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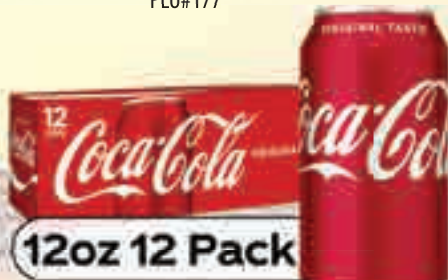
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Photo by Rick Moyer

Libraries are for all. They are a place to meet, learn, rest, discover and more. Check out your nearest Grays Harbor library! Above, Patience Young reads in the Hoquiam Timberland Library. See the story on page 6.

COASTAL *Currents*

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On the Cover: Cranberries harvested from a Grayland bog in Grays Harbor County. Photo by Capture.Share.Repeat, Greg Jacobs.



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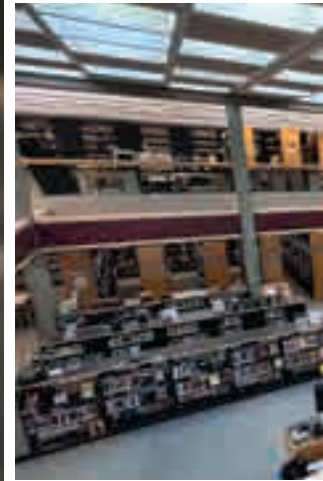


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Zoe Quinton listens intently as her mom, Cayla Quinton, reads a book to her at the Aberdeen Timberland Library.



Are you due for a visit to a Grays Harbor library? The pros outweigh the cons!

STORY BY GAIL GREENWOOD AYRES
PHOTOS BY RICK MOYER

A mother and several children chatter as they carefully create crafts in the teen section of the W. H. Abel Memorial Library in Montesano. At the Aberdeen Timberland Library, a middle-aged man watches a Spanish action movie on a computer while, not far away, a young woman studies for a college exam. Meanwhile, at the Hoquiam Timberland Library, a young girl prudently picks the perfect book and settles onto the cushions of the colorful "Reading Fort."

Similar vignettes unfold quietly – and not so quietly -- in nooks and crannies of eight Timberland Regional Library branches situated throughout Grays Harbor County. Such a staple of the Harbor's cities for so many years, these institutions are sometimes overlooked for the great resources and sense of community they offer.

"The library is a meeting place, a place of learning and a place to connect with other community members. It is a cornerstone of the community," said Susan Leite, the library manager at Amanda Park.

"Libraries are more than books," agreed



Karen Kienenberger, the manager of the McCleary branch. "They are more people centered and activity centered. And, people who haven't been for a while are certainly not going to find it as quiet as libraries once were."

Below: Second floor view of the Aberdeen library.



“The library is a meeting place, a place of learning and a place to connect with other community members. It is a cornerstone of the community.”

– Susan Leite

In fact, if you haven’t been to a library for a while, you might be surprised at what you will and won’t find. At the Timberland Regional Libraries, not only are the card catalogs and “shushing” librarians a thing of the past, so now are late fees!

Yep, beginning in January 2020, the library system decided to forgo issuing

Left: Hoquiam Timberland Library. Below: A mural by artist Erik Sandgren is displayed at the Montesano library.



Patience Young enjoys a book at the Hoquiam library. Above: A stained glass window adorns the Elma library. Right: Sarah Livingston, manager of the Hoquiam library.



Caelin Quinton is engrossed in a book at the Aberdeen library.

fines for books returned after their due dates, now only charging people if they actually lose or damage a book.

What you will find, library employees agreed, is free scanning and faxing, free use of computers, as well as up to \$44 a month of free printing for library card holders! Free wifi is not only available in the libraries, it is also available before and after library hours – from 6 a.m. to midnight – to also allow people to use it from nearby parking lots. Online content includes the Kanopy streaming services and thousands of e-books and e-audio books, newspapers, magazines and much, much more.

“The digital divide is very real, especially in communities like ours,” said Sarah Livingston, the manager of the Hoquiam Timberland Library. “Not everyone has a cell phone or a computer or good wifi connections, so people come to use what we have available.”

Not everyone even has a suitable quiet place to attend a Zoom meeting, have an online doctor’s appointment, take a college test or talk to a lawyer. With good wifi, and the use of a computer and quiet space, libraries can help bridge that divide, Livingston said.

You will also discover the checkout process is faster due to radio-frequency identification tags that library workers painstakingly attached to every item when the libraries were closed to the public at the beginning of the Covid-19 epidemic. Now when checking out, a patron doesn’t even need to scan the bar codes, the machine instantaneously

(continued on page 8)



Shari Brophy, Elma library assistant.

Libraries (continued)

reads the information for each item in a stack.

In addition, you will find librarians and other employees eager to help answer questions and locate what you are looking for, as well as a place that is welcoming to everyone, even for those who just need to use a public restroom, sit and rest, or get out of the heat, rain or cold.

“A lot of people have misconceptions about libraries and who they are for. They are for everybody,” Hoquiam’s Livingston said.

The eight Timberland Regional Library branches in Grays Harbor – in Aberdeen,

Hoquiam, Montesano, Elma, McCleary, Oakville, Amanda Park and Westport – are just a portion of a five-county library system that also includes Pacific, Mason, Lewis and Thurston counties in Southwest Washington, spanning 7,000 square miles. (Ocean Shores also has a library, but it is not part of the TRL system.)

“Everybody is surprised whenever they find out what’s going on at the library.”

– Chris Springer

But it’s not just access to all those 29 branches of the Timberland Regional Library System, that a patron has access to! The TRL system also has reciprocal borrowing agreements with 13 other library systems in Washington including the King County Library System, the Seattle Public Library and the North Central Regional Library. That means you have a good shot to find that best-seller, obscure biography, unusual magazine, local history book or popular children’s movie!



The ‘Reading Fort’ in the Hoquiam library is a comfortable and fun place to dig into a book.

In addition to accessing the breadth and depth of all the books in all those libraries, patrons also have access to various collections of things housed at different branches.

For instance, two pairs of binoculars, birding books and maps are included in the Birding backpacks that can be

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Corby Varness and her dog, Luna, listen while children practice their reading at the Montesano library.



A patron reads in the Montesano library.

checked out for three weeks, just like a book. Similar items include “Check out Washington,” “Explore your Forest!” and the “Environmental Education” backpacks.

Outside of Grays Harbor, musical instruments, including a keyboard, guitar, violin, bongo and ukulele and more, can be checked out of the Tumwater Timberland Library, while fishing rods and tackle boxes, along with a Washington Discover Pass, are available nearby at the Lacey and Tumwater branches.

Within Grays Harbor, go to the Aberdeen library to check out large framed prints or paintings to hang on your wall for three weeks. In Hoquiam, the library houses a collection of assistive devices to help with mobility, communication, vision or hearing issues. These include technology aids, such as specialized computer keyboards, hearing devices or glasses that help people with light sensitivity. The idea is that patrons can take the items home to see if they are helpful

before deciding to make the investment themselves, manager Livingston explained.

And in Montesano, library manager Chris Springer is beginning to gather kitchen

tools for people to check out in a community that he has discovered includes many cooks and bakers. (He can tell by the popularity of the cookbook section!)

Another treasure that Springer has at his branch is a 3-D printer available to use for free to patrons.

“We’ve had people make everything from a fly wheel for a fishing rod and needed parts to fix something to a lot of different toys,” Springer said. Patrons just go online to get the digital blueprint created using computer-aided design software and then bring it into the library.

Springer also hosts the Montesano Canine Reading Buddies, who come, with their owners, to listen when children practice their skills by reading aloud to them.

“Everybody is surprised whenever they find out what’s going on at the library,” said Springer. “Every community is a little different. The managers are given

(continued on page 11)

The library branches addresses and hours:

Aberdeen Timberland Library

121 E. Market St., (360) 533-2360
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon. – Sat.
Closed Sunday.

Amanda Park Timberland Library

6118 U.S. Hwy. 101, (360) 288-2725
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tues., Weds.
Thurs. and Sat.
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Elma Timberland Library

119 North 1st St., (360) 482-3737
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Hoquiam Timberland Library

420 7th St., (360) 532-1710
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tues. – Sat.
Closed on Sunday and Monday.

McCleary Timberland Library

121 South 4th St., (360) 495-3368
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tues. and Weds.,
11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thurs.;
and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat.
Closed Monday, Friday and Sunday.

Montesano Timberland Library

125 Main St. S., (360) 249-4211
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tues., Weds., Thurs.;
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fri. and Sat.
Closed Sunday and Monday.

Oakville Timberland Library

204 Main St., (360) 273-5305
11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tues.,
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weds., Fri. and Sat.
Closed Sunday, Monday and Thursday

Westport Timberland Library

101 E. Harms Drive, (360) 268-0521
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tues. – Sat.
Closed Sunday and Monday

While not a part of the Timberland Regional Library System, the Ocean Shores Library, also offers great resources and serves as a community hub. Established in 1972, the library moved into its current 4,200-square-foot building in 1993.

Ocean Shores Library

573 Pt. Brown Ave. N.W.,
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Chicken Teriyaki Quality Chicken in sweet teriyaki sauce with steamed rice and fresh veggie salad



Spicy Noodle Bowl with Beef & Pork and fresh vegetables



Vietnamese Sandwich Choice of meats and/or egg with always fresh vegetables on fresh Banh Mi Baguette type bread



Read our reviews from Yelp!

★★★★★

So excited to have this new Pho place close to home! The inside is bright and clean! Staff are friendly and attentive! My husband and I both had the Steak Pho, it was delicious! All the usual toppings which were fresh! I tried the Vietnamese Iced Coffee which was fantastic! We'll be stopping in here often! – *Shana C.*

★★★★★

This place just hits the spot when you want pho. I've only had the chicken pho and the fresh spring rolls but when I'm craving either I come to this place to satisfy my desire. Everyone here is super friendly, the place is always clean and the food comes quickly. This was an excellent addition to the downtown Aberdeen area. – *Tracey R.*

★★★★★

With the opening of "Go Get The Pho," there is finally a legitimate Vietnamese dining option on the Harbor! And while Pho is the namesake of this restaurant, I was most excited to get my hands on their bánh mì...the original French-Vietnamese fusion street food. The French introduced the baguette and pâté to Vietnam, but the addition of fresh and pickled vegetables as well as Vietnamese style meats, all stuffed inside the airy baguette with a light crispy crust, created a unique sandwich that has become one of my favorites over the years. The food, speed of service and friendliness of the staff were all on-point. ... So, if you're on your way home from the beach or rain forest and craving something delicious to break-up that drive home, be sure to do yourself a bánh mì flavor favor and stop in! – *Chuck M.*

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Libraries *(continued)*

some latitude to develop the collections and programs to fit the needs of their community. It also makes it a lot of fun," he said.

In Westport, library manager Jennifer Finlayson becomes particularly animated when talking about the Veterans Connection Café, a program that reaches out to the many veterans in the Westport area. Through several partnerships, Gwyn Tarrence, the head of the American Legion in Aberdeen, meets with veterans and their family members on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

"She helps them access services, whether they are applying for VA benefits or local things, like at Coastal Community Action Program," Finlayson said. "We have a ton of vets out here and I saw this as a way of improving lives in our local community."

Meanwhile, the McCleary branch successfully piloted a program called "Expanded Access Hours" and is still offering it. Patrons over 18 years old who register and agree to abide by the rules are given a special card or key fob to access the library during unstaffed hours or days from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. During these hours, they can make copies, use computers, peruse the bookshelves, check out books, work quietly or just sit and read. A parent who has registered can even take their children into the library when it's closed to the public to let them play with the library's toys or read books.

"Families come in sometimes to use the Lego table or play with a gaming station," Finlayson said. "Homeschoolers also like to come in and use it, and several nonprofit organizations come in and use that time to make copies. And, then there are just people who work during our open days and college students who want a place to study quietly."

Each of the Grays Harbor Timberland Regional Libraries is closed on Sunday, and all but the Aberdeen branch are also closed on Mondays. The hours and other days off vary from branch to branch.

The size, shape and feel of each building is unique as well. In Grays Harbor, the

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The Amanda Park Timberland Library's design was inspired by the style of a Native American longhouse.

Photo by Susan Leite





Katt Church peruses books at the Hoquiam library.

Libraries (continued)

stately Aberdeen branch, which is due for a refresh, remodel and expansion, is the biggest of the eight at 17,051 square feet, and the Oakville branch is the smallest branch at 1,045 square feet. Managed by Lizz Borbas, it is housed

in a former church building, along with the Oakville City offices.

The Amanda Park library's design, inspired by the Quinault Indian culture and modeled after a Native American longhouse, has garnered awards for its architecture and is worth a visit to see, even if you don't need a book.

Arguably the Hoquiam library is the crown jewel of those in Grays Harbor.

Built as a Carnegie library in 1911, it was designed in the Prairie style, which is unusual for the Pacific Northwest. The dark wood shelving, trim and stairway banisters, the original oak tables and chairs and the extra-large grandfather's clock that loudly chimes, give it regality and presence. While cozy, its design and many windows make it also open and airy. The grand building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in

1983, and then was tripled in size in a major remodel ending in 1990. Such care was taken to match the style and symmetry that it takes someone in the know to point out which part was the original building.

Murals, stained glass, statues and paintings by local artists, including Elton Bennett, Erik Sandgren, Jenny

(continued on page 59)



Each Timberland library has computers for use, as seen in the Hoquiam library.

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In a scene from the 2019 production of "Alice in Wonderland," Alice (Joni Chism) finds herself in the middle as Tweedledee (Pamela Nygaard, right) and Tweedledum (Cai Hadfield, left) prepare for battle.

Anna Frazier, Pamela Nygaard and Stacy Steele in "Savannah Sipping Society," performed in 2018.

Stage West Community Theatre thrives as North Coast treasure

BY SCOTT D. JOHNSTON

Among the many treasures to be found along Washington's North Coast is a friendly group of folks devoted to entertaining us (and themselves), with regular variations on a theme they like to call "Broadway on the Beach."

Now in its 13th year, Stage West Community Theatre is based in Ocean Shores and has performed live theater in various forms and different locations throughout the area. The permanent home of the registered non-profit is the Ocean Shores Lions Club, 832 Ocean Shores Blvd. N.W.

Since it began in 2009, Stage West has averaged 12-20 volunteers and three to five productions annually, with a variety of theatrical presentations including dramas, comedies, musicals, children's theater, a youth summer theater camp and both mystery and comedy dinner theater in which the audience participates. They've also performed radio plays on Ocean Shores station KOSW 91.3 FM and produced a wildly imaginative and very popular "Wearable Art Show" on the first Saturday of

June each year in the Ocean Shores Convention Center.

The group traces its origin in 2009 to a North Beach Jr. High/Sr. High School drama and music teacher, Kari Phillips (now Novikoff), who was putting together a production of "Heidi" as a school play and part of her work toward a Master's of Fine Arts degree. Several of the adults involved began talking about creating an ongoing local theater group, word spread, and meetings were held.

Many were involved in launching Stage West Community Theatre, including three who have continued in leadership roles throughout the organization's

Tricia Funk in "Immigrant Garden."



Photo by Eric Bjella

"I believe that the arts are very important to any vibrant community ..."
Eric Bjella

history. Ron Cooper started by driving his son, Adam, to rehearsals for "Heidi." He became vice president, then "president by default," and like many others in the group, has worn countless hats since, both on- and off-stage.

Dr. Stacy Steele was already a community theater veteran in Kitsap County when she purchased the Ocean Shores Animal Hospital in 2007. She was happy to be in the "Heidi" cast and enthusiastic about keeping the local theater effort going. Today, she has been Stage West's vice president for more than a decade, done just about everything shy of directing, and has enjoyed dozens of roles, including a one-woman tour-de-force as popular newspaper columnist and writer Erma Bombeck in "At Wit's End."

(continued on page 14)



Photo by Cassidy Walker



Photo by Rod Whitten



Photo by Cassidy Walker

Above: Dorothy Coselman dons many socks in the “Wearable Art Show,” June 2022. Above right: Cathie Parker portrays “Stormy Weather” at the 2017 “Wearable Art Show.” Far right: Kendra Crow at the 2022 show.

Stage West Community Theatre *(continued)*

At the same time these elements were coming together, Eric Bjella and his partner, Tricia Funk, were well experienced live theater performers who were considering relocating from Alaska to Ocean Shores. A friend, John Pratt, told them about the local theater group that might be forming, and attending a couple of meetings helped convince them to make the move. Since then, they have both been deeply involved in almost everything associated with Stage West.

Actually, before the North Beach High School production of “Charlotte’s Web,” the next year, Bjella and Pratt co-starred in the first official Stage West production, “A Dock Brief.”

Bjella and Funk also brought to Stage West an annual event that even a well-worn wordsmith will agree must be seen to truly be appreciated, the “Wearable Art Show.”

In 2012, the creative couple launched a runway style fashion show with a crazy catch: everything modeled must be hand-made and invoke some sort of idea, theme or meme. With a little help from their artistic friends in Port Angeles and other communities, and

Photo by Cassidy Walker

the enthusiastic embrace of local artists and performers, the “Wearable Art Show” was an immediate success.

From the beginning, the show involved almost everyone associated with Stage West, and in 2019, Bjella and Funk gave the show to the local theater group, the idea being that this proven profit-maker would help sustain the group financially. They remain the co-directors and guiding forces behind the event.

After missing two years due to the pandemic, the show enjoyed a strong return in 2022 and has, appropriately enough, set its 2023 theme as “Transitions.” More information can be found at www.oswearableart.com and on the group’s Facebook page.

Pamela Nygaard, Wearable Art Show, 2022.



“The thrill of getting to be somebody else – getting to be on stage – it’s very surreal and exciting!”

Dr. Stacy Steele

Stage West’s mission statement is simply: “Enriching, entertaining and educating our community through exceptional theatrical arts in an intimate setting.” A big part of their purpose is to involve area youth in theater. To that end, the group has offered summer youth drama day camp experiences and is committed to an annual spring play that involves a lot of youthful cast members. Past productions have included “Charlotte’s Web,” “The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe,” “Stuart Little,” “The Boxcar Children,” and “Alice in Wonderland,” with a cast including two Ocean Shores City Council members.

Along the way, Stage West has helped the group that initially offered a helping hand, the OS Lions Club. “The Lions have just been the best in terms of meeting our needs,” said Stage West treasurer and frequent play director Lori Hardin. The theater group responded in kind by helping pay for a much-needed replacement of the venue’s heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system.



Photo by Cassidy Walker

Dorothy "Trashy" Coselman made an appearance at the 2022 "Wearable Art Show."

Cooper explained that, due to the decrepit, worn-out system, "we were freezing and when the heat came on, it was so noisy you couldn't hear the actors. We'd had enough success that we offered to help pay for a new system, and it's absolutely quiet!" They've also done extensive work to enable a stage lighting system that can be adapted to

various productions, along with various other renovations.

Bjella suggested that, beyond directly offering arts and entertainment to the North Beach area, Stage West tries to be an overall enhancement to the area: "I believe that the arts are very important to any vibrant community and that people look to arts and culture as reasons to live in a community. These are enhanced by opportunities to participate," he said, adding that there are almost unlimited ways to get involved with Stage West.

Steele agreed with the community aspects, but also finds intense personal satisfaction in being on stage. She exhilarates at "the thrill of getting to be somebody else – getting to be on stage – it's very surreal and exciting!"

President for the past five years, Pamela Nygaard got involved when Cooper cast her in one of the troupe's most popular productions, "The Dixie Swim Club," in

2016. Beyond the aspects of art and community, she said, "I've been sticking with this because it's just the most fun!"

More information is available at www.stagewestcommunitytheatre.org, and the Stage West Community Theatre Facebook page. 

Stage West Community Theatre has two upcoming productions:

"Honky Tonk Hissy Fit, A Doublewide Texas Sequel"
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A BOOK IN THE HAND *is still cherished by many*

STORY & PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE MORTON

In a day where many people mostly look at a screen to read a book, two new booksellers in East County have recently joined other bookstores around the county to put real paper books into the hands of Harbor bibliophiles. Here's a look at OddDuck Books in Elma, and Lemon Hill Café & Bookstore in Montesano, as well as other booksellers throughout Grays Harbor County.

OddDuck Books

319 W. Main St., Elma

(360) 731-5523

Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tues.- Sat.

It's a Tuesday morning in downtown Elma, quiet, save for the occasional log truck lumbering down Main Street. At OddDuck Books, the bell on the front door jingles. It's only 11 or so and owner Phil Baldy already has been attending to a steady stream of customers.

There's Jacob Kirby, rifling through the

records and looking for some classic rock or country. Maybe he'll find a Connie Francis. Phil makes sure that there's something new for Jacob such as a rather scruffy Nazareth LP. Jacob selects a few records, including the Nazareth record, which turns out to be a gift for him from Phil.

"It was kind of damaged, but I knew he'd want to listen to it," said Phil.

That's the secret of OddDucks — it's

(continued on page 18)

Above: Bookshelves offer unexpected titles and a cozy reading nook at Lemon Hill Café & Bookstore in Montesano. Below: A selection of previously loved books on the shelf at OddDuck Books in Elma.





Phil and Arline Baldy created cozy nooks for their customers to peruse purchases at OddDuck. OddDuck customer, Jeff Hammers, chats with owner Phil Baldy (at right).

BOOKSTORES *(continued)*

knowledge and individualized attention you'll receive from Phil. But the book and record selection are impressive too.

Both LPs and 45s fill the sides of a big, wooden bin and run the gamut of genres. ABBA? Led Zep? Patsy Cline and Hank Williams? Yes, to all. If it's not out, Phil probably has it stashed somewhere. Give him a day and he'll have that record waiting for you.

"I have contemporary too, like, old long-hair music," Phil said. "I was just going to put out a bunch of David Cassidy's and then I got some Iggy Pop, Psychedelic Furs, Nirvana, Flaming Lips. I've got some cool records."

Books are the same. Phil, a lifelong book collector, previously owned a bookstore

in Poulsbo. He also owned a guitar shop, hence all the records and the three guitars set up in the back of the bookstore.

Books upon books fill the shelves, floor to ceiling practically. Space that isn't occupied by books is turned into reading nooks for customers to peruse potential purchases. Cozy chairs are placed here and there for that purpose.

All genres of books are represented. There's literally a little bit of everything. Local history is especially popular. On this day, Phil, who loves history, ends up helping one customer find a book on the Mt. St. Helens eruption and discusses the 1971 Satsop River Fair rock festival with another.

That customer brought in some memorabilia for Phil to buy. After a little

“
*It's kind of nutty.
I probably have
20,000 to 30,000
books and about
50,000 records.*

Phil Baldy, OddDuck Books

”

negotiating, they make a deal. Despite his sizeable inventory, Phil does buy books and records. But be warned, he knows his stuff, so no junk!

Most of the OddDuck books sell for \$5 to \$10, although he does have some rare and first edition books that are pricier.

In addition to the books and records, OddDuck sells antiques and art, including pieces by local artists such as Elton Bennett and Walton Butt. It also has some, well, odd ducks scattered throughout the store made of porcelain, ceramic, brass, you name it.

Phil and his wife, Arline, moved to Grays Harbor in the fall of 2021, wanting a quieter life and space for all of Phil's books. They purchased a house in Montesano, but Arline didn't want their new home to be overtaken by the book collection.

So, the books mostly occupy this space on Main Street in Elma. At more than 4,000 square feet, it holds a lot of Phil's books and records, but not all of them.



He still has offsite storage for his vast collection.

"It's kind of nutty. I probably have 20,000 to 30,000 books and about 50,000 records," Phil said. As inventory is sold, Phil simply feeds the shelves from his supply at his storage units.

"I just kept collecting," said Phil.

"For 30 years!" added Arline.

The collection is a big responsibility that he doesn't want to burden his kids with someday and so everything is for sale.

"This was going to be buried with me, but I guess I'll let it go," he jokes as a customer buys a little brass duck holding an umbrella.

"I don't want to die and make others have a garage sale. But this is fun. So, if nobody comes in, I just go through my own stuff," said Phil. And then the bell on the door jingles again and in walks another customer.



Lemon Hill Café & Bookstore

136 1st Street S., Montesano

(360) 580-6031

Hours: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tues.- Sat.

Located just a block or two from the front door of the historic Grays Harbor County Courthouse in downtown Montesano, Lemon Hill Café & Bookstore is a charming little place

With its bright and welcoming space, Lemon Hill Café & Bookstore is busy with lunchtime customers.



The front door at Lemon Hill Café & Bookstore is protected by a white picket fence and colorful flowers.

offering in-season and locally sourced food served with a French Colonial flair and a side of specially curated books.

Sisters Jenn Skoglund, Heather Sande, Elle Skoglund and their mother, Laura Skoglund, opened the café and bookstore in June, bringing to life a dream that percolated for years. Heather was the first to migrate to Montesano. She loved the close-knit community and eventually convinced Jenn to come to the country. Jenn, a former city girl, loves the small-town vibe of Montesano.

"It's farms, a touch of ocean air, vast, open spaces," said Jenn.

She learned the ins-and-outs of running a restaurant at Boat Street Kitchen in Seattle under Susan Kaplan. But, the uncertainty of running a business during the pandemic ultimately led to its closing.

Although it was a blow, the closing offered Jenn the opportunity to open her own place and be close to her family. She was also influenced by a trip to France.

"It was the worst trip ever taken but I had a wonderful time," said Jenn. The getting there was tough but visiting her mentor, Kaplan, and a little bistro named "Le Cochon Bleu," inspired her.

(continued on page 20)



Heather Sande (at left) is ready to serve while co-owner and sister Jenn Skoglund prepares another lunch in the kitchen at Lemon Hill Café & Bookstore.

BOOKSTORES *(continued)*

The bistro was run by just a husband and wife, who made beautiful food and made it work for them.

The first thing you see at Lemon Hill is a white picket fence festooned with snapdragons bursting from planter boxes. A bright blue water dish awaits thirsty four-legged friends.

Open the door and books line shelves along with vignettes of carefully arranged gifts such as candles, pens,

sage bundles, tea towels, chocolates and more. These are the gifts you'd like to give a friend and gifts you'd love to receive in return.

The menu at Lemon Hill is French at heart and varies according to season. Flavors from the Caribbean, Morocco and other former French colonies add spice and richness. All of it is ethically sourced, mostly organic, definitely local.

"Healthy for people and healthy for the planet," said Jenn.

The sisters love reading and thought they'd stock their store with books they had enjoyed. With the help of a book agent, they found their niche. Topics that were unusual but fun. Not hipster, but "hipster-y." Cool books — books like "How to Succeed Making Dairy and Nut Cheese at Home," "The Autism Relationships Handbook," "Firebrands: Activists You Didn't Learn About in School."

There are some 2,000 titles to peruse,



The children's section in Harbor Books in Hoquiam offers this fun place to read.

which include cookbooks and books for children with titles like "Every Bunny Poops" and "Roar!"

Speaking of children, Lemon Hill offers a special "just for kids" treat menu inspired by a French afterschool tradition known as "le goûter." It is a bit like a British teatime but always sweet

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and mostly for children. At Lemon Hill, it's a sweet snack like a jam crepe with whipped cream or a chocolate tahini panini and accompanied by a cup of hot chocolate. Goûter is served from noon to 4 p.m.



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Harbor Books is the quintessential independent bookstore, offering some 1,200 titles of new and used books in a wide variety of genres. It features local interest and local authors as well as a sizeable children's section, including titles such as "Sharky McShark," "Stand Like a Cedar" and "Louie, the Lonely Lighthouse." A bench underneath a

big circle window provides the perfect perch to sample a book.

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A customer sits outside the Joie de Livres bookstore in Seabrook enjoying a book in the salt air.



books and cookbooks. There is also a travel section featuring the Pacific Northwest with lots of hiking and biking guidebooks. Kids will enjoy the book nooks where they can curl up in a hexagon cutout and read about Bigfoot.

Duffy's Restaurant, at 1605 Simpson Ave. in Aberdeen and the **Coastal Interpretive Center**, 1022 Catala Ave. S.E. in Ocean Shores, are two establishments that also have books for sale. Duffy's specializes in local history books. The Coastal Interpretive Center houses "Damon's Outpost," which has many guides for flora and fauna of the Pacific Northwest, as well as both science and fiction books for children.

In addition, area thrift stores are a go-to for inexpensive books. Some stores with expansive book collections include the Aberdeen Goodwill, the Anchor Avenue Thrift Store in Ocean Shores, Eclectic Treasures & Thrifts in Westport and the North Beach PAWS Saturday garage sale at Hogan's Corner. 



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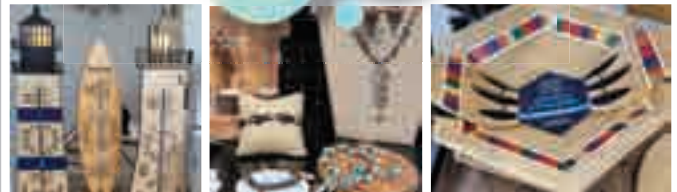
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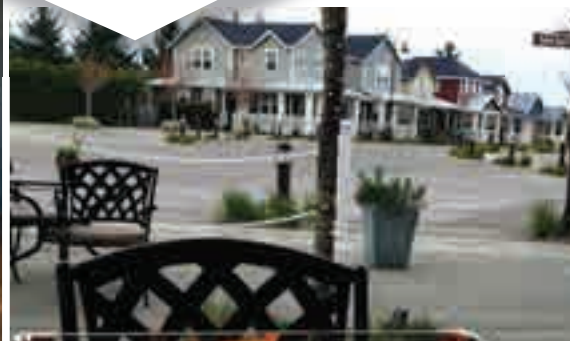
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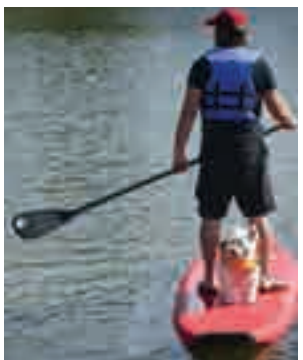
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Arlene Eubanks ARTIST

SPOTLIGHT



Arlene Eubanks holds a Dented Cedar Basket, made with Washington Cedar, hand painted side designs and black baby thistle. Below, is a basket created with dyed flat and round reed, and black and white leather.

STORY & PHOTOS BY KATIE MCGREGOR

“Diverse” is the one word that best describes Arlene Eubanks’ fiber art.

“I don’t make the same piece twice if I can help it,” Eubanks explains as she showcases a variety of baskets on display in Aberdeen’s Alder Grove Gallery.

The 86-year-old artist has lived on the Harbor for decades and currently

resides in Grays Harbor City. Her home on the bluff doubles as a studio where she crafts pieces that almost seem more like sculptures than baskets. There’s nothing plain about them. From color to form, Eubanks infuses each piece with creative complexity.

“I’m a fiber artist that’s addicted to design,” Eubanks says. She’s always made art, but a trip to Barcelona heavily influenced her personal design tastes. After that trip Eubanks went back to

college in her 60s to get a degree in digital design.

Eubanks grew up in nature and that love has never left her. Her designs “connect people with nature in the interior and exterior of their homes and workplaces.”

Once an idea forms in her head, Eubanks can’t let it go and sets upon collecting the materials she needs to create it. Her abstract designs feature round reed, flat reed, pieces of leaves, bark, fabric, driftwood, and anything else that fits her vision.

“Some pieces take over a year from start to finish. I always finish my work. It might take months, but I’ll finish it.”

Eubanks laughs as she recalls taking trips to Hawaii and getting stuck in customs because of all of the supplies she’d gathered to take back to the mainland.

With her decades of experience, she can go out into the rainforest and know exactly which plants to look for. “I know what materials in nature are flexible and what I can use. Half the fun is gathering through the seasonal changes.”

Eubanks has been recognized both statewide and nationally for her outstanding fiber art. In 1989 a 12-piece collection was chosen for the Washington State Centennial opening at the Ocean Shores Convention Center.






The "Flowers in the Wind," basket was crafted with dyed flat and round reeds, and each flower was dried and painted.

More recently, in 2014 Eubanks received a "Martha Stewart American Made" nomination and has been featured in various exhibits throughout the years.

Eubanks is a part of the National Basket Organization (NBO) as well as the Harbor Art Guild.

Her work can be found online at www.artistryandfiber.com and locally at the Alder Grove Gallery in Aberdeen. She also accepts commissions pending the supplies she has available. 



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Bill Dyer and Grays Harbor Symphony celebrate the joy of music

BY JULIANA WALLACE

Monday evenings an eclectic group gathers to make music at the Wellington Rehearsal Hall at Grays Harbor College.

The musicians include teenagers to octogenarians, teachers, lawyers, engineers and retirees. Several couples arrive together. Teachers sit side by side with their students. They greet friends, catch up on the week's events. Some of these musicians play professionally in other venues. But here in the Grays Harbor Symphony, everyone volunteers, playing simply for the love of music.

Symphony conductor Bill Dyer, 54, works hard to cultivate a welcoming environment. "It's a wonderful community group, multi-generational

and with a lot of different abilities," he explains. "I try to balance high expectations with a welcome."

That goal can prove challenging, and it requires a level of trust between the musicians and their conductor. But according to concertmistress Leslie O'Brien, Dyer seems to be succeeding.

"One of the things I really like about Bill's leadership is that it's a 'no fault' environment," she says. "Bill makes it comfortable for everyone. He's a wonderfully even-tempered, encouraging leader."

Part of that success stems from Dyer's early musical education in the San Francisco Bay area. As a teenager, he studied trombone with Patricia Crossen, who reminded him that people use

"It's a wonderful community group, multi-generational and with a lot of different abilities. I try to balance high expectations with a welcome."

- Bill Dyer

the term "playing" music for a reason. Dyer takes that reminder to heart, continually finding the fun in music, whether performing on his trombone, conducting the symphony or teaching musical theory.

Bill Dyer conducts the Grays Harbor Symphony at the June 2022 concert. The vocal soloist was Alexa Amarok.

Photo by Keith Krueger



After high school, Dyer studied music at the University of Puget Sound and then Northwestern University, eventually earning a doctorate from Boston University. Along the way, he found musical mentors in Robert Musser and Steve Fissel in Washington and Frank Crisafulli, of the Chicago Symphony.

Dyer played trombone professionally in Chicago and Italy and has played with the Tacoma Concert Band for 30 years. However, while he finds great joy in getting out his trombone and playing with a group, he realized that he loves teaching.

So, when a friend told him about a music job in Aberdeen, Dyer interviewed for the position. He spent 19 years teaching in the Aberdeen School District before taking his current position at Grays Harbor College

(continued on page 28)

Right: Dyer performs a solo with the Tacoma Concert Band as they earn the trophy for Best Band and Best Brass Section in the 39th annual South of Ireland Band Competition. Below Right: Bill Dyer on stage with his students at a Grays Harbor College Jazz Band concert.

Photo by Richie Tyndall



Photo by Keith Krueger



Bill Dyer, Grays Harbor Symphony *(continued)*

in 2010. During his time with the Aberdeen schools, he commissioned 17 original compositions, giving middle school musicians the opportunity to premier pieces by composers both locally and from as far away as Scotland.

"We have longtime members, and now their kids play. A community music group creates an affection and respect between generations."

- Leslie O'Brien

From the very beginning of his time in Grays Harbor, the Bishop Center has played a pivotal role in Dyer's personal and professional life. In fact, he met his wife, Melinda, when they played opposite each other in *Fiddler on the Roof*. "We got married on stage half a dozen times, and then we ended up getting married and raising our kids here," he laughs.

Through the years, the Dyer children

came to feel at home in the Bishop Center. Following in their parents' musical footsteps, Aaron and Isabelle acted on stage in musicals and performed with the Grays Harbor Symphony.

Leslie O'Brien and her husband John, a cellist with the symphony, love that multi-generational aspect of the group. "We have longtime members, and now their kids play," she says. "A community music group creates an affection and

respect between generations. I like that, and I think it's important."

John agrees, encouraging his students to join the symphony as soon as their skills allow. He joined the Grays Harbor Symphony himself as a teenager in the late 1960s. In fact, the very piece that got him hooked on music, J.S. Bach's "Passacaglia & Fugue in C minor," appears on the program for the symphony's November concert this year.

In addition to the Bach piece, which the O'Briens promise audiences will love,

John and Leslie O'Brien have played cello and violin/viola together in the Grays Harbor Symphony since the 1980s and are looking forward to the November concert. Leslie currently serves as concertmistress.

Photo by Juliana Wallace



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Bill Dyer, Grays Harbor Symphony conductor

the fall concert program also includes a wonderful arrangement of the "Nutcracker Suite" by Duke Ellington, as well as a guest appearance by percussionist James Doyle. The concert is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Nov. 20 at the Bishop Center.

As the symphony rebuilds following the pandemic, Dyer encourages local musicians to join or re-join, particularly string players. He sees huge value in community music groups, both for the individuals themselves and for the community.

"There are many layers to the symphony," explains Dyer. "It's the act of getting together and rehearsing and trusting each other. But it's also the act of working toward a common goal and then performing, giving a gift to the audience."

As Grays Harbor Symphony approaches its 100th season, any musicians with a desire to experience upcoming concerts as a member of the orchestra should contact Dyer via email at bill.dyer@ghc.edu. Symphony rehearsals take place from 7 to 9 p.m. Monday during the fall and spring. In addition, many symphony members play in the pit orchestra for the winter musical.

The symphony is sponsored by Grays Harbor College as part of its ongoing commitment to building the community. Other community music groups sponsored by the college include the Grays Harbor Civic Choir, the Grays Harbor Concert Band and the Grays Harbor Opera Workshop. 

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OCTOBER 8 - 9

BY CHRISTINE VINCENT

The South Beach is gearing up for what is estimated to be the 29th annual Cranberry Harvest Festival in Grayland. The celebration of this unique, tart berry is set for October 8- 9.

A crew of volunteers, along with the festival's program director, Tanya Wood, have been working diligently to revive the three or more decades-old festival tradition, which was put on hold by Covid 19 during the last two years.

Approximately a thousand visitors are expected to attend, participating in events

including a cranberry cook-off, a run and even a parade. "We have people coming from as far as New York," says Wood.

During the second weekend in October, festivalgoers will admire the beauty of the glowing red cranberry bogs during harvest, enjoy the traditional activities at the historic Grayland Community Hall and learn all about the humble cranberry with its unique tart flavor that complements our Thanksgiving turkeys so well.

(continued on page 32)

Cranberry Harvest Festival OCTOBER 8 - 9 (continued)

Is it the 29th annual celebration?

Leslie Eichner, a Cranberry Festival veteran, explains why folks are uncertain if this is the 29th year the festival has been celebrated. Accurate information about the beginnings of the festival has been lost in the mists of time.

"We calculated the year of the first festival from historic Bob McCausland ads, which would make 2022 the 29th festival," Eichner says. "However, I was recently corrected by a septuagenarian who told me the festival had already been going when he was in high school.

"The event used to be run by the Cranberry Coast Chamber of Commerce, a Grayland organization without a storefront run by a local couple for the purpose of organizing the Cranberry Festival. In 2012 they stopped running the chamber. Sadly, we never gained access to their files," explains Eichner.

Regardless of exactly how many years the Grayland festival has celebrated the cranberry, this tart and versatile fruit is certainly enjoyed by many. Yet, when it comes to Thanksgiving dinner, few diners wonder about the origin of their cranberry sauce.

Watch the Harvest in Action

"People think cranberries come from the grocery store," laments Mike Reickenberger whose farm will be the destination of this year's bog tour, one of the major events of the festival. The guided tours seek to remedy this lack of education under the motto "Watch the Harvest in Action."

Reickenberger generously donates precious hours during the busy harvest

Cranberries are one of only three fruits native to America.



Photo above and below by Laura Brydon

Counter clockwise from upper left: Cranberry plants in bloom. Cranberries on the plant. A farmer harvests using a Furford Picker. Sorting berries from stems.

Photo below and right by Capture. Share.Repeat, Greg Jacobs



time to tell visitors all there is to know about the cranberry and the cranberry industry. He speaks about the know-how, the hard work and the community effort it takes to bring the fruit to grocery store shelves.



Photo by Christine Vincent

Cranberries are one of only three fruits native to America. The others are Concord grapes and blueberries. In addition to the coastal Pacific Northwest, major growing areas for cranberries are in Wisconsin, New Jersey and Massachusetts. These areas have the right growing conditions.

“Cranberries need a low-pH, high-acid peat-like soil, along with a cool rest period in winter,” explains Reickenberger.

“Most people think that the berries are harvested in water. The wet harvest is indeed the easiest and most efficient, but it is mostly used on the much larger bogs on the East Coast. It requires a pond and dikes to flood the fields. The dry harvest is predominant in Grayland,” he says.

The Furford Picker invented in Grayland

The berries are gathered using local Furford Pickers. Some of these venerable machines are 60 years old and still going strong. The Furford Picker is an ingenious harvest machine invented by Julius Furford whose workshop is situated

(continued on page 36)



Photo by Christine Vincent

Above: The Furford Cranberry Museum and Holly Marshall, new owner of the Furford Picker Company and the museum. Left and below: Cranberry sorting and processing.



Photos left and below by Capture.Share.Repeat, Greg Jacobs



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Cranberry Harvest

(continued)

across from the bogs at 2395 State Route 105 in Grayland.

The original Western Pickers combed the berries off the vines and sacked them. Then later the farmer needed to prune the vines to keep them in top condition for the following harvest. In

the 1950s, Furford invented a machine that not only picked the berries but also pruned the vines at the same time, saving an enormous amount of labor. The Furford Picker Company is still operating today. In fact, two pickers were recently sold to Sweden.

In 1986, Julius Furford established the Cranberry Museum, showcasing his collection of cranberry harvest artifacts

in one of his buildings. He died in 1999 at the age of 91.

The Cranberry Museum

In 2012, Gwen and Chuck Tjernberg took over the operation of the museum and the Furford Picker Manufacturing Company. Last April, Holly Marshall moved to Grayland from San Diego, purchased the company and the museum and immersed herself in cranberry culture and history.

The adventurous new owner is full of enthusiasm: "I set up my bed in the area in the back of the museum and filmed myself with my phone to convince myself that I truly own a museum."

The Cranberry Museum is an important source of local history, wonderfully complementing the educational aspects of the Cranberry Festival. The exhibits include hand tools and machinery used during all stages of the cranberry harvest from the most primitive to the more sophisticated Furford Picker.

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Photo by Christine Vincent

The Furford Picker is an ingenious harvest machine invented in Grayland.

Botanical information, accounts of cranberry harvests and the use of the machinery are displayed.

Marshall is a knowledgeable and engaging guide, eager to promote the cranberry industry and the culture surrounding it. She is even learning how to build a Furford Picker!

She is relieved to have volunteer help this year. "Last year I ran the museum by myself. It wasn't easy," she says. "I had three busloads of people coming in during the harvest!"

Marshall opened the Cranberry Gift Shop inside the museum, which offers cranberry-themed gifts and a large selection of cranberry food items. The many cookbooks and recipes on display show how the cranberry has progressed in the culinary world.

Cranberries in the culinary world

Local cooks are invited to submit their favorite dishes to the Cranberry Harvest Festival CookOff from noon to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7 at the Grayland Community Hall.

The recipes will be collected in a community cookbook. Historically, the delicious creations submitted in the novice section use cranberries

Photo courtesy of the Furford Cranberry Museum



Wet Harvest with Holly Marshall of the Furford Cranberry Museum along for the ride and Nick Woods of RustWood Bogs, 2021 Grayland Cranberry Harvest.

food stores and restaurants. The berry seems to lend itself especially to winemaking – either solo or paired with grapes.

in a variety of dishes, including jams, jellies, chutneys, sweet breads, cookies, pies and more. Local chefs, bakers, brewers and winemakers participate on the professional level.

The Westport/Grayland culinary community has taken up the challenge to offer unique cranberry dishes in

The Westport Winery offers two cranberry wines. Bog Berry Blush is a tingly, tart and spirited cranberry/Gewürztraminer wine. Rapture of the Deep is a sparkling cranberry wine described as "pure, joyous, angelic."

The Wynoochee Valley Winery boasts some of the best cranberry wine in Washington State. It is sweet and tart.

Laura Totschall from the Westport Winery with their two cranberry wines.

The creators suggest poaching pears in it for the "best dessert around."

Blackbeard's Brewery pub in Westport brews a cranberry mead which is so good that it tends to sell out quickly. They also offer their Pirate Cove Cranberry Wine.

Ocean Spray is unique co-op

The traditional jellied cranberry sauce was the invention of Marcus Uran, one of the three founders of Ocean Spray, the Cadillac of the cranberry industry, according to Reickenberger. Ocean Spray is a farmer-owned agricultural co-op, the only co-op on the Fortune 500 list. Its Grays Harbor cranberry processing plant is just off State Route 107 in Markham.

Ocean Spray realized that in order to increase demand for the berry, one needed to develop new products. Immensely popular grocery store items like Craisins

(continued on page 39)

Photo by Christine Vincent





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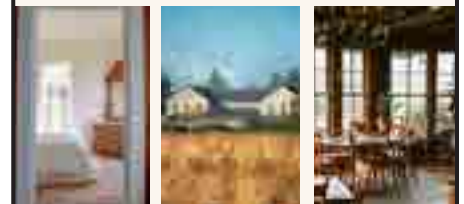
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Photo by Laura Brydon

Cranberry Harvest

(continued)

and Cranberry Juice Cocktail owe their existence to Ocean Spray's excellent product development.

Almost all Grayland cranberry farmers are Ocean Spray members. The co-op helps them stay competitive. In addition to Grayland, in Grays Harbor County, cranberry bogs are also located north of Hoquiam along the bay.

Grayland bog owner Bob Hitt explains the realities of cranberry farming: "A bog takes five years to produce a full crop. New hybrid berry varieties are being developed at research institutions, but also here in Grayland. The new Gregorki hybrid produces much higher yields and the new High Red hybrid produces better-quality fruit.

"Farmers must keep up with these developments. Drainage must be maintained, or wet years will ruin the crops. Ocean Spray implements regulations regarding independent sales. In return, they protect members with steady prices," Hitt says.

Many of the Grayland bogs have been in families for generations. However, today the farmers find it hard to pass their bogs on to their children. It takes a person with a love for the land and hard work to raise a family in an isolated rural community.

The ones who do stay truly appreciate the beauty of the hidden cranberry coast and its cranberry culture. The Harvest Festival brings recognition and fun to the hardworking farmers.

(continued on page 40)

RECIPE BOX

Cranberry Bars

- 12 oz. of whole cranberries (1 pkg.)
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup water
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 package yellow cake mix
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup butter, melted
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup rolled oats
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup light brown sugar, packed
- 1 t. ground ginger
- 1 t. ground cinnamon

Combine the cranberries, water and white sugar in a saucepan and heat on medium. Cook for about 15 minutes, stirring occasionally until all the cranberries have popped and the mixture is thick. Remove from the heat and set aside.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Mix melted butter, eggs and cake mix into a large bowl. Then stir in the brown sugar, oats, cinnamon and ginger. Set aside about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of the mixture, spreading the rest into a 9 x 13-inch baking dish. Pack down evenly to form a solid crust. Then spread the cooled cranberry mixture over the crust. Pinch off pieces of the remaining mixture and place over the cranberry layer evenly.

Bake for 35 to 40 minutes until the top is browned lightly. Cool for at least 40 minutes before cutting them into bars. Makes 24 bars.

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The Quinby family during the 2021 harvest in Grayland.

Cranberry Harvest

(continued)

Locals participate in the Bite of the Beach Cook-Off or the Big Berry Weigh in, a competition for the largest cranberry.

Some farmers grow the Pilgrim cranberry variety, which produces enormous berries the size of a large shooter marble, especially for the purpose of entering the Big Berry Weigh-In at the Festival.

How to attend the festival

If you visit Grayland on October 8-9, turn east on State Route 105. Then turn onto Cranberry Road to watch the beauty of the harvesters working on six miles of flaming-red bogs.

Visit the Cranberry Market Place with vendors and live entertainment at the Grayland Community Hall, 2071 Cranberry Road.

(continued on page 58)

Photo courtesy of the Furford Cranberry Museum

RECIPE BOX

Cranberry Relish

(Furford Cranberry Museum)

- 4 cups frozen cranberries
- 1 whole orange, unpeeled
- 2 cups sugar, or to taste
- 1 medium can crushed pineapple

Instructions

1. Grind cranberries and orange with peel.
2. Add sugar and pineapple.
3. Stir well.
4. Put in containers to freeze, or marinate for 2 weeks



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THE SANDPHIFER GALLERY: *Karin and Stephen Phifer's not-so-foolish idea*

STORY BY CHRISTINE VINCENT

A former Pacific Beach laundromat has recently become the new home of an art gallery. Now at 58 Main Street, the Sandphifer Gallery continues to attract visitors and customers to its surprising new home.

Owner Karin Phifer attributes some of her gallery's success to the proximity

Stephen and Karin Phifer at their Pacific Beach gallery.



Photo courtesy of Sandphifer Gallery

of Seabrook. She explains the gallery's existence by an adage from her native Germany: two fools, one idea.

The two fools, Karin and Stephen Phifer, are a charming couple of artists whose unusual life stories converged in Tucson, Arizona.

Karin was born in Darmstadt, Germany, of a German mother and an American father. Her grandmother and her mother were both artists.

She remembers her early childhood: "I sat on my mother's lap, looking at art books – Emil Nolde, Renoir. There was nowhere to hide from the maternal DNA."

At first, however, she followed her paternal DNA and became a journalist. Karin, with her passionate personality, often becomes attracted to a craft or art style, studies the technique in depth, then unleashes her creativity, exploding in prolific production.

One example is when she moved in 1987 to Mobile, Alabama, where she

became hooked on quilting. Soon after learning the technique, she started teaching. It wasn't much later, in 1992, when she became the president of the Azalea City Quilters Guild.

In 1998, Karin became a student of renowned U.S. quilter Nancy Crow, whose work broke away from traditional quilting patterns. Influenced by Crow, Karin changed her style and began composing beautiful abstract compositions from pieces of fabric she embellished with drawings.

In 2000, Karin moved to Tucson, Arizona, where she studied African drumming while creating and exhibiting her abstract textile compositions. Earlier in her life, at age 21, she had tried her hand at drawing fantasy creatures. In Tucson, she felt called to take up drawing again and to immerse herself in the technique. She could not afford to take drawing classes. Instead, she started modeling at The Drawing Studio, a renowned school, in classes taught by Paul Mohr.

“Without him I would not be where I am today,” she says. As she posed, she listened to his instruction and absorbed every word of it for 10 years!

Born in Minnesota, Stephen Phifer moved to Colorado at age 12. He enlisted in the service in 1970, thus avoiding being drafted for the Vietnam War and ending up in the infantry. He was trained as a helicopter mechanic. Eight years later, he left the service and changed direction – 180 degrees!

Stephen, the helicopter mechanic, enrolled in dance and psychology at the University of Arizona. To support himself, he made jewelry, and he modeled at The Drawing Studio – just like Karin would many years later. His life had taken a decisive artistic turn.

In 2001, Stephen and Karin, two teetotalers, met at a country western bar where Stephen asked Karin to dance. They married in 2004.

In 2013 they moved to Pacific Beach, where they built a home and experienced creative growth. It’s also when the two fools had their one idea – opening the first Sandphifer Gallery in the summer of 2016 at a house on First Street. Then and now they exhibited their own work and that of select local artists. In spite of the less-than-ideal location, the gallery broke even financially, which they considered a success.

“I really could not call myself an artist until I started working on our house here in Pacific Beach,” says Stephen. “I did a lot of work myself to save money. One day, I was fencing and removed a root ball. I felt badly in need of doing something relaxing at the time and I started carving the root.”

“I like creating,” the artist explains, “I start out not knowing where I am going.”

Stephen sees an image in a root or a piece of driftwood, which he makes visible by carving and polishing. Most



Rope baskets by Karin Phifer.



Awareness of Space and Time, textile composition by Karin Phifer.



Driftwood sculpture by Stephen Phifer.



Yoga Frog, driftwood sculpture by Stephen Phifer.

of his work borders on the abstract. He likes to inlay his carvings with stone – with striking effect. A series of wood-carved starfish, for example, are enhanced by turquoise and soapstone inlays.

Karin points out that the beautiful remodeling of the new gallery building is mostly Stephen’s work. Together the

(continued on page 44)

Elephants by Karin Phifer.



Thomas Turtle, from the Blue Series by Karin Phifer.

Karin and Stephen Phifer *(continued)*

couple has created a classy, uncluttered interior with lots of open space. The layout showcases the couple's art in the most advantageous way. Stephen's carvings can be viewed from all angles on freestanding shelves.

In addition to her beautiful abstract textile compositions, Karin is showing a profusion of colored pencil drawings and paintings of whimsical animals. She is finally utilizing the drawing techniques learned from Paul Mohr

in Tucson. Her fish series is especially popular. Extremely prolific, she also sells acrylic paintings in large and mini-canvas format as well as exquisite rope baskets and knitted scarves.

Photo by Christine Vincent



Stephen Phifer sits at the wood desk he built for the Sandpiper Gallery.



Jewelry by Karin Phifer.

Photo courtesy of Sandpiper Gallery




Wood starfish by Stephen Phifer.

Photo by Christine Vincent

Under the motto, "Art on Vacation," Karin teaches two kinds of art classes. Each class consists of two, three-hour sessions for groups of three to six students. Students can choose between

"Drawing Fundamentals" and "Sharmin Khan Style Canvas Art."

For more information on the classes, call (360) 276.5029, or email SANDPHIFER@gmail.com for availability. The Sandpiper Gallery's hours change with the seasons. For the latest information, check out the Somewhat Fishy Facebook page or call the gallery. 



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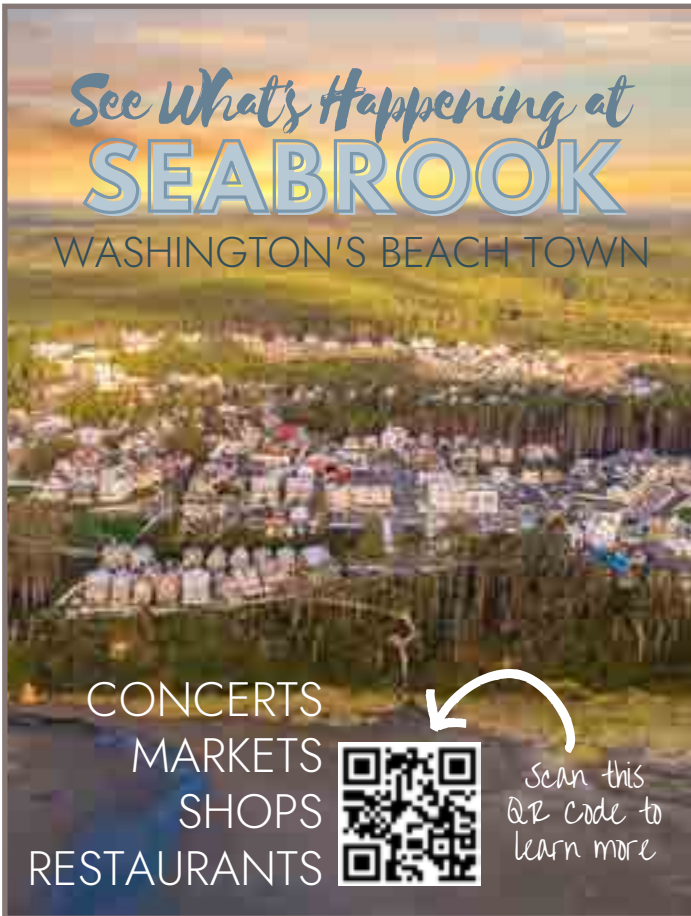
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Longtime newspaperman and prolific author John Hughes shares tips for writing

STORY BY GAIL GREENWOOD AYRES

While most people in Grays Harbor probably know John Hughes as the former longtime editor and publisher of The Daily World, after leaving the newspaper in 2008, Hughes embarked on another standout career. The Hoquiam resident still works—at 78—as the chief historian for the Office of Secretary of State in Olympia. In that role, he's written more than a dozen books on Northwest history. This July he was honored with the placement of a star on the sidewalk in front of the Old World Building, in downtown Aberdeen.

During the dedication of his star, Hughes and his wife, Patsy, were joined by former Daily World staff members and other friends from the community. Hughes recalled his days working in the handsome brick building, first as a newspaper carrier and later as a reporter. (The Daily World moved to its current

Patsy and John Hughes



Photo by Rick Moyer

location at State and Michigan streets in 1973.) Then Hughes, a longtime trustee of the Washington State Historical Society, gave a section-by-section history of Aberdeen from memory.

Hughes' passion for accurate reporting and lively, precise writing garnered him a reputation within the newspaper profession as an excellent writing coach. In fact, journalism instructors around the region often guided their graduates to The Daily World to hone their craft with the master editor. And, in 2004 he received the highest award of the state chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists for "distinguished service" to the profession.

So, we asked Hughes to take a moment out of his still-busy writing schedule to share his wisdom and tips on becoming a better writer, as well as to learn a bit more about him.

Q. After 56 years as a writer and editor, what advice do you have for beginners or anyone who wants to be a better writer?

A. Buy Stephen King's amazing book, *On Writing, A Memoir of the Craft*. "It's a short book," the bestselling author notes in a foreword, "because most books about writing are filled with bull****." I couldn't agree more. There's no BS in King's bare-knuckled book, which Time magazine calls one of the top 100 nonfiction books of all time. King's fundamental advice is that if you want to be a writer, "you must do two things above all others: read a lot and write a lot."

My mother, a former teacher who studied literature at UC Berkeley, had me hooked on reading and writing before kindergarten. Then, as a 14th birthday present, she gave me a subscription to *The New Yorker*, the world's greatest magazine. I was mesmerized by the writing—still am, 65 years later—and the breadth of subjects covered in each issue, from presidential politics to the mating habits of meerkats. The great cartoons are like the croutons in a Caesar salad.

Q. What's your favorite book?

A. Joseph Heller's *Catch 22*, a masterpiece that took him years to write because he revised it so painstakingly. My favorite nonfiction book is Murray Morgan's *Skid Road*. Anything by Robert Caro or Tim Egan is also a master class in storytelling.

Q. For you, how much writing is "a lot"?

A. At least a thousand words a day, five days a week, with journal entries on weekends. That doesn't mean all of those words are always worth keeping. Stephen King says you have to be



Photo by Rick Moyer



John Hughes, Washington State's chief historian, with former U.S. Senator Slade Gorton at the launch of his biography in 2012.

Photo courtesy of John Hughes

willing to “kill your darlings”—stuff you really like that, in the final brutal analysis, fails to propel the narrative. One of my typical 5,000-word oral history profiles goes through at least eight revisions. A teammate calls it “sanding.” That’s a good analogy.

My major project this year was a final edit of former governor Dan Evans’ long-awaited autobiography. Together, we trimmed it by more than a third—100,000 words. It wasn’t without pain.

Q. What’s the best writing assignment you’ve ever had?

A. Being a restaurant reviewer for the Northwest Best Places guidebook in the 1990s. I helped travelers discover that Aberdeen boasted a superb Northern Italian restaurant: Pierre Gabelli’s hole-in-the wall Parma, where the boar rigatoni was sublime. In Montesano,

“The decline of community journalism is an American tragedy. ... Now, practically no one is watching the store at city hall or the courthouse.”

– John Hughes

Candi Bachtell’s Savory Faire elevated a turkey pesto sandwich to greatness. And the Ocean Crest at Moclips, happily still with us after all these years, has a menu to match the view.

Though I no longer get paid to eat, I still share restaurant reviews online. I’ve spent the past half-century in search of the best Neapolitan pizza in the Northwest. I found it a few weeks ago in an old coal town called Wilkeson in the foothills of Mount Rainier. Ask YouTube about “The Carlson Block,” salivate and get ready for a weekend road trip. That

said, you can get still a great, gooey American-style pizza at Casa Mia in Hoquiam. I’m in a photo on the wall from 1960.

Q. You’ve lived on the Harbor all your life. Did you ever consider leaving?

A. I had several offers over the years, notably from The Seattle Times. I jumped at the chance to become chief historian for the Office of the Secretary of State 14 years ago in part because I could just commute. There’s something about this place—warts and all—that has kept me here.

The sad grittiness that’s so off-putting to visitors when they drive through threadbare downtown Aberdeen is offset by the area’s natural beauty and affordability. I live not far from Bowerman Basin in a house I couldn’t

(continued on page 48)



Hughes at the launch of his book, *Korea 65, the Forgotten War Remembered*.

Photo courtesy of John Hughes

John Hughes *(continued)*

afford in Olympia, let alone Seattle. I like the people here too—for their resilience and honesty—though it worries me that I see so many signs, literally and figuratively, of bitter, feckless discontent.

My biography of former U.S. Senator Slade Gorton is a highlight of my career. I believe it paints a vivid picture of a brilliant, complicated, controversial man unafraid to challenge leaders of his own party. Gorton was one of the first major office-holders in America to call for Nixon's resignation over the Watergate coverup. Forty-six years later—appalled by Donald Trump's attempt to "shake down" Ukraine's president—Gorton said too many Republicans were betraying their country and the Constitution by refusing to confront the fact that the president should be impeached. Gorton's deathbed request to his pastor during the 2020 presidential campaign speaks volumes about his patriotism. "What shall we pray about today?" the minister asked. "I'd like to pray for my country," Slade said.

Q. You were famous in *The Daily World* newsroom for offering a Bob Dylan quote for practically any

situation. Are you doing the same thing now at the State Library?

A. Absolutely. I saw Dylan at Carnegie Hall in 1963 when he could really sing. He now sounds like a frog with strep throat, but his poetry is still mesmerizingly topical. Consider this:

*While preachers preach of evil fates
Teachers teach that knowledge waits
Can lead to hundred-dollar plates
Goodness hides behind its gates
But even the president of the United States
Sometimes must have to stand naked*

John Hughes, far right, and the newsroom staff of *The Daily World* in the late 1980s.

Photo courtesy of John Hughes



Q. Of all the people you've interviewed over the years, who is the most memorable?

A. Arnold Samuels of Ocean Shores, whose family narrowly escaped Nazi Germany in 1937. After high school in Brooklyn, Arnold returned to Europe as an American GI, working undercover behind enemy lines. He helped liberate the horrific concentration camp at Dachau. And at war's end, served in the Counter Intelligence Corps with another 22-year-old sergeant, Henry Kissinger. While researching Arnold's life story, we discovered that he and Billy Joel had the same uncle!

Q. Any regrets?

A. I wish I could solve who killed Laura Law, the young labor activist brutally murdered in Aberdeen in 1940. That story has haunted me since childhood when I first heard it from my uncle. He was a business agent with the International Woodworkers of America during that polarizing era.

I also wish I had the proverbial nickel for every time some one tells me how great *The Daily World* was back in my day. Often, they're the same people



Photos courtesy of John Hughes


In 2013, Hughes with John Spellman, former governor.

who used to tell me it was “the daily disappointment,” never mind that our 20-person news staff won a slew of awards every year.

The decline of community journalism is an American tragedy. I retired from journalism because chain ownership’s insistence on extracting unconscionably high profits meant more and more layoffs. Advertisers and readers, meantime, bought into the notion that

quality news ought to be available for free. Now, practically no one is watching the store at city hall or the courthouse. And social media is rampant with rumors, lies, fear and loathing. With no robust media to analyze political candidates’ true views, the toxic Kool-Aid of deception is on tap by the gallon. I’m praying for my country.

Q. What have you learned in your 78 years?

A. Have a regular colonoscopy, take care of your back and keep your I-love-yous up to date. 



Arnold Samuels with John Hughes.

Books by John Hughes

On the Harbor: From Black Friday to Nirvana

Booth Who? A Biography of Booth Gardner

Nancy Evans: First-Rate First Lady

Lillian Walker, Washington State Civil Rights Pioneer

The Inimitable Adele Ferguson

Slade Gorton, a Half Century in Politics

John Spellman: Politics Never Broke His Heart

Pressing On: Two Family-Owned Newspapers in the 21st Century

Washington Remembers World War II

Korea 65, the Forgotten War Remembered

1968: The Year that Rocked Washington

Ahead of the Curve: Washington Women Lead the Way, 1910-2020

Julia Butler Hansen, A Trailblazing Washington Politician

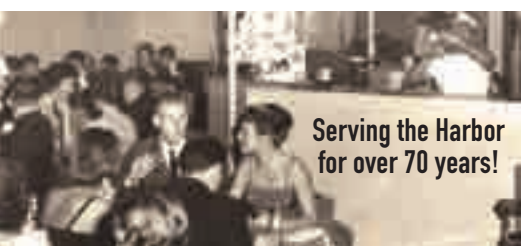
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Patricia Bonina, executive chef and general manager, recommends first-timers order a pulled pork sandwich.

Aloha Alabama serves up tasty barbecue, warm hospitality

STORY & PHOTOS BY KATIE MCGREGOR

Situated on Westhaven Drive, just across the street from the Westport Marina, Aloha Alabama BBQ is hard to miss. The bright blue sign and orange trim make the building feel inviting and the employees inside only emphasize this feeling.

“We get a lot of customer feedback on our friendly staff,” says Patricia Bonina, who serves both as executive chef and general manager. “We want everyone to be treated like they’re family.”

“

The hospitality in the South and Hawaii is very similar ...

– Patricia Bonina

”

Chef Bonina has been a part of Aloha Alabama since the establishment opened on the weekend of the 2015 Rusty Scuppers Pirate Daze Festival. Originally from Oklahoma, she’s been cooking barbecue for most of her life.

“My dad and I did competitions back home. We would do lots of rib cookouts and make brisket and chili,” Bonina reminisces.

(continued on page 52)



The hot sauce wall beckons adventurous eaters.

www.Coastal-Currents.com





Left: Todd Morena loads meat onto the smoker.



Enter Aloha Alabama owners Brook and Jarl Priest, who respectively hail from Hawaii and Alabama. The three ended up being the perfect combination of knowledge and experience to bring genuine barbecue to Grays Harbor.

Brook and Jarl had already been conceptualizing the idea of Aloha Alabama for several years when they met Bonina through work. Once the right building became available, they immediately began turning their ideas into reality.

"The hospitality in the South and Hawaii is very similar, so she (Brook) wanted to keep that going by founding the Aloha," says Bonina. The hospitality is just as central to the Aloha Alabama experience as the barbecue is.

Aloha's menu currently boasts a large selection of mouthwatering barbecue dishes ranging from the Kalua Pork Poke Bowl to the Garlic Chicken Platter. Shortly after opening, the menu expanded beyond barbecue and now includes seafood options like Aloha's bestselling Crispy Fish Tacos.

"I actually didn't know much about seafood when I came to Washington. Razor clams were new to me," chef Bonina says with a laugh.



“

We specialize in making traditional southern BBQ, cooked low and slow over a mix of applewood and kiawe wood smoke.

– Brook Priest

”

She recommends that new customers try the juicy Pulled Pork Sandwich first because it showcases the special smoking process Aloha uses.

"We specialize in making traditional southern BBQ, cooked low and slow over a mix of applewood and kiawe wood smoke," Brook Priest writes on Aloha's website. The Hawaiian mesquite wood used in the dishes isn't as harsh as traditional smoked wood.

Bonina says that the rub isn't the only secret to good barbecue. "The wood is a huge part of it and just letting it smoke really slow and giving it time. Sometimes it's 12 hours, sometimes it's 14."

Though meat is at the forefront of the menu, Aloha Alabama also offers a vegan burger, gluten-free options, and a series of fun cocktails to try.



A pulled pork sandwich meal served with a Blue Hawaiian Cocktail.

Right next to the counter inside the restaurant are several large fridges with Aloha Market products. During Covid-19 shutdowns, Aloha started offering picnic packages grab-and-go style.

These meals work well for families camping in Westport and fishermen who spend weeks out on their boats. The food is fully cooked and can be eaten cold or heated up.

They always have smoked pork and garlic chicken in these fridges along with a variety of side dishes such as coleslaw, Asian slaw, and mac and cheese.

A fun feature for those who dine-in is the "hot sauce wall" nestled in near the back left corner of the dining room. The shelves here display about two dozen unique hot sauce bottles ranging in heat level. Customers are welcome to help themselves to one that appeals to their tastes.

Many customers are surprised to find a barbecue restaurant in a small beach town. Aloha's owners prioritize sourcing their meat locally and it is all smoked in the large smoker built into the back of the kitchen.

The result is mouthwatering and the extensive options on the menu make it impossible to visit Aloha Alabama just once.

Inside, the cozy surfboard-adorned eating area is a great place to enjoy a meal and the picnic tables under Aloha's large outdoor tent are perfect for a warm summer day.

Catering is also an option for Grays Harbor residents. "We specialize in rustic beach weddings," Bonina says. "A lot of people pick barbecue for weddings. It's comforting and everyone likes it."

Aloha Alabama is currently open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. It gets busy, especially in the summer. Between local fishermen and traveling tourists the restaurant serves a steady stream of hungry customers.

"Even when we're not open and working, we do a lot of volunteering. It's not just about being a profitable restaurant. Nonprofit and charity (work) is important to us," Bonina says.

Aloha Alabama is currently working with South Beach Christian Outreach to serve food to those in need. Right now

they serve food one Tuesday per month to about 250 people.

The restaurant also sponsors several local sports teams. "It's definitely the best part of what we do. Giving back to the community is our number one goal and making this a great place for our families and employee's families," Bonina says.

During the summer, a lot of younger people, including Bonina's and the Priests' own kids, join the Aloha team. The adults make sure to help them out when they need it.


"We'll mentor them if they're getting their driver's license or need help with academics. We make sure they can achieve their goals outside of work," Bonina explains.

Between stellar service, comforting barbecue, and locally sourced seafood Aloha Alabama has something for everyone.



Aloha Alabama's outdoor dining tent sits right across the street from the Westport Marina.


"Our goal is to always give excellent customer service with a touch of Aloha," Bonina says.

More information about Aloha Alabama BBQ can be found online at www.alohaalabama.com and on Facebook and Instagram. 


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Jesse Middleton **ARTIST SPOTLIGHT**



Jesse Middleton enjoys painting in his workshop in Cosmopolis surrounded by “toys” and more than half of a century of memories in art, antiques and classic cars, such as this 1936 Ford.

STORY & PHOTOS BY JULIANA WALLACE

Artist Jesse Middleton brings local history to life, from the Carlisle School he attended as a boy to the logging industry and local landmarks like Billy’s Bar & Grill in Aberdeen, The Beehive in Montesano and the wreck of the S.S. Catala. The bright colors he loves invite viewers into a past that feels like home.

“I want people to look at it and say, ‘Oh, I know what that is!’” he explains. “It’s a way to put them together, history and a place.”

In the 1950s, Middleton grew up in Carlisle, a tiny town northeast of Copalis Beach, where his father worked as a logger. In fact, as an adult he restored and lived in his former grade school. While attending Moclips High School, he took a job at the mill. Later, after serving in Vietnam, he spent years

working for the railroad. All that local culture figures prominently in his art.

Although Middleton served as a Marine and a railroad man and worked in natural gas, art has played a constant role in his life from the age of three. That art took different forms through the years, from carving and painting to making



Jesse Middleton shows one of his creations at a local event in 2019.



Coastal Currents file photo

jewelry and furniture and experimenting with different materials.

“When I was in seventh grade, I took crayons on a cloth and used my mom’s iron,” he remembers, laughing. “It looked cool, but I got in trouble for it.”

His art teacher at Moclips High School, Miss Schumacher, encouraged him to try everything. He created wedding rings for teachers at the school, designed the school emblem for North Beach High School and enjoyed power saw carving for years, until the form became too popular for his taste.

“If you stand still long enough, you might get painted, because I paint everything.” – Jesse Middleton

In the late 1970s and 1980s, Middleton spent mornings drawing cartoons in the Oriole Café in Hoquiam. Zilla Moore, the café owner, set up a corner booth with his tablet and pens. Every morning, he would sit in the booth listening to the regulars tell stories around him while he drew. Over the years, his cartoons

(continued on page 56)



Jesse Middleton


(continued)

covered the walls of the café. And when Moore died, the Polson Museum acquired some of them.

While Middleton has painted thousands of canvases through the years, he has also painted scenes on saw blades, parts of antique cars, wood burls, frying pans, a railroad tie plate and even the cast iron side plate from an old wood stove.

"If you stand still long enough, you might get painted, because I paint everything," he warns with a smile.

These days, Middleton focuses mainly on woodworking and painting, often completing a couple of paintings a day in his workshop in Cosmopolis. He sells at swap meets, shows in coffee shops and has paintings hanging in the North Beach Museum. But every piece is unique: no copies, no prints.

"Whoever buys (one of my pieces) gets an original, the only one," explains Middleton, who himself is an original with a gift for turning history into color and joy. 



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Cranberry Harvest

(continued from page 40)

On Saturday, purchase a bog tour ticket and take the bus to the Reickenberger Farm. The bus will have a tour guide.

In the evening, watch the Firefly Parade sponsored by the Grayland Fire Department.

On Sunday, participate in or watch "Jog the Bog and Beach." Beginning at 9 a.m., 10K and 5K runs and a 3K walk are scheduled. (To register for "Jog the Bog," go to westportgrayland-chamber.org and look under pdfs, 2021-Bog-Jog Registration.)

Purchase organic cranberries and cranberry jam at Plenty Farm, 2247 Smith Anderson Road, Grayland. Check out their Facebook page at PlentyFarm.


Visit the Furford Cranberry Museum and Cranberry Gift Shop, 2395 State Route 105, Grayland; 760-492-4274. More



Photo by Laura Brydon

information about the Furford Picker is available at furfordpicker.com.

To register for the Cranberry Festival Bite of the Beach Cook-Off, go to the westportgrayland-chamber.org website and look under pdfs, Cranberry.

The up-to-date festival schedule of events can be found online at westportgrayland-chamber.org 

RECIPE BOX

Vegan Cranberry Loaf

(Christine Vincent)

Ingredients

- 2 cups (240 g) white whole wheat flour**
- 2/3 cup (133 g) raw sugar**
- 2 teaspoons baking powder**
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda**
- pinch of salt**
- 1 cup apple juice**
- A few drops of orange essential oil**
- 1/2 cup (113 g) melted coconut oil**
- 1 cup (129 g) fresh or frozen cranberries**

Instructions

1. Melt coconut oil and cool.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease a 9 x 5 loaf pan.
3. Mix the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt; stir to combine.
4. Add the coconut oil, apple juice and orange oil.
5. Pour batter into greased loaf pan.
6. Bake for 50 – 55 minutes.
7. Remove from oven, let cool in the refrigerator for one day before slicing.
8. Enjoy!

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Libraries (continued from page 12)

Fisher and others, adorn various library branches throughout Grays Harbor. And, several of the libraries make a point to showcase local artists in temporary exhibits as well.

Each of the Grays Harbor Timberland libraries has something unique to offer with the personality of the community and the library managers and staff displayed at each branch.

"In Elma, I think the library is the hub of the community," said manager Dee Depoe, who has been a librarian for 43 years, the

last five in Elma. She is eager to start up in-person programming in September after a long Covid-induced hiatus.

Excitement for the return of in-person programming is a common sentiment among the librarians. Story hours will likely be the first to resume, followed by other parts of the TRL System's rich and varied programming, such as authors' talks, storytellers, kids' shows, live musical groups and book reviews.

The Timberland Regional Library has an extensive, up-to-date, interactive website at trl.org. To find out about a specific branch or program, go to www.trl.org and click "Locations."



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How to get a library card

Getting a library card for the Timberland Regional Library System is free, fast and easy.

First, those eligible to apply for library cards must either live in, own property in, go to school or work in Timberland's five-county service area, which includes Grays Harbor, Pacific, Mason, Lewis and Thurston counties. (Within this five-county area, some cities have not contracted or annexed for library services so they must pay a non-resident fee for a regular card. In Grays Harbor County, the only area that is not part of the TRL system is Ocean Shores.)

Second, you can either go into a library branch to apply or print out an application online. Take in the filled-out application along with a piece of ID, such as a driver's license. If the form of ID doesn't include your address, simply bring a piece of mail, a checkbook, a rental agreement or similar document showing your address. Children under 18 years old can receive a card with a parent's or guardian's verification of identity and address.

Or, you can walk into any branch library with some identification and ask a librarian to help you sign up for a card. They'd love to help. Besides, September is National Library Card Sign-up month! For more information, visit www.trl.org.

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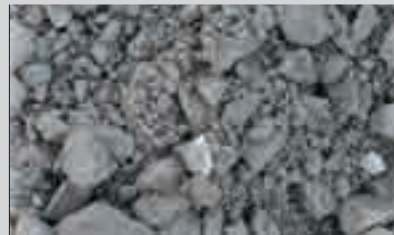
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**SEPTEMBER 3 . Seafood Festival & Craft
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**SEPTEMBER 3 . 'The Time Machine' . 7th St.
Theatre . Hoquiam .** 7:30pm . movie from 1960

SEPTEMBER 3 . CORVETTES AT THE MARINA .
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SEPTEMBER 3, 17 . Market by the Sea .
Ocean Shores Lions Club . Featuring local
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**SEPTEMBER 4 . The Stowaway Market Street
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**SEPTEMBER 4, 11, 18, 25 . Aberdeen Sunday
Market .** E. Heron & State streets . 10am- 3pm .
Produce, art, vendors, live music.

**SEPTEMBER 9 - 11 . Furvana . Ocean Shores
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SEPTEMBER 10 . Logger's Playday . Hoquiam
. Parade at noon . old time logging competition
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**SEPTEMBER 10 . McCleary Museum Yard Sale
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**SEPTEMBER 16, 17 . 'Batman' . 7th St.
Theatre . Hoquiam .** 7:30pm . 1989 movie

SEPTEMBER 16-17 . Artist Faire . 10am .
Cranberry Museum in Grayland

(continued on page 63)

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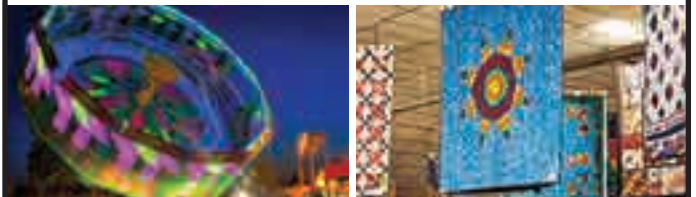
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THE 99TH KITSAP FAIR AND STAMPEDE

ALWAYS THE LAST FULL WEEK OF AUGUST



Plan now to attend the 100th Kitsap Fair
and Stampede in 2023!

www.kitsapfair.org

1300 NW Fairgrounds Rd, Bremerton

SEPTEMBER 16-18 . 25th Annual 30 Miles of Junque . Garage Sales Galore . South Beach

SEPTEMBER 17 . 50th Annual Operation Shore Patrol . Beach clean-up . 4x4 sponsored

SEPTEMBER 18 . Lake Sylvia Fall Festival . Lake Sylvia State Park . Montesano . Artist Market, live music, food vendors, children's show, kayak paddle, historic talk, trail races, nature education, family activities. 8am - 3pm

SEPTEMBER 23 . Steinway Celebratory Performance . Bishop Center . Aberdeen . Grays Harbor College . 7:30pm . Featuring local pianists on the refurbished, rare Steinway "C" piano

SEPTEMBER 24 . Monte Brew Fest . Montesano . Beer, wine, food, live music and a cornhole tournament with cash prizes

SEPTEMBER 24 . Reach the Beach WA . Enjoy a flat and fast century bicycle ride, Lacey to Westport. Choose 25, 44, 77, 100 or 3-mile family friendly loop . Pre-register, raise funds for lung health

SEPTEMBER 24 . Habitat for Humanity Dinner & Auction . Hoquiam Grand Central Event Center . 6 - 9pm

SEPTEMBER 25 . Sunday Afternoon Live . Raymond Theater . 'Small Glories, a Canadian folk duo with forceful vocals and sweet harmonies

SEPTEMBER 30 . Lady Washington . Aberdeen . Sailing on the tall ship . 2pm-4pm

SEPTEMBER 30 . Driftwood Players perform 'All My Sons' . Aberdeen . Friday 7:30pm

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 1 . Bigfoot Brewfest . Seabrook . 12pm - 6pm . Growler's Alley in Seabrook will be full of great drinks – regional breweries, cideries and distilleries, food, and live music

OCTOBER 1 . 'The Godfather' . 7th Street Theatre . Hoquiam . 7:30pm . movie from 1972

OCTOBER 1-2 . Urban Unglued More Freaks at the Beach . Ocean Shores Convention Center

OCTOBER 1, 7, 8, 11, 14, 15, 16 . 'All My Sons' . Aberdeen . Driftwood Players performance . Fri., Sat. 7:30pm, Sun. & Tues. 1:30pm

OCTOBER 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 . Mushroom Foraging Classes . Seabrook . 11am - 1pm, Learn about choice edible mushrooms and where to find them . Paid admission, reserve ahead

OCTOBER 1, 15 . Market by the Sea . Ocean Shores Lions Club . Local farmers and artisans

OCTOBER 7 . 'First Friday Art Walk . Aberdeen Art Center . Enjoy live music & food, while viewing art in the galleries

OCTOBER 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16 . "Honky Tonk Hissy Fit, A Doublewide Texas Sequel" . Ocean Shores Lion's Club . Stage West Community Theatre

OCTOBER 8, 9 . Cranberry Harvest Festival . Grayland Community Hall . Bog tours, cranberry cook-off, vendors, arts, music and firefly parade. Sunday morning: Jog the bog 10K, 5K, 3K

OCTOBER 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29 . Haunted Barn . Elma Fairgrounds

OCTOBER 22 . Grays Harbor Historical Seaport . Aberdeen . Annual fundraising gala . Participate in a murder mystery dinner & auction

OCTOBER 28 . Fall Festival . Elma

OCTOBER 18- 23 . Galway Bay's Celtic Music Feis . Ocean Shores . 25 bands, 9 stages (see ad on pg 30) . Galway Bay Pub & OS Convention Center

OCTOBER 28, 29 . 'Willow' . 7th Street Theatre . Hoquiam . 7:30pm . movie from 1988

OCTOBER 29 . Rocky Horror Picture show . Bishop Center . Aberdeen . Grays Harbor College . 11pm . Costume contest & movie

OCTOBER 29 - 30 . Habitastic Kids Carnival & Haunted House Combo . Hoquiam Grand Central Event Center . 11am - 7pm, 11am - 5pm

NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 3, 4, 5 . Fall Drama: Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead . Bishop Center . Aberdeen . Grays Harbor College . 7:30pm, Sunday 2pm

NOVEMBER 4 . 'First Friday Art Walk . Aberdeen Art Center . Enjoy live music & food, while viewing art in the galleries

NOVEMBER 5 . 'High Noon' . 7th Street Theatre . Hoquiam . 7:30pm . movie from 1952



NOVEMBER 5, 12 . Mushroom Foraging Classes . Seabrook . 11am - 1pm, Learn about choice edible mushrooms and where to find them . Paid admission, reserve ahead

(continued on page 64)

29th ANNUAL


CRANBERRY HARVEST FESTIVAL

The most cranberries you've ever seen in one place!

Watch a harvest in action!

Cranberry cook-off!




Jog the Bog fun run!

SATURDAY
October 8 10AM - 5PM

SUNDAY
October 9 10AM - 3PM

Grayland Community Hall
2071 Cranberry Rd.
Grayland



Westport-Grayland Chamber of Commerce



NOVEMBER 11 . Veteran's Day Memorial & Parade . Elma . 11am

NOVEMBER 11 . Veteran's Day Concert . Hoquiam . 7th Street Theatre . 2pm and 7pm

NOVEMBER 19, 20 . Country Christmas Bazaar . Elma . Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds . Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun., 10am - 3pm . 43rd Annual

NOVEMBER 20 . Grays Harbor Symphony . Bishop Center . Aberdeen . Grays Harbor College . 7pm . Ellington for the Holidays . Guest percussionist James Doyle on xylophone

NOVEMBER 24 . Seabrook Turkey Trot . 9am . 3k family-friendly fun run. Walk, run, jog, or trot!

NOVEMBER 25, 26 . Nonsense 2: 'The Second Coming' . Aberdeen . Driftwood Players performance . Friday, Saturdays 7:30 pm

NOVEMBER 25, 26 . 'Rise of the Guardians' 7th St. Theatre . Hoquiam . 7:30pm . 2012 movie

NOVEMBER 25 - 27 . Winter Fanta-Sea . Ocean Shores Convention Center



DECEMBER

DECEMBER 1 . GHC Jazz Concert . Bishop Center . Aberdeen . Grays Harbor College . 7pm

DECEMBER 2 . 'First Friday Art Walk . Aberdeen Art Center . Music, food, art!

DECEMBER 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 . Nonsense 2: 'The Second Coming' . Aberdeen . Driftwood Players . Friday, Saturdays 7:30 pm, Sundays 1:30pm

DECEMBER 3 . Ho Ho Hoquiam . Celebrate the holidays with many events

DECEMBER 3 . Santa by the Sea . Westport Marina . 10:30am. Marina & Maritime Museum.

DECEMBER 3 . Winterfest . Aberdeen . Holiday festivities, live music, Santa, gingerbread house contest, food & more

DECEMBER 3 . 'National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation' . 7th Street Theatre . Hoquiam . 7:30pm movie from 1989

DECEMBER 3 - 4 . Harbor Dice Con . Ocean Shores Convention Center

DECEMBER 10 . Festival of Lights . downtown Montesano . Many holiday events around town and evening parade

DECEMBER 11 . Grays Harbor Civic Choir & Concert Band . Bishop Center . Aberdeen . Grays Harbor College . 2pm

December 17, 18 . Grays Harbor Opera Workshop . Bishop Center . Aberdeen . Grays Harbor College . Sat. 7:30pm, Sun. 2pm Amahl and the Night Visitors and selections from Handel's Messiah.

More events to come. Winter issue will be in your mailbox around December 1. CC

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