

FRIDAY EXTRA!

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Weekend Edition



In for Repairs: When I got all set up to do this painting I found I had forgotten to bring any water for mixing colors, and didn't have a pencil to sketch in the boats. It had rained that morning, so rather than abandon the project I used mud-puddle water, and drew with my brush.

Noel Thomas, En Plein Air The Astoria artist paints his summer vacation

By NOEL THOMAS
Special to *The Daily Astorian*

It was a shock last winter when my 80th birthday rolled around. I decided to cancel my annual show, leave the relative safety of my studio, and try something new — painting *en plein air*, or painting outdoors in whatever nature decided to throw at me — a time-honored approach I had avoided for years.

Over the months I covered a lot of ground. I found buses, boats, farms and dead trucks along the way, along with a few old familiars I keep going back to.

Noel Thomas is an Astoria artist. These and other new works can be seen along with those of the main attraction — Katherine Dunn — at this Saturday's Art Walk, starting at 5:00 p.m., in the RiverSea Gallery.



Lunch at the Bowpicker: The light on the people lined up for fish and chips was too tempting to resist.



Alderbrook: This painting was done on a quiet morning across the street from Chris Bryant's Birch Street gallery.