Margaret Heyen

The Gateway Masonic Lodge's 59th Warrenton High School Honor Student Banquet was held April 22. Pictured, back row, student scholarship winners. Bottom row, Gateway Masonic Lodge members seated with guest speaker James Morgan, far right, Grand Master of Masons in Oregon.

Gateway Lodge holds honor student banquet, awards scholarships

The Astorian

WARRENTON — The Gateway Masonic Lodge's 59th Warrenton High School Honor Student Banquet was held April 22 in the school gymnasium with about 175 in attendance. The guest speaker was Most Worshipful Brother James L. Morgan, Grand Master of Masons in Oregon.

Gateway Lodge 175 is the first Masonic Lodge in Oregon to hold a high school Honor Student Banquet. Ervin L. Atkins Sr., a wood shop and mechanical drawing teacher at WHS, thought of the idea in 1960.

This year's honor student banquet included 12 freshmen, 18 sophomores, 19 juniors and 18 seniors. A total of 13 Baldwin Scholarships were awarded, totaling $34,500 per year (renewable for four years), which brought the total Gateway Scholarships awarded for 2019 to $134,750.

The following scholarships were awarded: $4,000 each to Catherine Tapales, Maria Heyen and Cailin Bennett; $3,000 to Claire Bussert; $2,500 each to Giovanni Martinez, Sofia Morrill, Saumay Narayan and Pamela Talancon-Botello; $2,000 each to Fernanda Alvarez and Madison Kadera; and $1,500 each to Danielle Bue and Andrew Schenbeck. The Murl Peterson Award for $500 was split between Maria Heyen and Catherine Tapales, and the Edwin L. Mowick Award for $250 was awarded to Cailin Bennett.

Dick and Harriett Baldwin willed their estate worth $1.2 million to the Gateway Masonic Lodge in 2002, to be used for scholarships at Warrenton High School. The principal amount is invested; scholarships are awarded each year, using only the interest. During the past 17 years, over $1,380,000 has been awarded to WHS seniors.

Naselle concert fundraiser a success

The Astorian

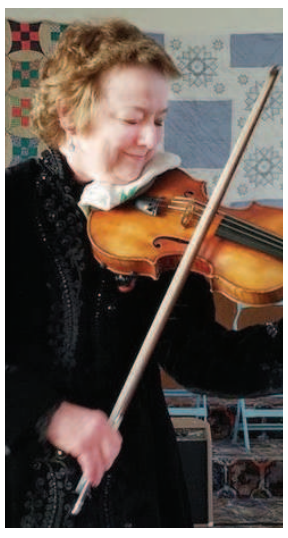
NASELLE, Wash. — The Naselle Community Center hosted its second concert recently with almost 100 in attendance. Over $1,000 in donations was collected to help offset costs of upgrades and maintenance to the building.

The Finnish American Folk Festival group paid tribute to Wilho Saari's Kantele by playing his music as the audience entered. Mike Swanson opened the concert and welcomed everyone, and Barb Swanson gave a tribute to Wilho Saari and introduced each performer.

The Columbia Wind Quintet began the program. Members of the group are Anna Haugen (oboe), Erica Hiatt (flute), Judy Shatto (bassoon), Debbie Anderson (clarinet) and Chuck Schroeder (horn). This was their first public appearance.

Also performing were Kim Angelis (violin) and Jennifer Goodenberger (piano), and country musician Carl Wirkkala and his cousin, Lucas Holmgren.

More events at the Naselle Community Center are planned. For information, call Barb Swanson at 360-484-3602 or go to the Naselle Community Center Facebook page.



Kim Angelis was one of the performers at a concert fundraiser recently for the Naselle Community Center.

State Sen. Johnson receives business advocate award

The Astorian

State Sen. Betsy Johnson, D-Scappoose, was recently awarded the inaugural Jobs Champion Award by advocacy group Oregon Business Industry.

Years ago, Johnson said at a recent meeting of the group, retired state Senate Republican Leader Ted Ferrioli labeled her a "BFD."

"Time passed before I figured out he meant a 'Business Friendly Democrat,'" Johnson said. "I am damn proud to be a BFD today and I promise to continue to earn that moniker going forward."

The award recognizes individuals who foster job growth by supporting Oregon companies and advocating for them in the Capitol. Johnson was chosen for supporting such efforts as the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center in Scappoose, Knight Cancer Collaborative in Astoria and the rebuild of the Pacific Seafood processing plant in Warrenton.

Oregon Business Indsutry

State Sen. Betsy Johnson, D-Scappoose, was recently given the Jobs Champion Award by advocacy group Oregon Business Industry.

"I don't think there's a stronger advocate for working men and women of this state than Sen. Johnson," Rich White, government relations manager for Boeing, said at the meeting.

Sen. Johnson has a clear view of what it takes to enable companies to grow and ensure Oregonians have places to work, White said. "This is the kind of future thinking we expect from Sen. Johnson and why we know she is an ultimate advocate for good jobs in the state."

"It's my view that Oregon business is already being heavily pressured with cost drivers passed both in this session as well as in previous sessions," Johnson said at the meeting. "The people in this room represent the economic heartbeat of Oregon. I salute you for your commitment to job creation, recruitment and retention."

Astoria Regatta holds bingo fundraiser

The Astorian

Regatta bingo is back. The Astoria Regatta Association is holding a fundraiser bingo game Monday at the Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St. The doors open at 6 p.m.; bingo starts at 6:30pm.

The cost is $10, which includes one set of bingo cards and the Regatta's famous strawberry shortcake. Those attending can bring their own dauber, or purchase one for $2. The prizes have been donated by local merchants.

This fundraiser is a festive event that helps support the oldest festival west of the Rockies, and provides an opportunity to meet the Regatta officers and volunteers. It also kicks off the Astoria Regatta season, and marks the first appearance of the newly selected Regatta Court.

Astoria Regatta Association

Pictured, the Regatta Bingo Night Committee work party to organize all of the prizes donated by local merchants. From left, Nancy Kennell, Irene Baltimore, Melba Obryant and Betty Cunningham.

The 125th annual Astoria Regatta festival takes place Aug. 7-10.

Friday Musical Club

Friday Musical Club presented its annual student scholarship recital May 4 at First Lutheran Church. Performing students included, first row, from left, Susan Foss, piano, Astoria Middle School; Serena Moha, flute, Warrenton High School; Alivia Swearingen, flute, Jewell High School; and Delfina Acfalle, violin, Astoria High School. Second row, William Brindley, piano; Erin Grauff, mezzo soprano; Marin Donohue, soprano; and Zachary Larsen, baritone, all of Astoria High School. The 113-year-old Friday Musical Club's mission is to further musical excellence by funding music lesson scholarships in Clatsop and Pacific (Washington) counties through dues and donations. Tax deductible donations can be directed to Liberty Restoration Inc./FMC Fund, P.O. Box 446, Astoria OR., 97103. For information, contact Laurie Drage at 503-791-5917.

COMMUNITY IN BRIEF

AAUW presents program on notable women

On Tuesday, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Astoria Branch is presenting a program, "Notable Women of the AAUW Astoria Branch" at 6 p.m. in the Astoria Public Library Flag Room, 450 10th St. The public is welcome.

Liz Bartell, Mindy Stokes and Pam Wev share their careers, life events and current community involvement. Also featured on the program is a remembrance of Karen Kenyon, an AAUW member for over 40 years.

Bartell is president of the AAUW Astoria Branch. She has a master's degree in social work, and is a licensed clinical social worker. Since her semi-retirement, she mentors younger social work professionals.

Stokes earned her bachelor's degree in dietetics and her master's degree in women's studies. She teaches at Clatsop Community College, is the director of the Lives in Transition program and serves on The Harbor and Clatsop Care Health District boards.

Wev, who had a 40-year career as a land-use planner and economic development consultant, received her master's degree in urban and regional planning. She serves on the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners.

Northwest Piano Trio presents 'Back to the Basics' concert

CANNON BEACH — The Northwest Piano Trio performs a concert, "Back to the Basics," at 2 p.m. Sunday at Cannon Beach Community Church, 132 E. Washington St., with guest violinist Esther Shim, featuring Mendelssohn's Piano Trio in D Minor and Beethoven's Trio No. 1, Op. 1.

The concert is free and open to the public.

The Northwest Piano Trio, based in Portland, includes Heather Mastel-Lipson on violin, Hannah Hillebrand on cello and Susan McDaniel playing the 7-foot Steinway grand piano. For information, go to northwestpianotrio.com

The Harbor seeks volunteers

The Harbor, 801 Commercial St., is recruiting volunteers to help survivors of domestic and sexual violence with volunteer commitments for weekly evening childcare, event setup, receptionist duties at the Advocacy Center or staffing a booth during community events.

Volunteers with long-term availability are also needed for on-call crisis line shifts. For information or an application, contact Felicity Green at 503-325-3426 or felicity@harbornw.org

— The Astorian