

# Guthrie celebrated for 'The Columbia River Songs'

## Folk singer wrote songs promoting the river and dams

By **NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS**  
*Associated Press*

SPOKANE, Wash. — Before Macklemore or Nirvana, this land was Woody Guthrie's land.

It was 75 years ago that the celebrated folk singer traveled across Washington state and Oregon, composing 26 songs that extolled the virtues of Grand Coulee Dam and the electricity it produced.

It was one of the most productive months of Guthrie's career, and was celebrated Saturday with a gathering at the giant dam on the Columbia River that remains the nation's greatest producer of hydropower.

The 26 songs composed in the spring of 1941 included favorites like "Roll on Columbia," "Pastures of Plenty," and "The Biggest Thing that Man has Ever Done." Collectively they are known as "The Columbia River Songs."

"He plucked tunes about the people, the mighty Columbia River, the beautiful Northwest landscape and the promise of prosperity from new hydroelectric dams," said Libby Burke, an archivist for the Bonneville Power Administration, the Portland-based federal agency that hired Guthrie. "We're excited to celebrate the music of this great American songwriter and his 30-day employment with us back in 1941."

The BPA planned to use the songs in a documentary about Columbia River hydropower, but the project was abandoned when World War II started. The film, "The Columbia," was finally finished in 1949.

In honor of the anniversary, Washington Gov. Jay Inslee proclaimed Saturday as Woody Guthrie Day in the state.

Events at the mile-wide dam, located 80 miles west of Spokane, were held at the visitor center.

The BPA is a federal power marketer that sells wholesale electricity from 31 federal dams and one nuclear plant to 142 electric utilities.

Guthrie died in 1967 at the age of 55. He wrote hundreds of songs and influenced generations of musicians. His best known song is "This Land Is Your Land." Many of his songs were about his experiences during the Great Depression, when he traveled with displaced farmers from Oklahoma to California and learned their traditional folk and blues songs.

Guthrie was married three times and had eight children, including folk musician Arlo Guthrie.



AP Photo/File

Folk singer Woody Guthrie plays his guitar. It was 75 years ago that Guthrie traveled across Washington state and Oregon, composing 26 songs that extolled the virtues of Washington state's Grand Coulee Dam and the electricity it produced.

# Free fishing this weekend

The Daily Astorian

Free Fishing Weekend is Saturday and Sunday.

Fishing licenses, tags and endorsements are not required anywhere in Oregon.

North Coast events are on Saturday only, and locations, times and contact information are as follows:

- Coffenbury Lake, Fort

Stevens State Park, Hammond, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- Hebo Lake, Hebo, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

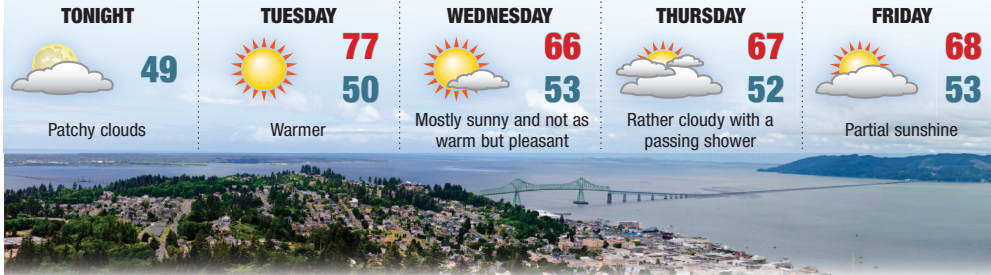
- Nedonna Pond, Rockaway Beach, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- Trask Hatchery, Tillamook, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

At most of these events, fishing gear, bait and instruction will be provided at no charge to participants. Some events will

have additional activities for kids and people with disabilities. For those who prefer a little more solitude, there are dozens of other lakes, ponds, streams and ocean waters around to explore. Many are listed on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's website ([www.odfw.com](http://www.odfw.com)) under the Fishing tab, along with additional fishing information.

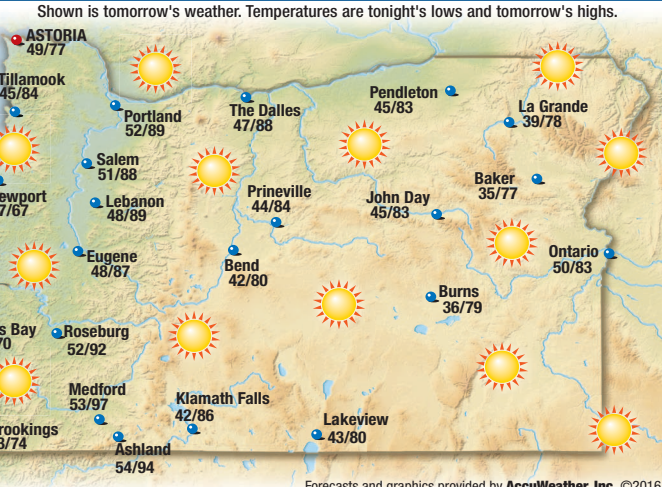
## FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA



## ALMANAC

Table with weather statistics for Astoria through Sunday, including temperatures, precipitation, and sun and moon data.

## REGIONAL WEATHER



## UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Corona Borealis the Northern Crown will soar high across the sky tonight.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

## TOMORROW'S TIDES

Table showing tide times and heights for Astoria/Port Docks for tomorrow.

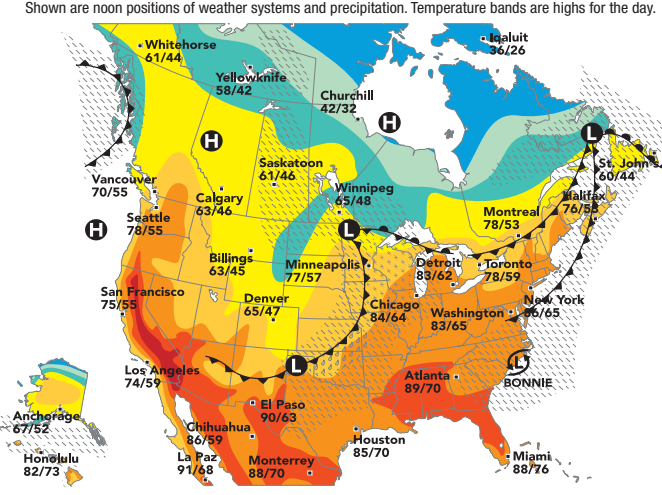
## NATIONAL CITIES

Table showing weather forecasts for various national cities, including Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, and Denver.

## REGIONAL CITIES

Table showing weather forecasts for regional cities like Baker City, Bend, Brookings, and Eugene.

## TOMORROW'S NATIONAL WEATHER



## OBITUARY

### Eeva Kyllikki Ylipelto

Astoria

Oct. 31, 1925 — May 23, 2016

Eeva Kyllikki Ylipelto peacefully passed away May 23, 2016, surrounded by her loving family.

Kyllikki was born Oct. 31, 1925, in Toholampi, Finland. In 1947, she married Veikko Ylipelto and settled in Ahola, Finland, where their three children were born.

In November 1955, the family immigrated to the U.S. and arrived by ship to New York harbor with \$25 in their pocket and train tickets to Portland, Oregon. The family joined Kyllikki's two sisters and their families in Svensen where they had jobs at the Salo's mink ranch. With learning a new language and a different lifestyle, life was challenging. The Finnish determination to succeed, "Sisu," became a way of life.

In 1961, Kyllikki became a U.S. citizen. They bought their first home and started a mink business, from which she retired in 2004. Kyllikki became an active member in the Finnish Brotherhood, Ladies of the Kaleva, and Peace Lutheran Church, attending both English and Finnish services.

The Finnish Brotherhood provided a creative outlet. She wrote and directed

plays, gave speeches at Finnish celebrations, and wrote articles for Finnish publications. She was also active in planning and promoting the Scandinavian Festival.

Kyllikki's life was filled with family, friends, and lots of joy. Friends would pop in for a sauna, coffee, and to enjoy fresh homemade rye bread. Everyone she met was her friend.

She is survived by her three children and spouses: Hanneli Turner (Bill), Heikki Pelto (Sherrie), and Antti Ylipelto (Mary Ann); four grandchildren, Shelley, Nikki, Nick and Justin; and four great-grandchildren, Luke, Jack, Vincent and Ava.

The family wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to Lower Columbia Hospice and their volunteers for their incredible assistance during these last months.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Peace Lutheran Church. The memorial service, with a reception following, is to be held at the church Saturday, June 4, 2016, at 2 p.m.

Hughes-Ransom Mortuary & Crematory in Astoria is in charge of arrangements. Visit [www.hughes-ransom.com](http://www.hughes-ransom.com) to share memories and sign the guest book.



Eeva Ylipelto

## DEATH

May 28, 2016

INGLE, Lucille Mae Bancroft, 91, of Ocean Park, Washington, died in Ocean Park. Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

### TUESDAY

Port of Astoria Budget Committee, noon, old Port offices, 422 Gateway Ave.  
Astoria Community Emergency Preparedness Forum, 6 p.m., Liberty Theater, 1203 Commercial St.

### WEDNESDAY

Seaside Improvement Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.  
Gearhart City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 698 Pacific Way.

## LOTTERIES

### OREGON

Sunday's Pick 4: 1 p.m.: 0-6-0-6, 4 p.m.: 8-0-1-1, 7 p.m.: 6-2-5-4, 10 p.m.: 7-6-7-8  
Saturday's Megabucks: 07-09-13-23-40-44  
Saturday's Powerball: 06-33-34-58-59, Powerball: 12  
Saturday's Pick 4: 1 p.m.: 0-5-0-7, 4 p.m.: 6-9-1-6, 7 p.m.: 1-0-5-4, 10 p.m.: 3-1-8-1  
Friday's Pick 4: 1 p.m.: 9-8-8-5, 4 p.m.: 3-5-7-1, 7 p.m.: 6-0-3-0, 10 p.m.: 6-3-2-9

### WASHINGTON

Sunday's Daily Game: 2-6-0  
Sunday's Keno: 06-07-10-13-15-18-19-20-26-31-34-39-54-56-58-63-65-77-78-80  
Saturday's Daily Game: 02-07-08-13  
Saturday's Hit 5: 04-06-22-25-39  
Saturday's Keno: 02-07-13-18-19-24-25-31-34-48-50-53-56-57-58-65-71-73-74-80  
Saturday's Lotto: 09-10-22-25-37-46  
Friday's Daily Game: 0-2-2  
Friday's Keno: 06-10-16-18-20-23-27-32-35-45-46-49-55-56-57-60-64-69-70-71  
Friday's Match 4: 01-05-12-20  
Friday's Mega Millions: 18-41-50-68-70, Mega Ball: 9, Megaplier: 3  
Estimated jackpot: \$218 million

## SCOREBOARD

### PREP SCHEDULE

TUESDAY  
Baseball — 4A Semifinal: Astoria Fishermen at Henley Hornets, 4 p.m.; 2A Semifinal: Monroe Dragons at Knappa Loggers, 4:30 p.m.  
BASEBALL  
Astoria 4, Cottage Grove 2  
Astoria 000 110 002-4 9 0  
C. Grove 001 001 000-2 4 0  
Arnsdorf, Lyngstad (6), Fremstad (9) and Helmersen; Harris, Ward (9) and Cross. W: Arnsdorf. L: Ward. S: Fremstad. RBI: Ast, Lyngstad 2, Helmersen, Wallace; CG, Harris, Bellamy. 2B: Ast, Hageman, Wallace; CG, Harris. HR: Ast, Lyngstad. LOB: Astoria 10, Cottage Grove 5.  
Knappa 6, North Douglas 3  
N. Douglas 210 000 0-3 3 5  
Knappa 002 400 x-6 4 2  
Burris, Ellis (3), Gordon (4) and Gordon, Taylor (4); Goodman, Takalo (4) and Goozee. W: Takalo. L: Ellis. RBI: ND, Taylor; Kna, Goozee, Cruz, Kinney. 2B: ND, Burris. HBP: ND, Parks, Gordon. LOB: North Douglas 5, Knappa 5.

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