



Carolyn Hoard

Quentin Lamping stands next to the 'Scooby-Doo' sign he painted for the Boo Bash event.

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together for seven years in the Willamette Valley. Belden is excited to introduce this tradition to the Astoria community. The Boo Bash will be open to all, not just residents of the apartment.

The event's focus will be a costume contest, an event that Astoria Police Officer Sam Whisler helped plan early this summer. Whisler unexpectedly died of natural causes in July at the age of 26.

While he served on the costume planning committee for the event Whisler picked a fairy tale category for the contest lineup. Participants can also choose to compete in the spooky or funny costume categories.

"He was an absolute joy who cared about the community," Belden said.

Belden said she and Whisler shared a love of community and helping oth-

ers. The Boo Bash will also serve as a fundraiser for Whisler's family. A donation station will be set up to benefit his wife and kids.

To honor Whisler, the Emerald Heights staff will dress in an "Alice in Wonderland" theme. Boo Bash games will include a magnetic fishing game, wooden egg toss and a ring toss with a witches' hat and a blow-up giant tarantula.

The Boo Bash is also the start of the apartment's "Caught Ya" program. The initiative aims to catch kids doing something nice, and reward them with prizes. Aside from the Halloween program, Emerald Heights provides donated school supplies to children and encourages community members and businesses to donate as well.

"We give residents the opportunity to not just be neighbors, but friends and family. It stops being an apartment, and starts being a home," Belden said.



Dressed as a mermaid, Lisa Dreeszen hands out candy to excited children outside of Sea Gypsy Gifts at a previous Halloween event in Astoria.

Hailey Hoffman/
The Astorian

Family-friendly Halloween events on the North Coast

Downtown Trick-or-Treat

**Downtown Astoria
Saturday 3 to 5 p.m.**

Put on your best costume and head downtown, because Downtown Astoria Trick-or-Treat is back! Head to your favorite shops to get candy from select retailers. Check for a sign in front of each shop to make sure they are welcoming trick-or-treaters this year.

Masks (in addition to costumes) are required to participate. Participants should social distance.

Witches, Wizards and Waffles

**Garden of the Surging Waves, Astoria
Friday and Saturday at 6:30 p.m.**

Sparrow Dance Co. will hold a free children's Halloween event this weekend.

Kids can come at dusk and howl with Willard the Wizard and cackle with Brunhilda the Witch and enjoy Halloween-themed dances. The event will be light-hearted and perfect for those preschoolers and early elementary age.

Follow Sparrow Dance Co. on Facebook for performance updates due to weather.

Ilwaco Halloween Block Party

**Lake Street, Ilwaco
5 to 8 p.m. Sunday**

Ilwaco will host a Halloween event with live music from the North Coast Blues Band from 5 to 7 p.m.

The Beach Ballet will facilitate a "Thriller" dance at 7 p.m.

Games and candy will be part of the celebration.

Seaside Halloween Happening

**Downtown Seaside
Saturday and Sunday**

The Seaside Downtown Development Association will host several Halloween events this weekend.

A costumed pet parade will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday. Those interested in participating should sign in at 9:30 a.m. at Seaside Slushies and Dogs.

A Halloween carnival will be held Saturday with games and pumpkin carvings at select businesses from noon to 3 p.m. At the end of the carnival, a giant pumpkin will be dropped into a pool of "ducks and beavers." Trunk or Treat will be held Saturday from 4 to 5 p.m.

A Witches Paddle will take Sunday at Quat Park. Participants should arrive by 11:30 a.m., the paddle begins at noon.

Warrenton Fall Festival

**Quincy Robinson City Park, SW 4th and Alder Street in Warrenton
11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday**

Warrenton will be hosting the 2nd Annual Fall Festival and Trunk-or-Treat. The event is sponsored by Spruce Up Warrenton.

Admission is free. The festivities include a trunk-or-treat, several carnival games, craft booths and food carts. 4-H will host a petting zoo.

Families can participate in Trunk-Or-Treat and register on the Spruce Up Warrenton Facebook page. Trunks should be set up and ready by 10:30 a.m. Decorating trucks is encouraged but not mandatory.

For the first time, the Warrenton Fire Department will present a pumpkin launch.