

THE ARTS

GOONIES DAY 2019

Beyond the Backlot screening, events in Astoria to Cannon Beach

By KATHERINE LACAZE
FOR COAST WEEKEND

When it comes to “The Goonies,” Astoria and other North Coast destinations woven into the cult classic film play as pivotal a role as the cast and crew, practically assuming their own personality and consequently contributing to the film in a unique way.

“We believe the location is just as much a character in the film as the actors,” said “Super-Fan” Curtis Templeton, the host of Beyond the Backlot whose team selected Astoria as the “no-brainer” option for their pilot episode because of how deeply embedded the film is into the culture and milieu of the area.

During the 34th annual Goonies Day weekend, Friday-Sunday, June 7-9, visiting fans and local enthusiasts have two opportunities to watch the Beyond the Backlot episode that explores the locations, characters and iconic scenes of “The Goonies.”

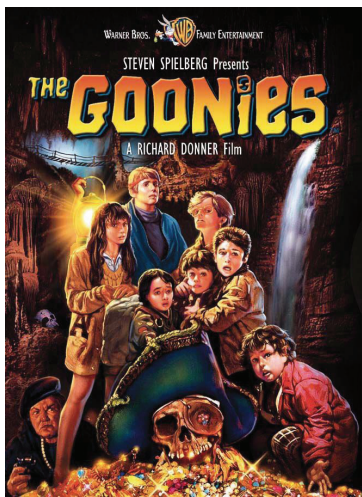
Beyond the Backlot

The screenings take place at the Columbian Theater at 6 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. Saturday, followed by a Q&A with Templeton and crew, as well as a showing of the movie.

Guided by a desire to capture iconic yet living places that remain easily recognizable from the film in which they were used, “there was no question Astoria would be first,” Templeton said. They shot the episode – originally intended to be 30 minutes and made for television – in February 2017. Eventually, they switched courses to instead produce more and shorter content designed for YouTube, but they will be screen-



Photo courtesy Beyond the Backlot

Beyond the Backlot filming their Goonies episode in Astoria in 2017.**“The Goonies” was filmed in Astoria in 1985.**

ing the full, extended version during Goonies Day weekend.

The episode includes interviews with locals who were on location during filming of “The Goonies” and director Richard Donner at his studio in Beverly Hills, Calif. In the interview, Donner talks about the history of the film and its quintessential relationship to Astoria.

“Donner wrapped up a huge

audience in those kids that gave everyone a chance to go, ‘That’s me,’” Templeton said. “I think it’s one of those films that will be timeless.”

Templeton himself was introduced to the area during a trip with friends in college. When he returned for filming two years ago, little had changed.

“That’s an essential part of our show,” he said. “The places are still the same. When you see it, it kind of takes your breath away because you think, ‘This is exactly how it was in the film.’”

Fandom in Astoria and Cannon Beach

Along with the Beyond the Backlot episode and film screening, locals and guests can participate in a number of other activities and festivities from Astoria to Cannon Beach that encapsulate “Goonies” fandom.

Although the weekend is officially hosted by the Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of Commerce and the Oregon Film Museum, “We also encourage other entities to get involved and other


businesses to put their spin on it,” Executive Director David Reid said, adding, “It makes for a much more robust weekend.”

Event-goers can go to the Trashy Treasure Hunt at Haystack Rock from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday or partake in the One-Eyed Willy’s ‘Never Say Dive’ Pirate Ship Race on the pond at the Flavel House Grounds at 10 a.m. Saturday. Individuals or groups can participate in the boat race for free and take a chance at winning the \$50 prize.

Other activities include a tour of Ecola State Park with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department’s Patrick Lines at 9 a.m. Sunday. Lines was the Ecola State Park ranger when scenes from the movie were shot there in 1984, and he provided the crew with insight on dealing with coastal weather conditions.

The Cannon Beach Escape Room is also offering a weekend discount for teams of two to 10 to explore its pirate-themed Escape One-Eyed Jack room. Owner Natalie Miller, who described herself and her husband as “huge ‘Goonies’ fans,” said they were “certainly inspired by a one-eyed pirate” when designing the room and determined to have a “Goonies” tie-in.

Although the One-Eyed Jack room was available when the establishment opened in 2007, the Millers periodically change the puzzles to keep the activity fresh for returning clients. Their establishment was involved in Goonies Day weekend for the first time last year and welcomed several enthusiastic “Goonies” fans.

“There’s something really cool about people unifying around something they all love,” Miller said. 

Visual arts, literature,
theater, music & more**IF YOU GO****GOONIES DAY CELEBRATION 2019****FRIDAY, JUNE 7****Goonies Day Celebration**

10 a.m. Clatsop County Historical Society, 714 Exchange St., Astoria. Purchase your raffle entry and 2019 Goonies Day Button before exploring the town.

Goonies’ Day**Trashy Treasure Hunt**

10 a.m. Haystack Rock, Cannon Beach. Collect trashy treasure and clean the beach in the process.

Beyond the Backlot and “The Goonies”

6 p.m. Columbian Theatre Voodoo Room, 1114 Marine Drive, Astoria. “Super-fan” Curtis and the Beyond the Backlot crew present a screening of their pilot episode and host a Q&A.

SATURDAY, JUNE 8**One Eyed Willy’s Never Say Dive Pirate Ship Race**

10 a.m. Flavel House Museum, 441 Eighth St., Astoria. First ship to reach the other side wins \$50. Other prizes include best-looking ship, worst looking ship, best ship name and ship that looks the most like a Baby Ruth.

Beyond the Backlot and “The Goonies”

2 p.m. Columbian Theatre Voodoo Room, 1114 Marine Drive, Astoria. “Super-fan” Curtis and the Beyond the Backlot Crew present a screening of their pilot episode and host a Q&A.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9**Goonies Day at Ecola State Park**

10 a.m. Ecola State Park, 84318 Ecola Park Road, Cannon Beach. \$5 Vehicle day-use fee required at park. Walk with Patrick Lines as he tells stories firsthand from his experience with “The Goonies” filming at Ecola State Park.

Find the full schedule of events at thegoondocks.org.