

FIRE & RAIN

Photos by COLIN MURPHEY | The Daily Astorian

Jeff Daly's iLLUMiNART took over Astoria on a rain-soaked weekend. The quirky public art project featured a fire-breathing dragon and images projected on several buildings on Friday and Saturday nights.



Clockwise: A participant dressed up as the Astoria Column added to the festivities. • The fire-breathing dragon installation was a popular sight at the iLLUMiNART event in Astoria. • Jeff Daly makes adjustments to a projector in preparation for the art event over the weekend. • Jaclyn Otter braves the rainy weather to take in one of the projections at the Astoria Riverwalk.



Police, state urge people to avoid elk

Warrenton town hall held amid rising concerns

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — There have been 49 police calls about elk over the past three years, Warrenton Police Sgt. Jim Pierce said. Most concerned the animals laying in the road, eating plants and trees, and damaging people's property, but a few were about aggressive behavior.

Amid rising concerns of human and elk interaction, Warrenton Mayor Henry Balensifer organized a town hall with state wildlife and police officials Thursday. A similar town hall will be held in Gearhart.

Issues increase in the fall when males rut and in the spring when cows give birth. Balensifer recounted how his wife had been charged and pushed into the brush by an elk while jogging on the Warrenton Waterfront Trail.

The idea of an elk hunt had been discussed several years ago while redrawing urban waterfowl-hunting maps, Balensifer said. A new state pilot program starting next year would allow cities that declare deer a public nuisance to petition the state

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Public art trail coming to Oregon

By BRENNA VISSER
The Daily Astorian

As a modern homage to the Oregon Trail, the Oregon Coast Visitors Association is developing a public art trail that will stretch from Astoria to the California border.

The idea of the program is to connect and promote existing public statues, murals and more in each of the Oregon Coast's 27 communities. The visitors association is working to catalogue these pieces to create a comprehensive map of all the art in the public sphere for a self-guided tour by next year.

Some of what would be featured in Clatsop County includes the Astoria Column, the Lewis and Clark statue at the Seaside Turnaround, and the tufted puffin sculpture by Cannon Beach City Hall.

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Manager sees equal value in numbers, people

Gray joined historical society in December

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

People don't often associate a love of numbers with a love of social interaction. But for Emily Gray, Clatsop County Historical Society's recently hired business manager, those two factors drove her to the new job.

"It makes me giddy and happy to be in an Excel spreadsheet, so I knew it was kind of a good fit," Gray said. "I also get a chance to go out and interact with people in the museum."

Gray, 39, joined the historical society in December after working as a bookkeeper at Warrenton Fiber. After growing up in Salem and moving around the Pacific Northwest, she settled in Astoria with her three sons in 2006.

She soon enrolled at Clatsop Community College, where her father — Tom Gill — is the director of institutional research. Initially lamenting the lack of amenities compared to a larger city, she grew to enjoy Astoria.

"We thought it was a great opportunity

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Alan Mossman
Emily Gray is the new business manager at the Clatsop County Historical Society.



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