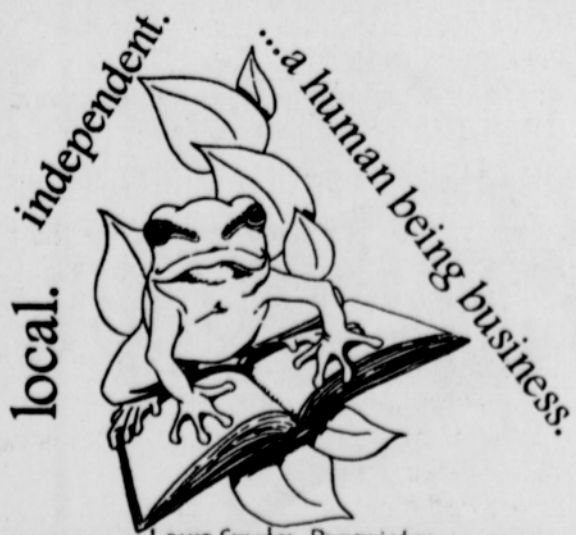


CHARLOTTE BRUHN DRAWS ASTORIA

Astoria, Oregon, the oldest city in the American West, is 194 years old on April 12, 2005. Built as a fort to trade cheap baubles for animal pelts with local Clatsop tribes in 1811 in a failed exploit to increase the wealth of John Jacob Astor, America's first millionaire, as well as impose the infant United States into the Pacific Northwest, the settlement evolved into the world's salmon cannery capital by the late 19th century. Rapacious overfishing decimated the industry in less than a century. The two World Wars of the 20th century sparked a brief

prosperity, but afterward the city declined into a long recession that tourism now threatens to partially mitigate with not only the rediscovery of Astoria but also by earnest reliance on the bicentennial later this year of the Lewis & Clark expedition's miserable winter of 1805-06 on the lower Columbia River. Charlotte Bruhn has drawn various views of Astoria over the past few years to illustrate calendars advertising her partnership business, Old Town Framing. They are reproduced on these three pages to celebrate Astoria's birthday. ~MPMc



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