

Beach Bill story on tap at Fort George

Author Matt Love to give Oregon Story Session presentation

ASTORIA — How did Oregon establish and protect its unique legacy of publicly owned beaches that are free to use? What do free beaches mean for the cultural life of the state? What do free beaches mean to you? What are we doing to preserve and celebrate that legacy today?

Join publisher, author, educator and beach fanatic Matt Love for an interactive and spirited multimedia presentation on the inspiring story of Oregon's famous 1967 Beach Bill. This Oregon Story Session event "The Great Birthright Preserved: The Story of the Beach Bill" will take place at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29 at Fort George Lovell Showroom, located at 426 14th St. The event is free and open to the public.

"This is one of the most heroic and exciting stories in modern Oregon history," said Love, "and it's been my pleasure over the years to bring it to the Oregon people and remind them how a previous generation won a great victory for the people that enhances our lives today."

The legacy began in 1913, when Oregon Gov. Oswald West signed into law a 66-word bill that declared the wet sand areas of the state's ocean beaches a public highway. He later wrote, "No local selfish interest shall be permitted, through politics or otherwise, to destroy or impair this great birthright of our people." He was referring to the state's ocean beaches.

In 1966, the looming threat of privatization of the dry sand areas of the beaches imperiled the legacy. In response to public outcry, a bipartisan Oregon Legislature passed the famous Beach Bill after it nearly died in committee. The legislation was resurrected by the indefatigable effort of citizens, courageous politicians, and journalists calling attention to the threat. Signed into law by Gov. Tom McCall in 1967, the



Submitted photo

Gov. Tom McCall stands in front of Surfsand Motel in Cannon Beach, ca. 1967.



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Publisher, author, educator and beach fanatic Matt Love will talk about Oregon's famous 1967 Beach Bill on Thursday, Oct. 29 at Fort George Lovell Showroom.

'The Great Birthright Preserved'

7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29

Fort George Lovell Showroom

426 14th St., Astoria

Free

Beach Bill protected the public's right to use the dry sand areas where Oregonians had done so for time immemorial and cemented Oregon's special relationship with its ocean beaches — forever.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Love will read a short excerpt from "The Great

Birthright," his new detective novel about Oregon's beaches, the looming 50th anniversary of the Beach Bill on July 7, 2017, and recruit citizens to become involved in the celebration. "My goal on that sacred day is to assemble the largest public gathering in celebration of a piece of legislation in Oregon history," said Love. "And I mean assemble on the beaches all down the Oregon Coast and party."

Love is the author and editor of 14 books about Oregon. In 2009, Love won the Oregon Literary Arts' Stewart H. Holbrook Literary Legacy Award for his contributions to Oregon history and literature. He lives in Astoria and teaches at Astoria High School.

North Coast Symphonic Band to perform concert of water-inspired music Sunday

ASTORIA — The North Coast Symphonic Band begins its 36th season of performing quality wind band music for the North Coast community by presenting "Rain, Rivers and the Sea," a concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25 at the Liberty Theater.

Dave Becker of Manzanita returns as conductor and musical director with a seasoned group of 45 musicians. Local guitarist David Drury and trombonist Bob Joiner will be featured soloists, and Drury's Basin Street NW duo will perform a pre-show at 1:30 p.m. Doors open at 1:15 p.m. with open seating.

Becker is an avid fisherman on the Columbia River and Nehalem Bay. His inspiration to plan this concert featuring music influenced by or about water came to him as he captained his boat "Major Scales."

Drury will solo on "Here's That Rainy Day" in an arrangement by Dave Robertson of Rockaway. Joiner will go "Slidin' Down the Mississippi" with a medley of tasty old-time jazz tunes based on river melodies.

All will recognize G.F. Handel's "Water Music" as it fills the theater with its buoyant sounds. Richard Roger's "Victory at Sea" will present the grandeur of music inspired by America's greatest generation. Even the march will relate to water as the NCSB performs John Philip Sousa's "Hands Across the Sea." Johan de Meij's "Aquarium Suite" consists of three movements inspired by tropical fish, including neon tetras, seahorses and guppies. The concert's river music includes "American River Songs," "Platt River Run" and "Bridges Over the River Cam."

Regular admission price is \$15 for adults, \$7 for students, and free for children 12 and under. Tickets are available at the Liberty Theater box office.



Submitted photo

Dave Becker will conduct the North Coast Symphonic Band at the Liberty Theater.



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Bob Joiner, left, and Dave Drury will perform as soloists at the North Coast Symphonic Band's Oct. 25 concert.

'Rain, Rivers and the Sea'

2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25

Liberty Theater

1203 Commercial St., Astoria

\$15 adults, \$7 students, free children under 12

Ticket prices are kept low due to the generosity of band patrons who help cover expenses.

From time to time, NCSB

has openings, and though most sections of the band are full with waiting lists, there are openings in sections for trumpet, oboe and percussion. Interested musicians should own an instrument, play at the advanced high school level or higher and be willing to rehearse weekly. Contact Lee Stromquist, personnel director at encore1@charter.net or call 503-861-1328 for information about joining the band or the waiting list.

The Liberty Theater is located at 1203 Commercial St. For information about the concert, email ncsband@charter.net or call 503-325-2431.