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This Weekend

Tacoma Opera presents works from 'Carmen'

The Tacoma Opera will perform selections from the Georges Bizet masterpiece "Carmen" at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, at the Liberty Theatre, 1203 Commercial St., Astoria.

Admission is \$25 for open seating.

Tacoma Opera was founded in 1968 as the Tacoma Opera Society.

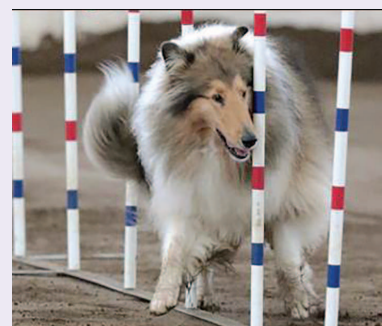
The group is led by Noel Koran, who has spent 40 years as a singer, stage director, producer, educator and arts administrator.



Let dog be a star at agility event

Classy Canines 4-H Club is host for a public-participation dog recreational agility event Saturday, Nov. 18, at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds.

The free event focuses on giving dogs and their owners a chance to try some beginning dog agility. There will also be an opportunity for participants to test for the



A collie takes on an agility test at a previous event.

American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen certification.

Registration is 8 to 8:30 a.m., followed by several workshops. Workshops are free; competitions are \$3 each.

No previous experience is needed. Participants will be asked to help to put the equipment away at the end of the day. There will be ribbons, prizes and dog-themed vendors.

Participants should bring a dog, a kennel/crate, a non-tightening collar or harness, a 6-foot leash, small soft treats such as cheese cubes, a water bowl and plastic clean-up bags.

The arena is generally cold in the morning, so dress in layers and wear shoes you can run in.

Spectators are welcome. For more information, contact Sally Freeman at 503-325-7161 or send an email to youngsriver@yahoo.com.

'Stand Down' assists veterans

A North Coast Veterans Stand Down is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, at Camp Rilea.

Veterans will be able to connect with resources and organizations that serve veterans, talk with VA benefits counselors, claims experts and employers who hire veterans.

To attend, contact Patrick Preston at 503-325-4821, Ext. 227.

ASOC's annual gala is Saturday

Astor Street Opry Company will have its annual auction and gala at 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18 at the playhouse, 129 W. Bond St., Astoria.

The event includes food and there will be music by the RJ Marx Jazz Quartet and live performances featuring members of the troupe.

A silent and live auction will include items donated by local businesses and individuals.

Tickets are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple.

For more information or tickets, go online to astorstreetycompany.com or send an email to info@astorstreetycompany.com.

Visit an Oregon state park for 'Green Friday'

Oregon State Parks is holding an after-Thanksgiving special day for those who don't want to shop.

"Green Friday" gives those who prefer the outdoors a chance to play without paying for parking in 26 Oregon State Parks on Nov. 24.

"We started this tradition three years ago to encourage people to opt outside," said Lisa Sumption, director of

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

To sweeten the deal, the nonprofit Oregon State Parks Foundation will offer free hot drinks and snacks at Fort Stevens as well as Tryon Creek State Natural Area, Rooster Rock State Park, Silver Falls State Park and Cape Blanco State Park.

Parking is free year-round at almost all state parks; the

waiver applies to the 26 parks that charge \$5 daily for parking. The waiver applies from open to close on Nov. 24, except at Shore Lakes, which is having a holiday event.

In addition, the state is offering free fishing on Friday and Saturday.

No license, tag or endorsement will be required to fish, crab or clam anywhere in the state that's open to fishing.