

Hike along the south edge of Willapa Bay

SEAVIEW, Wash. — The Friends of Willapa National Wildlife Refuge and North Jetty Brewing invite the public to discover the magic of the wildlife refuge on Saturday, Sept. 17.

Things get started at 11 a.m., when North Jetty Brewing will hold the third and final event in its Brews & Views Summer Hike Series. This hike will explore the South Bay Trail in the Tarlatt Slough Unit of the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge.

Hikers will meet at the brewery for a short informative presentation at 11 a.m.; the brewery is located at 4200 Pacific Way. Then, hikers will join the caravan for a quick, eight-minute

drive to the Tarlatt Slough Unit of the wildlife refuge. To get to the trailhead, from Sandridge Road turn east onto 95th Street; travel about a half mile, veering right at the Y and continuing to the refuge gate.

The South Bay Trail is an approximately 2-mile-long, easy-to-moderate hike. The trail is a focus of the refuge's ongoing restoration efforts. Hikers will experience a diversity of habitats, culminating in sweeping views of Willapa Bay and its tidal mudflats and native salt marshes, which provide critical habitat for numerous migratory species. Waterfowl, shore birds, raptors and mammals can be seen

from the trail.

Hikers are encouraged to bring a sack lunch or snacks to enjoy during a mid-hike break. Wear appropriate footwear, bring water and dress for the weather.

Guides will be on hand to share information on the plants, animals and current habitat restoration efforts. North Jetty Brewing co-owner Michelle Svendsen will talk about natural ingredients that can be used in brewing and cooking.

Any hiker who buys an item, makes a donation or signs up to be a member of the Friends of Willapa National Wildlife Refuge will receive a coupon for a complimentary beverage



PHOTO BY LYNETTE RAE MCADAMS

Hike South Bay Trail in the Tarlatt Slough Unit of the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, Sept. 17.

from the brewery.

The hike is open to all, and there is no maximum on the number of participants. RSVP at North Jetty Brewing, by calling 360-642-4234, or by emailing yellow-

boots@northjettybrew.com

As the Brews & Views summer hike finishes up, the Friends of Willapa National Wildlife Refuge will be ready with their Wonders of Willapa event. Held each

September, WOW is a way for members to share information about all the work they do to support the refuge as well as share the wonders of the region with visitors.

Starting at 1 p.m., visitors can hike along the South Bay Trail and find information booths and exhibits set amid the natural beauty of the bay. Discover the latest plans for public access to refuge land, and learn about the diverse wildlife of the region from local naturalists.

At 2 p.m., kids of all ages can participate in a nature scavenger hunt.

For more information about the Wonders of Willapa event, visit friends-of-willaparefuge.org, call 360-484-3482 or email info@friends-of-willaparefuge.org

coast weekend

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

arts & entertainment



ON THE COVER

Lori Wilson, left, and Daric Moore perform during a rehearsal for the play "Love/Sick" at the Clatsop Community College's Performing Arts Center in Astoria.

PHOTO BY DANNY MILLER

See story on Page 8

4 COASTAL LIFE
Digging up the past
Archaeologist at national park works to preserve local history

8 FEATURE
'Love/Sick'
A play about love opens at the CCC Performing Arts Center

12 DINING
Mouth of the Columbia
Nehalem sports bar is a beacon for hungry night owls

FURTHER ENJOYMENT

CROSSWORD.....6
SEE + DO.....10, 11
CW MARKETPLACE.....15, 16
MUSIC CALENDAR17
GRAB BAG19



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Coast Weekend welcomes comments and contributions from readers. New items for publication consideration must be submitted by 10 a.m. Tuesday, one week and two days before publication.

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