

Prepare for a scare

Hauntings and harvest fairs fill the bill during October

The Columbia Press

Fall brings a bounty of activity, whether you celebrate the harvest or just love being scared to pieces.

Kids have settled back into (some-what!) normal routines and the weather has changed from warm to the soothing slosh of rain, wind and gray skies we're all familiar with in the Pacific Northwest.

October stands out as a month full of favorite activities, many of them beginning this week.

SPOOKY MOVIES

Liberty Theatre will host several scary movies in the days leading up to Halloween.

You can see "Poltergeist" at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8; "Friday the 13th" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9; "Nightmare on Elm Street" at 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9; or the more kid-friendly "Monsters Inc." at 4 p.m. Oct. 10.

All shows are \$10. Tickets can be purchased at libertyastoria.showare.com.

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Right and bottom right: First responders and local businesses pass out treats and small gifts during last year's Halloween Trunk or Treat at Robinson Community Park.

Below: Oaks Park in Portland has turned its amusement park into the ScareGrounds this year.



Causeway collapse could have been so much worse

By CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

Fallout from last month's collapse of the East Mooring Basin Causeway hasn't been all bad.

Matt McGrath, the Port of Astoria's deputy executive director, had been out there one day earlier with a contractor, assessing just how deteriorated the structure had become, a narrow miss.

Just after 4 p.m. on Sept. 21, a 250-foot portion of the causeway fell into the water. The portion affected is at the north end, which takes the brunt of the tidal activity.

The causeway has been closed to the public since 2018 due to structural issues, so there were no injuries or damage to personal property.

An electrical connection that serves commercial docks and the U.S. Coast Guard navigational aid was knocked out.

The port has known the causeway needed major repairs and already had a renovation plan in place contingent on grants and permits, which

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