Miss Massive Snowflake plays KALA Enjoy progressive pop, energetic rock at concert Friday

ASTORIA — Venerable Portland rockers Miss Massive Snowflake will perform at KALA Friday, April 24. Cloven Fruit will open the concert at 8 p.m. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Cover charge is \$5.

Miss Massive Snowflake is a charismatic and playful band that enjoys playing live and has performed more than 500 shows in 10 countries. Frontman Shane de Leon was a member of the experimental rock band Rollerball/Rllrbll for a decade and has collaborated with 31 Knots, Black Heart Procession, Solex, Steve McKay, Rainstick Cowbell and OVO. With an emotive voice and compelling lyrics, de Leon is a storyteller at heart and is often compared to David Byrne, Guided by Voices, Jonathon Richmond and the Flaming Lips. His enigmatic stage persona and sense of showmanship, in addition to the bands close kinship, makes for a spirited rock show.

The band started as a solo recording project in 2006. Jeanne Kennedy Crosby joined on bass in 2007 and shortly after, Andy Brown



Portand band Miss Massive Snowflake will perform at KALA in Astoria on Friday, April 24.

(Jessamine, Fontanelle) joined on drums.

On Miss Massive Snowflake's fourth album "So Sweet." de Leon weaves stories of heartbreak, loss of trust, family and social media into eight songs that takes listeners through an exploration of how love can sometimes walk a fine line of pain. The album's first single "Hard To Know" is an upbeat song showing that

Miss Massive Snowflake

8 p.m. Friday, April 24 KALA • 1017 Marine Drive, Astoria 503-338-4878 • \$5

it's not always easy to know where to go when you can't quite figure out where you're at. "So Sweet" shows a moodier side of Miss Massive Snowflake and features the Nina Simone cover "Turn Me On."

KALA is located at 1017 Marine Drive. For information, call 503-338-4878.

Lace up and walk for healthy babies

March for Babies fundraises for prenatal wellness, research

ASTORIA — Approximately 100 people young and old will lace up their walking shoes in Astoria on May 2 giving hope that every baby will have a healthy start. They're walking and raising money to support March of Dimes-funded research and programs to help moms have healthy, full-term pregnancies.

Here's why:

- In an average week in Oregon, 877 babies are born and 82 (9.3 percent) of them are preterm.
- · Prematurity and birth defects together account for the majority of infant deaths, both in the first month and the first year of life.
- Prematurity can result in lifelong complications such as vision and hearing problems

and neurological disabilities.

· More than four million babies were born last year, and the March of Dimes helped each and every one through 75 years of research, education, vaccines and breakthroughs. The organization helps moms have full-term pregnancies and researches the problems that threaten the health of babies.

The Lower Columbia March for Babies will take place at 9 a.m. May 2. Registration opens day of the walk at 8 a.m. The walk starts at Maritime Memorial Park under the Astoria Bridge. Online registration is open now at www. marchforbabies.org

Funds raised by March for Babies in Oregon and southwest Washington helps support prenatal wellness programs, research grants, information for families experiencing a newborn intensive care unit hospitalization and advocacy efforts for stronger, healthier babies. Premature birth is the most urgent infant health problem in the U.S. today. It affects nearly half a million babies each year, including 4,264 in Oregon.

Locally March for Babies is sponsored by First Tech Federal Credit Union, Big 5, Columbia Memorial Hospital, Providence Seaside Hospital, Columbia Bank and Clatsop Community Bank. The 2015 March for Babies is sponsored nationally by the March of Dimes number one corporate supporter Kmart, Famous Footwear, Macy's, Cigna, United Airlines and Mission Pharmacal.

Get your ticket for Rhododendron Tour

LONG BEACH PENINSULA, Wash. — The 2015 Rhododendron Tour on the Long Beach Peninsula, taking place May 2, will feature the area's star varieties and specimens, many cultivated and planted here decades ago.

Among the open gardens on the tour will be the site of the former Clarke Nursery, where J. Harold Clarke developed many of the varieties so prevalent and found entwined in the local forests and gardens.

A \$10 ticket will allow entrance to all tour gardens from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will be accompanied by a peninsula-wide driving tour map locating the tour gardens and identifying additional specimens seen along the garden route.

A separate and additional \$15 ticket (limited to 40 people) will include the optional 10 a.m. breakfast and presentation at the historic Shelburne Inn in Seaview, featuring Steve Mc-Cormick, John Stephens and Clarke's grandson Steve Clarke, owner of the continuing Clarke Nursery Landscape services.

This event is produced by the Water Music Society, which produces concerts in the area throughout the year and benefits the music education programs in the Ocean Beach School District. Further details are posted at www.watermusicfestival.com and on the "Music in the Gardens Tour" Facebook page.





