



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian
Joanne Petersen Imamura was Miss Denmark in 1972.



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Perry Browning has been the festival troll for about 20 years. Trolls are deeply rooted in Scandinavian mythology. "Whatever was bad, Mom and Dad would blame it on the troll," Browning said.



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Esther Gotting came to the U.S. from Finland in 1957.



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Antigone Stuart, 8, and Meriwether Stuart, 9, are both dancers with VASA Youth Group Swedish Folk Dancing.

FACES FROM THE FESTIVAL

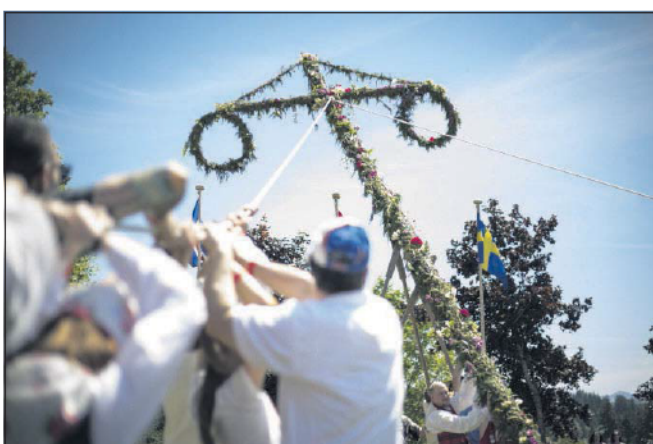
Photographer Joshua Bessex captured portraits of some of the faces at the 48th annual Scandinavian Midsummer Festival.



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Sven Sundstrom came from Sweden to the U.S. in 1959 where he arrived at Ellis Island. He then took the train from New York to Seattle to meet his uncle, who had sponsored his trip. On the train he made friends and kept busy by playing the accordion.



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Senior Miss Denmark Meisha Boettcher waves to the crowd after being crowned Miss Scandinavia 2015 during the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds Friday.



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Dozens of people help raise the Midsummer Pole Saturday.



JOSHUA BESSEX — The Daily Astorian
Young girls laugh while dancing during the Queen's Ball Friday.



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People dance around the Midsummer Pole after the pole raising Saturday.