

Jazz Festival: Dancing and playing all day long

Jazz from Page 1A

“Dave Bennett is just an awesome young man,” Johnson said. “I’ve seen him playing in jazz bands since he was about 13 years old. He played the clarinet.”

“But he not only plays the clarinet,” added Johnson. “He reinvented himself as an old-time fan of Jerry Lee Lewis. So when he’s playing with the Memphis Speed Kings, they do Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley. And he plays the piano like Jerry Lee Lewis. It’s rock and roll!”

Bennett and the Memphis Speed Kings kick off the weekend with a special event Thursday evening at the Elks Lodge.

The festival begins in earnest Friday, with concerts scheduled concurrently on five stages — three at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center, plus the Shilo Inn Oceanfront and the Elks Lodge.

All but one of the venues will be prepared specifically with dancers in mind.

“Four of our five venues have dance floors, and we bring in wooden floors,” said Johnson. “We don’t ask people to dance on concrete all weekend.”

“There are young people, and they just dance all day long,” added Shook. “Some of them have a favorite band they follow from place to place.”

Aside from bands simply performing their regular material, a few special sets are planned.

“Saturday, we have three bass saxes playing at the same time,” said Johnson. “That is an awesome sound. If you know what a bass sax looks like or sounds like, you really should show up for that set. That’s my favorite set.”



NANCY MCCARTHY PHOTO

Wooden dance floors are brought in to the Seaside Civic and Convention center so jazz festival participants don’t have to dance on concrete floors.



NANCY MCCARTHY

Sitting down just wasn’t an option for many who attended the Seaside Jazz Festival in 2014. Four of the five venues this year will have dance floors.

Uptown Lowdown will be playing, she added. “They have two band members who play the bass sax, and Peter Meyers will join them; he’s the reed player for High Sierra.”

Saturday is the big day, packed across the board, with 45 shows spread

across five venues from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The festival’s closing show, at 3 p.m. Sunday, will present a smorgasbord of short performances.

“We will bring a band on that will play two or three songs, and then they’ll rotate off and another band rotates on,” said Johnson. “We will rotate about five bands through just as a way of saying ‘goodbye and see you next year!’”

The Seaside High School jazz band will also play in the “closing” this year.

“It gives them an opportunity to play in the big room at the convention center,” said Johnson. “So that’ll be kind of fun.”

Indeed, Johnson and Shook — along with the rest of the many volunteers that comprise the Lighthouse Jazz Society — enjoy spotlighting Seaside, whether it be by hosting old friends, welcoming the high school band or boosting tourism during the wet

If you go:

WHAT: Seaside Jazz Festival

WHEN: Feb. 19 through 22

WHERE: Seaside Civic and Convention Center, Shilo Inn Oceanfront, Elks Lodge (shuttle bus provided)

COST: \$10 to \$95

FOR INFORMATION: 1-866-345-6257; www.jazzseaside.com

winter months.

“The reason why I do this is because I think it’s a great event for Seaside,” Johnson said. “I just like to see people having a good time. And when I go to other jazz festivals and I say that I’m from Seaside it’s just nice to hear, ‘Seaside! That’s our favorite festival!’ That’s why I keep doing it. I like to see people having a good time, and I like to make people happy.”



NANCY MCCARTHY PHOTO

The Memphis Boys, of the band Dave Bennett and the Memphis Boys, brought the crowd to its feet last year with their rock ‘n roll and rockabilly music. Now called Dave Bennett and the Memphis Speed Kings, the band will kick off the festival at a special event at the Elks Lodge Feb. 19.



NANCY MCCARTHY PHOTO

The Climax Jazz Band, of Toronto, Canada, will return this year.



NANCY MCCARTHY PHOTO

Dave Bennett, of Dave Bennett and the Memphis Boys, played a rollicking piano during the Seaside Jazz Festival in 2014. He will be back again at this year’s festival Feb. 19 through 22.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Deadline for Community Calendar is noon Wednesday two weeks before our publish date. Items can be emailed to nmccarthy@seasidesignal.com, faxed to 503-738-9285 or mailed to P.O. Box 848, Seaside, OR 97138. Events are in Seaside unless otherwise noted.

Friday, Feb. 6 Low Impact Walking

9:30 a.m. This low-impact walking group meets every Friday at different locations. Sponsored by the Seaside Branch of American Association of University Women. For details, call 503-738-7751.

Quilt Run 101

9:30 a.m., Astoria, Cannon Beach, Wheeler, info@quiltrun101.com, www.quiltrun101.com. Quilt Run 101 is the annual shop hop from Astoria to Brookings. There will be prizes. Visit the website for details.

“night, Mother”

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre Playhouse, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre.com, \$15 to \$20. Marsha Norman’s “night, Mother” explores the final hour in the life of a young woman. Also plays Feb. 7; 8 (3 p.m.); 13; 15 (3 p.m.); 20.

Karaoke

9 p.m., American Legion Post 99, 1315 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-5111, no cover, 21 and older. Here’s a chance to go on stage for some live karaoke singing. Kids, too, can join the fun from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 7 Beach Clean Up

9 a.m., Seaside Beach, meet at Seashore Inn on the Beach, 60 N. Promenade, Seaside, all ages. Join volunteers in “Treasure the Beach Community Beach Clean Up” every first Saturday of the month.

Saturday Art Walk

5 p.m., enjoy original artwork, live music and refreshments during Seaside’s monthly First Saturday Art Walk at participating businesses and art galleries in Seaside. Look for the art walk signs at participating merchants.

Sunday, Feb. 8 A Sweet Affair

2 p.m., Seaside Civic and Convention Center, 415 First Ave., Seaside, 503-738-3311, www.sunsetempire.com, \$35. Wines from the Northwest, appetizers from local restaurants and desserts. There will be music and auctions. This event is a fundraiser for scholarships and Seaside Rotary Foundation projects within the community.

NAMI Meeting

2 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside, www.nami.org. The National Alliance

on Mental Illness welcomes anyone who has a friend or family member that suffers from a mental illness. For information, call Myra Kero at 503-738-6165.

Monday, Feb. 9 Knochlers Pinochle

1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, all ages, \$1 per session per person. Knochlers host regular play in the card game of pinochle every Monday. Prizes awarded.

Lions Club

5 p.m., West Lake Restaurant & Lounge, 1480 S. Roosevelt Drive, Seaside, 503-738-7693. Open to the public.

Tuesday, Feb. 10 TOPS Meeting

8 a.m. weigh-in, North Coast Family Fellowship Church, 2245 N. Wahanna Road, Seaside, 503-861-2904. TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every Tuesday and focuses on making lifestyle changes that provide lasting weight loss and better health.

Learn Bridge

9:30 a.m., Port of Astoria Office Building, Room 209, 10 Pier 1, Astoria, 503-738-0782, \$5. This is a beginner/brush-up bridge course where all levels are welcome. The first class is free and past students are admitted for free. Walk-ins are welcome. The class is every Tuesday to March 31.

Alzheimer’s Support

2 p.m., NWSDS Office, 2002 S.E. Chokeberry Ave., Warrenton. Support groups provide loved ones an opportunity to share with others, receive support and learn about Alzheimer’s disease. For information, call Grace Bruseth at 503-738-6412.

Wednesday, Feb. 11 Cancer Support Group

2 p.m., NWSDS Office, 2002 S.E. Chokeberry Ave., Warrenton, free. Adult cancer patients, their support team and family members are welcome to attend group meetings held the second Wednesday of the month to share stories, receive encouragement, information and resources. Led by Allison Whisenhunt 503-717-7439, and Brigid Koeppen, 503-338-4085.

Team Trivia Tournament

6 p.m., Seaside Public Library, Community Room, 1131 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-6742, www.seasidelibrary.org, free, all ages. Trivia nights are

informal competitions that test teams’ knowledge of all matters trivial. Prizes are awarded.

Thursday, Feb. 12 Ham Radio Breakfast

8 a.m., Finn’s Fish House, 227 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-9692. Ham radio operators meet every Thursday. Venues change on the first Thursday of the month; call for information.

Kiwanis Club Meeting

Noon, Pig ‘N’ Pancake, 323 Broadway, Seaside, open to the public. Features announcements and guest speakers each week. For information, visit the club’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Kiwanis-Club-of-Seaside-Ore.

Oregon’s Railroads

7 p.m., Cannon Beach History Center & Museum, 1387 S. Spruce St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-9301, www.cbhistory.org, \$10 adults, \$2 children, all ages. Oregon author Ed Kamholz will talk about Oregon’s railroad history.

Friday, Feb. 13 AARP Smart Driver

9 a.m., Clatsop Community College Seaside Campus, 1455 N. Roosevelt Drive, Seaside, 503-338-2408 to register, \$15 to \$20. Full day attendance is required to receive a certificate of completion. Ron Bline will teach this class. Seating is limited, and preregistration is required. For questions, call John Benson at 503-738-5925.

Beat Poets Workshop

6 p.m., Tolovana Hall, 3779 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, tolovanaartscolony@gmail.com, www.tolovanaartscolony.org, \$35 both classes. Tolovana Arts Colony presents The Beat Poets, a two-day workshop with Mark Mizell to celebrate and renew the language of American culture. Continues at noon Saturday. The Beachnik Café is at 7 p.m. Saturday, Cannon Beach Gallery, 1064 S. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-0744, www.cannonbeacharts.org, free, donations accepted.

Dive-in Movie

6:15 p.m., Sunset Pool, 1140 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-3311, www.sunsetempire.com, \$2 to \$3, all ages. The Dive-in Movie Double Header features “Mr. Peabody and Sherman” followed by “Maleficent” at 7:50 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 14 Indoor Yard Sale

9 a.m., Seaside Civic and Convention Center,

415 First Ave., Seaside, 503-440-9357, free.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Seaside, the fifth annual Community Indoor Yard Sale includes 61 booths filled with inviting items to purchase.

Community Clinic

2 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-5859, free. Kathleen Flewelling, naturopathic physician, provides this service.

Northwest Author Series

2 p.m., Cannon Beach Library, 131 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1391, www.cannon-beachlibrary.org, free. Manzanita author Holly Lorincz will share her novel, *Smart Mouth*, a story of a young teacher who delves into the world of adolescent youth.

Dinner & Dance

5 p.m., Seaside American Legion Post 99, 1315 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-5111, \$30 to \$50. The American Legion will host a special Valentine’s Day dinner dance with music at 7:30 p.m. by Theory of Relativity.

Aaron Larget-Caplan

7:30 p.m., Coaster Theatre, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre.com, \$15 to \$20, all ages. Guitarist Aaron Larget-Caplan’s performances combine the traditional expressiveness with contemporary passion.

Sunday, Feb. 15 ASOC Auditions

Noon, Astor Street Opry Company, 129 W. Bond St., Astoria, 503-325-6104, www.astorstreetycompany.com. Auditions for ASOC’s musical melodrama “The Real Lewis & Clark Story or How the Finns Discovered Astoria” will be held at noon and at 6 p.m. There are 20 parts for men and women (17 and older) available.

Depression Support

4 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside. The Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance is a confidential support group meeting. The group is open to anyone who has been diagnosed with a mood disorder or has a family member or friend, who has been diagnosed. For information, call Patricia at 503-325-8930.

Monday, Feb. 16 Knochlers Pinochle

1 p.m., Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Avenue A, Seaside, all ages, \$1 per session per person.

Tuesday, Feb. 17 Caregiver Support

1:30 p.m., NWSDS Office, 2002 S.E. Chokeberry Ave., Warrenton. This group explores ways to cope with the demands and stresses of caring for a loved one and provides information and resources in a confidential setting. For information, call Grace at 503-738-6412.

Biz Kid Workshop

6 p.m., 4-H Club House, on Walluski Loop across from Clatsop County Fairgrounds, Astoria, 503-325-1010. This workshop will be about salesmanship. Learn how to work with customers and close that sale. Showcase product prototype.

Wednesday, Feb. 18 Stroke Support

4:30 p.m., Providence Seaside Hospital Education Center, 725 S. Wahanna Road, Seaside, 503-717-7781. Stroke survivors and their caregivers are welcome. The group is affiliated with the American Stroke Association. Call for information.

Listening to the Land

6 p.m., Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside, 503-738-9126, www.nclctrust.org, free. Roberta and Richard Basch will give a presentation on “Our North Coast Through Indian Eyes” and share stories about geography, culture and caring for the land.

Thursday, Feb. 19 Dave Bennett

7 p.m., Elks Lodge #1748, 324 Avenue A, Seaside, 866-345-6257, www.jazzseaside.com, \$10. Dave Bennett and the Memphis Speed Kings will be the warm-up party, pre-festival event performers at this year’s weekend-long Seaside Jazz Festival.

Talkback Thursday

7:30 p.m., “night, Mother,” Coaster Theatre Playhouse, 108 N. Hemlock St., Cannon Beach, 503-436-1242, www.coastertheatre.com, \$15 to \$20.

Friday, Feb. 20 Seaside Jazz Festival

3 p.m., Seaside Civic & Convention Center, 415 First Ave.; Elks Lodge #1748, 324 Avenue A; Shilo Oceanfront Hotel, 30 N. Promenade, Seaside, 866-345-6257, www.jazzseaside.com, \$10 to \$95, all ages. The annual Seaside Jazz Festival features top performers of traditional and contemporary jazz throughout the country.