

How to become an obsessive beach visitor

By MATT LOVE

First, **you must decide that visiting the beach with your old husky is the most important thing in the world.** Nothing else matters. Naturally, this obsession will mean sacrifices in your personal life, namely not having a girlfriend or anything resembling a normal schedule. So what? Interacting with beach and the ocean is everything to you. Bringing along a dog only enhances the experience.

Second, **bad weather never deters your obsession.** Rain, sleet, snow, wind, ice, storms — it doesn't matter. Never check the forecast. You go whenever the urge hits. Besides, all the great moments visiting the beach typically occur when the elements seem uncongenial for a visit. There is special magic near the ocean when wildness reigns. Great notions manifest during those times. You might find the meaning of life on a walk fighting through a squall. Or you might completely empty your mind for the first time in years.

Third, **find a part-time job that provides the ultimate flexibility you need**



Photo by Matt Love

To become an obsessive beach visitor, you must decide that visiting the beach with your old husky is the most important thing in the world.

to visit the beach anytime you desire. That's the key; when the obsession strikes, you heed the call, you go.

Of course, having a part-time job means you won't be earning a whole lot of money. Who cares? Your relentless visiting the beach precludes the time to shop for the gadgets and baubles you don't need in the first place.

Last, **never bring an agenda** (in your mind or on a phone) with you when

visiting the beach. The ocean is there to annihilate them if you do. You can't truly be called an obsessive

unless there is no rational reason to visit, like collecting limpets or building driftwood forts. Finding and doing those things on a lark are great, rewarding. But for the true obsessive, they're never the goal. There is never

a goal. You just have no other choice but to hit the beach. It's like gravity; you

'There is special magic near the ocean when wildness reigns.'

are compelled. Don't fight it, neglect it, or even try to understand it. Consider the answer in the obsession lies within the immortal words of The Who, "I can't explain/ I think it's love."

Matt Love is the author/ editor of 12 books about Oregon, including Of Walking In Rain, his account of one of the rainiest winters in Oregon history. They are available at coastal bookstores and through www.nestuccaspitpress.com

COLUMBIA BAR

BFK

By RYAN HUME

A warm drink can be just the thing to combat the bone-chilling temperatures of January.

This sweet and savory concoction is deepened with the addition of Frangelico, an almond-flavored liqueur, while a sprinkle of fresh nutmeg adds warmth.

Use regular coffee if you are looking for a little perk or decaf if you are heading in the direction of sleep.

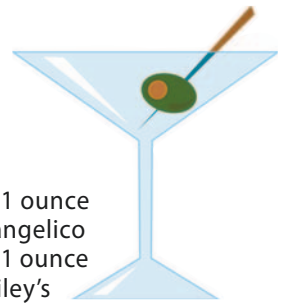
1 ounce
Frangelico
1 ounce

Bailey's
Irish
Cream

1 ounce Kahlua
Freshly brewed coffee, as
needed
A dash of fresh nutmeg

Mix liqueurs together in the bottom of stemmed glass mug. Top off with coffee and nutmeg to taste.

— Recipe courtesy of Brooklyn Torry,
The Chart Room, Astoria



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N W word nerd

By RYAN HUME

Nehalem
[nə·hei·ləm]
noun

1. a small city in northern Tillamook County on U.S. Highway 101. Incorporated in 1889, the city sits on the Nehalem River at Nehalem Bay. When last checked

during the 2010 census, the population was 271

2. *tribe*: also known as the Tillamook, a native people and their language from the Salish linguistic group living on the North Coast

3. *Nehalem Highway*: Oregon State Routes 202 and 47 respectively which run through the Nehalem River Valley from Astoria to Mist

Origin

Salish. Translates roughly to "place where people live,"

utilizing the common Salish prefix, *ne-*, meaning "place."

"Nehalem is an incorporated town. As to size it is not large, but a citizenship animated with greater grit, determination and progressiveness of the practical, 'do-it-now' kind, than the Nehalem people, it would indeed be hard to find. They have an unbounded faith in the future greatness of their own community, and that faith they transfuse to all who come in contact with them."

— L. A. Fernsworth, "Tillamook is land bountifully endowed by generous nature," *The Sunday Oregonian*, Sept. 24, 1911, Section 2, P. 8

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