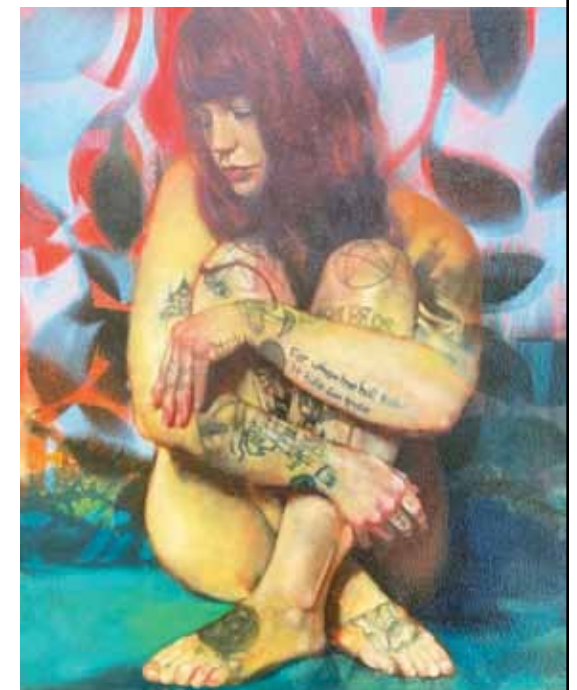
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Exhibition Dates:
January 23 - March 13, 2025

Community Reception:
February 20, 6:00 p.m.

Location:
Royal Nebeker Gallery,
1799 Lexington Avenue,
Clatsop Community College
Astoria, OR

Gallery Hours
Monday through Friday:
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturdays:
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sundays and holidays:
By appointment only.



Lindsay Breidenthal (Wenatchee, WA)
LAKE Linoleum, Oil, acrylic on canvas, 30" x 24"

2025 Au Naturel: the Nude in the 21st Century