



PHOTO BY DWIGHT CASWELL

Chef Andrew Catalano heads Street 14 Café's weekend dinner service.

BEST CHEF

Andrew Catalano

Street 14 Café, Astoria, Oregon

Runner-up: Michael Lalewicz, The Depot, Seaview, Washington

Honorable Mention: Alec Evans, Astoria Coffeehouse & Bistro

By DWIGHT CASWELL

From 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, Street 14 Café morphs from daytime coffeehouse to an evening farm-to-table restaurant presided over by Chef Andrew Catalano, whom Coast Weekend readers consider the Best Chef in the area.

"If I was to distill our mission to one value," Catalano says, "it is to be a part of the community and to support our local farms."

The restaurant is small, seating less than 40, which means, Catalano says, "I get to cook every plate." Because he's dependent on local produce, Catalano changes the menu every week, and it's always simple food that shows off expert execution. On the menu, he also credits all the local farmers, purveyors and foragers that supply the restaurant.

"We're produce driven," he says, "There's meat and fish on the menu, but the stars are our beautiful vegetables." Catalano uses whatever cooking technique is suitable for the food available, and he handcrafts almost all the pasta used at Street 14, something unique on the coast. He also does a lot of fermenting because, "It unlocks a lot of flavors you can't get any other way," he says.

Chef Catalano first learned to cook from his mother, which was followed by on-the-job training in an organic farm kitchen in Italy, and then with experienced chefs in New York. In the process, he came to the conclusion that it's important for food to be connected place, something he found lacking when he arrived in Oregon.

"We're taking a small step in that direction," says Catalano.

BEST COFFEE & BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE

Street 14 Café

Astoria, Oregon

BEST COFFEE

Runner-up: 3 Cups Coffee House, Astoria

Honorable Mention: Sleepy Monk Coffee Roasters, Cannon Beach

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE

Runner-up: Frite & Scoop, Astoria

Honorable Mention: Costco Wholesale, Warrenton

By DWIGHT CASWELL

Street 14 Café is a meeting place for the community. You might stop there several days a week for breakfast or for a cup of excellent coffee and a bran muffin or pastry, and perhaps have a business lunch there, and then a dinner date on Friday night. You may plan to meet someone, or just run into a friend there. It's a congenial

kind of place.

"We're nice, and we like what we do," says Micha Cameron-Lattek, who owns the café with his wife, Jennifer. "We have a talented staff who like being part of the community, and they enjoy serving."

That sounds simple enough, but the staff seems to always have a friendly face and a good attitude, even at the end of a long



PHOTO BY DWIGHT CASWELL

The staff at Street 14 enjoy serving their customers Stumptown coffee.

day. They get to know their customers and often anticipate their needs. Which explains why readers named them Best Customer Service.

Of course, a coffee shop should have great coffee, too, and that's the other thing Coast Weekend readers liked. Street 14 is

the only local purveyor of Stumptown Coffee, which has been roasted in Portland since 1999. Justly famed for the quality of its coffee, Stumptown is direct traded. The company deals directly with its growers, so there is transparency about where the coffee come from.

Working with Stumptown convinced Street 14 Café to have a direct relationship with its own local purveyors. "It's a smaller supply chain," says Cameron-Lattek, "and we support our community and our farmers and foragers. We can answer any questions from our customers about where our food comes from."

A commitment to community, good food, and world class coffee. Does it get any better than that?

Street 14 Cafe is located at the corner of Commercial and 14th streets in downtown Astoria.



PHOTO BY DANNY MILLER

Jennifer and Micha Cameron-Lattek opened Street 14 Cafe in downtown Astoria after living in Berlin and becoming Stumptown Coffee Roasters' first purveyors in Germany. They expanded their bistro coffee shop with a seasonal weekend dinner service in the fall of 2015.