Celebrate the storm

Art, live music at Stormy Weather Arts Festival

BY EMILY LINDBLOM

It's the time of year when the waves are rough and the rain is pouring, but that won't stop troves of visitors from coming to Cannon Beach this weekend.

The 32nd Annual Stormy Weather Arts Festival will treat the raincoat-clad art lovers to live music, a fashion show, food, drinks and tours of fine art galleries Friday through Sunday.

Local artists Jeffrey Hull will showcase his paintings of coastal scenes at the Jeffrey Hull Gallery. He opened the gallery in 1987, the same year the first Stormy Weather Arts Festival took place. In those days, he said, fewer visitors would come out during the fall and winter, so the festival gave people a reason to come to Cannon Beach and engage in the arts.

"It's a great combination of the visual arts and live music," Hull said.

An artistic destination

Jim Paino, executive director of the Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce, said the event supports local artists in Cannon Beach including Hull, David Marshall of Modern Villa Gallery, Bill Steidel of Steidel's Art and more.

The festival also brings in artists from around the northwest, as well as around the country.

"We've been known as an arts town for many years, and the Stormy Weather Arts Festival is part of that," Paino said. "Back in the '70s, there was a big push for artists who live here and it kept growing and continuing on from there and it led to this wonderful event for our community to celebrate the arts."

Bill Steidel was one of the first artists in town, according to his son, Sam Steidel, who manages Steidel's Art and its framing shop.

See Page 9

Jeffrey Hull's 'Sparkling Surf.'