



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY DONNA CRISPIN

Sign up for a basketry workshop Sept. 10 in Seaside.

Transform invasive plant into a thing of beauty

SEASIDE — Refashion the leaves of invasive yellow flag iris into a beautiful hand-made basket.

North Coast Land Conservancy will host fiber artist Donna Crispin to teach a hands-on basketry workshop from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sept. 10. The workshop will be held at the conservancy's Circle Creek Habitat Reserve, located at the end of Ripplet Road in Seaside.

Participants will work outside or, if the weather is inclement, inside the unheated barn and are urged to dress accordingly. All materials will be provided; participants should bring a lunch and water as well as kitchen or basketry shears.

You can see examples of Crispin's work at donna-crispin.blogspot.com

Crispin has been weaving baskets and other fibers arts for almost 30 years, incorporating Pacific Northwest indigenous techniques, Japanese aesthetics, and materials and inspiration from the natural world.

She has taught at Tillamook Bay Community College, the University of Oregon, the Sitka Center for the Arts and Ecology, Lane Community College, the High Desert Museum in



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Donna Crispin will teach a basketry workshop Sept. 10.

Bend, the Newport Paper Arts Festival, the Tolovana Arts Colony, the Sou'Wester Lodge and more. She has had basketry and fiber art shows in Oregon, Washington, California and Colorado, and has been a featured artist at the Cannon Beach Arts Association gallery. She is a member of the National Basketry Organization, the Columbia Basin Basketry Guild and the Natural Fiber Arts Group.

Cost of the workshop is \$60 and includes all materials; \$10 of each registration supports NCLC's coastal conservation work. For more information or to register, call NCLC Administrative and Outreach Assistant Lynette Villagomez at 503-738-9126.

Enjoy an outdoor concert in Cannon Beach

Baby Gramps, Luke Ydstie and Kati Claborn to perform Sunday, Aug. 28

CANNON BEACH — On the evening of Sunday, Aug. 28, the Tolovana Arts Colony will present a free concert in Cannon Beach's downtown park. The event features Seattle's legendary Baby Gramps, Astoria's Luke Ydstie and Kati Claborn (of Blind Pilot), and more.

"If you feel like being amazed," wrote the esteemed music critic Robert Christgau, "(Baby Gramps is) a better bet than most."

Indeed, Gramps' funky, freaky, funny folk is eclectic, energetic, inclusive and expertly performed. Plucking and picking a steel-bodied, National-brand resonator guitar with seeming abandon and aplomb — as well as croaking, occasionally through an old metal megaphone — Gramps techniques are both virtuosic and revolutionary.

"He's a performer with a style so distinct you'll never forget it," Christgau continued, writing for the *Village Voice*.

As memorable as his guitar playing, so too is Gramps' scruffy style, tone, humor and gravely vocal chords. The *New York Times*' Ben Ratliff wrote that Gramps sounded like "Popeye after smoking an entire tin of Prince Albert."

Reviewing a collection of sea chanteys, Ratliff christened Gramps' performances "among the album's best."

"(T)hat's saying a lot," Ratliff continued, "among the other contributors are Sting, Lou Reed, Lucinda Williams, Bono..."

Springing from traditions of early 20th century



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY JOHN CORNICELLO

Baby Gramps will bring his ragtime, blues and jazz to Cannon Beach's downtown city park Sunday, Aug. 28.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA BESSEX

Kati Claborn and Luke Ydstie will open the concert.

American ragtime, blues and jazz, Gramps' catalog runs the gamut, from sea to land, serious to whimsical, young to experienced. Indeed, these are songs for children of all ages. Among some of Gramps' age-span-

ning tunes are "Teddy Bears' Picnic," "Let's All Be Fairies," and "I'm Gonna Eat Some Worms."

Setting the stage for Baby Gramps are Luke and Kati. From Astoria, the duo are best known as members

of Blind Pilot where Luke (Ydstie) plays bass and Kati (Claborn) performs a myriad of instruments, including banjo, guitar, ukelele and more. Both also contribute backing vocals.

When not on national tour with the critically adored group, Ydstie and Claborn are parts of the Alialujah Choir, Hook & Anchor, as well as regular collaborators with a makeshift family of musicians in the Astoria area.

Last fall Ydstie released "Collected Essential Works," his first solo album. The Coast Weekend called it "earnest, a blending of crisp, strummy, mid-tempo folk and sensitive, lilting, plucky Americana." Claborn is featured on the album as well. She contributed lyrically and sung backup vocals.

As Luke and Kati, the duo's strength and center is singing in harmony — something they do in all the aforementioned groups.

The concert itself starts at 6 p.m. But before, after and between performances, Cannon Beach's DJ Beef will keep the music going with a cross-section of world, popular and eclectic selections. Hear the music start at 5:30 p.m.

Located in Cannon Beach's downtown city park, on Second and Spruce streets, across from Jupiter's Rare and Used Books, the early evening event is free and open to all. Attendees are welcome to bring food, libations, picnic baskets, blankets, chairs and so on.

The event is produced by the Tolovana Arts Colony with support from Cannon Beach's Tourism and Arts Commission. For more information, visit tolovanaartscolony.org, email tolovanaartscolony@gmail.com, or call 541-215-4445.