



This year's junior and senior court pose for a photo onstage in traditional folk costumes.

Scandinavian festival celebrates park dedication, heritage events

BY M.J. CODY

Above the Arctic Circle, including in many parts of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland, the longest of summer days never quite disappear from sight. The midnight sun, a phenomenon in which skies experience daylight for weeks, even months on end, is cause for celebration.

"It's all about celebrating the midnight sun" Yvonne Sundstrom said of the Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. "It's exciting to finally emerge from winter," she added. As the festival's publicity chairperson, Sundstrom is enthused about celebrating the event's 55th year.

And while the sun may set on even the longest of sum-

mer nights in Astoria, the festival will remain, stretching across Friday, Saturday and Sunday with music, dancing and entertainment.

The annual festival is a tribute to Scandinavian heritage in the Columbia-Pacific region, recognizing Nordic immigrants who

See Page 9

55th Annual Astoria Scandinavian Midsummer Festival

Clatsop County Fairgrounds, 92937 Walluski Loop, Astoria

2 to 11 p.m. on Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and 7 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. on Sunday

Three day wristbands are \$10 for adults, \$4 for children ages 6 to 12 and free for children 5 and under. There is a \$5 parking fee for the weekend

www.astoriascanfest.com

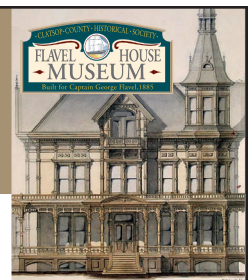
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