

This weekend

Lucia festival has Scandinavian roots

The Santa Lucia festival will be celebrated at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 23, in the auditorium at Astoria High School, 1001 W. Marine Drive.

The winter festival of lights ties in with the opening of Christmas season in Astoria.

Madalyn Hellberg, Miss Scandinavia 2018 runner-up, is the Lucia bride and will wear a crown of candles on her head.

After the brief Lucia procession and ceremony, the Nordic-Viking dancers will perform. The new Scandinavian Midsummer Festival Court for 2019 will be intro-



Madalyn Hellberg

duced.

The festival includes refreshments by VASA Swedish Lodge and public dancing in the Commons. Coreen Bergholm and friends will play

the accordion and tuba.

Participants need not be Scandinavian.

Admission is \$1 per person or \$5 per family, with all admission funds going to the Scandinavian Festival Scholarship Fund.

‘Messiah’ sing-along is Sunday

North Coast Chorale will hold its community “Messiah” Sing-Along/Play-Along at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25, in the Performing Arts Center, 588 16th St., Astoria.

The event benefits local food banks.

There are a variety of ways to enjoy the musical event.

First, simply listen to the choruses and arias sung by the chorale and soloists. Those so inclined may join in the singing; scores will be available in the lobby.

Instrumentalists also are invited; participants may bring an instrument and play along.

While free, donations of food or money are requested. Last year, \$1,250 was raised along with 96 pounds of food.

Artisans sell their crafts in Seaside

The 45th annual Seaside Artisan Fair is this weekend at the Seaside Civic & Convention Center, 415 First Ave.

On the main floor, 80 crafters will offer fine art, ceram-

ics, woodworking, jewelry, clothes, holiday food and candy. There also will be books for sale from local authors. Santa will make visits each day.

New this year on the upper mezzanine is a holiday distributor showcase featuring products from LuLaRoe, Avon and Yunique, among others. There will be a Home Depot kids’ workshop on Sunday.

Hours are noon to 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 23; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. In addition, Seaside’s annual parade of lights and tree-lighting begins at 7 p.m. Friday in downtown Seaside.

State offers free fishing, more to entice shoppers outside

It may be Black Friday, but the state of Oregon wants to entice you to get outside instead of heading to the stores.

Nov. 23 and 24 are free fishing days. You won’t need a license or tag to fish, crab or clam anywhere in the state open to those activities. All other rules and regulations apply, however.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife suggest angling for summer steelhead, which

are still being caught on the Siletz, Nestucca and Wilson rivers. Coho fishing looks good on the Sandy, Eagle Creek and Clackamas rivers.

A total of 230 large brood trout were released last week at Sheridan Pond, Huddleston Pond, Mt. Hood Pond and Blue Lake in the Willamette Valley. The large rainbows weigh 5 to 15 pounds.

Also Friday, the Oregon Parks and Recreation De-



Silver Falls State Park

partment invites people to play for free Nov. 23 in celebration of “Green Friday.” The agency is waiving day-use parking fees in 25 state parks the day after Thanksgiving.

“We started Green Friday four years ago to encourage people to opt outside,” said Lisa Sumption, Oregon Parks director. “We’re thrilled that many families now include a state park outing as part of their holiday tradition.”

Parking is free year-round at most state parks; the waiver applies to the 25 parks that charge \$5 daily for parking. Fort Stevens is one of those parks. The waiver applies from open to close on Nov. 23.

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