

Angoras to visit historical spots Wednesday

LONG BEACH — Angora Hiking Club will visit a variety of landmarks in Washington state from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Participants should meet at the Cranberry Museum, 2907 Pioneer Road. While there, participants will go on a guided tour and walk around where cranberries are harvested annually. The visit will include a stop to the museum's gift shop, which features cranberry beverages, foods and goods.

Afterward, participants will drive to McGowan, Washington, and go along a history documentary trail about the Chinook Tribe.

Following the trail walk, participants will get a private tour of St. Mary's McGowan Church with the founder's grandson, Bill Garvin.

Participants will also visit the Knappton Cove Public Health Quarantine Station for a brief history lesson and tour. Attendees can then enjoy a picnic and short hike along the Columbia River.

Participants should bring comfortable shoes, lunch, water and face coverings. Membership is not required.



Luke Whittaker/Chinook Observer
Travis Kary pulls a cranberry boom along as Juan Hernandez uses a paddle to pull berries away from the edge.



Runners during a previous Great Columbia Crossing 10K run/walk.

Great Columbia Crossing goes virtual this weekend

The annual Great Columbia Crossing 10K run/walk will be held as a virtual event from Sunday to Oct. 17.

The virtual event is a replacement for the annual in-person event where hundreds of runners and walkers cross the Astoria Bridge. The Astoria-Warrenton Chamber of Commerce announced the event would go virtual in June after a slew of regular North Coast events were canceled as a precaution to the coronavirus.

Participants can choose to run either a

5K or 10K in their town of residence. After they've finished, participants can upload race times to an online database to see how they placed against other runners.

Registration costs \$40 per person. Participants will receive a race bib, finisher medal, long sleeve t-shirt and coupon book. An optional fleece headband and other items are also available.

Event registration is held online at greatcolumbiacrossing.com.

Washington State Parks open for free on Saturday



Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian

Waves break off the coast of Cape Disappointment.

Washington State Parks will be open to all visitors on Saturday for World Mental Health Day.

The free day replaces a free day that was canceled earlier in the year when parks were closed as a precaution to the coronavirus. Park visitors don't need a Discover Pass or day pass during free days.

Other free park days in 2020 include Nov. 11 and Nov. 17. Free park days in 2021 will include Jan. 1, Jan. 18, March 19, April 3, April 22, June 5, June 12, June 13, Aug. 25, Sept. 25, Nov. 11 and Nov. 26.

Park visitors are encouraged to visit parks close to home, check what is open before arriving, and to bring personal supplies such as soap, hand sanitizer, toilet paper and face coverings. Visitors are expected to maintain at least 6 feet of distance between other groups.