

Regatta: 'Everyone in the band loves coming here'

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San Antonio, Texas, but the Regatta is one of the most anticipated performances. "Everyone in the band loves coming here. There's a great response from the crowd," Monger said.

Sister city ties

Some visitors made a longer trip to enjoy the festival. Dignitaries from Astoria's sister city of Walldorf, Germany, made the international voyage to see the events throughout the week. Burgermeisterin Christiane Staab was one of the 18 Germans who were able to take part in the festivities. The mayor of Walldorf has come to America three times, and says Regatta is vital to the sister city connection. "We really have close relations. We don't stay in hotels. People in Astoria open their doors for us, and it's like we are with our families," Staab said.

Boat parade

Hours after the land parade snaked through the town, local organizations who are more accustomed to the water had their chance to show off to the crowd at the Highwater Boat Parade.

"The association made a special point to make it as important as the other events," said Hal Nauman, co-chair of the boat parade. Nauman shared history through a microphone about each of



The 2016 Regatta Court waves during the Highwater Boat Parade Saturday on the Columbia River. More photos online at DailyAstorian.com

Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

the vessels as they came past the 17th Street Dock by the Columbia River Maritime Museum.

The fleet of around 30 boats went upriver and blew horns to waving spectators. One of the first boats in the string was the Tourist No. 2. The historic ferry that was once used to transport passengers across the river before the Astoria Bridge was built this month.

David and Mary Jager, of

Salt Lake City, Utah, enjoyed their first boat parade. "I guess we came in on the right weekend," Mary Jager laughed.

The visitors happened across the Regatta festival while on a road trip around America. The couple explained that their trip involves pulling over wherever they are around 4 p.m. and they were excited to see the boats come through. "We just don't have water like this back home," David Jager said.

In Warrenton, flowers for the future

Rose planting was part of Regatta

By ELI STILLMAN
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON

For the first time in Astoria Regatta history, the festivities made their way to Warrenton.

On Friday morning, nine rose plants were placed at Lighthouse Park by dignitaries. "Our cities are connected and intertwined like never before," said Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala.

As a lifelong resident of the North Coast, Kujala spoke of the importance of connecting the area. "Over the years we realize all our towns supplement each other," he said. "It's wonderful to see us look for regional solutions, and it makes sense to be celebrating together."

Other dignitaries who planted roses included newly crowned Regatta Queen Aubrey McMahan, Regatta co-presidents Dan Arnoth and Cliff Fick, Astoria Mayor Arline LaMear, and Burgermeisterin Christiane Staab from Walldorf, Germany, Astoria's sister city.



The Astoria Viking Nordic Folk Dancers dance while marching during the Grand Land Parade.

Danny Miller
The Daily Astorian

Bridge: Convoy of dignitaries drove across the bridge after ceremony

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"We are thrilled that Regatta embraced the dedication this year," said McAndrew Burns, the executive director of the Clatsop County Historical Society.

Nearly 200 attendees gathered at the Maritime Memorial Park to hear the history. Burns led the ceremony, which included nostalgic memories from some speakers and choice Yelp reviews of the bridge from users online.

"It's pretty awesome that the monument is here to relate to, a lot of construction doesn't stand out," said Anderson, who lives in Vancouver, Washington.



Astoria Mayor Arline LaMear and Warrenton Mayor Mark Kujala laugh during a rededication ceremony for the Astoria Bridge Saturday at Maritime Memorial Park.

Just like the day it opened of dignitaries drove across the bridge after the ceremony



John Anderson, center, and other original bridge construction workers gather for a photo during a rededication ceremony.

had finished. Classic Mustangs and Impalas revved in

anticipation of the crossing, but the procession would be

lead by a clown car.

Jeff Daly and the Sons and Daughters of Astoria Clowns have direct ties to the bridge opening. Daly's father was one of the original clowns to first drive across the link to Megler, Washington. The clowns also played an important part in promoting the bridge when its plans were first unveiled. There is even an old story that the clowns moved a barricade aside and drove across the night before the bridge opened to "test it out."

Though it has seen mechanical adjustments, including being mounted on the frame backwards, Daly drove that same clown car across the Columbia River Saturday to Washington.



Fort George Brewery purchased bikes for employees of more than a year, in exchange for their commitment to bike to work at least 40 days annually.

Fort George: Brewery gave 35 free bikes to employees

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Fort George offered free bikes to all employees of at least one year, giving out 35 in total. The brewery has constructed a bike shelter across Duane Street.

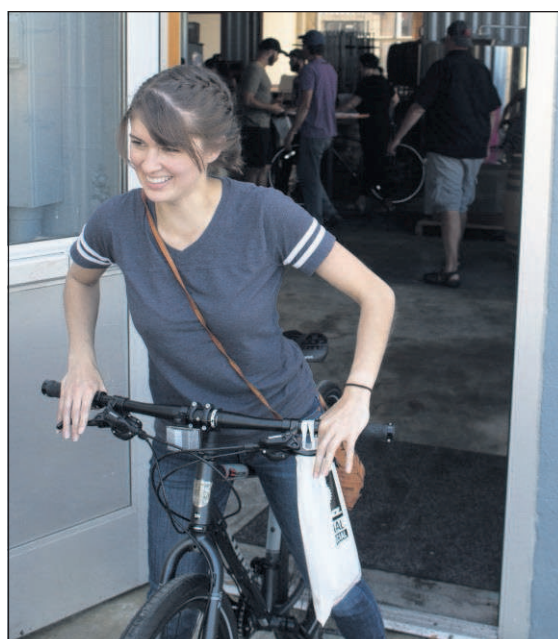
Ed Jones, the owner of Bike Envy in Warrenton and a sales and distribution employee at Fort George, assembled the bikes.

"A year or two ago, me and Chris were talking about doing this, getting people on bikes," he said.

The brewery had already sponsored Kona cycling teams, he said, and Nemlowill had purchased bikes for he and his dad to ride. "During the summers, I bike to work," he said.

Some employees will have it easier than others. Nemlowill said he rides his bike from his hillside home in Astoria. Sheehan lives in Warrenton and said she will bike through Lewis and Clark and over the Old Youngs Bay Bridge to avoid traffic on U.S. Highway 101.

"If this weather holds up, I'll be riding to work everyday," she said.



Fort George Brewery employee Victoria Sheehan rides out of the Lovell Building on a new Kona commuter bike, purchased by the brewery as part of a bike-to-work program.

Edward Stratton
The Daily Astorian

Smith: 'The intention was to drown her and end her misery'

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Falls and Morgan also argued that Smith was illegally interrogated by law enforcement after her arrest, and all the statements she made should be suppressed.

Judge Matyas denied both requests, ruling that law enforcement properly searched the hotel room and interviewed Smith.

At the pretrial hearing last month, District Attorney Josh Marquis played a video interview of Smith in the Seaside Police Department the day she was arrested.

In the video, Smith admitted to drowning her 2-year-old daughter, Isabella Smith, in the hotel bathtub. She told investigators the toddler fell asleep peacefully, fell into the water and was gone.

"The intention was to drown her and end her misery," Smith said.

Cannon Beach Police

Chief Jason Schermerhorn and Cannon Beach Assistant Fire Chief Frank Swedenborg testified at the last court hearing about responding to the hotel room.

Housekeeping staff could hear Alana Smith slipping and falling, and called 911 to report a disoriented female.

A maintenance director used a bolt cutter to access the room, and Schermerhorn and Swedenborg entered to assist Alana Smith, who had been bleeding profusely from cuts on her neck.

The prosecution claimed it was a medical emergency, and Alana Smith's privacy was never violated.

Judge Matyas agreed.

The settlement conference is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday before visiting Judge Julie E. Frantz.

If no resolution is reached, the case will proceed toward trial in July 2017.

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