

FORGET YOUR TROUBLES, COME ON GET CRABBY, WINEY AND HAPPY

The 37th annual Crab, Seafood and Wine Festival kicks off Friday evening, April 26



By KATHERINE LACAZE
FOR COAST WEEKEND

ASTORIA — On the Oregon North Coast, seafood plays an important role in the area's cuisine, recreation, industry and culture, a fact both highlighted and celebrated every year since 1982 at what's now officially known as the Astoria Warrenton Crab, Seafood and Wine Festival.

"It's a huge aspect of our area and part of our heritage and our history," Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce event coordinator Kelsey Balensifer said. "We as a chamber promote the business community, but we also want to stay true to our roots as well."

The 37th annual Crab, Seafood and Wine Festival, presented by Fred Meyer, kicks off Friday evening, April 26, and runs through Sunday, April 28, at the Clatsop County Fair and Expo Center. More than 150 local purveyors and groups will sprawl across the festival site, selling prepared and packaged food, beverages and arts and crafts. With sponsorship from Lum's Auto Center, the festival also features live entertainment on two stages during all three days of the event, with the 16-act lineup representing a range of musical genres.

"Every corner you turn, there's something new and different to see," Balensifer said. "Our area is fantastic and we love living here. And we love showcasing that to people who come

See Festival, Page 18



Photo by Scott Docherty

Festivalgoers sample wines from one of the many vintners, Zerba Cellars, at the 2018 Astoria Warrenton Crab, Seafood and Wine Festival.



Courtesy Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce

A tub of crab meat



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

Wine from J. Scott Cellars sits on display at the 2017 Crab, Seafood and Wine Festival at the Clatsop County Fair and Expo Center on Saturday.

IF YOU GO

What: 37th annual Crab, Seafood and Wine Festival

When: 4 to 9 p.m. Friday, April 26; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, April 27; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 28

Where: Clatsop County Fair & Expo Center at 92937 Walluski Loop in Astoria

Details: Tickets can be purchased at the door. For more information, visit astoriacrabfest.com or call 503-325-6311



Scenes from the 2018 Astoria Warrenton Crab, Seafood and Wine Festival by Scott Docherty for the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce.