

Astor Street Opry Company now selling 'Shanghaied' tickets

ASTORIA — The 33rd season of "Shanghaied in Astoria" — the Astor Street Opry Company's historical, Vaudeville-style musical melodrama — is opening soon and now selling tickets.

The show opens Thursday, July 6, and runs through Saturday, Sept. 9, performing Thursday through Saturday, with a few Sunday matinees.

Directed by Markus Brown, this award-winning show is a local and tourist

favorite, with vibrant characters, an interactive style and music to keep audience members humming for weeks after.

This season's sponsors are many, with more than a hundred businesses and individuals donating time and money to continue the tradition.

The Astor Street Opry Company is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) community theater organization. It is community support that keeps year-round theater

programming for all ages alive and thriving in Clatsop County, the company said in a release.

For more information, call 503-325-6104, or email info@astorstreetycompany.com. Learn more about the company at astorstreetycompany.com, or find it on Facebook.

The cast of "Shanghaied in Astoria" lets out a cheer on stage.

PHOTO BY JOSHUA BESSEX



Astoria, Warrenton host Fourth of July fun

Astoria and Warrenton each host a community celebration of the nation's Independence Day.

Start in Warrenton for the Old-Fashioned Fourth of July that begins at 11 a.m. with a variety of activities, including a car and motorcycle show, children's games, bicycle decorating and a barbecue, followed by the Fourth of July Parade on Main Avenue at 3 p.m. This year's theme is "Rock Freedom."

- 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: classic car show at Robinson Community Park

- 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: motorcycle tailgate party, sponsored by North Coast ABATE, at the park

- Noon to 3 p.m.: kids activities at the Decoration Station (in the gravel lot next to the fire station)

- Noon to 3 p.m.: the firefighters barbecue, sponsored by the Warrenton Volunteer Firefighters Association

The Warrenton festivities are sponsored by the Warrenton Business Association.

Businesses, community groups, families and individuals are invited to participate in the parade, one of the



Isabella Churchill, 4, reacts to Warrenton's 2016 Old-Fashioned Fourth of July Parade.

PHOTO BY DANNY MILLER

largest in the area with more than 100 entries. There are trophies for the best entries.

Gary Nevan, former owner and editor of The Columbia Press, has been named grand marshal of the 2017 parade.

The parade begins at 3 p.m. and runs down Main Avenue from the post office to Ninth Street, then turns west to Warrenton Grade School.

Parade applications are available at City Hall, The UPS Store, the library on

Main Avenue, and online at the Warrenton Old-Fashioned Fourth of July Facebook page. Or send an email to warrentonfourthofjuly@gmail.com.



Gary Nevan

Visit the Facebook page for updates and photos from previous years.

As evening comes, head to Astoria to find your place to watch the Fourth of July fireworks, and

don't forget to bring blankets, chairs, a camera and patriotic spirit.

The fireworks are launched from the East End Mooring Basin over the Columbia River; the show begins at dark. The fireworks are sponsored by the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber Ambassadors Committee.

Local businesses often plan their own events to honor the Fourth of July holiday and are invited to post them on the Chamber's Community Events Calendar at oldoregon.com; click "Events" at the top of the homepage.



PHOTO BY MCKINLEY SMITH

Tennyson Wilkinson, age 6, honks the nose of a clown during Warrenton's 2015 Old-Fashioned Fourth of July Parade.

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