

# FRIDAY EXTRA!

The Daily Astorian

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Weekend Edition

## HIDING IN OUR MIDST

Neal Maine taught biology at Seaside High School for 30 years, and was a founding member of the North Coast Land Conservancy, as well as its executive director for 10 years.

Maine, a naturalist and artist is now working with his grandson Michael Wing. Together they established PacificLight Images, a partnership that is dedicated to raising public awareness about our region's natural resources through nature photography.

"All of these photos are taken in our own backyard," says Maine. Their photography centers around coastal and Columbia River landscape ecology and the rich estuary habitat with the surrounding wetlands and forest systems.

"What people don't realize is that we live in paradise," he says. "We need to hang onto it as much as we can."

Maine focuses his imagery on exploring wildlife in the context of its habitat, while Wing's specialty is capturing action images that illustrate the dynamic nature of coastal wildlife.

"We thought we could never catch all the salmon, never cut all the big trees, never pollute the ocean," reads a PacificLight Images flyer. "In our hubris, we thought we could make our own trails. With renewed humility, we are learning how to share this place, to live together with our partner trail makers. PacificLight Images celebrates this partnership as we use our images to inspire others to honor nature's trails in our own backyard."

A percentage of all photography sales is donated to North Coast Land Conservancy to help further the goal of working with coastal communities to protect wildlife habitat and its connectivity.

Photographs by Neal Maine and Michael Wing are available to view and purchase at Fairweather House & Gallery, 612 Broadway in Seaside. The gallery matches donations from the sales to the North Coast Land Conservancy.



Photo courtesy of Neal Maine, PacificLight Images

A female cedar waxwing feeds twinberries to her young near Stanley Lake.



Photo courtesy of Neal Maine, PacificLight Images

Courtship activity of Caspian terns near Sunset Beach.



Photo courtesy of Michael Wing, PacificLight Images

Two male Caspian terns offer courtship near Del Rey Beach.



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