



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian
Annie Van Dyke looks out over the Munktiki inventory in the basement of the building.

Tiki mugs: Family hopes to open next year

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“What tiki is is definitely not an interpretation of what tiki actually is in Polynesia,” Miles Nielsen said. “It’s an Americanized, ‘50s, bastardized thing. It’s very Americana, really.”

Four years ago, the younger Nielsen and Van Dyke did a Kickstarter campaign for Munkstein, a line of humorous and dark beer steins that has since blossomed into its own side business. The stein designs range from a Krampus — the Germanic half-goat, half-demon who punishes misbehaved children — to 3-D images. They will soon come out with a 420 stoner-themed stein complete with a fully functional pipe on the lid.

The tiki mugs, steins and other merchandise will all be available in the thoroughly nautical, tropical storefront of Munktiki, including hanging glass floats, 7-foot-tall tikis and a broken-off ship mast or bamboo raft.

A collection of historical tiki mugs will be on display. One vending machine will dispense tiki mugs, while another



The Munktiki company also produces beer steins.

vintage coin-operated prize machine will pop out tiki trinkets in plastic eggs.

The back of the store will eventually accommodate Dead Man’s Isle, a tiki bar the family hopes to build out sometime in the next several years. The family’s previous buildouts, including their former home in Portland, have become a standard of tiki bar excellence featured by The Oregonian and other news outlets.

“A legit, Americana tiki bar is very much about having lots and lots of kind of beach-combed stuff, lots and lots of eye candy just hanging around,” Miles Nielsen said.

On the east side of the building, the family is building out an art gallery for Dunagan, who works in watercolors, acrylics and ink.

“Lighting is key,” said Dunagan, who is planning vertical slats along the wall, backlit in different colors by LED lights.

Dunagan and the elder Nielsen are building out a loft to live right above the gallery, giving them a bird’s-eye view of their storefront and Duane Street, with a spiral staircase to the building’s roof.

The Sovey Motor Co. building had fallen on hard times after the departure of Charter Communications to the Port of Astoria’s central waterfront, sitting empty and slowly deteriorating. The family sees the adaptive reuse as offering unique products while filling one of the last holes in the storefronts on Duane Street, a burgeoning commercial district increasingly home to Astoria’s homegrown alcohol industry.

“It’s a fun corner,” Van Dyke said. “This is where it’s happening in Astoria.”

The family hopes to open in the spring or summer.



Photos by R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian
Race winner Chris Wright checks his time as he crosses the finish line: 16:26.

Turkey Trot: Seaside is ‘iconic to everybody’

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The leading female runner, Ginny Meadway of northern California, crossed the line at 19:30.

Seaside Chamber of Commerce Director Brian Owen explained the appeal of Seaside.

“This is such a wonderful place, it’s iconic to everybody,” Owen said. “The message is community. People love to be part of their neighborhood, they love to be part of the city.”

Elliott Allen of West Seattle, Washington, 13, celebrated his Thanks-



Leading youth finisher Elliott Allen, of West Seattle, Washington.

giving as the fastest teen runner.

Oh — and it was his birthday, too.

Grocer: Developer hits a roadblock

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that exceedingly difficult for me. I do believe the commission could go through with this project without the turn lane.”

The developer could fund the turn lane, but that cost would likely prove excessive, Dover said. “Potentially it could cost us more to do that than to build our property.”

The commission could approve the building plan as is, without adding a turn lane, but that may mean testing Department of Transporta-

tion policies and the city’s transportation master plan.

Chairman Chris Hoth and commissioners David Posalski and Bill Carpenter asked Planning Director Kevin Cupples to offer recommendations for the Dec. 4 meeting.

The project is “good,” Hoth said. “I’d like to see it happen, I’d like to have somebody give me information that would make me feel better about dealing with the traffic issue. If we can deal with that issue, I can make a decision, yay or nay.”

The Astoria City Council wishes everyone a

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Grateful to be here,
Ann


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