

**BRIEFS**

**Hoop Shoot winners announced**

SEASIDE — Seaside Elks Lodge No. 1748 has announced the winners of the Hoop Shoot Contest, held Dec. 4. More than 600 boys and girls participated at the local level.

The first place winners in the girls' divisions are: ages 8-9, Kinsley Thompson, nine throws; ages 10-11, Jahzara Marshall, 12 throws; and ages 12-13, Tiera Spivey five throws.

The first place winners in the boys' divisions are: ages 8-9, Maleek Marshall, 19 throws; ages 10-11, Sam Jones, nine throws; and ages 12-13, Hayden Halsen, 17 throws.

The winners will advance to the district shoot, hosted by the Seaside Elks Lodge

on Jan. 8.

Hoop Shoot, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2022, is a national Elks program that began in Corvallis.

**Regional venues offer reciprocal admissions**

Twelve regional attractions have partnered to offer reciprocal admission to their members.

From January through December 2022, membership to one of the participating organizations is a key to free admission for a member and three guests of any age to a different attraction each month.

The offer applies to all membership levels. Valid proof of membership and photo ID are required. The Reciprocal Admission Pro-

gram members and available months are as follows:

January: Oregon Zoo in Portland; February: Columbia River Maritime Museum; March: Deepwood Museum & Gardens in Salem; April: Clark County Historical Museum in Vancouver, Washington; May: Architectural Heritage Center in Portland; June: Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education in Portland; July: World Forestry Center in Portland; August: Oregon Historical Society in Portland; September: Rice Northwest Museum of Rocks and Minerals in Hillsboro; October: Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum in McMinnville; November: Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport; and December: Lan Su Chinese Garden in Portland.

**RELIGION BRIEFS**

**Anchor Baptist Church**

The congregation meets at the Astoria Christian Church, 1151 Harrison Ave. On Sundays, the service starts at 1 p.m.; Bible study is at 7 p.m. Thursdays. For information, email anchorbaptistastoria@gmail.com

**Astoria Christian Church**

For service information and updates, go to astoriachristian.org or bit.ly/AstoriaChristian, call 503-325-2591 or email AstoriaChristian@gmail.com

**Astoria First Baptist Church**

First Baptist Church, 349 Seventh St., holds a worship service at 10:45 a.m. Sunday. The service is also broadcast at fb.me/astoriafirstbaptist

Sunday school starts at 9:30 a.m. There is no child care, but children are encouraged to join the service. For information, call the church office at 503-325-1761.

**Astoria First United Methodist Church**

Open for worship on Sundays at 11:30 a.m., 1076 Franklin Ave. Masks are required. For livestream service information, email the church office at office@unitedmethodistastoria.org or call 503-325-5454.

**Common Ground Interspiritual Fellowship**

Common Ground Interspiritual Fellowship holds a service from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday, via Zoom, which is open to all belief systems, including the spiritual but not religious. For information, go to cgifellowship.org. For the Zoom link, email info@cgifellowship.org

**First Church of Christ, Scientist**

Sunday morning services and Sunday school at the Christian Science Church, 632 11th St., are held at 10 a.m.; enter on 11th Street.

Wednesday evening testimony meetings are at 7 p.m. Those wishing to attend by phone can get details by calling 971-320-0294.

The Reading Room hours are 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, except holidays; enter on Franklin Avenue.

**Grace Episcopal Church**

Grace Episcopal Church, 1545 Franklin Ave., lights the fourth and last Advent candle on Sunday, when services are at 8 and 10 a.m. The second service is livestreamed both

on Facebook and YouTube, and followed by a coffee hour.

Morning prayer services are at 8 a.m. daily.

An evening prayer service, which begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, and is accompanied by pianist Jennifer Goodenberger, is also livestreamed.

Church office hours are from 10 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. For information, go to graceastoria.org, call 503-325-4691 or email graceastoria4691@gmail.com

**Olney Community Church**

The non-denominational Olney Community Church, 89351 Oregon Highway 202, meets at 9:30 a.m. Sunday for breakfast. Sunday school is at 10 a.m., and the worship service is at 11 a.m. All are welcome. A Wednesday prayer meeting is at 3 p.m. For information, call the church at 503-325-3394, or Ed Hortsch, pastor, at 503-791-4475.

**Pacific Unitarian Universalist**

The Pacific Unitarian Universalist Fellowship now meets in person at noon Sunday at the First Presbyterian Church, 1103 Grand Ave. The sanctuary entrance is on 11th Street between Grand and Harrison avenues. The service is also held via Zoom; for information, go to pacuuf.org

**Peace First Lutheran**

Peace First Lutheran Church holds Sunday services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. at 725 33rd St. The 8:30 a.m. service is also streamed live at bit.ly/3rckrMd

Wednesday Bible Study is at 10:30 a.m., followed by midweek Advent prayer, at 565 12th St.

Soup suppers are at 6 p.m. Wednesday, followed by Advent services at 7 p.m., at 725 33rd St.

Church office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call 503-325-6252, email office@peacefirstlutheran.com or go to peacefirstlutheran.com

**Pioneer Presbyterian Church**

WARRENTON — For service information, call the church at 503-861-2421 or go to pioneerchurch-cusa.org

**St. Mary, Star of the Sea Parish**

For information about the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry hours, and service and livestreaming information at both the Astoria church and Hammond mission, call 503-325-3671, email office@stmaryastoria.com or go to stmaryastoria.com or bit.ly/stmaryastoria

**Fish could have another challenge to their ecosystem**

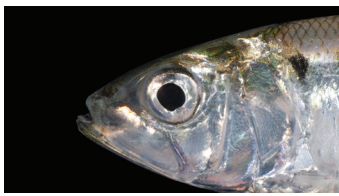
By COURTNEY FLATT  
Northwest News Network

Salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River basin could have another mounting challenge: a horde of American shad.

In recent years, non-native shad migrating past Bonneville Dam on the lower Columbia greatly outnumbered the total salmon and steelhead counted at the dam, according to a recent report presented to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council.

"We're starting to see shad at multiple times the number of salmon and steelhead," said John Epifanio, lead author of the report. "Shad are the dominant species now that appear to be passing over the dam."

However, less is known about how the shad boom



In recent years, non-native American shad migrating past Bonneville Dam greatly outnumbered the total salmon and steelhead.

might affect native salmon and steelhead runs, Epifanio said.

That uncertainty is why an independent science advisory board wanted to alert the policymakers to the growing number of shad. Much still needs to be learned about their effect on the ecosystem, Epifanio said.

For instance, he said, little is known about whether shad are competing for the same food as salmon or whether they might eat young salmon. In addition,

little is known about what mammals or birds might eat shad.

The biggest question is whether shad could contribute to the decline of salmon and steelhead or whether shad merely could take advantage of the lack of salmon, Epifanio said.

"At a gut level, with millions of adult fish running up the river, how can they not have an impact on the ecosystem?" he said.

Although shad aren't native to the Pacific Northwest ecosystem, the bony fish have been in the region for more than a century.

Shad first made it to the West Coast in the 1800s, traveling from the East Coast, Epifanio said. By the 1890s, they had been observed in the Columbia, he said.



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