

Take a hike in Woodland, Wash.

ASTORIA — The Angora Hiking Club's first May hike will be 9 a.m. Saturday, May 4, at the Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens in Woodland, Washington.

This National Historic Site is a botanical garden specializing in lilacs. There is a \$3 entrance fee. From there hikers will drive to Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, operated by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Clark County, Washington. They have 5,000 acres of marshes, grasslands and woodlands.

This hike will be lead by Arline LaMear. Call her at 503 338-6883 by Friday, May 3, if you plan to participate.

Participants will meet at the parking lot on Marine Drive between Second and Third streets, just west of Burger King in Astoria. Carpooling will be arranged.

Visitors are welcome. Dues are \$10 a year. Dogs are not allowed on our hikes.

Find more information about the club at angorahikingclub.org.

Go wild! Head to the Wildlife Center

ASTORIA — Wildlife Center of the North Coast has its second annual spring open house and native plant sale, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday May 4-5. This is a great way to meet your local wildlife rescue center, as well as meet the team that cares for our native wildlife.

This event is great for all ages — there will be a booth with activities for kids, as well as tours of our facilities. The Wildlife Center is also holding a native plant sale where you can find trees, shrubs and small plants of various native species. These make great gifts for the upcoming Mother's Day.

This spring open House is a fundraiser for the center



Photo by Wildlife Center of the North Coast

that will help to raise critical funds just in time for the start of its busy baby animal season. Donations provide food, medicines, quality medical care and safe shelter for birds, mammals and other wildlife creatures

in need.

For more information about the open house or how to get involved with the Wildlife Center of the North Coast, visit CoastWildlife.org or call 503-338-0331.

The broom is in bloom: must be Broom Buster Month

SURF PINES — Each May, staff and volunteers with North Coast Land Conservancy focus on removing invasive Scotch broom on NCLC properties: They call it Broom Buster Month.

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 11, NCLC staff and volunteers will be busting broom at Surf Pines Prairie Habitat Reserve, which the conservancy had been managing for conservation for several years, which it acquired in 2018. It is located off U.S. Highway 101 just north of Gearhart.

Volunteers will also get a look at blooming early blue violets and other native prairie species as they work on eradicating the Scotch broom.

If you're interested in helping, please contact NCLC Stewardship Director Melissa Reich at 503-738-9126 or melissar@nclctrust.org to let her know you're coming and to get directions. Wear sturdy boots and gloves. Bring loppers if you have them; otherwise all equipment will be provided. Bring drinking water and lunch; there will be no toilets or potable water on site. Dogs are not allowed on NCLC properties.

Coastal property owners are encouraged to remove Scotch broom and other invasive plants from their own properties during Broom Buster Month as well; visit [NCLCtrust.org/bust-broom-in-your-back-](http://NCLCtrust.org/bust-broom-in-your-backyard)

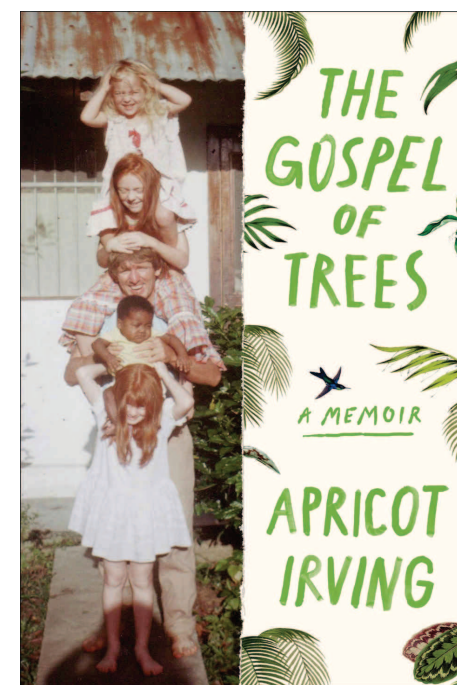


Broom-busting volunteers pose with their tools at NCLC's Reed Ranch Habitat Reserve in Warrenton in 2017.

yard for more information and tips.

Widely planted and admired in the early 20th century for its bright yellow blossoms, Scotch broom out-competes native plants

and is turning our open coastal prairies into a monoculture of dense, weedy shrubs, destroying the habitat that many coastal animals need to survive.



Lunch in the Loft features 'The Gospel of Trees'

SEASIDE — 2019 Oregon Book Award finalist Apricot Irving will be at Beach Books, 616 Broadway, for a Lunch in the Loft starting at noon Wednesday, May 8.

In her memoir, "The Gospel of Trees," Irving retraces the story of her family, the missionaries in the north of Haiti, and the shattered history of colonization. The New Yorker review of her book says "Irving moves seamlessly between the wide-eyed perspective of the child and the critical gaze of the adult, creating a tale as beautiful as it is discomfiting. The question that haunts her also haunts her book: 'Should we have kept trying, even if we were doomed to fail?'"

Cost: \$25 includes a catered lunch and a copy of "Gospel of Trees: A Memoir." Please RSVP at 503-738-3500.

