

dining out



ASTORIA CORNER DELI

- Local
- Fresh
- Gourmet

See  for full menu

304 37th Street | Astoria, OR 97103
503-325-7768
All orders take-out

The DEPOT Restaurant

38TH & L, ON THE SEAVIEW BEACH APPROACH
360-642-7880
COVERED HEATED DECK

HighLife ADVENTURES
ZIPLINE TOURS
ZIP 'N' SIP

Now offering soups, paninis, beer & wine. Come check out our new addition. You don't need to zip to come sip.

503.861.9875
92111 Highlife Rd, Warrenton
www.highlife-adventures.com

BA BAKED ALASKA
DINING ROOM • PIZZERIA • BAR
THE ONLY THING WE OVERLOOK IS THE COLUMBIA RIVER

503.325.7414
bakedak.com
#1 12th Street, Astoria, OR

North Coast and Peninsula



CA 18 MP RESTAURANT

503.755.1818
www.camp18restaurant.com
Favorite stop to & from the Coast

GREAT PUB GRUB & CRAFT BEER

the SHELBURNE inn
hotel • pub restaurant

Seaview, WA • 360.642.4150
shelburnerestaurant.com

IMAGINE YOUR Restaurant Advertised Here!

HUNGRY HARBOR GRILLE

313 Pacific Hwy, Downtown Long Beach, WA
360-642-5555 • www.hungryharbor.com
COME CELEBRATE ROD RUN WITH US!

Advertise Your Restaurant Here!

MCMENAMINS GEARHART HOTEL
SANDRA

1157 N. Marion Avenue
Gearhart
503-717-8150
www.mcmenamins.com

BOOKMONGER

YA series wraps up with unifying message

Four years ago, William Ritter embarked on two new adventures almost simultaneously. He started teaching at a new high school in the Willamette Valley, and he also saw the publication of his book, "Jackaby," which was to be the first in a series of historical YA novels that deal in the supernatural.

This spring, Ritter read the names of the graduating seniors at the high school's commencement ceremony, sending the students he had spent four years with out into the world. Following close on the heels of their graduation, he now also sees the publication of his fourth and final Jackaby book, "The Dire King."

If you know about these parallel experiences in advance, you'll notice how much good advice and life wisdom Ritter dresses up in 19th century costume and stuffs into his book. It's probably more effective than delivering a droning speech to a gymnasium packed with giddy graduates, their families, balloons, bouquets, and contraband confetti.

It's certainly more entertaining. "The Dire King" also has wendigos and goblins, pixies and gnomes, were-



wolves and centaurs and assorted other creatures that R.F. Jackaby (a private eye with supernatural Seeing power), his able assistant Abigail Rook, the resident ghost Jenny Cavanaugh, and the shape-shifting police detective Charlie Cane must deal with as they combat a rising tide of mayhem and suspicion in New Fiddleham, New England.

There are reckless and incompetent politicians, duped by evil forces, who are pandering to ignorance and ramping up paranoia as they detain "suspects" with little grounds for doing so.

And there are larger and far more ruthless players in the "otherworld." Using the chaos they have helped to cre-

ate as a smokescreen (sometimes fiction resonates eerily with the real world), they are working behind the scenes, bent on besieging humanity in a winner-takes-all war.

The author goes on to devote several chapters to the physical conflict, taking care to describe the array of combatants, the war apparatus, the blow-by-blows and the grisly outcomes – but as in movies that devote too much screen time to special effects, these scenes seem interminable. It is much more interesting when Ritter returns to the moral dilemmas and the nuanced arguments that demand that the reader's intellect be fully engaged.

As in the previous books in the "Jackaby" series, this tale is narrated by Abigail Rook. Over time we have seen Rook hone her headstrong disposition into a more mature focus that combines thoughtfulness with determination. Rook has also learned how to complement her boss's single-minded brilliance with her own blend of common sense and compassion. In short, we have seen her grow up and begin to define her place in the world.

"This world doesn't need showy champions," she realizes. "It needs people who are good, people who do good, even if nobody will ever know."

"The Dire King" challenges hatemongers and bullies. It promotes tolerance, resilience, courage and hope.

More than ever, this is a message our young people need to hear, and William Ritter delivers.

The Bookmonger is Barbara Lloyd McMichael, who writes this weekly column focusing on the books, authors and publishers of the Pacific Northwest. Contact her at bkmonger@nwlinc.com

Crossword Answer

T	U	B	E	M	D	S	C	R	E	A	K	P	T	R	A	P			
I	N	A	N	D	O	U	T	H	O	A	G	I	E	O	H	A	R	A	
C	I	N	D	E	R	E	L	L	A	S	T	O	R	Y	P	E	T	E	R
L	A	S	T	P	L	A	C	E	S	N	U	G	H	O	R	S	T		
A	B	C																	
G	U	A	M	D	E	N	T	E	D	F	E	R	K	N	E	E	L		
S	T	R	A	F	E	T	E	X	A	N	S	I	T	S	I	D	L	E	
H	O	N	E	Y	D	E	W	E	E	D	S	E	L	S	E	T	A	S	
O	N	E	A	S	P	I	E	L	A	T	E	I	T	S	O	S	O		
T	E	E	D	P	R	E	L	I	M	P	O	S	I	T	R	O	N		
M	I	D	I	O	I	L	S	L	I	C	K	N	I	N	A				
I	L	L	F	A	T	E	D	I	S	I	A	H	T	S	T	R	A	P	
C	L	E	F	S	V	I	A	C	A	R	A	F	E	E	E	L	Y		
C	A	R	E	D	G	A	G	S	C	A	N	A	L	Z	O	N	E		
L	I	B	E	R	I	A	G	R	A	P	H	F	R	E	E				
I	V	A	N	I	F	O	R	E	N	S	I	C	A	N	A	L	Y	S	T
D	I	S	C	S	B	R	A	T	T	Y	S	C	A	N	D	I	U	M	
S	L	E	E	K	S	A	M	S	A	U	T	Z	A	N	N	I			