

Astoria Regatta names its 2020 court, despite cancellation of this year's event

Astoria Regatta's directors cancelled all major events for 2020 even as it named this year's Regetta Court.

Five young women, including Warrenton's Mara Dowaliby, who was named queen during last year's festivities, will represent area high schools during talks and other activities on behalf of the Regatta.

"We are incredibly disappointed that we will not be

Thoughts on the quarantine

BY BRUCE DUSTIN
The Columbia Press

The best day I'll remember is tomorrow.

I know tomorrow is going to bring more grandiose things into my life. I go to sleep at night wondering if the big one will be tomorrow, or is it somewhere down the line.

I don't spend much time treasuring the past, although I treasure it. I feel it's over and gone. And is influencing who I am and what I do today.

But I do feel strongly that tomorrow will greatly overshadow yesterday and today. Sometimes, I feel a barely controllable trembling inside and have to stop thinking about tomorrow for fear I won't finish today.

There is that time in the day, though, when I start filing it away and begin anticipating tomorrow.

It's like being on a swing or sliding down a hill -- when you get the momentum going and your face busts through the air, eyes wide open, as wide as you can get them.

It isn't the hill behind me that excites me, or where I've been on the swing. It's where I'm going, what will happen in the valleys, a feeling of flying into outer space, that excites me more than anything else.

celebrating Regatta this year," association President Erik Thorsen said in making the announcement. "Our newly selected Regatta Court, Regatta dignitaries and all our volunteers were looking forward to creating a fantastic 2020 Regatta celebration."

Astoria Regatta, which celebrates the region's maritime culture and industry, is one of the state's oldest festivals, dating to 1894. Regatta celebrations also were suspended during World War I, World War II and after Astoria's devastating fire of 1921.

This year's Regatta digni-



Mara Dowaliby



Zoey Alexander



Mia McFadden



Gabrielle Morrill



Annalyse Steele

taries are Skip Hauke, admiral; Loran Mathews, admiral's aide; and grand marshals Jon and Mary Jean Englund.

2020 REGATTA COURT

- **Queen Mara Dowaliby** – Mara graduates this year from Warrenton High School and plans to attend Oregon State University in the fall, where she'll work toward a

career as a speech therapist.

- **Zoey Alexander** – Zoey attends Seaside High School and works at a local coffee stand. She enjoys hiking, bicycle riding and reading.

- **Mia McFadden** – Mia attends Warrenton High School and is the school's photography manager. She plays softball and volleyball

and acting.

- **Annalyse Steele** – Annalyse attends Astoria High School, where she is on the cross country team and is vice president of the Key Club. She plays flute in the Columbia River Symphony and is active in her church youth group.

The young women will receive scholarships.

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