

Great Columbia Crossing takes place Sunday

ASTORIA — The 35th annual Great Columbia Crossing 10K run/walk will take place Sunday, Oct. 16. The race is a once-a-year opportunity to experience the Astoria-Megler Bridge on foot.

The 10K offers a scenic adventure on a fairly flat road with one steep incline to the peak of the bridge. The longest continuous truss bridge in North America, the Astoria-Megler Bridge is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Whether you're an experienced runner or looking for a family-friendly event, the Great Columbia Crossing 10K appeals to everyone. The run is an Official USA Track & Field Certified Event (#OR12025LB).

Runners will be timed with an electronic chip and will be given a separate start time from walkers.

Participants are required to register in advance. Registration will close when the event reaches capacity of 3,500 participants.

Registration is \$40 or \$45 with electronic timing. Long-sleeve cotton T-shirts cost \$15 or more. This year's shirt art is designed by North Coast graphic designer Sandra Froehle.

Register online at www.greatcolumbiacrossing.com or fill out a registration form in person at the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce, located at 111 W. Marine Drive. There is no race day registration.

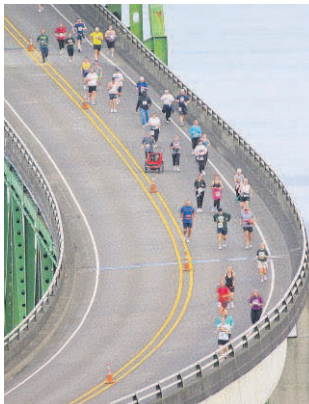


PHOTO BY DON ANDERSON
The Great Columbia Crossing will take place on the Astoria-Megler Bridge on Oct. 16.

See the website for details regarding packet pickup and the race day timeline. Packets will be available to pick up Oct. 13

to 16.

Registration includes free parking, shuttle bus service to the start of the race from the Port of Astoria or the Port of Chinook, bib number, light snacks at the finish line, and five "Clam Bucks" that can be redeemed toward a \$5 purchase at participating Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of Commerce businesses Oct. 13 to 19. A list of businesses is available at greatcolumbiacrossing.com

The Great Columbia Crossing is produced by the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by the Columbia Memorial Hospital Cardiology Clinic, a CMH/OHSU Collaboration.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Create Halloween art and crafts at Trail's End Art Association.

Make Halloween-themed arts and crafts at Trail's End

GEARHART — Trail's End Art Association wants to help make your Halloween more fun and creative.

All ages are welcome to attend a free open studio focusing on Halloween art and crafts from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16.

Led by Kathy Karbo and Judi Marsh-Garrity, students will be making black cats, witches' hats, shadow puppets and more. You might want to create a lantern to keep your jack-o'-lantern company on Halloween night, too.

All materials are provided



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Create a fall lantern.

ed at no cost. Donations will not be turned away.

The studio and gallery are located in the center of Gearhart at 656 A St.

Portland author Liz Prato to appear at Hoffman Center

Author to lead writing workshop, read short stories

MANZANITA — Author Liz Prato will read from her short story collection "Baby's On Fire" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15 at the Hoffman Center for the Arts, located at 594 Laneda Ave. The event is part of the Manzanita Writers' Series.

Born and raised in Denver, Colorado, Prato attended Lewis & Clark College in Portland. Her short stories and essays have appeared in over 24 literary journals and magazines, including Hayden's Ferry Review, Carve, Iron Horse Literary Review and Hunger Mountain. She was the guest prose editor for the Summer 2013 issue of VoiceCatcher, and she is the editor at large for Forest Avenue Press, where she edited the fiction anthology "The Night, and the Rain, and the River." Her short story collection "Baby's on Fire" was published in 2015.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Author Liz Prato will teach a writing workshop and read from her book of short stories Oct. 15 in Manzanita.

A Tennessee Williams Scholar at the 2012 Sewanee Writers Conference and a frequent attendee of the Tin House Summer Writers Workshop, Prato has studied with Steve Almond, Aimee Bender, Charles D'Ambrosio, Anthony Doerr, Jim Shepard and other talented authors. She has won the 2010 Minnetonka Review Editor's Prize, first place in



SUBMITTED PHOTO

"Baby's on Fire" by Liza Prato.

the 2005 Berkeley Fiction Review Sudden Fiction Contest and four Pushcart Prize nominations. She lives with her furry feline friends and her best friend/husband, who is a bookseller, musician and writer in Portland.

Prato has been teaching writing since 2008 and presents at literary festivals and conferences across the country.

She will lead a writ-

ing workshop before her author reading during the day from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Hoffman Center. In "Writing Outside the Box (Lecture & Guided Writing)," Prato will help students let their creativity rein and write outside the traditional prose structure. All stories and essays are different, so it stands to reason they don't all require the same structure. In this class, students will break out of the standard narrative box and have fun exploring the forms available for telling their best story. Tuition is \$30. Register online at hoffmanblog.org

Following Prato's reading and question-and-answer session in the evening, the Manzanita Writers' Series will host its popular Open Mic where up to nine local or visiting writers will read five minutes of their original work. The suggested (not required) theme for the evening's Open Mic is "characters." Admission for the evening reading is \$7.

Open 7am Daily!

ASTORIA
COFFEEHOUSE & BISTRO

European Style Coffeehouse by day, intimate bistro offering neo-regional cuisine by night.

243 11th Street, Astoria, OR 97103
503-325-1787
www.AstoriaCoffeeHouse.com
Follow & "Like" us on Facebook

Regional selection of beers, wines and vintage cocktails available.
We cater your event!

Weekly Specials: 5-8 PM
Sushi & Martinis Mondays
Taco & Margarita Thursdays (3 Buck Tacos)