



COLIN MURPHEY PHOTO

In 2017, children perform a traditional dance at a Hispanic Heritage Celebration in Astoria hosted by the Lower Columbia Hispanic Council and La Voz de la Comunidad.

# Celebrate Hispanic heritage!

ASTORIA — The Lower Columbia Hispanic Council and its advisory committee, La Voz de la Comunidad, invite you to attend our Hispanic Heritage Celebration.

The event will take place 3 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at St. Mary's Star of the Sea, 1465 Grand Ave. This is an all-ages indoor/outdoor event with music, food, entertainment and activities for the whole family. Admission is free.

Grand Avenue, between 14th and 15th streets, will be closed to traffic, and tents will be set up for outdoor seating and booths.

Thanks to food donations from Monte Alban, Cabaña de Raya, El Tapatio and Plaza

Jalisco, the Hispanic Council will sell an assortment of Mexican foods that include enchiladas, tinga, aguas frescas and more!

The Hispanic Council will also sell raffle tickets during the event for prizes, including gift cards and goodie bags from more than 30 local businesses, as well as tickets to the Pacific Brew Cup Festival and Fort George Brewery beer and gear.

Alma Sureña will roam the event with their joyful music, a group of local schoolchildren and adults will perform a traditional folk dance, and the Astoria Movement Center will give an interactive Zumba performance.

There will also be a salsa

recipe contest — participants and businesses will bring their salsa, and a panel of judges will pick one the best recipes in Astoria.

Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 is National Hispanic Heritage Month for 2018. Though in the past we have focused on Mexico's Independence Day — Sept. 16 — this year will be the second time we strive to emphasize all Hispanic countries and communities.

The event is possible because of sponsorships from Northwest Health Foundation, US Bank, Martin North, Craft 3, Bank of the Pacific, Knutson Insurance and the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce.

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ROBERT HILSON PHOTO

The 2017 Peninsula Rhythm & Blues Festival had the Tim Kelly Band of Seaside, featuring Gary Jaskowiak on keyboards.

## Hot music, cool cats on the Peninsula

OCEAN PARK, WASH. — The Peninsula Rhythm & Blues Festival takes place 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14, and 1 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Port of Peninsula in Nahcotta, Wash.

On both nights, an invitational jam follows the performances and goes until midnight.

The event features local bands from all parts inland, including a large Portland music presence. Food

vendors will be there, and the South Pacific County Humane Society will offer adult beverages in support of the shelter. Parking will be on site.

Ocean Park musician and resident Clint Carter, of the North Coast Blues Band, is spearheading the festival. Community groups, businesses and local music lovers are working together to keep the project going in Ocean Park. Tickets for Friday

evening are \$20, Saturday afternoon-to-evening tickets are \$25, and a weekend pass is \$40. Go to tickettomato.com to purchase tickets, and visit peninsulabluesfest.com for more information.

A funding effort for up-front expenses is underway at gofundme.com. Sponsorships and volunteer opportunities are also available. Contact Carter at clintcarterblues@yahoo.com or call 360-244-5823.

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