

# Hot rods cruise through Seaside

## Cars on display at annual show

By **KAELIA NEAL**  
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — It was Christina Henry's second year participating in the Muscle and Chrome car show with her burgundy 1972 Chevrolet Nova, which was a birthday gift from her late father.

"My dad gave me the car, made me promise I'd show her," Henry said.

Henry said the annual car show is "low-key yet extravagant at the same time," and "meeting new people is the best part."

This year, 101 vehicles participated over the weekend. Along with showing the cars, the two-day event offered a barbecue, highway cruise, a treasure hunt downtown and awards.

Muscle and Chrome is sponsored by Seaside Downtown Development Association. Many people

dedicate their time to help put on the car show.

Michelle Lackey of Vancouver, Washington, has volunteered at Muscle and Chrome for about 10 years. "We enjoy the people," she said. "It's down to earth. You can talk to anyone."

Dave Deford, of Portland, just finished his 16th year of volunteering. He said he likes being involved, and it's "fun to see the same people and meet new people."

Mark Rice from Graham, Washington, has participated in Muscle and Chrome for about 10 years.

"My dad was really into cars so I grew up going to car shows with my mom and dad," Rice said.

This year, he brought a black 2014 Dodge SRT8 Challenger, which he bought about two weeks ago. "The new muscle cars are really cool now," Rice said.

Normally he brings his 1972 black Challenger. "I was going to drive the older car but the weather wasn't all that great."



R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian

A 'skeleton crew' worked on this Muscle and Chrome entry in Seaside on Saturday. The annual car show drew several thousand people downtown.

# Festival: A family affair for many

Continued from Page 1A

"I think it's important to keep the history of the immigrants who came here alive," he said. "They came here and established themselves and made a new life successfully, most of them."

Mathews has been involved in the festival one way or another for 46 of its 50 years.

## Family tradition

For many, the festival has been a family affair. Carla Oja's children grew up in the festival. They learned traditional dances and participated as flag carriers and each year there was the all-consuming question, "What food are we going to eat this time?"

Representatives for Clatsop County's various Scandinavian lodges spent days preparing traditional food: pea soup, pickled herring, prune tarts and approximately 4,000 krumkake, a Norwegian waffle cookie.

This year, Oja was in charge of organizing the 50th anniversary events, which included a concert on Saturday night by Canadian ABBA cover band ARRIVAL.

"We don't know how

we're going to top it," said Judy Lampi, another festival organizer who coordinated public outreach this year.

She didn't have all the attendance numbers tallied by Sunday night, but she said they saw a good turnout for all three days of the festival.

## Monument

During the festival, Lampi also circulated a petition to gather signatures in support of building a Scandinavian heritage monument at Peoples Park in downtown Astoria.

Despite the area's Scandinavian ties, there is no official memorial to commemorate their enduring presence. City government, though supportive, said this year that the city's Parks and Recreation Department must focus on rebuilding, securing reliable funding and completing other, higher priorities and cannot commit to maintaining another park.

The heritage association is now redoubling efforts to find funding for the monument. Lampi estimated she had collected around 360 signatures by the time the Scandinavian festival ended Sunday afternoon.



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

The events at the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival included a parade of participants wearing traditional outfits. More photos online at DailyAstorian.com



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Thousands of people flocked to the beach Saturday for the annual Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest.

# Dedication to the sand

## Sandcastles take over Cannon Beach in 53rd contest

By **BRENNA VISSER**  
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — In its 53-year existence, those who participate in the Cannon Beach Sandcastle Contest have come to expect that the day's grandiose sand sculptures will be erased by the elements by the next morning's break.

While there is nothing to be done to control the Pacific Ocean's tide, event organizers are trying to preserve more of what they can of these creations.

"Every year we are so exhausted that no one wants to watch the sculptures," event organizer Debbie Nelson said. "But we want to save them from kids jumping on them and vandals so people can enjoy them longer. So we got a guard to protect them overnight."

The Sandcastle Contest began in 1964 as a way to boost spirits after a tsunami. Today it attracts on average

## MORE ONLINE

See more photos of the Sandcastle Contest online. [DailyAstorian.com](http://DailyAstorian.com)

15,000 people.

For one day every year, the beach becomes a place where visitors of all ages can build sand sculptures, cheer on teams of children and teens, and participate in a parade, live music and a 5-kilometer fun run.

## Standing watch

Kyler Vetter will serve as the guard to fend off those inclined to turn sandcastles into a sand mound. He will be helped by his father, City Councilor George Vetter.

"I've been advocating for this for years," George Vetter said. "Why let others destroy what took so long to build?"

This year, the two will have about 30 plots to look over — a 20 plot decrease from last year. Nelson said she contributes the decline to Pacific Northwest schools getting out later due to an unusual number of snow days taken this winter, making the Sandcastle Contest compete with graduation ceremonies.

While this year's contest

was a little calmer than some previous years, team building enthusiasm was anything but diminished.

For Master Class competitor David Lond, nothing was going to keep him from building — even the accident which gave him a concussion and stitches a week prior.

"I got sideswiped while on my bike," Lond said. "I was going to do this unless my doctors said I couldn't."

His enthusiasm for sandcastle building started when he was young.

"I found a photo of me digging up sand when I was 1½ years old," Lond said. "Since, I think I've gotten better. How much better I suppose is questionable."

## Family affair

Decades later, sandcastle building has become a family affair. The team he is on, Moonstone, is named after the beach him and his sister frequent in California. The team spans from members as old as 82 to as young as 11.

Years of playing on the beach helped Lond hone his skills that enable him to make a giant sand octopus.

"What's most important in

sandcastle building: a shovel and two buckets. One for water, one for sand," he said. "Everything else is just toys."

While the team still treats sandcastle building as more casual, family fun, the techniques and skills they collectively contribute are sophisticated. Throughout the day children and adults crowded around his corner of the plot, where he would simultaneously build his sculpture and explain his techniques as he did it.

Sometimes he would take a break from building to show how builders make designs in the sand with thick kneads and drinking straws.

"We'll always try to teach someone," Lond said. "(Sandcastle building) is clean, innocent fun. It's a cheap thrill."

Moonstone Sandcastle Club has competed in Cannon Beach for many years, Lond's mother Kate Zublim said, and so far has won every place at some point except for first. This year, the team's design "Sea Circus" did not place in the top four. The team Form Finders took first for their creation "Reverse Safari."

"We're just happy to be here," Zublim said.

# Grads: Encouraged to 'do whatever you want'

Continued from Page 1A

Headlining the graduates were the college's two members of the All-Oregon Community College Academic Team, Haley Werst and Christopher Patenaude, along with Christopher Breitmeyer's inaugural President's Award winner, nursing graduate Liliana Diaz.

Werst, president of the college's Phi Theta Kappa honors society and campus cosplay club, is also a member of the college's underwater robotics team competing in the international finals next weekend in Long Beach, California. She is headed to Portland State University to study film.

Patenaude told his story of struggling with drug and alcohol addiction as a young adult, becoming interested in coding and coming into his own at the college, where he would be named to the honors society, a NASA Community College Aerospace Scholar and intern at the Ice-Cube South Pole Neutrino Observatory in Wisconsin. Patenaude will attend Oregon State University to study engineering.

## Take the bat

In his first graduation as college president, Breitmeyer reminded students to take hold of the opportunities presented to them.

Breitmeyer, a biologist by training, said was a graduate student releasing insects with a research partner in the Sonoran Desert as part of an ecological study when he ran into what appeared to be two hunters. One offered him the bloody stump and wing of a bat for his study, which his



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

The newly opened Patriot Hall served as the site for the Clatsop Community College commencement ceremony on Friday. More photos online at DailyAstorian.com

partner advised him to take. Breitmeyer said he declined, and later got shot at. The hunters, he said, were trying to shoot a better bat to offer to the study, and this time he didn't turn them down.

"When you have an opportunity, lean forward and say 'yes,'" Breitmeyer said, adding this became his mantra. "It might not look like the best thing for you to do, but it's better to say 'yes' than 'no.' It's better to try something than to not try something."

"I don't know what the hell I would have done with that bat. But if I would have taken it, I wouldn't have gotten shot at."

## Do what you love

Nemlowill, who graduated from the college in 2001,

remembered taking classes in the stuffy confines of the old Patriot Hall, built in 1921. Afterward, Nemlowill said, he left for Southern Oregon University to earn a degree in marketing and computer science to join the dot-com boom and make his fortune.

The dot-com bubble burst, and Nemlowill's grandmother fell and broke her hip on the day of graduation in 2003. While taking care of her, Nemlowill checked some books out from the local library and learned a new passion: brewing beer.

Presented with the possibility of an internship at computer chip-making giant Intel, Nemlowill instead opted to move back in with his parents in Astoria and brew in their basement. He worked his way

into the local brewing scene, linked up with fellow Fort George co-owner Jack Harris and started his dream in 2006. Fort George has since grown from a small brewpub into one of Astoria's largest companies, employing 120 people and helping put the city on the craft beer map.

"You guys have got the foundation to do whatever you want," Nemlowill told the graduates. "I feel like you guys are really prepared for what you guys will do next. Make sure that what you do next, the career that you take, that you look forward to going to work every day, because I think that is just really important. You've worked so hard. You don't want to waste that on something you don't love doing."