

COLUMBIABAR

GIGGLE JUICE

BY RYAN HUME

Not unlike its Bermuda counterpart, the Triangle Tavern on Marine Drive is a fine place to lose some time. There is a sense of timelessness in the air. I recently sought some refuge there on a padded stool during a particularly torturous afternoon, and refuge was certainly found.

Along with Worker's and the Portway down the road, Uniontown may have claim to some of the friendliest bars in the world, and the Triangle is definitely among them. It has all the trappings of a classic Astoria bar, including the door cut into the floor for shanghaiing sailors.

In fact, there's some debate about which is the longest-standing establishment in town – the Triangle or the Portway – both

of which have their loyalists and a history just murky enough to keep the debate rolling.

I met an old fixture at the bar named Randy who referred to the Triangle as “my other living room.” Randy spilled a little of the building's history for me, including the fact that he'd done the carpentry to repair the original stools we sat on – as have countless others since the Triangle opened as a luncheonette during Prohibition.

Randy claimed the Triangle obtained the first liquor license in town after America's dry spell. Until just a few years ago, the Triangle was a true tavern, slinging just beer and wine. But it has changed hands a number of times in recent memory, with Jim and Carol Major, owners of the Long Beach Tavern on the peninsula, taking over stewardship this last June.

This drink, bartender Missy Harley told me, harkens back to the last era of ownership, when the joint was run by Mark and Nadine Cearley. Nadine's sister, Marsha, came in on a hot day in need of something cold but not too sweet, and Harley went to work. It soon became Marsha's go-to drink.

Giggle Juice is reminiscent of drunk punch – the kind you might make for a crowd during a summer barbecue – but is elevated by the use of purely fresh-squeezed ingredients. Harley suggests adding a little more orange juice if you prefer the final product a bit sour, or adding a splash of cranberry juice to up the sweet factor.

When Martha asked Harley why she named the beverage Giggle Juice, she answered, “Well, whenever you drink it, you are always giggling.”

Whether the day is hot or not, I think we could all use a good giggle.

Giggle Juice

¾ ounce Smirnoff Raspberry Vodka

¾ ounce Burnett's Whipped Cream Vodka

Splash of di Amore raspberry liqueur

½ lemon, juiced

1 whole orange, juiced

Slice of lemon for garnish

Ice

Set a pint glass full of ice. Add all ingredients to a cocktail shaker and give it a lively go. Strain into the pint and garnish with lemon.

—Recipes courtesy of Missy Harley, bartender, Triangle Tavern, Astoria.

Crucial conversations continue at Astoria Library

ASTORIA – We live in a state with abundant forests, and yet we don't all see the same thing when we look into the woods. Oregon is known for both its timber industry and its deep environmental values. What are the beliefs we have about our forests and what will we, as a state, do to steward, manage and protect this resource?

This is the focus of “Seeing the Forest and the Trees: Stewarding Our Public Lands,” a free conversation with Mariah Acton at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11 at the Astoria Library, 450 10th St.

Mariah Acton is a recent graduate whose master's work focused at the intersection of conflict resolution, nonprofit management and public administration. She currently works in Salem as a strategic business analyst at Oregon Housing and Community Services.

Through this lecture series, “Conversation Project,” Oregon Humanities offers free programs that engage community members in thoughtful, challenging conversations about ideas critical to our daily lives and our state's future. For more information about this free community discussion, please contact comments@astorialibrary.org.

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The spookier side of the season

ASTORIA — As the darkness of winter descends, the Krampus comes. The Labor Temple, 934 Duane St., will host two nights of entertainment to appeal to Krampus and the darker side of the season including sultry burlesque, Sword Swallowing side shows, magic, metal and goth.

Costumes are encouraged.

Friday night will feature story telling, a visit from Krampus, burlesque dancing, music from Portland metal band Dinner for Wolves and an appearance from Titano Oddfellow.

Saturday features a full length sword-swallowing show headlining Titano Oddfellow with appearance by burlesque performers, magic and a Portland goth DJ finishing the evening. There will be opportunities to have your picture taken with Krampus.

Tickets are available at brownpapertickets.com. General admission is \$15 for each night or both nights for \$25. Persons will current OLCC or Food Handler cards may purchase discounted tickets directly from the venue. 21 and over only.



Missy Harley is the bartender at the Triangle Tavern.

Ryan Hume