

Author to speak about the Owyhee canyonlands

ASTORIA — Members of the public will have a special opportunity to take a vicarious journey with author Bonnie Olin into one of the most remote areas in the lower 48 states — the Owyhee canyonlands in southeast Oregon — by way of a talk, slideshow and film.

The presentation will take place at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 3 at the Astoria Public Library, located at 450 10th St. If you are an outdoor enthusiast or an armchair adventurer, you won't want to miss seeing the Owyhee, because you won't find yourself there on the way to anywhere else.

The Owyhee is a desert region that spans the border of Idaho, Oregon and a small part of Nevada. Centered on the Owyhee River and the Owyhee Mountains, the region covers an area of about 9 million acres and is roughly the size of the two small states of Maryland and Rhode Island combined. It is home to one of largest remaining herds of bighorn sheep and many other wild plants and animals, such as endangered sage grouse.

While Idaho's section of the Owyhee is protected as a wilderness area, the same cannot be said for Oregon's section. During her presentation, Olin will talk about the Owyhee's geograpy, natural history and environment as well as legislation and other efforts underway to protect the area and designate it as a wilderness area.

Olin has been kayaking with her husband Mike Quigley for 27 years, using rivers as their highways into the wild. Quigley has been familiar with the Owyhee since the mid 1970s and introduced Olin to the canyonlands in 1993. Together, they have spent the last 23 years exploring the canyons, kayaking the river and hiking the side canyons from river to rim countless times. They



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Husband and wife Mike Quigley and Bonnie Olin have spent the last 23 years exploring the canyons.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Owyhee River cuts through the canyonlands.

know, from first-hand experience, that there are many reasons to protect this region.

"The canyon geology offers some of the most stunning visual examples of rhyolite formations on our planet," Olin said. "It is unlike Bryce, Zion, Canyonlands or the Grand Canyon. We have a golden opportunity to protect a landscape like no other in the lower 48 states that could easily qualify for National Park status. It is public land. It belongs to all of us. And yet, the Oregon section of the region remains unprotected."

Olin began her advocacy for the protection of the Owyhee with the publication of her book, "The Owyhee River Journals." She self-published the book because

larger publishing firms felt the Owyhee was too unknown to have much of a market. However, two editors encouraged her to pursue the project on her own. Featuring the photography of her husband, the book is considered a writing of record and came to fruition, in part, because Olin couldn't find a book on the Owyhee that she was looking for — one bursting with full-color photos showing all the stems of the river canyon including the most remote regions.

"I wanted to share the Owyhee that I knew, first with family and friends, but eventually with everyone, to increase awareness of the area, in the hope that once people saw the unique beauty of these canyonlands, they

might find it a special place worthy of preservation," she said.

To reach her audience, she developed a program which includes a talk, a slideshow and a movie, that together, will take the audience on a vicarious journey deep into the Owyhee Canyonlands, from Nevada, through Idaho and Oregon. "For seeing it, I believe, is the next best thing to being there. And it is crucial to see it, to have an understanding of its importance," she said.

The book includes an abundance of photographs that feature the entire river system and reveal the beauty of the inner canyon corridor. The movie titled "Deep Creek & the Owyhee River" is a story of an expedition into the Owyhee canyon by inflatable kayaks in 2006 that begins on the Deep Creek tributary of the East Fork of the Owyhee River in Idaho, continues into the East Fork and ends at Three Forks in Oregon. It is a view of the upper regions of the Owyhee River that few people see.

A petition supporting protections for the Owyhee by the Oregon Natural Desert Association and information on a conservation proposal will be available at the event.

Olin was born and raised in Springfield and has ties to the communities of Astoria and Chinook. Her grandfather, John Olin, was known as the "logger organist of Astoria." He had six children with his second wife Ellen Catrina Lindstrom. Their youngest son and Bonnie Olin's father, Eldon R. Olin, went on to become a timber cruiser and artist. Eldon depicted the lives of the people in the timber industry in his drawings and Oregon landscapes in oil on canvas. His wife, Bernice, started a business selling reproductions of his work in the 1970s and is still in business.

Attend forest ecology talk at Blue Scorcher

ASTORIA — The North Coast State Forest Coalition will host a forest ecology and photography presentation at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28 at Blue Scorcher Bakery & Cafe, located at 1493 Duane St.

The evening will offer an introduction into the fascinating world of forest ecology as well as focus on the numerous ways that forest management impacts people's lives.

Trygve Steen, a professor of forest ecology, environmental sustainability and photography at Portland State University, will

give the presentation. Steen will include examples of his photography that examine Pacific Northwest forests and will discuss the impacts of Oregon Department of Forestry's management.

Steen has joined several North Coast State Forest Coalition outings. He has recently been involved in documenting and challenging the Homesteader Timber Sale in the Clatsop State Forest, maintaining that the area (about 250 acres southeast of Jewell School) included old-growth trees.



EVENTS

<p style="text-align: center;">OCT. 27 * 8PM Bruce Thomas Smith and Friends</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Free Port of Call Bistro & Bar</small></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">OCT. 30 * 7PM Pacific Northwest Professional Wrestling Pacific <small>(Last Sunday of Every Month)</small> \$10 Astoria Event Center Doors Open at 4:30PM</p>
<p>OCTOBER 28 BOND STREET BLUES BAND <small>OPENER: PAGAN PANCAKES</small> Doors Open @ 7:30pm Astoria Event Center</p>	
<p>BRING IN THIS AD IN AND GET A FREE APPETIZER!</p>	
<h2 style="margin: 0;">OCTOBER 29TH</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">SUICIDE SQUAD-THEMED HALLOWEEN PARTY!</h3> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: small;">OCTOBER 29 HALLOWEEN FESTIVITIES</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: small;">OCTOBER 30 BLOODY SHOTS (ALL DAY) FOOTBALL GAME DAY (LIFE-SIZED JENGA, CORN HOLE)</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p style="font-size: x-large; font-weight: bold;">LADIES FREE!</p> <p style="font-size: x-large; font-weight: bold;">MEN \$3</p> <p style="font-size: small;">AT THE DOOR</p> <p style="font-size: small;">FREE GIVE-AWAYS</p> <p style="font-size: x-large; font-weight: bold;">LIVE DJ</p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">PORT of CALL BISTRO & BAR 894 COMMERCIAL STREET 503*325*4356</p>	