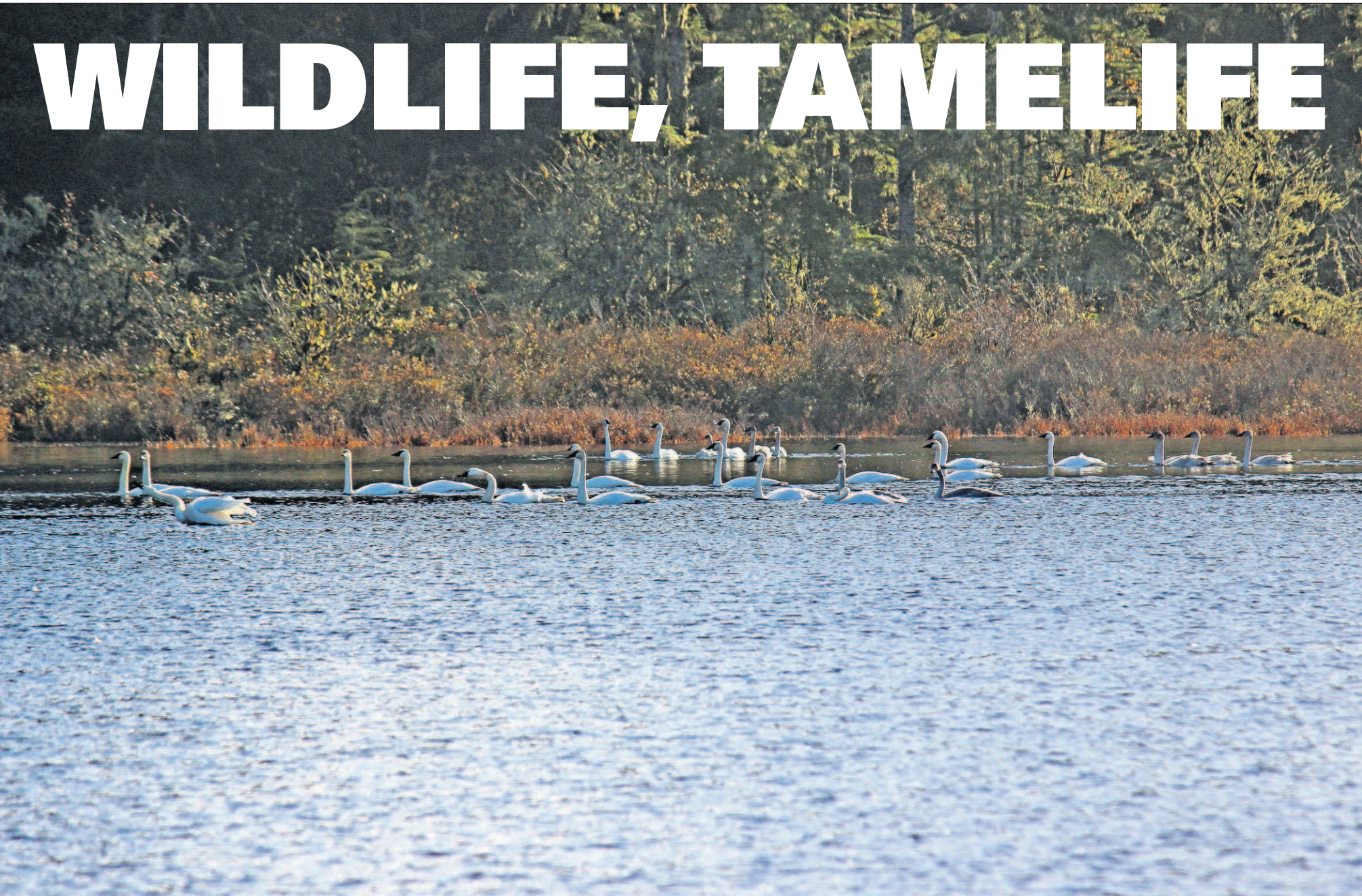




Jane Webb Photo

Some of the old-fashioned words for a flock of swans include wedge, ballet, lamentation, whiteness and regatta. Whatever the name, there have been a large number of swans on Loomis Lake this month, flying and floating in the midst of pretty autumn colors.

Creatures great and small make for captivating photos

EO Media Group

PACIFIC COUNTY, Wash. — With most leaves fallen from the trees and bushes thinning out for the dark midwinter, wildlife is easier to spot and photograph around south Pacific County.

Trumpeter swans, a favorite with many locals, have turned up on the Long Beach Peninsula's interior lakes, where they attract many bird-watchers and wildlife fans.

Black-tail deer, raccoons, black bears and elk are among the mammals we encounter.

Meanwhile, when permitted by high surf, our beach remains a perfect place to walk, play and exercise with our dogs.

Here are a few recent photos taken by EO Media Group staff, freelancers and readers that show some of what can be observed, if we pay attention.

On a beautiful day earlier this autumn in Ocean Park, two dogs chase a blue balloon released by their owner for their entertainment.

Alice Nelson Photo



Natalie St. John/EO Media Group

A fawn shook rain from its coat while grazing near North Jetty during a heavy rainstorm in December.



Jane Webb Photo

Swans frolic in the relatively warm waters of Loomis Lake, a favorite stop during their West Coast migrations. Providing and preserving good habitat on the Long Beach Peninsula has been a success story for the Trumpeter Swan Society.



Revenge of the animals

The critters may be taking over when raccoons make a gift of a deer head and horses and elk block the roads.

New Year's resolution: Be nicer to wildlife.

Follow reporter Kyle Spurr on his 9-1-What? Twitter watch, where a few of the sometimes head-scratching calls to area dispatch take center stage. The full feed is at www.twitter.com/9_1_WHAT.

9-1-WHAT?
@9_1_WHAT

Following

{12/16 @ 9:54 a.m.} A caller reported a man with red hair on a skateboard stole flowers off her father's memorial. [#Astoria](#)

1

9-1-WHAT?
@9_1_WHAT

Following

{12/16 @ 10:47 a.m.} A man is walking around with a cane pretending it's a gun. [#Astoria](#)

1

9-1-WHAT?
@9_1_WHAT

Following

{12/20 @ 8:41 a.m.} Caller reported elk all over the highway. Drivers were stopping to look, and creating a hazard in the roadway. [#Seaside](#)

1

9-1-WHAT?
@9_1_WHAT

Following

{12/20 @ 6:36 a.m.} Report of a deer head thrown in a yard across the street from the owner's house. It had been moved by raccoons. [#Astoria](#)

1

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