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on the cover

Astoria High School student Kaylee Cobb embraces the beauty of rain and captures raindrops on a spiderweb in this photo.

Photo by Kaylee Cobb

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Jorjett Strumme shares about life in Hollywood
Seaside Public Library hosts local costume designer, artist

SEASIDE — The Friends of the Seaside Library will host Jorjett Strumme, who will give a talk on “My Life in Hollywood,” beginning at 7 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 15. The event will take place in the Community Room.

It’s rare that a person with Strumme’s experiences and credentials comes to a small coastal community like Seaside to live. Her lifelong dream of designing glamorous fashion for the legends of Hollywood came true when she moved from Seaside to Los Angeles. In the right place at the right time, Strumme, with guts and determination, was able to work her way into a job with two-time Oscar winner Helen Rose, as well as

Emmy Award-winning designer Nolan Miller. This allowed Strumme the opportunity to work on several television series such as “Dynasty,” “Hotel” and “Love Boat,” as well as 15 movies. Strumme was the in-house model for many of Joan Collins’ “Dynasty” costumes, and she hand painted June Allison’s shoes and made a tiara for Esther Williams. Other well-known movie stars Strumme worked with included actresses Barbara Stanwyck, Lana Turner, Bette Davis and Ginger Rogers.

What happened next was another dream come true. An offer to organize Elizabeth Taylor’s closet led to Strumme

becoming Taylor’s full-time assistant in 1985. “For 10 years, I traveled the world with Elizabeth Taylor as her personal assistant and stylist,” she says.

Strumme’s career also includes a successful line of loungewear and caftans. She was a featured designer in the book “California Design.” Several of her creations were even worn by Taylor in perfume and bath product ads. After living in Hollywood and London for more than 20 years, Strumme has moved back to Seaside where she creates her one-of-a-kind masks, headpieces, hats and apparel line.



Submitted photo

Seaside resident Jorjett Strumme, left, worked as Elizabeth Taylor’s personal assistant in Hollywood.

Seaside Public Library is located at 1131 Broadway. For information, call 503-738-6742 or visit www.seasidelibrary.org



Photo by Katherine Lacaze

Jorjett Strumme works on her elaborate masks.

Coast Weekend welcomes comments and contributions from readers. New items for publication consideration must be submitted by 10 a.m. Tuesday, one week and two days before publication.

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