

COLUMBIA BAR

Neon Light



Neon Light

Story and photo
BY RYAN HUME
FOR COAST WEEKEND

Ducking into the Merry Time Bar and Grill on a recent sweltering afternoon, I was looking for something to quench my thirst and lower my internal body temperature.

The Neon Light, glowingly blue against the dim light of the bar, has a complex, citrus-forward appeal and would not seem out of place on one of those blond, Caribbean beaches. The shock of blue liquid holding all of those different citrus notes from the Mandarin Orange vodka, the Blue Curaçao and Grand Marnier reminded me vaguely of the artificial flavor blue raspberry, which appears in Slurpees and gummy candies and other sundries concocted far outside the natural world.

As the summer finally heats up in August, the Neon Light would be a fine accompaniment to both carnitas or jerk chicken or whatever else you have sizzling on the grill. With its citrus notes recalling a margarita, the Neon Light could also take a salted or sugared rim from those willing to experiment.

Neon Light

1 ounce of Absolut Mandarin Orange Vodka
1/2 ounce of Blue Curaçao liqueur
1/2 ounce Grand Marnier liqueur
One quarter of a fresh orange Ice

Add the ice, vodka, Blue Curaçao liqueur and Grand Marnier to the bottom of a cocktail shaker. Juice the orange atop the spirits in the shaker. Strain the drink over rocks into an old-fashioned glass.

—Recipe courtesy of Suzi Kanehl, bartender at Merry Time Bar and Grill, Astoria, Oregon 

NORTH COAST SQUID: WRITERS, READY YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

MANZANITA — Submissions for the sixth North Coast Squid literary magazine will be accepted Friday, Sept. 1, through Tuesday, Oct. 31.

Fiction, nonfiction (including memoir) and poetry will be accepted. There is also a young writers category (ages 18 and under).

All submissions are selected in a blind judging by authors and poets outside the coastal area. Submissions of art, photos and photos of sculptures will also be solicited for cover art and inside art. A committee will chose the final art.

The North Coast Squid, a program of the Hoffman Center for the Arts and the Manzanita Writers Series, showcases the work of writers and artists who live on the North Oregon Coast or have a strong connection to the area. The next issue will be published in April 2018.

Writers are invited to submit one piece per prose (fiction and nonfiction) category and three pieces for the poetry category. Word length for fiction and narrative nonfiction (including memoir) is 1,500 words each. All work must be unpublished.

All work must be submitted electronically via the 'submit' button on the North Coast Squid page of the hoffmanblog.org (hoffmanblog.org/north-coast-squid) and must arrive by midnight Tuesday, Oct. 31.

Andrea Hollander will



SUBMITTED PHOTO

judge poetry. She is author of four full-length award-winning poetry collections and has been awarded many fellowships.

Diana Abu-Jaber, who will judge nonfiction, is author of six award-winning books, her latest being "Life Without a Recipe."

Arthur Bradford will judge fiction. He is an O Henry Award-winning writer with four books. The latest is a collection of short stories, "Turtle Face and Beyond."

April Henry will judge young writers' work. She is a New York Times bestselling author of 21 mysteries and thrillers for teens and adults.

The Manzanita Writer's Series is a program of the

Hoffman Center for the Arts, a nonprofit dedicated to bringing arts, education and culture to the community.

The Illahee Apartments



*Downtown Astoria's
Most Respected
Apartment Complex
Since 1969.*

1046 Grand Avenue
Astoria, OR 97103

503-325-2280

LANDSCAPE BARK (U-HAUL) **\$20** per yard

WARRENTON FIBER
861-3305 Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm
389 NW 13th St.
Warrenton

Nygaard Logging