

# Learn all about brown pelicans

SEASIDE — Skimming the waves and plummeting beak-first for fish, the California brown pelican is one of the most iconic and easily recognizable seabirds on the Oregon Coast. At 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, join Astoria wildlife biologist Deborah Jaques at the Seaside Public Library to explore the natural history of brown pelicans, from their breeding grounds off Mexico to their summer feeding grounds off the Oregon Coast.

The event is the third of this year's wildlife-themed Listening to the Land presentations from North Coast Land Conservancy and the Necanicum Watershed Council. Admission is free.

Use of DDT and other pesticides decimated breeding populations of brown pelicans off southern California by the early 1970s. Pelicans recovered from the pesticide era, but their numbers continue to rise and

fall, impacted by environmental conditions here and in their breeding grounds and by natural and unnatural mortality events.

Jaques has been closely observing brown pelicans since the 1980s. She'll share information about the birds' natural history and migration patterns, informed in part by results from a recent electronic tracking study.

She will discuss her work monitoring communal roosting sites and responding to

events such as the oil spill off Santa Barbara in May 2015, and she will highlight conservation concerns such as the importance of preserving key forage fish populations. Jaques will share photos of her experiences with these birds, including images from a December trip to the heart of the breeding range in the Gulf of California, Mexico.

Jaques is an independent wildlife biologist based out of Astoria. Her work over the past 30 years has taken her from the coastal margins of Antarctica to the Olympic



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
Wildlife biologist Deborah Jaques will speak about brown pelicans March 15.

Peninsula and has most often involved seabirds and other

colonial water birds. Jaques did her graduate research at the University of California, Davis, on California brown pelican habitat use and distribution in the non-breeding range, including evaluation of northern range expansion and communal roosting behavior. Brown pelicans are a focus of her monitoring and conservation efforts on the West Coast.

Listening to the Land is a monthly winter speaker series offered January through May in partnership with the Seaside Public Library. For more information, visit [NCLCtrust.org](http://NCLCtrust.org)

## See local art at the Picture Attic

LONG BEACH, Wash. — Local artists who are members of the Northwest Artist Guild will be showing their newest work at the Picture Attic during the month of March.

An opening night featuring music, refreshments and the artists will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 10. The Picture Attic is located at 711 Pacific Highway N.

The Northwest Artist Guild consists of over 17 members who are proficient in watercolor, collage, acrylic and ceramics, as well as stone sculpture. Each artist is encouraged to hang at least three new pieces at each show.

Members include: Linda Marsh, ceramics; Kent Toepfer, collage; Betsy Toepfer, watercolor; Al Betters, acrylics and doll house furniture; Sharon Strong, watercolor and collage; Jean Nitzel, watercolor; Annie Unwin, watercolor; Judy Leonard, acrylics and watercolor; Ann Sadler, watercolor; Wes Moenke, watercolor; Maxine Brown, watercolor; Joan Taplin, watercolor and oils; Cindy Keyes, watercolor and acrylics; James Ackerman, watercolor, acrylics and oils; Susan McCloud, acrylics and watercolor; Stan



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
"Clam Tide," a watercolor by Betsy Toepfer. notforsale



SUBMITTED PHOTO  
"Spring," a watercolor by Kathryn Murdock.

Riedesel, watercolor; Patsy Chapel, watercolor and

acrylics; Kathryn Murdock, watercolor and oils; and Ray Wolken, stone sculpture.

The group is open to serious artists who are committed to showing their work and presenting new art every three months or so. There is a process by which new members are accepted; if you are interested in joining the group, contact any member or check in at The Picture Attic for a membership invitation form. The guild meets every month on the first Monday and after the business meeting there is a presentation by a member in their fun in art program.

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Tickets available online at [www.libertyastoria.org](http://www.libertyastoria.org)  
or at the Liberty Theatre Box Office

**Box Office hours:**

Wednesday through Saturday, 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm

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