

Jazz: Closing show will present myriad short performances

Continued from Page 1A

Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley. And he plays the piano like Jerry Lee Lewis. It's rock and roll!"

Bennett and the Memphis Speed Kings kick off the weekend with a special event Thursday night (Feb. 19) at the Elks Lodge.

The schedule

The festival begins in earnest Friday, with concerts scheduled concurrently on five stages — three at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center, plus the Shilo Inn Oceanfront and the Elks Lodge.

All but one of the venues will be prepared specifically with dancers in mind.

"Four of our five venues have dance floors, and we bring in wooden floors," said Johnson. "We don't ask people to dance on concrete all weekend."

"There are young people, and they just dance all day long," added Shook. "Some of them have a favorite band they follow from place to place."

Aside from bands simply performing their regular material, a few special sets are planned.

"Saturday, we have three bass saxes playing at the same time," said Johnson. "That is an awesome sound. If you know what a bass sax looks like or sounds like,



NANCY MCCARTHY — The Daily Astorian
The Memphis Boys, of the band Dave Bennett and the Memphis Boys, brought the crowd to its feet last year with their rock 'n' roll and rockabilly music. Now called Dave Bennett and the Memphis Speed Kings, the band will kick off the festival at a special event at the Elks Lodge Feb. 19.

you really should show up for that set. That's my favorite set."

Uptown Lowdown will be playing, she added. "They have two band members who play the bass sax, and Peter Meyers will join them; he's the reed player for High Sierra."

Saturday is the big day, packed across the board, with 45 shows spread across five venues from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The festival's closing show, at 3 p.m. Sunday, will present a smorgasbord of short performances.

"We will bring a band on that will play two or three songs, and then they'll rotate off and another band rotates on," said Johnson. "We will rotate about five bands through just as a way of saying 'Goodbye, and see you next year!'"

The Seaside High School jazz band will also play in the "closing" this year.

"It gives them an opportunity to play in the big room at the convention center," said Johnson. "So that'll be kind of fun."

In the spotlight

Indeed, Johnson and Shook — along with the rest of the many volunteers that comprise the Lighthouse Jazz Society — enjoy spotlighting Seaside, whether it be by hosting old friends, welcoming the high school band or boosting tourism during the wet winter months.

"The reason why I do this is because I think it's a great event for Seaside," Johnson said. "I just like to see people having a good time. And when I go to other jazz festivals and I say that I'm from Seaside it's just nice to hear, 'Seaside! That's our favorite festival!' That's why I keep doing it. I like to see people having a good time, and I like to make people happy."

LNG: Area crabbers make up to 2,200 trips into the estuary a month

Continued from Page 1A

The firm wants to build the export terminal to link the plentiful natural gas of Western Canada and the Rockies with eager energy markets in Asia. A new 87-mile pipeline would run from the Northwest Pipeline, the natural gas artery for the Pacific Northwest, through Cowlitz County in Washington state and Tillamook, Columbia and Clatsop counties in Oregon to reach the terminal.

Oregon LNG is seeking federal, state and local approvals and has encountered significant opposition from environmentalists, property owners, fishermen and residents who have fought the \$6 billion project for the past decade.

"Our livelihood survives by our ability to transit and have free passage on the bar, and if you're shutting down that whole river for periods of time, you're going to have a negative impact," said Martin McMaster, an owner of the Lady Laura, a crabber and longliner.

Dan Serres, the conservation director of Columbia Riverkeeper, a Hood River-based environmental group that opposes the LNG terminal, described the conflict between the project and fishing as a "fundamentally unanswered, unresolved problem that has the potential to be enormously destructive to the local economy, to people who fish in the area."

The Department of Fish and Wildlife's comments, in a Jan. 16 letter to the Army Corps of Engineers, raised concerns about a dozen topics related to the LNG project, including dredging, fish passage, water use and discharge, wetlands and habitat restoration.

The department "has identified several issues that may



ALEX PAJUNAS — The Daily Astorian file
The east side of the Skapanon Peninsula, right, is the proposed location for a liquefied natural gas export terminal to be built by Oregon LNG.



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian file
Columbia Riverkeeper Dan Serres gives a presentation about the dangers of building a liquefied natural gas terminal in Warrenton to a group of protesters and local community members at the Warrenton Community Center Jan. 22.

result in substantial impacts to fish, shellfish, wildlife, their habitats, as well as potential reductions in opportunities for recreational harvest of fish and shellfish associated with construction and operation of the marine terminal in the marine waters

of the lower Columbia River estuary."

Oregon LNG has acknowledged the extremely popular salmon fishing at Buoy 10, but the department found that the firm has not adequately characterized the potential for substantial disruption of the socially and economically important fishery. Last year, for example, there were 107,700 angler trips with a catch of nearly 84,500 salmon.

Similarly, the department argues, Oregon LNG has not documented the potential impact of the project on recreational crabbing. Crabbers make about 1,500 to 2,200 trips into the estuary a month during the peak fall season, according to the department, taking between 12,000 and 28,000 Dungeness crab a month.

While much of the crabbing occurs outside the Hammond Marina, the department found, some crabbing also happens in the estuary near the proposed berthing dock and outside the mouth of Youngs Bay.

Inquiry: Recent allegations against the governor are 'very serious — and troubling'

Continued from Page 1A

In contrast, Rosenblum stopped the release of public records for the duration of at least one similar case, her investigation of then-Multnomah County Chairman Jeff Cogen, The Oregonian reported.

Rosenblum has provided only brief comments about Kitzhaber and Hayes, but she did say in a statement last week that recent allegations against the governor and first lady are "very serious — and troubling." The EO Media Group/Pamplin Media Group Capital Bureau reported on Jan. 27 that Hayes was paid \$118,000 early in Kitzhaber's

third term to serve as a fellow for a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit that has done political work in Oregon. Hayes had not included that income on tax returns she provided to other news organizations last fall, Willamette Week reported. That was followed by a report in The Oregonian that Kitzhaber associates, who worked on his 2010 campaign and were later hired to work in his administration, helped Hayes to secure contracts.

The Oregon Republican Party and then-state Rep. Vicki Berger, R-Salem, filed complaints against Kitzhaber and Hayes last fall asking the ethics commission to investigate reports that Hayes used

her public position to benefit her consulting business, including by tasking a state employee with scheduling for her business.

Bersin said he had not heard from the Attorney General's Office, and "in the absence of confirmation that is a criminal investigation by the Attorney General's Office, we are still moving forward."

Bersin said if the ethics commission suspends its investigation, that will only last until the conclusion of the criminal investigation. "And then we will take it back up."

— The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

Beit Salmon: 'Enough people got the ball rolling'

Continued from Page 1A

Goldeen estimates about 70 Jewish people live around the lower Columbia region. They either recognize their heritage at their homes or travel to services in Portland, she said.

Over the past 24 years, a North Coast Shabbat Group in Seaside has met one Friday a month for six months out of the year. The group honoring Shabbat, the Jewish day of rest, has been the only consistent Jewish service in the North Coast community.

Those interested in the new Beit Salmon Congregation are encouraged to attend a meeting at 11 a.m. Sunday in the Fellowship Hall of Peace Lutheran Church in Astoria.

Allie Evans, treasurer of Beit Salmon, said the Sunday meeting will be an opportunity for people to share their ideas and give input about the newly formed congregation.

"(The congregation) is just to enhance everyone's lives in whatever way they want that to happen," Evans said. "For some people, it's just about the food. Our mission is to embrace all of that."

The idea behind a new congregation has been talked about casually for years, but it reached a fever pitch last fall at a Rosh Hashanah, or Jewish New Year, celebration in Astoria.

Los Angeles-based Rabbi Abram Goodstein, Goldeen's son-in-law, attended the celebration at her home and noticed a crowd of about 30 people all seemingly willing to organize.

"He said 'You know this community could be more. Do you want to be more?'" Goldeen said.

Rabbi Abram is planning to spend two months this summer in Astoria helping the group get off the ground. He will hold services, teach classes, write grants and help the group formalize.

The group is fundraising on a crowdfunding website, www.giveforward.com, to help cover Rabbi Abram's ex-

HOW TO HELP

- Beit Salmon Congregation is hosting an informational meeting at 11 a.m. Sunday at in the Fellowship Hall of Peace Lutheran Church in Astoria. Those interested in the new congregation are encouraged to attend and share their input. Parking is on the street. Snacks will be served. For more information, call Ann Goldeen at 503-791-4611.
- In addition, the congregation is hoping to raise up to \$4,000 to bring Rabbi Abram Goodstein of Los Angeles to Astoria for the summer to aid in the new congregation's cohesion and engagement in the community. The congregation set up a fundraising campaign on www.giveforward.com. So far, the group has raised \$750. To donate, visit <http://bit.ly/1vEHQai>

penses over the summer.

"This whole push to organize more and have more of an increase in presence, it's been a continuous snowball," Evans said. "Enough people got the ball rolling. We are at the point where we can set it up and actually have a congregation."

Looking toward the future, the Beit Salmon organizers see the congregation as a place for not only worship, but also fellowship. They see a place for book groups, movie nights and Hebrew school over the summers. The new space, when it is found, could host bar mitzvahs or have a mikvah, for ritual baths.

While Judaism is based in religion, Evans said, the congregation recognizes it is also cultural. Those who do not associate to Judaism religiously, but were raised in the culture will have a place to connect with their heritage through food, games and holidays.

"We are embracing the diversity and enhancing everyone's lives through it," Evans said.

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1 Peter Bales, MD, orthopedics

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