



PHOTO BY COLIN MURPHEY

Seaside author Melissa Eskue Ousley

Seaside author teaches suspense writing workshop

SEASIDE — Melissa Eskue Ousley, an award-winning Seaside author, will give a talk on the paranormal 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 4, at Book Warehouse (1111 N. Roosevelt Drive).

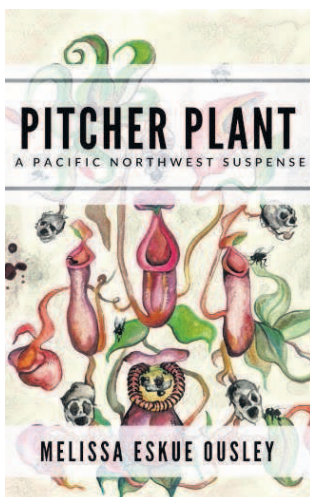
The author will be signing copies of her novels “Sunset Empire” and “Pitcher Plant,” which are set on the North Coast and feature murder and restless spirits.

Then, at 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 11, come to the warehouse for a workshop on writing spooky and suspenseful scenes.

“The author will share her secrets for scaring the socks off readers,” organizers said. “You might not sleep that night, but you’ll learn how to write an engaging story.”

Fellow Oregon writer Deb Vanasse, author of “Cold Spell” and “Out of the Wilderness,” has offered high praise for “Pitcher Plant”: “Seaside setting, haunted house (or is it?), creepy dolls — all the makings of a bewitching tale. Toss in a bit of romance and prepare to be up way too late, turning pages.”

“Sunset Empire” received a five-star review from Readers’ Favorite, which called it a “fun story, a mixture of fantasy, paranormal, and



downright creepy at times. It is part thriller and starts off on a high note, just getting better as the story moves along.”

“Sunset Empire” debuted in the bestselling Secrets and Shadows young adult boxed set.

Melissa Eskue Ousley’s first novel, “Sign of the Throne,” won a 2014 Reader’s Favorite International Book Award and a 2014 Eric Hoffer Book Award. Her third book, “The Sower Comes,” won a 2016 Eric Hoffer Book Award. Her short stories have been included in Rain Magazine and The North Coast Squid.

Connect with her at MelissaEskueOusley.com.

The Electric Fences Festival presents free-spirited gathering

NEHALEM — From noon to midnight Saturday, Aug. 5, in the sprawling meadow of a farm in the Nehalem River Valley, the Electric Fences Festival will present a day of live music and revelry.

The 16 performers at the third annual event run the gamut — from the moody, cinematic wild-western twang of Portland’s Roselit Bone, to the lilting, literary folk of Los Angeles’ Alex Dupree, to the cheeky garage punk of The Dumpies, from Austin, Texas.

A handful of local acts will join the cross-country roster.

Tickets are \$20. Camping is available for an additional \$10. Both can be purchased at the gate or at electricfencesfest.com.

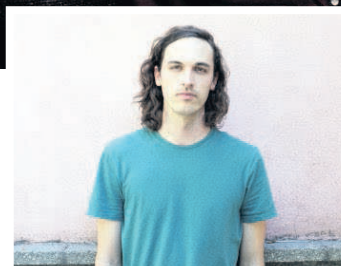
In curating Electric Fences, organizer Travis Champ envisioned a free-spirited, aesthetically motivated gathering, as opposed to the sponsored, profit-driven and increasingly homogenized modern festival model, organizers wrote.

“The main goal is for everyone involved to have a good time,” Champ said. “So I’ve been trying to find the middle ground between an organized



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

ABOVE: Roselit Bone LEFT: Alex Dupree



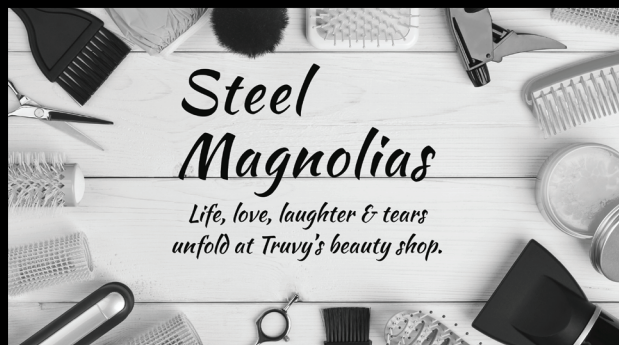
festival environment and a looser party atmosphere.”

As such, Electric Fences is

BYOB. Food will be available for purchase from Taqueria Guadalajara.

Located off Oregon Route 53, Electric Fences is 10 miles from the Pacific coastline and 75 miles west of Portland. For directions, a complete lineup and ticket information, visit electricfencesfest.com.

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coastertheatre.com