

Heather Douglas to read from new book

Poetry collection created during AVA residency

ASTORIA — Local writer and illustrator Heather Douglas will read from her new book of poems “Creosote and Rain” on Saturday, Dec. 10 at Blue Scorcher Bakery & Cafe, located at 15th and Duane streets.

The readings will coincide with Astoria’s Second Saturday Art Walk and are scheduled to occur at 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The readings will be accompanied by a display of illustrations created by Douglas that represent the ways in which writing has shaped her life. Copies of “Creosote and Rain” and refreshments will be available for purchase.

“Creosote and Rain” is a deeply personal, often funny and sometimes painfully honest book, in which Douglas explores everything from her childhood growing up

in Astoria to body image, friendship, love and feminism. A deft touch, keen eye and dry wit serve to both deepen and leaven the collection. The poems were written over the last few months during Douglas’s fall 2016 residency with Astoria Visual Arts’ North Coast Writers’ Retreat.

The North Coast Writers’ Retreat writer-in-residence program offers local and visiting writers the opportunity to launch new endeavors, revise works in progress or conclude longstanding projects. The program seeks to provide writers with writing time and space in an idyllic setting at the foot of 11th Street, featuring panoramic views of downtown Astoria and the Columbia River. For more information, visit astoriavisualarts.org

AVA was founded in 1989 as a nonprofit membership organization to enhance, strengthen and promote the arts in the Astoria area.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Art Stall will host a series of still life art sessions.

Stretch your still life art skills

ASTORIA — The Art Stall is starting a new freestyle still life art gathering. Each month, The Art Stall will set up a themed collection of objects for the still life, and artists will meet once a week to start, make progress on, and finish their compositions.

All levels of artists are welcome; instruction will be offered as needed. Artists can draw or paint in acrylic or watercolor. There is space for six artists each month. Artists must commit for all four weeks of each still life.

The theme will change every month. December will feature a Christmas theme. December sessions will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 8, 15, 22 and 29. January sessions will be held Thursday, Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26. Refreshments will be served at a 6:45 p.m. intermission.

The first week will focus on composition and layout. Artists will add medium during the second week. Add details and shading the third week. And during the fourth and final week, artists will pull it all together.

The fee is \$45 for all four sessions per person. The artists must be able to use the artist bench that is provided. All supplies are provided. Come by The Art Stall, in the Pier 11 building to reserve your place.

Hear toe-tapping tuba tunes for Christmas

ILWACO, Wash. — The public is invited to enjoy some sounds of the season at the annual Tuba Christmas concert at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10 at the Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum.

This free concert will feature the Astoria Tuba Quartet, which will perform a variety of seasonal selections, jazz arrangements and a polka or two at this family-friendly event.

Astoria Tuba Quartet was formed in 1980, and its current members have performed together since 1997. Original member Dennis Hale plays F tuba, Bob Joiner and Brian Bergman play euphoniums, and Lee Stromquist plays double bass F tuba. Stromquist also arranges numerous selections for the group.

The tuba’s versatility allows the quartet to perform traditional Christmas selections like “Sleigh Ride,” jazz selections by noted composer and arrangers Lenny Niehaus and Bill Holman,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Enjoy a free holiday concert by the Astoria Tuba Quartet on Dec. 10.

the much-loved Evergreen Polka, and, as arranged by Lee Stromquist, the quartet’s version of the “Dance of the Reed Flutes” from “The Nutcracker,” playfully entitled “Dance of the Rude Brass.”

The 2016 Tuba Christmas concert is sponsored by the Ilwaco Merchants Association and is free and open to the public. Seating is limited. The museum is located at 115 S.E. Lake St. For more information, call 360-642-3446.

Open 7am Daily!

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2016

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