



Photo by Matt Love

Sea Breeze Restaurant & Lounge is located near the junction of U.S. highways 101 and 26.

## A GLIMPSE INSIDE

An occasional feature by MATT LOVE

### Sea Breeze Restaurant & Lounge

There I was, driving home after a Saturday afternoon presentation in Cannon Beach, when it came into view: the Sea Breeze Restaurant, just west of the U.S. Highway 101 and U.S. Highway 26 junction. I noticed a neon sign that read "lounge" and thought to myself: why not? It had been a great show. I made a few bucks. A mini celebration of one beer was in order.

The Sea Breeze was open but the parking lot empty, and I relished its emptiness

because I love being the only person inside a coastal lounge on a weekend afternoon. I always find great stories at that non-witching hour.

I walked inside the lounge: two tables, two booths, five seats at the bar. A football game on television played without sound. I was the only customer.

Perfect. I couldn't believe I'd never stopped in here before. I wondered what else I missed driving by it a thousand times.

A kindly bartender came up and took my order of a draft beer and halibut sandwich to go. I had the place all to myself until a couple of locals strolled in a few moments later. That was fine. They were quiet and didn't seem like the type who screamed in public at football games on television. I never go to those loud places. No stories are ever there.

I met the owner Steve Russell. He and his wife, Lisa, have owned the Sea Breeze for 30 years! We talked a bit, and I learned that Sea Breeze moves a lot of bloody marys in the mornings when the tourists are rolling through on their way to fishing, clamming and beachcombing. I guess going to the coast does that to some city people, makes them crave good bloody marys in the morning. Why not? It's called vacation.

The beer was good and cheap, and the sandwich smelled delicious. I left the lounge but knew I'd be back.

*The Sea Breeze, located at 84774 U.S. Highway 101, is open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday.*

Matt Love is author/editor of 12 books about Oregon. They are available at all coastal bookstores or through [www.nestuccaspitpress.com](http://www.nestuccaspitpress.com). He lives in Astoria.

## word nerd

By RYAN HUME

### Cape [kāp]

noun

1. *clothing*. A sleeveless outer garment, open in the front, fastened at the neck and worn draped over the shoulders and back

2. *land*. A large point or headland that juts out into a body of water, usually the sea

#### Origin:

*Garment*: Prior to 1565, undistinguished from the similar

ecclesiastical garment known as a *cape*. By 1611 *cape* is set apart as a sleeveless garment. Borrowed from Medieval Latin, *cappa*, meaning "cloak." *Land*: Around 1395, borrowed from Old Provençal *cap* by way of the Middle French, meaning, literally, "head." From the Latin, *caput*, meaning the same thing.

"The project proposed is to build, along the line previously established on the south side, a strong pile-dike, rising 3 feet above low-tide, 8,000 feet long, and 20 feet wide from outside to outside, filled with fascines and stone, and securely protected on both sides with mattresses and stone. The dike will start near the northeast corner of Fort

Stevens, and, following the 12-foot curve, will be directed a little westward of the outer part of the headland at cape Hancock."

—From a report submitted by Col. Gillespie and the board of engineers, forwarded by Alex Ramsey, Secretary of War, to the U.S. Senate on Feb. 22, 1881. "The Proposed Bar Improvement," *The Daily Astorian*, March 12, 1881, P.1

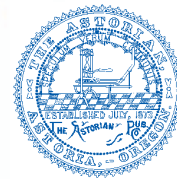
"The process of piling and rip rapping on Clatsop spit, as suggested by Col. Gillespie, seems to be the true and wise method to secure the southern wall of the Columbia ship channel. The northern wall will be held firm by the rocky base of Cape Disappointment."

—Rev. G.H. Atkinson, "The Columbia River Ship Channel to the Ocean," *The West Shore*, Jan. 1, 1882, P.17

## Friday Exchange

# Letters to the Editor

A good newspaper is a two-way street. You learn from us and we learn from you.



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