

Readers' choice awards

BEST ANTIQUE STORE

Vintage Hardware

Astoria, Oregon

Runner-up: Phog Bounders Antique Mall, Astoria

Honorable Mention: Romancing the Home, Gearhart

By DWIGHT CASWELL

comes from Clatsop County.

Vintage hardware, “recycles and upcycles house parts into furniture,” says Paul Tuter.

He and business partner Becky Johnson met seven years ago at a flea market, and she invited him to join a design guild she was involved in. Johnson’s business is Savannah House Upholstery, and Tuter calls his My Grandfather’s Nails, because he had inherited his grandfather’s nails and includes one of them in every piece of furniture he makes.

Eventually the duo decided to found Vintage Hardware, where they deal in house salvage, antiques, and upholstery. Ninety-five percent of everything they sell or use in their creations

The selection is nothing short of astounding. In addition to upholstery and new furniture from old, you can find anything you might need if you’re restoring an old home: drawer pulls, windows, doors, sinks, light fixtures, stained glass, and anything else that can be salvaged and reused.

Old toys and dolls? Not a problem. Glass floats, decoys, an old trumpet, an antique sewing machine, or old signs? You get the idea.

You’ll find that it’s fun to wander and wonder around the store, to see what sparks your imagination

And they’re helpful. If you’re in need of idea or two, they’ve got those, too.



Photo by Dwight Caswell

Vintage Hardware, this year’s winner of Best Antique Store, deals in house salvage, antiques and upholstery.

BEST FISH AND CHIPS

Bowpicker Fish & Chips

Astoria, Oregon

Runner-up: The Ship Inn, Astoria

Honorable Mention: Bridgewater Bistro, Astoria



Submitted photo

A popular Astoria fixture at the corner of 17th and Duane streets, the Bowpicker offers beer-battered Albacore tuna and steak fries made to order. It’s no wonder the eatery, housed in an old boat, took home Best Fish and Chips in a landslide win — the line to order is often halfway down the block. Be sure you have cash (they don’t accept cards), and follow @Bowpicker on Twitter or like it on Facebook for the latest hours of operation.

BEST MUSIC VENUE

Liberty Theater

Astoria, Oregon

Runner-up: Fort George Brewery, Astoria

Honorable Mention: Voodoo Room/Columbian Theater, Astoria / Adrift Hotel, Long Beach (tie)

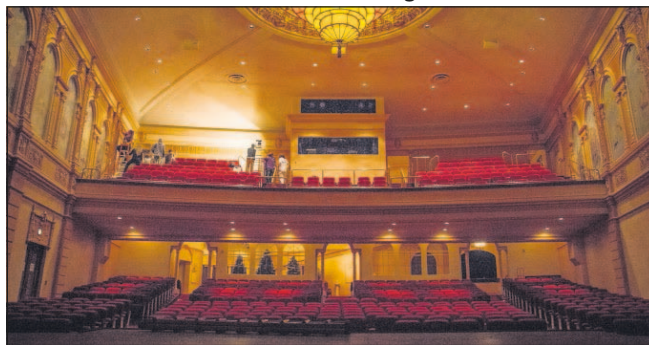


Photo by Joshua Bessex

First opened in 1925, and restored and reopened in 2005, the Liberty Theater is celebrating its 90th birthday. In the decade since its restoration, the theater has hosted award-winning opera stars, rock ‘n’ roll legends, orchestras, ballets, choirs and film festivals.

BEST BARISTA

Kristy Cross

The Rusty Cup, Astoria, Oregon

Runner-up: Casey Brewe Palmgren,

Astoria Coffeehouse & Bistro

Honorable Mention: Leah Cristaldi,

3 Cups Coffee House, Astoria



Photo by Ryan Hume

Owner and barista Kristy Cross bought The Rusty Cup coffee shop in downtown Astoria nearly 11 years ago. She says her customers feel like family.

By RYAN HUME

After graduating from the University of Washington, Kristy Cross thought she might try her hand at small town living. While searching for a job, she came across an ad in The Daily Astorian for a coffee shop for sale.

So she bought it.

That was how The Rusty Cup was born nearly 11 years ago.

“I had worked at drive-thru coffee stands all through college,” Cross said. “So I knew the coffee aspect of it!”

Cross, named by voters as Best Barista, is a jovial presence in her little shop in downtown Astoria. She admits the only

thing she loves more than The Rusty Cup itself is her customers and it would seem the feeling is mutual.

“We are honestly like a giant family!” Cross said. “We know the happy times, the sad times, the ups and downs of their lives — and at times stopping in for a coffee or sandwich becomes like a therapy session.”

The main objective: to have them leave in a better mood than when they came in. It doesn’t hurt that the coffee is not half-bad either.

The Rusty Cup is located at 1213 Commercial St. next to the Liberty Theater in downtown Astoria.



Thank you for voting for us!

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