

FIGHT LIKE A LADY

Author Marianne Monson captures the incredible untold stories of Civil War-era women

By RYAN HUME
FOR COAST WEEKEND

Marianne Monson returns to the 19th century with her new nonfiction book, "Women of the Blue & Gray: True Stories of Mothers, Medics, Soldiers and Spies of the Civil War."

Released in August by Shadow Mountain Publishing, the book is available online and in local bookstores.

The Astoria author will continue to roll out the book with a number of local events. The official book launch will be at KALA, 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 13.

This opening will be followed by two events on Saturday, Sept. 15: A book signing is scheduled at Lucy's Books between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., followed by a lecture and signing at the Astoria Library at 3 p.m.

Monson will also speak at Clatsop Community College's Ales & Ideas lecture series at Fort George in November.

The KALA event is \$8; the rest are free.

Following up her book "Frontier Grit: The Unlikely True Stories of Daring Pioneer Women," Monson, a contributor to Coast Weekend and writing instructor at Clatsop Community College, has always been drawn to the tumultuous 1800s.

"I think a part of me has always lived in this era," she said. "I decorated my room in high school with lace gloves and bonnets. I've always been fascinated by the juxtaposition of elegance and strength that this era represents — particularly for women."

Continued on Page 15



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

BY COLIN MURPHEY

Author Marianne Monson in her living room with her latest book, 'Women of the Blue & Gray.'