

FROM CHICKEN TO MARKET

By HAILEY HOFFMAN
The Astorian

In March 2018, Hayley Urman Segal and her husband Peter Grano finally followed their dream to live on a small, self-sustaining farm. They moved with their two boys to a small farm off of U.S. Highway 202 in Olney. In April of that same year, Urman Segal bought their first chickens for farm fresh eggs. Now, a year and a half later, Urman Segal has around two flocks, totaling 140 chickens, and brings hundreds of fresh eggs every week to Egg Day — a market hosted by the North Coast Food Web. Every week, she sells out in minutes.

EGG DAY AND POP-UP FARM STAND

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Thursdays
North Coast Food Web,
577 18th St.,
Astoria



Photos by Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

A Leghorn hen pecks her way through tall grass, searching for seeds and feed to snack on in her chicken coop at the farm. To feed the chickens, Hayley Urman Segal gets organic grain from a small granary in Skamokawa, Washington, leftover spent grain from Fort George and hay from her pastures.



Several chickens stand in the doorway of the chicken coop that was hand-built by Urman Segal's husband Peter. She said that she and her husband like having the ability to empower and provide for themselves on their little farm by building structures and relying on their own skills and resources at hand.



Urman Segal holds one of the Svart Sisters, one of two rare Swedish hens in Urman Segal's flock. There are around a dozen breeds in her flocks, creating more variety in the eggs she sells.



At 9:03 a.m., Howard Clarke walks away with the last two dozen eggs for sale at Egg Day, which officially opens at 9:00 a.m. In the winter when the hens lay less, Urman Segal usually brings around 10 dozen eggs. In the summer at peak production, her chickens produce as many as 40 dozen.



LEFT: Urman Segal pulls a recently laid egg from beneath a brooding chicken. MIDDLE: Dozens of fresh eggs sit in a basket ready to be washed by hand before going to the market. RIGHT: Urman Segal holds a green egg for sale at Egg Day on Nov. 21. Each package of eggs comes with white, brown, green and sometimes purple eggs because she likes the uniqueness of all the colors that you might not find in a store.