

# Building: Historic property in local hands

Continued from Page 1A

electrical systems or aesthetic changes. The building has been neglected for years, they said, and they will have to look into replacing historic windows, among other costly repairs.

They said they will not pass these costs onto tenants. The building houses a coffee shop, an antique store and a gift store that features local artists, as well as the Astoria Arts and Movement Center, which has operated there for six years.

The tenants shouldn't have to pay for a previous landlord's neglect, Mazzarella said. They plan to keep all the current tenants in place and bring in a new tenant.

The Odd Fellows Building was at the center of a fierce debate last year about gentrification and differing views on what Astoria needs.

Portland-area entrepreneur Tacee Webb attempted to buy the building last summer.

She created a stir in the community with her statements about the building, Astoria and what she believed the city needed. At different times, she said she hoped to turn the building into an event space, a music venue, and a bar and retail stores.

Tenants feared Webb would force them out of the building when she took ownership. Webb at times stated she wasn't interested in making them leave, but tenants weren't reassured. A petition circulated online addressed to Webb and other potential buyers.

"Although we understand that real estate changes hands and new owners may do what they wish with their property, we also believe that communities have a voice that deserves to be heard — in particular regarding what is best for the community itself," the petition stated.

When the building first went up for sale, West and Mazzarella hoped for a good buyer — someone who wouldn't

double everyone's rents or displace them.

"It became clear very quickly that just about every potential buyer that came along, their vision of the building didn't include what was already there," West said.

West and Mazzarella began seriously considering what it would take to buy the building themselves.

Webb's offer ultimately fell through. Several other people looked at the building, but nothing stuck. Astoria Odd Fellows jumped in.

Mazzarella grew up in Astoria and West has lived here for 13 years. They strongly believe the Odd Fellows Building should serve the community.

"Andrea and I could care less about money," West added. "We understand it's going to require funding to take care of and repair the building. But if you ask me if this is a wise investment? Yes, it's an incredibly wise investment in the community."



The Odd Fellows Building in Astoria has been sold. Loopnet

# Pyle: Natural history writer reads poems at Columbia Forum

Continued from Page 1A

His talk, titled "Wit, War and Wonder: The Place of Poems in a Prose-Writer's Life," looked at where poetry touches these three elements, what poetry can do to provide joy, protest war and increase wonder. He pointed to some of his literary and science heroes: the articulate but poetic words and rigorous inquiries of Charles Darwin, Rachel Carson and Vladimir Nabokov, among others. "All praising, seeking and finding — on the page and on the land — that high ridge between science and art," Pyle said.

He quoted the American essayist, poet, naturalist and abolitionist Henry David Thoreau, who said, "A true account of the actual is the rarest poetry."

Pyle still considers himself an activist — he has "always had a love affair with damaged lands," he said, adding, "After all, we can't throw the land away, not even Hanford" — but he picks his battles carefully now.

In a song-poem he composed with music provided by fellow Washington state resident and former Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic, he dissects the decisions around dredging, salmon and wildlife management on the Columbia River, speaking about the efforts to control the size of a double-crested cormorant colony on East Sand Island and the shooting of sea lions that eat salmon at Bonneville Dam.

"And so I think of every double-crested cormorant that came and bred because we made the habitat," he read, "of every lion of the sea that fouls a dock or eats a fish because we gave it what it needs and how we're going to take it back and give them both hot lead instead and claim the fish and take the dock and make the fix and then and then and then guess what? We'll start the whole damn thing again, to make the channel deep for ships."

Afterwards, Pyle thumbed through a 2016 anthology of his writing, pieces written across a 50-year span, from early, optimistic essays when "we thought the environmental movement was winning" to a more recent piece written for the book "Moral Ground," a collection of essays from various authors about collective and individual responsibility in the face of climate change and environmental degradation. In his essay, Pyle wrote, "Evolution will mock our tardy rage."

And yet: "I think it's utterly important to celebrate the world," he said. "Celebrate what's left, otherwise despair is really close. There's plenty to celebrate still, that's the surprising thing. ... There's too much glory and wonder, if we're really attentive to it."

One of the poems with which he ended his talk, written by Adam Zagajewski, repeated the line, "You must praise the mutilated world."

**Table 360**  
BAKERY & BISTRO  
ASTORIA, OREGON

# Easter Brunch

*Celebrate with Food, Family and Fun...*

*Breakfast Breads & Pastries, Fresh Fruit, Peel & Eat Shrimp, Sea Salt Crusted Fingerling Potatoes, Mini Crab Cakes, Scrambled Eggs, Buttermilk Biscuits and Sausage Gravy, House Made Patty Sausage and Applewood Smoked Bacon, Caesar Salad, Spinach Strawberry Salad, Oregon Pink Shrimp Salad, Chocolate Dipped Strawberries & Assorted Desserts*

*Adults \$35, Kids 5-12 \$15 & the 4 and under crown is free!*

**Sunday April 1st, 2018**  
**10:00 a.m. or 12:00 p.m.**  
**Reservations Required**

Table 360 Bakery & Bistro  
1184 Commercial St. Astoria Oregon  
503-741-3660 - [www.table360bakery.com](http://www.table360bakery.com)

**LUM'S AUTO CENTER** **SPRING SALES EVENT** **TRUCK MONTH**

**Honoring All Who Serve**

# VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY

**SATURDAY MARCH 31 • 11AM-2PM**

**11:30 am • Awards** **RAFFLE**  
**Military Specials All Day!** **MUSIC**  
**BBQ**

<p><b>NEW</b> 2017 DODGE DURANGO SXT</p> <p>MSRP \$42,410 -Lum's Disc. \$6,425</p> <p><b>*Special Price \$35,985</b></p> <p>#317040</p>	<p><b>NEW</b> 2017 JEEP WRANGLER</p> <p>MSRP \$38,575 -Lum's Disc. \$3,000 + Access. \$7,650</p> <p>Unlimited Sport Lifted with Running Boards</p> <p><b>*Special Price \$43,225</b></p> <p>#327034</p>
<p><b>NEW</b> 2018 DODGE JOURNEY AWD</p> <p>MSRP \$37,030 -Lum's Discount \$2,489 -Rebate \$5,000</p> <p><b>*Special Price \$29,541</b></p> <p>#318005</p>	<p><b>NEW</b> 2018 JEEP CHEROKEE LAT.PLUS</p> <p>MSRP \$31,730 -Lum's Discount \$1,484 -Rebate \$4,750</p> <p><b>*Special Price \$25,496</b></p> <p>#328002</p>
<p><b>NEW</b> 2018 RAM 1500 ST</p> <p>MSRP \$38,720 -Lum's Discount \$2,655 -Rebate \$4,250</p> <p>Quad cab 4x4</p> <p><b>*Special Price \$31,815</b></p> <p>#318007</p>	<p><b>NEW</b> 2018 RAM 1500 SLT</p> <p>MSRP \$47,925 -Lum's Discount \$2,895 -Rebate \$5,750</p> <p>Crew cab 4x4</p> <p><b>*Special Price \$39,280</b></p> <p>#318028</p>

**PRICE MATCH GUARANTEE** **WE'LL MEET OR BEAT ANY PRICE ON ANY NEW CHRYSLER, JEEP, DODGE OR RAM!\***

Voted **BEST** Auto Dealership in 2017  
**LUM'S AUTO CENTER** **CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM**  
lumsdodgechryslerjeep.com  
503-861-1144  
1605 SE Ensign Ln  
Warrenton

\*Rebates vary by make and model. Rebates do not apply when 0% financing is chosen through Chrysler Capital OAC. Final price does not include \$115 doc. fee, title, registration and tax, if applicable. See Lum's for details. Subject to prior sale. Expires 4/01/18.