

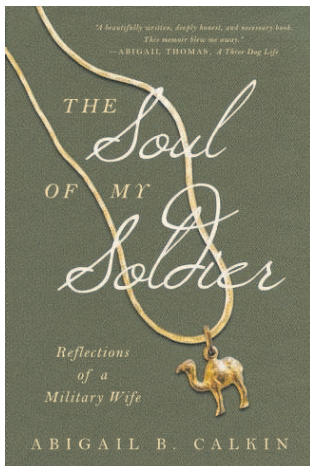
# Author, military wife shares how world of war shaped her marriage and life

Abigail B. Calkin to appear at Godfather's Books Feb. 26

ASTORIA — It may not be battle wounds or Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome that affect a deployed soldier, but even without a diagnosable condition they always return home changed.

Award-winning Alaskan author Abigail B. Calkin discusses these changes in her newest book "The Soul of My Soldier: Reflections of a Military Wife." Calkin will read from her book from 2 to 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26 at Godfather's Books and Espresso. A book signing will follow the reading.

"The Soul of My Soldier" follows the true story of Calkin, a military wife of 45 years. As a woman who never intended to marry a soldier, Calkin faced life changes when she married into the



Submitted photo

Author Abigail B. Calkin will speak about her book "The Soul of My Soldier" at a book signing Feb. 26 at Godfather's Books.

military. Her veteran husband, who had returned from his two years in Vietnam with PTSD, re-enlisted a few years

later only to be deployed again.

Through moving prose and poetry, she crafts a unique military story. Her self-reflection brings to life the struggles and triumphs military families often face. It also provides insight as to how these challenges can be turned into a strengthening bond connecting the past to the future.

"A very personal perspective of what a soldier's family and especially his or her spouse encounters in the relationship," says retired U.S. Coast Guard Rear Adm. Paul Busick. "This is a very different viewpoint ... about PTSD and one that has long been needed."

Godfather's Books is located at 1108 Commercial St.

# Learn how plants respond to climate change at Salty Talks event March 1

ILWACO, Wash. — The explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were some of America's first scientific observers, making notes and sketches about plants and animals to share with Thomas Jefferson and an emerging nation. Today, scientific observation continues to play a critical role in monitoring animal and plant species, particularly in the face of climate change and its impacts. National programs such as Project Budburst serve to connect citizen scientists with opportunities to help monitor changes in plants and animals in their communities.

At Salty Talks, set for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, hear from Nancy Fernandez, a climate change intern with Lewis and Clark National Historical Park and San Juan Island National Historical Park, as she talks about delves into the history of plant phenology as seen through the eyes of Lewis and Clark and gives practical information about how to get involved with Project Budburst, an opportunity for the public to learn about tracking changes to 10 significant plants at each national park.



Photo by Joshua Bessex

Nancy Fernandez, a climate change intern with the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, will speak at 6:30 p.m. March 1 at the Salt Hotel & Pub in Ilwaco, Washington.

The presentation takes place at the Salt Hotel & Pub, located at 147 Howerton Ave. The event is free, open to the public, and will take place in the upstairs pub.

Fernandez is a graduate of California State University, Stanislaus, with a degree in anthropology.

Her involvement with the Student Conservation Association in her final year of school immersed her in community outreach, education and youth

leadership. In the summer of 2015, Fernandez came to the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park as part of the NPS Academy, a program within the SCA. As a Healthy Parks intern, Fernandez created a brochure and map of Astoria's parks as part of a broader campaign to get people of Clatsop County more active, helped local Hispanic youth attend summer camp, and assisted with the development of a museum exhibit on Chinese cannery workers in the lower Columbia.

Lewis and Clark National Historical Park and San Juan Island National Historical Park are two of the nation's 409 sites celebrating the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016. In preparation for the next 100 years, service wide goals include creating the next generation of stewards, engaging communities and building resiliency into natural and cultural landscapes.

Salty Talks are sponsored by the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum in partnership with the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, the Lewis & Clark National Park Association, and the Salt Hotel & Pub.

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