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WEEKEND BREAK

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Noel Thomas paintings

Blue Scorcher Bakery & Cafe

Cafe sketching

By NOEL THOMAS
For The Daily Astorian



Street 14 Cafe

Brrr!
It's cold and windy — the perfect time of year to get out of the weather to enjoy the many coffee places around town.

I enjoy sketching in these local warm spots. It's a challenge, though, in that the subject I'm sketching might just get up and leave.

For example, the man in the red cap at The Rusty Cup was a woman when I started. She soon left, was replaced by the man, and it only took a little doctoring to change a *she* into a *he*. Luckily, the rest of the people remained long enough for me to finish.

The man at the Blue Scorcher Bakery & Cafe wasn't even there; I made him up so the barista wouldn't get lonely.

The couple at Pier 39's Coffee Girl were warming up to each other, as well as from the coffee.

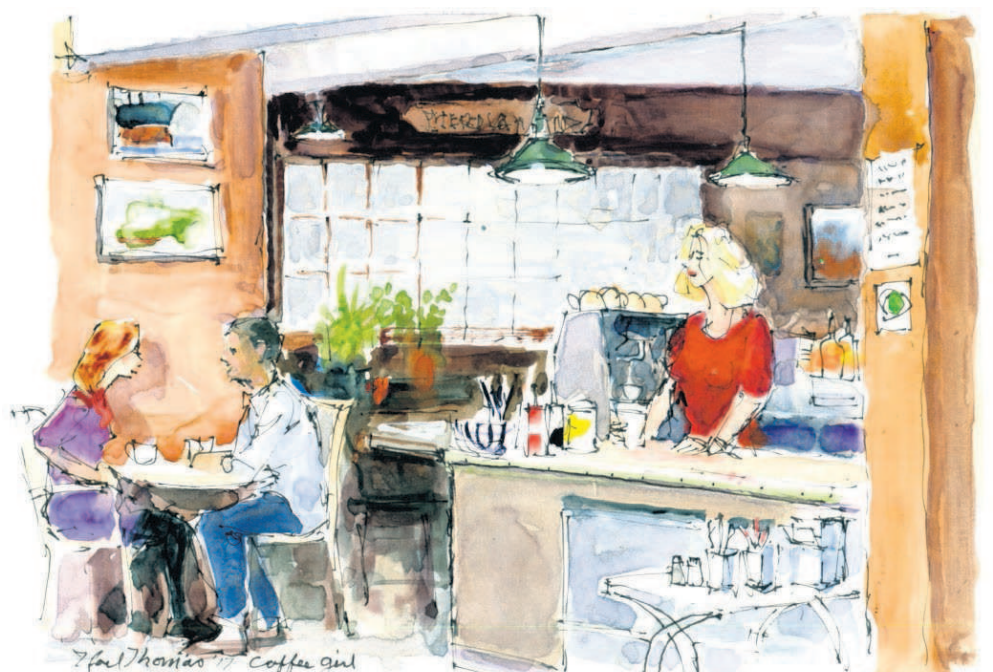
Street 14 Cafe is another favorite spot for sketching, as are the Astoria Coffee House & Bistro and Three Cups Coffee House.

There are plenty of other places to explore. Soon, maybe you'll find me at your favorite, sketching you.

Noel Thomas is a sketcher and watercolor artist whose work can be found at RiverSea Gallery in Astoria.



The Rusty Cup



Coffee Girl