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Photo by Rick Moyer

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A Backstage Twist on

It's not just performers who create a musical theater production. People who work behind the scenes – artists, designers and technicians of all kinds – also dedicate hours of creativity and hard work to bring the magic of live theater to life.

The Grays Harbor College Theater Department's production of "OLIVER!"—book, music and lyrics by Lionel Bart—is certainly no exception. Based on the Charles Dickens novel "Oliver Twist," the musical is a challenge, requiring a set representing several London locales and elaborate song-and-dance numbers. Not to mention management of more than a hundred people from 8 to 80 years old – both on and off stage.

The 15 grade-school-age children playing orphans—including Oliver, played by Brinnley Colburn—and about a dozen teens, playing pickpockets, were chosen first. The cast leads, comprised of college students and community folks, were selected in December.

Just as there are several starring roles onstage, backstage several luminaries also shine. Premier among them is Dr. Andrew Gaines, director, who certainly knows how to put his cast and crew through their paces.

"We are incredibly blessed to have such a dedicated and talented crew supporting all the onstage magic," said Gaines. "Our set is ambitiously large and multifaceted. My vision is to make the set changes choreographed as an integral part of the spectacle."

Set construction, by Art Oestreich, design by Michael Kohlmeier, swung into fabrication in late January. He's being assisted by Keith Twibell and Jeff Beard. Lindy Dansare serves as choreographer, with additional choreography by Gaines. Seamstresses and costumers—most designs by Jeannie McNeal—have worked to create the

The orphans rehearse behind a model of the show's set, from left, Carl Joesten, Brinnley Colburn, Violet Colburn, Madisyn Baker and Cason Braaten.

www.Coastal-Currents.com

OLIVER!

STORY & PHOTOS BY
GREGORY E. ZSCHOMLER



Cast members Jim Eddy and Analei Holt, standing, rehearse "Food Glorious Food" with the orphan chorus. Seated clockwise from left, the orphans are Logan Howard, Kayta Howard, Violet Colburn, Cason Braaten and Madisyn Baker.

Victorian England clothing. Paige Mellon-Jackson, stage manager, calls all the cues. Also providing technical support are Marina Latimer, lead scenic painter; Matt Mahon, sound designer; Dr. Bill Dyer, music director; Ian and Joy Dorsch, vocal directors; and Alex Eddy, rehearsal pianist. With this kind of talent behind the scenes in addition to that onstage, audiences can expect a top-notch show with some new effects to boot.

(Continued on page 9)

"Oliver!" plays at Bishop Center for the Performing Arts, Grays Harbor College

March 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 2020
Friday, Saturday 7:30 p.m.,
Sunday 2 p.m.

Adults \$25, Seniors \$22,
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The ART of Oliver!'s Sets

For 16 years Art Oestreich has tirelessly served the GHC Theater Department, the last four years as the theater's full-time stage manager, overseeing all technical aspects of each production. His foremost duty is the fabrication of sets for plays and musicals. The first set of the some 30 or so he's built was for "West Side Story." He says his job is "to make the director's magic come true."



Art Oestreich working in the Bishop Center scene shop.

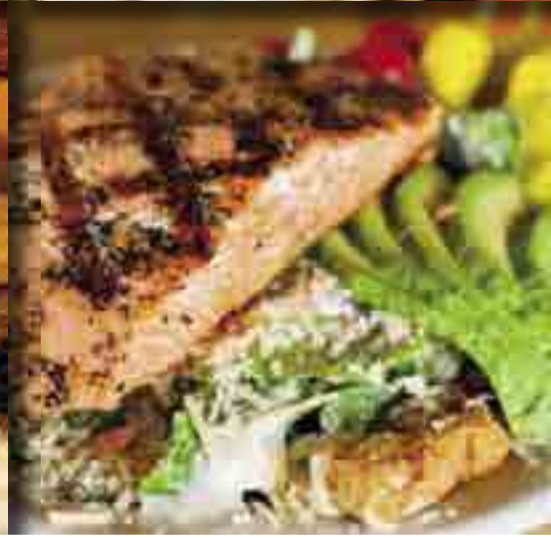
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A Backstage Twist on **Oliver!**



Pickpocket chorus ensemble members model costumes during a backstage fitting, from left, Jillian Evans, Jaden Turpin, Brooke Solan and Clyde Tighe.

"We recently acquired a new fog machine and hazers, which I hope will help us create that classic London fog effect—not too different from Aberdeen at times," said Gaines.

Even those who haven't seen the musical before will likely recognize several of the tuneful numbers including "You've Got to Pick a Pocket or Two," "Food, Glorious Food," and especially the showstopper, "Consider Yourself (One of the Family)." While generally jovial, the story has its darker moments including some domestic violence and forced child labor—after all it's about London's 19th century underworld. 



The view from behind the production table shows, from left, Jim Eddy, Brinnley Colburn and Analei Holt rehearsing a scene, while Paige Mellon-Jackson, stage manager, and Dr. Andrew Gaines, director, give direction.

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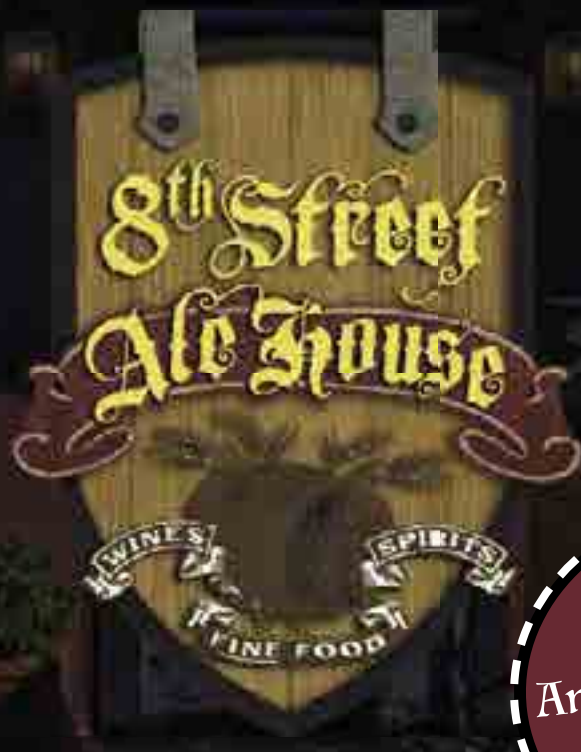
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"Gratitude," an oil painting by Trina Moore, watches over the new Moore Gallery in Montesano.

Visit the Harbor's Art Galleries this Spring

STORY & PHOTOS BY JULIANA WALLACE

On the brick wall of the new Moore Gallery in Montesano hangs a large, vibrant painting of an orange rose. The sunshine radiating from the curve of the petals captivates, even while it soothes. Titled "Hope and Healing," the painting embodies the positive energy and the hope visitors cannot help but feel when they walk through the gallery doors. "This is a healing space," explained

Trina Moore, artist and gallery owner. "Everyone wants to matter, and I feel that when people come into this space, they know they matter."

For Moore, the gallery provides an opportunity to invest in the community by providing space for those "ah" moments and through inspiring creativity. As a former Portland, Oregon,

police officer and a cancer survivor, she knows well the struggles that affect each of us. That life experience gives energy to her art and sparks the conversations and connections that seem to grow organically in the glow of the paintings that grace the walls.

"One of the things that I can give to the community is to help people understand that you don't know what's going to light you up until you do it," said Moore. The studio wall of her gallery provides a perfect example. Above her easel hangs a collection of guitars, representing another of Moore's creative passions that came upon her quite by surprise.

"The guitars are here as a creative reminder that if you don't pick something up, you have no idea," she said. "We all have creativity. You need an outlet for it, and you may as well choose something that lights you up."

With that in mind, Moore has future plans for the gallery. She will continue offering beautiful art and plants, of course, but she also intends to present workshops and sell art supplies. In




"Hope and Healing" by Trina Moore in the Moore Gallery.



Trina Moore in her work space at Moore Gallery.

In addition, Moore is hoping to help establish a creative arts district in this historic section of Montesano.

The Moore Gallery joins a host of quality art spaces tucked away in various corners of Grays Harbor. Take a field trip to one of these galleries and discover a wealth of fine art, from oil paintings to blown glass, watercolors to wood carvings.

For instance, you might just discover a favorite local artist at the Aberdeen Art Center or fall in love with Stuart May's wildlife photography at Fusions Art Gallery in Ocean Shores. And along the way, you may find the inspiration you need to embrace your own creativity. 

Explore Local Art



Photo Courtesy of Moore Gallery




The Moore Gallery
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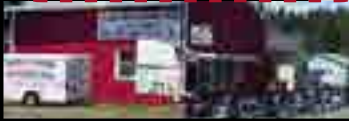
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RENOWNED CHEF BRINGS SOUTHERN COOKING TO TOKELAND

BY GAIL GREENWOOD AYRES
PHOTOS BY RICK MOYER

After living in Seattle for 22 years, celebrated chef and owner of The Wandering Goose, a highly acclaimed restaurant on Capitol Hill, Heather Earnhardt was feeling a need to wander herself.

"Seattle had changed so much since I moved there in 1997. With the excessive traffic and crime, I felt the sense that what was once a small-town community was lost. I wanted a place to raise our younger children where they could have a childhood more like we did, running around outside and digging in the dirt," she said.

So Heather, 48, her husband, Zac Young, 44, and their blended family of five children from 10 to 20 years old, began to search for somewhere new to call home.

When Zac's father, who lives in Grayland, heard that the nearby Tokeland Hotel

was for sale, the couple checked it out. Shortly after, Heather gave Zac an ultimatum – move home to her native North Carolina or purchase the Tokeland Hotel and Restaurant. The family decided to stay in the Pacific Northwest and bring down-home Southern cooking to Tokeland, becoming proud owners in April 2018.

Not many people can buy a hotel and restaurant on a Friday and serve breakfast first thing Saturday morning. But, with their unique and complementary talents, that's exactly what this couple did. Moving into a third-floor apartment of the historic hotel with the four younger children, they've been offering cozy rooms and serving up three meals a day, 365 days a year, ever since.

"The former owner had the restaurant open two days a week, but we wanted to be open all the time for the community so we kept the same three employees and just kept the hotel running," said Zac. They now employ 22 local people.

Zac and Heather met when he was hired as the general contractor to build out the empty shell of a building for The Wandering Goose, which she still owns. (Heather makes regular trips to Seattle to consult with her longtime employees who are running the day-to-day operations there.)

In Tokeland, the hotel has stayed open while Zac respectfully updates the 18 guest rooms and quaint bathrooms, one at a time, incorporating murals painted by their friend Seattle artist Michael Miller.

Guests are pampered with luxury sheets and hand-embroidered quilts amidst a "boutique Bohemian" décor. In a necessary nod to the age of the building and its thin walls, complimentary earplugs and a portable heater or fan – depending on the time of year – also come with each room. The bathrooms are shared.

Built in 1885 by Elizabeth and William Kindred on land her parents homesteaded in 1858, the hotel is on



the National Register of Historic Places and is the oldest hotel in the state of Washington. With a clear appreciation of history, Zac mentions different aspects of the hotel's rich and storied past, everything from legends of harboring runaways and reports of ghostly activity, to pointing out Room 3, where Led Zeppelin's lead singer Robert Plant stayed in 1995.

“People can overthink food. good cooking is simply really quality ingredients prepared the right way.”

— Heather Earnhardt

The comfy lobby, with its classic Chesterfield leather coaches, Persian rugs and interesting antiques, invites visitors to “set a spell” to read a good book, play a board game or linger over a cup of tea – or perhaps one of Zac’s signature cocktails. Paired with the classic dining room with its heavy wood tables, crackling fire and spectacular view of Willapa Bay, it creates the perfect stage for the star of the show – the food.

Fresh, local ingredients in generous servings crafted by an award-winning chef combine in numerous ways to offer something pleasing for any palate.



Heather has worked in the restaurant business since she was 13 years old and learned much of what she knows from her maternal Granddaddy, and especially her paternal Granny, who catered out of her North Carolina kitchen for more than 50 years.

“We come from a family of cooks – and lots of eaters,” Heather said with a smile. Her 18-year-old son, Oscar, cooks full-time at the restaurant and her 20-year-old son, Max, cooked dinner service for a year before moving to work the front of house at a New York restaurant. Their youngest, Livi, 10, can often be found greeting guests and running food.

“People can overthink food,” Heather said. “When you go out to eat you want to go, enjoy the meal, remember it and tell your friends about it. Good cooking is simply really quality ingredients prepared the right way. You don’t need to

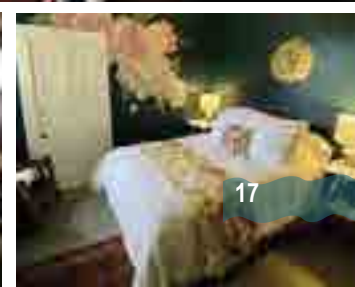
hide behind tweezers,” she said, referring to the heavily stylized presentation of meals at some trendy restaurants, which are inevitably accompanied by a steep price. “Tweezers are not allowed in my kitchen – just tongs,” she added.

When Heather talks of fresh, local, quality ingredients she means eggs from her hens, and oysters, razor clams, Dungeness crab and other seafood straight out of the Willapa Bay or off the ocean-going fishing boats. Then there are the chanterelle mushrooms from Matt Nevitt of Forage & Farm in Raymond, plucked from area forests, and cranberries fresh from nearby bogs.

“In the summer, 80 percent of the vegetables we serve come from our heirloom garden, and in the winter, I’ve been surprised how much I’m still using, especially salad greens, collard greens, Brussel sprouts and leeks,” she said.

Granted, a few key Southern-style ingredients are shipped from where they make ‘em best. That includes Boonville flour made from soft winter wheat – the key ingredient to her flaky biscuits – and the stone-ground Daniel Boone Grits featured in several entries and as a side. Steen’s cane syrup comes from Louisiana, Sea Island Peas from Anson Mills in

(Continued on page 18)



TOKELAND HOTEL

South Carolina, and Benton's bacon from Tennessee.

Southern transplants, especially, are thrilled to discover a Grays Harbor restaurant that serves up hush puppies, fried okra, collard greens, shrimp and grits, fried green tomatoes, shrimp andouille gumbo and fried chicken just like Grandma made.

"People want comfort food not fussy food," Heather said. "They want a big plate of food that tastes good. Southern food can be adapted to local ingredients very easily, especially here in Washington."

Served on artisan pottery plates and bowls, the fare is diverse and tasty, balancing interesting textures and flavors.

And while it's nearly impossible to do so, guests are advised to at least attempt to leave a little room for one of the many desserts. A large display of baked goods near the entrance tips them off to what could await them at the end of their meal.

"Our home is your home. When you come here, we want you to feel warmly greeted as you experience the flickering candles, the smells of the food coming from the kitchen ... we make sure no one ever leaves hungry."

— Heather Earnhardt

"Heather is an amazing baker and is known for having some of the best baked goods in Seattle," said Zac. "The Hummingbird cake is just killing it here," he said of his wife's moist, three-layer cake featuring banana, coconut, pecan and pineapple.


As if refreshing an historic hotel isn't enough work, Zac is also remodeling a recent purchase next door. Under Heather's design, he is busy transforming the former Capt.'s Tavern, which had been a residence since the 1980s, but a tavern and golf clubhouse before that.

"We keep hearing a lot of crazy stories from old-timers about Capt.'s, so we're keeping the name and are excited to open it up again soon for the community," he said.

Other plans include creating a much larger barbecue pit and outdoor cooking area complete with a pizza oven and a place to host more whole-hog barbecues North Carolina style.

Meanwhile, Heather said she's enjoying getting to know the community that has embraced them and she wants to give back by supporting local businesses, hosting events, and simply offering Southern hospitality.

"Our home is your home. When you come here, we want you to feel warmly greeted as you experience the flickering candles, the smells of the food coming from the kitchen – even the smell of coffee in the morning. It's a jovial atmosphere and we have a good time. And, we make sure no one ever leaves hungry."

The restaurant is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. For more information, see tokelandhotel.com or call (360)267-7006. 



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ABERDEEN

Roam. Record.

Musician Ericka Corban launches

BY GAIL GREENWOOD AYRES

**For Aberdeen singer/
songwriter Ericka Corban,
this spring will mark the
beginning of a new venture.**

However, unlike her other ventures – releasing songs and albums, singing in various venues, performing on “The Voice” TV show in 2017, and creating two children’s books – this announcement will likely leave her Grays Harbor friends and fans with mixed feelings.

Corban, 34, and her husband and fellow performer, Mattaniah, 38, plan to sell their home, buy an RV and hit the road with their children to explore the country, making family memories and performing some along the way.

“We’ll hit places here and there and we’re not sure where we will settle,” Ericka said, adding that wherever it is, frequent trips to Grays Harbor will be likely because so many family, friends and fans live here.

Mattaniah, a realtor by trade, who “can do just about everything including plumbing and electrical,” is getting their



Photo by Kami Couch



Repeat.

into new adventure

100-year-old house spruced up and ready to sell, while Ericka has scheduled two farewell concerts in their home in March. The current hope is to leave in early April.

"We've been talking about doing this forever," Ericka said. "We realized that our kids are at good ages now and that we're not getting any younger. It's kinda crazy. It kinda feels surreal."

Perhaps fans should have seen this coming last August when Ericka and Mattaniah launched "Roam. Record. Repeat." This playlist on her YouTube channel features Ericka singing and strumming in stunning landscapes with jaw-dropping videography. She sings Lauren Daigle's "You Say" at Bethel Ridge in Eastern Washington; "Edwin McCain's "I'll be," sitting amongst the mounds at Mima Mounds; and Vince Gill's "Don't Let Our Love Start Slippin" with Mt. St. Helen's as a breath-taking backdrop.

Her rendition of Gabby Barrett's "Good Ones," while precariously situated on cliffs overlooking the Oregon Coast, features sweet clips of Mattaniah, whom she said captured her heart nearly immediately when they met in Bob Richardson's music theory class at Grays Harbor College.

Ericka had been living in Germany and had just returned. Mattaniah had been working in Seattle at a modeling agency as an agent, as well as doing some modeling and acting. They both came back to Grays Harbor at the same time. That January of 2006, she didn't have

Photos Courtesy of the Corban Family

"It's kinda crazy. It kinda feels surreal."

-- Ericka Corban

her textbooks yet, so Mattaniah conveniently offered to share his book with the brown-eyed beauty. After class they went to the library to work on homework together.

"We literally planned our wedding date the week we met. We just knew. When you know, you know," Ericka said. "Five kids later, we're still happy!"

The partnership extends beyond a happy marriage and parenting and homeschooling their five children, ranging in age from 1 to 12 years old. Mattaniah is a gifted musician who often performs with her on stage, accompanying her with guitar, piano and accordion. He also plays percussion, ukulele, lap steel, and even dabbles with clarinet and saxophone, she said.

"He's had to learn some of those instruments out of necessity. We'd find we wanted a sound for a recording and instead of finding another musician, he learns the instrument," she said, adding that Mattaniah has that kind of "can-do" attitude about just about everything.

In addition, Ericka says her husband is a gifted songwriter. "He has helped me get better at songwriting, because he's brutally honest," she said with a laugh.

(Continued on page 23)





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Musician Ericka Corban

(Continued from page 21)

Lately, the two have written songs together, launching “Halley + Jupiter” as the brand for these creations. “Halley’s Comet is more brilliant and beautiful when it’s around Jupiter, the king planet,” Ericka explained.

She has also been releasing her own songs. The latest, “In the Waiting,” came out in September. It is particularly poignant, showcasing her versatile voice and soul-searching lyrics. Last June just before Father’s Day, she released “Family,” which celebrates family and honors her dad who adopted her when she was three.


It is difficult to categorize Ericka’s style of music – even for her. “Part of the problem is that I love every genre. It’s hard for me to stick to one.” Two years ago she would have said she was a pop singer. Her album “Now it Begins,” released in May 2018, features easy listening.

“After I released that album, I kind of felt this shifting in my spirit. I started writing

story-type songs that are like country. So, I’ve kind of been in country mode for the last year. I met some people out of Nashville. They found me online and contacted me saying they liked what they heard and that they wanted to help me. We’ve been collaborating remotely. The timing of that was really cool. ... So country and folk is kind of where I’m headed now.”

Whatever the style, fans seem to follow as Ericka performs for a variety of audiences.

“I know that some of my fans might wonder about the various places I perform. Casino, brewery or church, people are people wherever you go and they just want to be loved and to feel an emotional connection. Music can do that for people in a way that not many things can, so we hope our music can be a blessing to everyone who hears it. Our goal is to just pour out our love to everyone we meet.”


Soon the busy family will pack up, but Ericka and Mattaniah promise to take their fans along as they roam, record and repeat, as well as share videos of life on the road. 




The Ericka Corban House Concert
8 p.m. Friday, March 20

A Halley + Jupiter House Concert
8 p.m. Saturday, March 21

Location and RSVP information is available at erickacorban.com or via e-mail at love@erickacorban.com.



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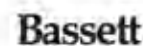
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What is art and what role does art play in the church? Artists offer the world the beauty and pain of their souls as a gift, helping to heal hearts and open eyes. Art speaks to people's hearts and minds. And, regardless of your beliefs, religious art can evoke a sense of awe and present opportunities for discussion and community. Art in a church becomes an invitation to ponder, wonder and seek answers.

In earlier times, the Church was a primary patron of the arts, supporting and encouraging sculptors, painters and musicians. During the Gothic and Renaissance periods (1100s–1500s), stained glass was one of the foremost art forms practiced in Europe. Stained glass was used to inspire parishioners, filling the church interiors with light and color, as well as educate people with scenes from the Bible at a time when illiteracy rates were high. Similarly, church sculpture was used to commemorate and honor people in a way that was easily recognizable by parishioners.

While perhaps not as pronounced as it was in earlier eras, the Church's appreciation and patronage of art has continued over the years and Grays Harbor is home to many stunning examples of outstanding sacred art, including the following.

(Continued on page 28)



A Stained Bright

Radiance

Discovering Art in Grays Harbor Churches

STORY & PHOTOS BY MARGUERITE GARTH

Wall of stained glass windows at Saron Lutheran/First Presbyterian Church in Hoquiam.

Radiance

Discovering Art in Grays Harbor Churches

These stained glass windows at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Aberdeen were originally at Hoquiam's Holy Trinity Episcopal Church.



In Aberdeen, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church on First Street looks unassuming on the outside but inside it contains some glorious stained-glass windows, woodwork and statuary. One art piece of note outside the church is a sculpture of St. Andrew, carved in native Washington stone by Frederick Littman, a Romanian sculptor famous for his public artworks in Oregon. Built originally in 1890, St. Andrew's was re-built in 1913 in the Carpenter Gothic style it is today.

When Hoquiam's Holy Trinity Episcopal Church closed in 1991, St. Andrew's congregation obtained and installed three of the Hoquiam church's stained-glass windows, including two that depict symbols of the Eucharist and a third larger one entitled, "Christ is King." These windows incorporated fragments of glass rescued from churches destroyed during the London Blitz in World War II. The rescued pieces include some shards of glass from several famous old English churches that date back to 1320. While he was serving in the war, the Rev. E.L. Tull gathered the pieces, bringing them back to his church in Hoquiam.

Two blocks from St. Andrew's is the stately St. Mary Catholic Church on Third Street. The parish was founded in 1885 but the building was rebuilt after being destroyed by a fire in 1891.

"The older stained-glass windows in the church are believed to be original to the building, which was completed in December of 1911," said Theresa Wright, the parish pastoral assistant. The windows were paid for by the O'Connor family, she said, noting that several members with the last name of O'Connor remained active in the parish until 2018.



Statue of St. Joseph at Our Lady of Good Help Catholic Church in Hoquiam.

These windows at St. Mary Catholic Church are thought to be original with the 1911 building





At Amazing Grace Lutheran Church in Aberdeen, this painting was created by a renowned altar painter in 1906.

Nearby, at the corner of Fourth and I streets in Aberdeen, is Amazing Grace Lutheran Church. The altar inside the church features a lovely painting by Sara Kirkeberg Raugland, who was the only well-known female altar painter of her time and considered one of the “pioneer painters,” a group comprised of religious artists from the Midwest. Painted in the post-impressionist style popular at the time, the piece depicts an angel at the empty tomb of Jesus.

Raugland was born in 1862 and died in 1960 at the age of 98. During her life she created about 300 altar paintings for churches all over the United States and in Norway. Today, many of Raugland’s altar paintings have disappeared, but the Amazing Grace congregation has the privilege to have the only one located in the state of Washington. This work of art, which was recently restored, was signed by the artist in 1906.

In Hoquiam, the Saron Lutheran/First Presbyterian Church has many large, ornate stained-glass windows. One of them depicts the Shepherd carrying a lamb, signifying care and protection. This window was purchased from Belknap Glass Company of Seattle in 1928, according to Teri Julian, administrative assistant for the church. The church building was hand built by the Rev. Carl J. Renhard and members of the congregation.

Also in Hoquiam stands Our Lady of Good Help Catholic Church. The parish was established in 1906, with a small church

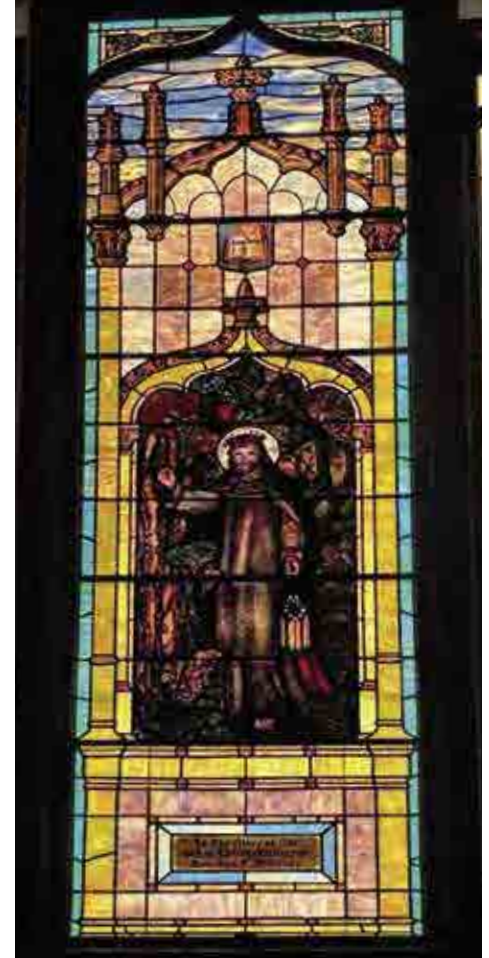
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building on Fourth Street. The rectory was constructed in 1907; and in 1911, the present church building was built. On the grounds stands an imposing statue of St. Joseph, the husband of Mary and earthly father of Jesus according to the Gospels.

The McCleary Museum & Heritage Center, which is opening in April of 2020, is housed in the former United Methodist Church building on Third Street in McCleary. The church was built in 1924 with money given by the residents of the town. Wood from township founder Henry McCleary’s Door Company was used.


The building comes to its new role with its own bit of history – a stained-glass window dedicated to McCleary’s wife, Ada. The window depicts a famous painting that artist William Hunt completed in 1853 called “Light of the World.” It shows Jesus knocking on an overgrown, unopened door. The window fell into disrepair but has recently been restored by the same company that built the original piece.

Chapel by the Sea Presbyterian Church in Moclips.



McCleary Museum and Cultural Center in McCleary.

Just as secular art has trends, so does religious art. More contemporary stained-glass church windows can provide a canvas for geometric abstraction and explorations of light and color. An outstanding example is at the Chapel by the Sea Presbyterian Church in Moclips. The church was built in 1960 and the window was designed by two parishioners, Iris Moawad and Harriet Baller.

Over the years while new methods of production and ideas of design have changed the appearance of stained glass, one thing has never changed – the magical effect of sunlight pouring through colored glass. 

The power of art to speak to our emotions is on display at our Grays Harbor churches and available to all for viewing Sunday mornings.

In addition, Coastal Currents magazine is planning a church art tour. 10 a.m. Saturday, April 18 Meet at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church parking lot, 111 E. Fourth Street (corner of 4th and I streets) in Aberdeen. Check www.coastal-currents.com or Facebook for up-to-date info.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MARCH

MARCH

MARCH 2 . Pigs on the Wing: Wish You Were Here . Hoquiam . 7:30 pm . 7thStreet Theater .
Pink Floyd tribute. Visual and sonic experience.

MARCH 4, 11, 18, 25 . Acrylic & Watercolors Workshop . Oakville TRL Library . 10:30am .

MARCH 5 . Aberdeen High School & MJH Choir Concert . 7pm

MARCH 6 . First Friday Art Walk . Aberdeen . 5pm - 8pm . Aberdeen Art Center

MARCH 6 . Vaughn Johannes, Live Music . Aberdeen . 8pm . Mount Olympus Brewing

MARCH 6 & 7 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

MARCH 6, 7, 8 . Oliver! . Spring Musical . Grays Harbor College . Friday & Saturday 7:30pm, Sunday, 2pm

MARCH 7 . Zentangle Art . Westport TRL Library . 1pm . Create your own designs to music.

MARCH 7 . Aberdeen Shakespearean Theater, Shakespeare workshop . Grays Harbor College . 1 - 4pm . Urge all auditioners to attend. More info: Shakespeare98520.org Auditions April 1, 2 & 4 (see info in April listing)

MARCH 7 & 8 . Bullitt . Hoquiam . Fri. 7:30pm, Sun. 2pm . Movie . 7th Street Theatre

MARCH 7 & 8 . Beachcombers Fun Fair . Ocean Shores Convention Center

MARCH 10 . Hoquiam HS Concert . 7pm

MARCH 10 . Coffee & Crafts . Woodburning Project . McCleary TRL Library . 1pm

MARCH 11 . Concert . Elma High School . 7pm

MARCH 12 . Crafternoon . Oakville TRL Library . 1:30pm

MARCH 12 . Aberdeen High School & MJH Festival Band Concert . 7pm

MARCH 13 & 14 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

MARCH 13, 14, 15 . Oliver! . Spring Musical . Grays Harbor College . Friday & Saturday 7:30pm, Sunday, 2pm

MARCH 13, 14, 15 . Charlotte's Web . Aberdeen . Driftwood Players . Fri. & Sat. 7:30pm, Sun., 1:30pm . Children's Theatre

(Continued on page 41)

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In an era of fast food, cookie-cutter burger chains, there's just nothing quite like cruising into an old-fashioned, local drive-in for a mouth-watering, fresh-grilled hamburger, fries and shake. The nostalgic feel of an authentic and original burger joint has a way of warming the heart and satisfying the appetite. I've listed eight of Grays Harbor's enduring favorites—from east to west—that meet the five parameters that follow. 1. Identify as a drive-in style restaurant. 2. Have a long-standing presence in their community. 3. Primarily be a burger and ice cream joint with impeccable, friendly service. 4. Be independently, locally owned and operated. 5. Of course, have deliciously tasty, fairly-priced food.



The Bear's Den Drive-In (McCleary): Hearty Angus burgers and decent fries plus many other offerings including seafood and chicken, deep-fried ravioli, and much more, grace an extensive menu. Try the Grizzly Burger—a full pound of meat topped with the works fit for two hungry bears. The soft-serve shakes are, surprisingly, tasty and not too sweet, but full of flavor. And they have loco moco served up in a hearty Hawaiian helping! (If you don't know what that is, you have to try it.) Originally the M&M Burger House since the 1970s, The Bear's Den was purchased in 2018 by Steve Sleasman and daughter Alex. They run the cozy, clean and modern joint; he's grill master, she's counter. They're friendly and fast, too. Well worth the drive to 301 W. Simpson Ave., in McCleary.



The Eagle's Nest Drive-In (Elma): The interior of this circa 1950s drive-in harkens back to its rock-n-roll day roots. At one time the building was a Dairy Queen, then later became a Dairy Freeze, though off and on it was known as The Eagle's Nest—a name it has retained since 2008. Its offerings include a wide variety of burger creations, a few salads and standard sides. But if it's burgers you want, you'll get a good one served up the old-fashioned way. The crinkle-cut fries were just right and the soft serve shakes better than most—full of flavor. Service was fine, prices fair and the kitchen and dining areas were clean. Located across from Elma Middle School, not surprisingly, the Eagles do hover directly after school. 802 W. Main St., in Elma.



Smitty's In & Out Drive-In (Elma): This In & Out is not related to the California chain. Opened in 1948, this drive-up only is owned by Mark Bosler who bought it from his parents who bought it from his grandmother who bought it in 1963. The fries are some of the best on the Harbor as are the flavorful soft-serve shakes. The burgers aren't the biggest, but are quite tasty and fairly priced. The Double "Everything-Everything" speaks for itself. The menu offers a wide array of deep fried delights as well. The car-side service is convenient, friendly and helps speed up the process. Dashboard dining in a dash. Drive up at 1424 W. Main St., in Elma.



The Crow's Nest Drive-In (Montesano): The menu at this 1980s era drive-in is extensive with seafood offerings, deep-fried mac-n-cheese, chicken and more. Try the half-pound Philabuster for a great-tasting burger topped with the works. It's big enough for two if you order the ala carte regular-cut, full-of-flavor fries, which are crispy outside, tender inside. They serve soft-serve ice cream shakes and also offer eight Glacier Ice hard ice cream flavors for cones. The service is fast and full of friendly, youthful energy. Phil and Danya Papac own and operate the place and insist on only the freshest and finest ingredients. 441 S Main St., in Montesano.

(Continued on page 34)

Hungry on the Harbor: 8 Great Drive-in Burger Joints



Gene's Stop-n-Go Drive-In (Montesano): Gene's simple menu includes burgers and some deep fried choices. The tasty Gene's Don't Fit Burger is one-half pound of meat, plus bacon, onion, pickle and smolder sauce. Their shakes made from soft serve are okay, and the fries, which are crinkle-cut, are fine and dandy. They also offer a bun-less burger named Skinny Gene's. (Get it?) A long-standing icon in Monte, this drive-in originally opened in 1953. Gene's is now owned by Matt and Ginger Holcomb, who opened in January 2019. It's a walk-up only establishment with outdoor tables, umbrellas and a park nearby. The nostalgic feel is enhanced by the spiffy white uniforms and black bow ties sported by the equally spiffy crew. 414 Pioneer Ave. W., in Montesano.




The Lighthouse Drive-In (Aberdeen): This sit-down diner, with a drive-thru, opened in 1984 and serves up fairly priced burgers with an old-time presentation. The restaurant itself is more modern than iconic and is a tad more spacious inside than any of the others on this list, making it a great place for group lunches and family dinners. Burger baskets feature perfectly cooked crinkle-cut fries. (Their beer-battered fries are a buck extra.) Patties are six ounces, so a Double Anchor Burger at three-quarter pound can feed two well enough. Their soft serve shakes are flavorful. In addition to burgers, The Lighthouse offers seafood, sandwiches and salads, as well as Ivar's clam chowder. The service is fast and friendly. 2121 Simpson Ave., in Aberdeen.



Al's Hum-Dinger Drive-In (Hoquiam): This circa 1950s walk-up only burger stand was the Harbor's original Dairy Queen and is located on the river, so you can just enjoy your burger in the great outdoors or dashboard dining style. The burgers are legendary, often voted "Best on the Harbor" in the annual *Daily World* poll. The fairly priced, one-third pound Humdinger Burger is juicy and tasty. Its bun is thinner than most, so the meat really shines. The crinkle-cut fries are good and the shakes very full of flavor, but a tad icy in texture. The enclosed, windowed order area, added to keep the rain off patrons while they order, is chilly in the winter and sweltering in the summer. Clean, friendly, efficient. 104 Lincoln St., in Hoquiam.



The Grizzly Den Drive-In (Hoquiam): Located near Hoquiam High School on State Route 109, it has, naturally, served generations of Grizzlies and beach-goers since opening in 1958. Their signature half-pound Grizzly Burger will easily feed two. All burgers are hand-pressed from fresh, not frozen, meat. They offer four kinds of fries including a fresh, hand-cut variety. With a case of 16 Glacier Ice hard ice cream flavors to choose from and a number of flavors for their soft serve shakes, you won't go away hungry. The dining area and restrooms have recently been nicely remodeled. 300 W. Emerson Ave., in Hoquiam.

Worthy Honorable Mentions: Widely known and praised for their burgers and shakes, **Clark's**, out in Artic, is more of a café than a drive-in. **Hearty Galley**, Westport's pirate-themed café has great in-house ground Angus burgers. **Slater's Diner**, a distinctive 50s diner re-creation with a wide variety of wondrous food, is just outside the county in Raymond. 

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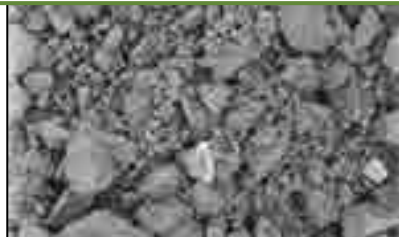
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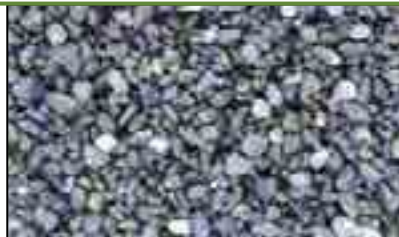
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Budding young artists emerge from local school programs

BY MARGUERITE GARTH

While the Harbor is replete with artists in full flower, taking a look at budding young artists is an opportunity to envision what talent will be blooming in the future. Local fine art teachers highlighted three of those young artists – Joel Peterson, Nayla Sengchan and Joshua Farrar.

Joel Peterson

A Running Start student, Joel Peterson is a Grays Harbor College sophomore studying drawing with teacher Nathan Barnes.

“Joel has fostered his own talent. I think he will succeed in any variety of circumstances. How does he do it? He always contributes his best effort to the endeavor,” Barnes said. “He’s fun to teach. I can toss new challenges at him and I know he will rise to them.”



Self-portrait by Joel Peterson

An assignment to create self-portraits, resulted not only in affecting those who view it, but also emotionally impacting Joel as an artist and a person. Because of a condition called fibular hemimelia, Joel was born with the lower part of his right leg disarticulated at the ankle. One of his self-portraits shows him tenderly putting on his prosthetic.

“For so long I was focused on the technique of drawing – which is important – that I didn’t really grasp that expression, pain, and personal investment is what makes

art so powerful,” said Joel. “I really feel like I poured my soul into those self-portraits much more than any other drawings. I found it almost difficult at first to even make marks on the paper, let alone put the drawing up for critique because I hadn’t ever drawn anything that vulnerable before.”

Joel became interested in pursuing art therapy after creating his series of self-portraits.

“Those were extremely healing for me and



Joel Peterson

I began to understand the broad field to which art can be applied,” he said. “This project helped me so much emotionally and I knew that my ideal job would involve using it to help other people. I talked to a friend and he suggested art therapy, which resonated so much more with me than any other career path involving art.”

Nayla Sengchan

Another younger, emerging talent is Nayla Sengchan, a sophomore at Montesano High School, where she is studying art with teacher Gretchen Ray.

Ray is new to teaching art and said that she and Nayla have “grown together” over the past two years. In her classes, Ray stresses “how we can market ourselves as artists” She said Nayla works diligently on her craft, specializing in mixed media creations.

Joshua Farrar


“Joshua can draw anything observationally, and render it well,” said Molly Hauk, the fine arts teacher at Aberdeen High School. “I noticed his raw talent on his very first drawing project when he was a freshman, and have simply made sure he always has enough paper since.

“Joshua is the kind of kid where a tiny comment goes a long way. After that first drawing project, we had a conversation

about ‘value’ and basically pressing harder to have a more varied scale of lights and darks, and he has been spot-on since. His eye for drawing observationally has always been exceptional,” Hauk said.

Joshua, now a senior, loves to draw cars – especially famous cars from movies and TV. In fact, getting him to branch out “has been our biggest challenge,” Hauk said. However, that focus on depicting cars seems to have paid off. This fall, Joshua won the Seattle International Auto Show Poster Contest, sponsored by the Washington State Auto Dealers Association. His award included a \$1,000 scholarship and tickets for his art class to attend the auto show at CenturyLink field.

He has also won other art contests including gaining recognition at the Educational Service District’s (ESD) art show as a sophomore and junior, and at the Congressional Art Competition, sponsored by Congressman Derek Kilmer’s office.

“I think the perfect career for Joshua’s current self would be as an automotive concept designer, where he would communicate through drawing what could be next in the world of cars, while respecting the manufacturer’s tradition. Maybe his post-high school self will find a different passion, and that’s the beauty of the future,” his teacher said. 



Nayla Sengchan holds her art.



Teacher Molly Hauk with student, Joshua Farrar.

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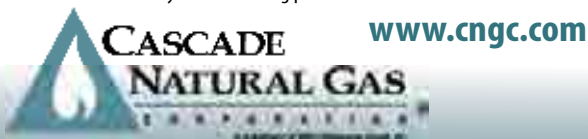
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GRAYS HARBOR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS *ART • MUSIC • THEATER • FESTIVALS*

(Continued from page 30)

MARCH 14 . Shenanigans Fest . Seabrook

MARCH 14 . Tyler Markz . Montesano . 12pm .
Local singer/songwriter . Urban Juice Factory

MARCH 14 . Drama - Senior One Acts .
Montesano High School . Sat. 7pm . Sun. 2pm

MARCH 17 . St. Patrick's Day Festival .
Hoquiam . Hoquiam Brewing Co.



Photo by Lloyd Tomis

MARCH 18 . Mosaic in Motion - A Festival of
Dance . Aberdeen VFW . 7pm . Celebrating the

Roaring 20s. Free, family friendly dance event.

MARCH 19 . Jazz Concert . Grays Harbor
College . 7pm

MARCH 20 & 21 . Live Music at Galway Bay
Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

MARCH 20 & 21 . Lego Movie (2014) . 7:30pm .
Movie . 7th Street Theatre

MARCH 21 . Crafternoon . Amanda Park &
Westport TRL Libraries . 1pm . Arts & crafts.

MARCH 21 & 22 . Razor Clam & Seafood
Festival . Ocean Shores Convention Center

MARCH 25 . North Beach High School Band &
Choir Concert . 7pm

MARCH 27 & 28 . Live Music at Galway Bay
Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

MARCH 27, 28, 29 . Fantasticks Musical .
Ocean Shores . Fri. Sat. 7pm, Sun. 2pm . Stage
West Community Theatre . Ocean Shores Lions Club

MARCH 28 . Scott Clay, Live Music . Aberdeen
. 8pm . Mount Olympus Brewing

MARCH 28 . 80's Music with DJ EmBass .
Aberdeen . 7pm . Seaport Landing

MARCH 29 . GH Civic Choir & Concert Band .
Grays Harbor College . 3pm

MARCH 29 . The High Kings . Raymond
Theatre . 2pm . Irish Ballad Music

(Continued on page 43)

MARCH

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APRIL

(Continued from page 41)

APRIL 1 & 2 . 7 - 9pm . APRIL 4 . 1 - 4pm
Auditions: Aberdeen Shakespearean Theater's 'Comedy of Errors' . Aberdeen .
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APRIL 1 . Acrylic & Watercolors Workshop .
Oakville TRL Library . 10:30am . Your supplies.

APRIL 3 . First Friday Art Walk . Aberdeen .
5pm - 8pm . Aberdeen Art Center

APRIL 3 & 4 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

APRIL 3, 4, 5 . Fantasticks Musical . Ocean Shores .
Fri. Sat. 7pm, Sun. 2pm . Stage West Community Theatre . Ocean Shores Lions Club

APRIL 4 . Poetry & Pie . Aberdeen TRL Libraries .
2pm . Celebrate Nat'l Poetry Month

APRIL 4 . Beat Goes On - Cher Tribute . Ocean Shores .
8pm . Quinault Beach Resort

APRIL 4 & 5 . The Pride of the Yankees (1942)
. Fri. 7:30pm, Sun. 2pm . Movie . 7th Street Theatre

APRIL 5-6 . Beachcombers Driftwood Show . Grayland .
10-5, 10-4 . Grayland Community Hall

APRIL 6 . Wacky Stampers . Hoquiam TRL Library .
11am . Making cards.

APRIL 6 . Teens Create . Hoquiam TRL Library
4:30pm . 6th-12th graders . Drawing & Writing

APRIL 10 . Live ukelele & singing with Joy! . Montesano .
5pm . Urban Juice Factory

APRIL 10 & 11 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

APRIL 11 . Lake Sylvia Outdoor Storytime & Family Hike . TRL event .
11:30am . with Ranger Nick . Music, movement, books, activities.

APRIL 14 . Coffee & Crafts . Tissue Paper Dyed Scarves .
McCleary TRL Library . 1pm

APRIL 14 . Ruploops . Grays Harbor College .
6:30pm . Beat Boxer

APRIL 17 & 18 . A League of Their Own (1992)
. 7:30pm . Movie . 7th Street Theatre

APRIL 17 & 18 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

APRIL 18 . Crafternoon . Amanda Park TRL Libraries .
1pm . Arts & crafts.

APRIL 18 . Historic Hoquiam Memories Open House .
Historic Hotel Emerson . 1 - 5pm

APRIL 18 . Music by Black Shepherd - Millers Annual 420 BBQ . Elma .
1pm - 6pm

APRIL 18 . Quartom . Grays Harbor College .
A Capella Quartet . 7:30pm

APRIL 21 . Night of Musical Theater, Hoquiam HS/HMS Choirs & Jazz Band .
7pm

APRIL 23 . Delphia . Grays Harbor College .
7pm . Jazz Singer & Motivational Speaker

APRIL 24 & 25 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

APRIL 24, 25, 26 . Addams Family - Aberdeen High School Musical .
Fri. & Sat. 7:30pm . Sat. & Sun. 2pm

APRIL 25 . Oysterfest - Amateur Oyster Stew Competition . Tokeland .
4pm . Tokeland Hotel

APRIL 25 . Jon Reynolds, Live Music . Aberdeen .
8pm . Mount Olympus Brewing

(Continued on page 45)

APRIL



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(Continued from page 43)

APRIL 24 - 26 . 25th Annual Grays Harbor Shorebird and Nature Festival . Hoquiam . GH National Wildlife Refuge & Hoquiam Middle School

APRIL 25 - 26 . GH Gem & Geology Rock & Gem Show. Elma . Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds

APRIL 26 . Sarah Hagen . Raymond Theatre . 2pm . The 'Perk Up Pianist!'

MAY

MAY 1 . First Friday Art Walk . Aberdeen . 5pm - 8pm . Aberdeen Art Center

MAY 1, 2 . The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time . Aberdeen . Driftwood Players . 7:30pm

May 1 & 2 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

MAY 2 . Tokeland & North Cove Artist Studio Tour & Auction . 10am-9pm

MAY 2 . Savor Seabrook Seafood & Wine Festival . 12pm . 10th Annual

MAY 2, 3 . An Affair to Remember . Hoquiam Fri. 7:30pm, Sun. 2pm . Movie . 7th Street Theatre

MAY 4 . Wacky Stampers . Hoquiam TRL Library . 11am . Making cards.

MAY 7, 8, 9 . Ten-Minute Plays . Grays Harbor College . 7:30pm Student written & directed

MAY 8 & 9 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

MAY 8, 9, 10 . The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time . Aberdeen . Driftwood Players . Fri. & Sat. 7:30pm, Sun., 1:30pm



MAY 9 & 10 . 10am-5pm More Urban Unglued Freaks at the Beach Ocean Shores Convention Center
An uncommon emporium of handmade art, jewelry & oddities. **Free.**
See ad on pg. 43

(Continued on page 47)

MAY

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Hours: 12-5 · Closed Tues. & Wed.

Over 30 Years of Experience

(Continued from page 45)

MAY 10 . Will Martin . Raymond Theatre . 2pm . *The voice you must hear to believe.*

MAY 12 . Coffee & Crafts . Concrete Stepping Stones . McCleary TRL Library . 1pm

MAY 14 . Teens Create . Hoquiam TRL Library 4:30pm . 6th-12th graders . Drawing & Writing

MAY 15 & 16 . The Fast and the Furious Hoquiam . 7:30pm . Movie . 7th Street Theatre

MAY 15 & 16 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

MAY 15, 16, 17 . The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time . Aberdeen . Driftwood Players . Fri. & Sat. 7:30pm, Sun., 1:30pm

MAY 16 . Crafternoon . Amanda Park TRL Libraries . 1pm . Arts & crafts.

MAY 16 . Syttende Mai Parade . Seabrook 10:30am . Celebrating Norwegian Constitution Day

MAY 16 . Barn Bash . Elma Fairgrounds . 3pm Music, Food, Fun, Family, Friends. By The Horse Prayer

MAY 16-17 . Home & Garden Show. Elma . Grays Harbor County Fairgrounds . 9am - 5pm

MAY 19 . Year End Concert . Elma HS . 7pm

MAY 20 . Aberdeen High School & MJH Orchestra Spring Concert . 6pm

MAY 20 . Hoquiam HS Choir Concert . 7pm

MAY 22 & 23 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

MAY 27 . Aberdeen HS Choir Concert . 7pm

MAY 28 . Aberdeen High School & MJH Spring Band Concert . 7pm

MAY 28 . Spring All District Band Concert . Hoquiam High School . 7pm

MAY 29 & 30 . Live Music at Galway Bay Irish Pub . Ocean Shores

MAY 30 . 7th Street Kids Auditions . Hoquiam . 9am - 12pm

MAY 30 . Tony Wintrip, Live Music . Aberdeen . 8pm . Mount Olympus Brewing

MAY 31 . Grays Harbor Symphony . Grays Harbor College . 7pm

JUNE 1 . First Friday Art Walk . Aberdeen . 5pm - 8pm . Aberdeen Art Center

JUNE 5 - 7 . Grays Harbor County Festival of Colors . Ocean Shores Kite Festival 



JUNE 6, Saturday 7:30pm
Flashback Wearable Art Show
 Stage West Community Theatre
Ocean Shores Convention Center
 Tickets: stagewestcommunitytheatre.org
 No host bar. See ad on pg. 43

Call for Art . Montesano Creative Arts District is calling for Grays Harbor artists to participate in the **Montesano Arts Walk on July 18**. Check Montesano Creative Arts District Facebook page or e-mail montesanocreativearts@gmail.com

Feeling Creative? Take an Art Class! Available through North Beach Artists Guild, South Beach Arts Association, Grays Harbor College Community Education and more!

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