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on the cover

Fort George Brewery co-owner Jack Harris holds a snifter glass full of stout beer in honor of the brewery's Festival of Dark Arts, a celebration of stout.

Photo by Andrew Tonry

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Enjoy Celtic harp, fiddle for Valentine's Day

Peninsula Arts Center hosts Elizabeth Nicholson, Bob Soper

LONG BEACH, Wash. — The Peninsula Arts Center will host Elizabeth Nicholson and Bob Soper for a special Valentine's Day concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Nicholson, a harpist and singer, is at the vanguard of a new generation of Celtic musicians. Considered among the top American interpreters of traditional Irish music for harp, she has stretched the traditional boundaries of the instrument into rock music and country blues. Her studies have also included classical, Paraguayan and medieval harp.

Her most recent CD of traditional and original music, "Sink or Swim" (Waterbug Records) was released to widespread critical praise and international airplay, including a spot on Fiona Richie's "Thislepod," which highlights outstanding new Celtic releases.

Soper is counted among Portland's versatile multi-instrumentalists. A rock and jazz drummer from a young age who also studied classical Indian music at the Ali Akbar College in California, he went on to learn the Irish fiddle, ultimately becoming one the Northwest's most sought-after players.

Also an accomplished banjo, guitar and bouzouki

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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Submitted photo

Elizabeth Nicholson and Bob Soper will play a special Valentine's Day concert at the Peninsula Arts Center.

player — and a singer of both Irish and American traditional styles — he's been a member of some of the region's most beloved and successful ensembles, including the Irish bands

Cul an Ti and Grafton Street, as well as the old-time/country-blues group The Pagan Jug Band.

The Peninsula Arts Center is located at 504 Pacific Ave. N. Wine, beer, and other refreshments are available for purchase.

Tickets are \$12 at the door. Concerts benefit the Long Beach Peninsula Acoustic Music Association, a 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization.

Celtic harp and fiddle concert

7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14

Peninsula Arts Center

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