

Astoria celebrates its first Harvest Moon Festival

Astoria teen spotlights local Chinese heritage

ASTORIA — Astoria community members are invited to celebrate the area's first Harvest Moon Festival or Mid-Autumn Festival, at 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16.

The festival is the culmination of a senior project imagined and brought to fruition by Astoria High School senior Raina Christian, who was adopted from Guangxi Province, China when she was 8 years old.

All are invited to attend the event at the Garden of Surging Waves, located at 11th and Duane streets.

The celebration of the Harvest Moon Festival will honor Astoria's rich Chinese heritage and the vital contributions made by the local Chinese immigrant community.

The community gathering will feature a lighted art installation by Christian, and the event will culminate with the voices



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Raina Christian, 17, works on an art installation for the Harvest Moon Festival.

of the North Coast Chorale who will perform Harvest Moon Festival-inspired songs.

Christian has been mentored for her senior project by Suenn Ho, a prominent urban designer who was the lead designer of the Garden of Surging Waves. Victor Kee, an Astoria community leader, has guided Christian during her project and will serve as the keynote speaker for the community event.



240 11TH STREET
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What was Hawaii's role in the western fur trade?

Junius Rochester kicks off In Their Footsteps speaker series on Sept. 18

ASTORIA — Lewis and Clark National Historical Park announces the return of its free autumn speaker series, In Their Footsteps. The first program in this monthly series is "The Kanaka Connection: Hawaii and the Western Fur Trade" presented by Junius Rochester at 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18.

Rochester is a graduate of Whitman College and Harvard Business School. He is the author of 10 books about Northwest history and numerous articles. He gives talks about regional history aboard riverboats, cruise

ships and elsewhere. For seven years he was the Regional Historian at KUOW FM, a Pacific Northwest affiliate of National Public Radio.

In 1995, he was awarded a joint Project Award by the Association of King County (Seattle) Historical Organizations and the King County Landmarks and Heritage Commission. In 2006, he received an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History, and in 2014 he was chosen as Historian of the Year by the Pacific Northwest Historians Guild.

The Western fur trade, a 30-year epic of exploration, upheaval of Indian nations, violence, and the near-extinguishment of fur-bearing animals on land and in the

water, is one of Rochester's favorite topics. He enjoys learning and sharing about the role of Hawaiians in this history. His illustrated presentation will include stories and narration.

Future In Their Footstep speaker series programs this fall will include:

- Oct. 16 — "Astoria During the Golden Age of Postcards" with author Andrea Larson Perez.

- Nov. 20 — "'No account of Capt. Lewis..., I fear Some accident': Lewis and Clark's Search for a Winter Campsite" with author and historian Rex Ziak.

- Dec. 18 — "The Corps and the War of 1812" by Lorna Hainesworth.

This third-Sunday forum is sponsored by the Lewis and Clark National Park



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Junius Rochester will present "The Kanaka Connection" on Sept. 18 at the first installment of the fall 2016 In Their Footsteps speaker series.

Association and the park. These free programs are held in the Netul River Room of Fort Clatsop's visitor center, located at 92343 Fort Clatsop Road.

For more information, call the park at 503-861-2471.

Join a community garden open house, work party

Get lessons from master gardeners at Alder Creek Farm

NEHALEM — Join the Explore Nature series of events with a visit to Alder Creek Farm from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 17 for a morning at work in the Lower Nehalem Community Trust's organic community garden.

Learn about growing food in the coastal climate and the Lower Nehalem Community Trust's approach to gardening together and sharing the harvest with the North (Tillamook) County Food Bank. Be prepared to work alongside volunteers and master gardeners weeding, pruning and harvesting.

Alder Creek Farm is located at 35955 Underhill



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A mother and daughter plant vegetables together in the Lower Nehalem Community Trust's community garden.

Lane. Bring your own gardening gloves if you have them and water to drink. Master Gardener lesson begins promptly at 10 a.m.

Lower Nehalem Com-

munity Trust is a community land trust dedicated to preserving land and nurturing conservation values in partnership with an engaged community in the Nehalem region of the Oregon Coast. Its community garden honors conservation with organic and sustainable food systems that care for the land. In addition to the garden, the farm hosts a native plant nursery, greenhouse, sustainable irrigation system, fruit orchard and ethnobotanical trail.

For more information, visit nehalemtrust.org or call Lower Nehalem Community Trust at 503-368-3203.

This event is free, open to all and is part of the Explore Nature series of hikes, walks, paddles and outdoor adventures throughout Tillamook County. Created by Tillamook Estuaries

Partnership, Lower Nehalem Community Trust, Lower Nehalem Watershed Council, Friends of Netarts Bay WEBS, Tillamook Bay Watershed Council and Friends of Cape Falcon Marine Reserve, these meaningful, nature-based experiences highlight the beauty of Tillamook County and the work being done to preserve the area's natural resources and natural resource-based economy. This effort is partially funded by the Economic Development Council of Tillamook County and Visit Tillamook Coast. The Explore Nature series will continue through the summer and fall. Registration is required for some of the activities. Go to www.tbnep.org/explore-nature to see the schedule and get more information or call 503-322-222.