

Beers to Your Health: Astoria Parks

ASTORIA — The places and programs that Astoria Parks and Recreation manages are as vast and intriguing as the historic city it's a part of.

"Astoria Parks & Recreation: Past and Future" is the theme for the next Beers to Your Health, Astoria Co-op Grocery's monthly food and wellness talk 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Fort George Lovell Showroom.

The presenters include historian John Goodenberger, former City Planner Rosemary Johnson and Parks and Recreation Director Angela Cosby.

The presenters will describe some of the unique history of local parks. Shive-



Fort Astoria.

ly Park is one of the oldest, built in the late 1800s and then hugely developed for the city's centennial in 1911 with a zoo, amphitheater, replicas of Fort Astoria and a native American village, botanical gardens and one of the largest flagpoles in the world.

Ocean View Cemetery in Warrenton was adopted by Astoria in 1897. Caskets would be floated upriver and stored until family members could gather.

Many historic sites in Astoria are parks in order to keep them accessible to the public. A walkway at the foot of 14th Street is where a ferry

picked people up. Parks mark sites of the West Coast's first post and customs offices and Fort Astoria.

Some of the most popular places and programs include the Aquatic Center, Fred Lindstrom and Tapiola parks, and the Maritime Memorial. The city's Little Sprouts daycare is so popular it has a waiting list. There are also little-known amenities, such as community gardens, the Alderbrook lagoon area, and Alameda Park.

A master planning process to shape the future of Astoria Parks and Recreation is underway. Provide feedback on the future of parks at Beers to Your Health. An online survey is at www.astoriaparks.com.

"I want folks to come to the event, to learn about park history and then tell us what they want to see in the future. This is a key time for the community to get involved," Cosby said.

Doors open at 6 p.m. and food and drinks are available from the Taproom. The event is free and open to all ages.

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Photo by Katherine Lacaze

Jeff Blanche, center, will provide music for the Seaside Museum & Historical Society's annual Gingerbread Tea.

Seaside Museum hosts Gingerbread Tea

SEASIDE — Gingerbread Tea at the Butterfield Cottage, a Seaside tradition for more than 25 years, returns this year on the Saturdays between Thanksgiving and Christmas, hosted by the Seaside Museum and Historical Society.

Attendees can get into the holiday spirit or take a break from holiday stress as they enjoy homemade gingerbread with a variety of teas, hot spiced cider and hot chocolate while being entertained.

Jeff Blanche, who performs on a variety of instruments, returns as the featured entertainer. Local acapella group

Beach Jam will share the stage for several Saturdays while local favorite Shirley Smith-Yates, who performs under the name Shirley88, will entertain guests Dec. 12.

The Butterfield Cottage, located next to the Seaside Museum at 570 Necanicum Drive, will be decorated in Victorian holiday style. Gingerbread Tea is served from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, 12 and 19. Tickets are available at the door: \$3 for those ages 12 and under; \$5 for all others. Admission includes a tour of the museum.

Horace Seely Butterfield,

a prominent Portland jeweler, built the Butterfield Cottage in 1893 as a summer home for his family. It was donated to the Seaside Museum and Historical Society and moved to its present location in 1984. It has been interpretively restored, depicting a 1912 vintage beach cottage and rooming house.

Gingerbread Tea at the Butterfield Cottage is a fundraiser for the Seaside Museum and Historical Society. The non-profit educational institution aims to collect, preserve and interpret materials illustrative of the history of Seaside.

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Submitted photo

The Butterfield Cottage is decorated in the Victorian holiday style and open for Gingerbread Tea Saturdays before Christmas.