

Travelers get better break along Interstate 5

Those traveling south of Interstate 5 during the holidays may have noticed some improvements in the, ahem, facilities.

There should be no more potty lines at the Oak Grove Rest Area north of Eugene. The stop is sporting new restrooms.

The new construction, on both the north and southbound sides of Interstate 5, triples the capacity of the buildings they replaced.

"The original restroom facilities at Oak Grove were inadequate for the amount of traffic the rest area receives," said Daphnee Legarza, Rest Area Program Administrator for Oregon Department of Transportation. "During peak summer travel, as well as during college football season, long lines of travelers waiting to use the restrooms were common."

In 2018, more than a half-million people used the restrooms at Oak Grove.

Funding for the project was approved by the Oregon Legislature in 2017.



Courtesy Oregon Department of Transportation

A line forms outside the old restrooms at Oak Grove Rest Area near Eugene. Below, the new facility is three times as large.



Fisheries meeting set in Astoria

Those who fish may be interested in a public meeting on the upcoming Chinook returns and management of other fisheries.

The Spring Select Area Fish-

eries meeting is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, in the meeting room at the Holiday Inn Express, 204 W. Marine Drive, Astoria.

It's sponsored by Oregon Fish & Wildlife, Washington state Department of Fish and Wildlife and Clatsop County.

The agenda includes a presentation of run-size expectations for Chinook and various other fisheries and includes a discussion and public comment on management of fishing in Youngs Bay, Blind Slough/Knappa Slough, Tongue Point/South Channel.

For more information, contact Stee Meshke at 503-325-6452 or Cameron Duff at 971-673-6057.

This weekend

Weekend cat show open to public

An all-breed cat show and household pet competition, certified by Cat Fanciers' Association, is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 4 and 5, at Seaside Convention Center, 415 First Ave.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for seniors and children.

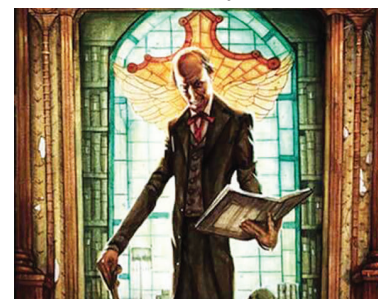
The event is sponsored by the Emerald Cat Club of Vancouver, Wash.



Scary fund-raiser filmed locally

A scary film fundraiser for Clatsop County Historical Society is at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 4, at the Liberty Theatre, 1203 Commercial St.

"The Mortuary Collection



– A Gothic Horror Story" is a horror anthology filled with dark humor and written and directed by Ryan Spindell. Partially filmed in Astoria, it focuses on an eccentric mortician who spins twisted tales in a New England town. The movie was released in September.

A \$5 donation will be collected to support the society. An after-party will be held at the Astoria Elks Lodge, 453 11th St.

Brownsmead Flats performs at PAC

Brownsmead Flats will perform in concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, as a benefit for the Clatsop Community College Performing Arts Center.

The local quintet plays folk, bluegrass and acoustical music with a focus on harmonies.

Members are Dan Sutherland on the hammered dulcimer, fiddle, and mandolin;

Ray Raihala on the banjo, guitar and mandolin; Ned Heavenrich on harmonica and guitar; John Fenton on bass; and Larry Moore on mandolin.

A suggested donation of \$10 will be collected at the door. The Performing Arts Center is at 588 Franklin Ave., Astoria. For more information, call 503-440-6807 or visit partnersforthePAC.org.



Local favorite Brownsmead Flats will perform in a benefit concert for the Performing Arts Center.

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