

Northern Lights, 'Canned Ham', & Wet Weather

Mountains to Sound Greenway 'Summer' of events begins



PUYALLUP'S RACHEL WEBBER does what kids do with flashlights and floodlights at Roslyn's Northern Lights Show, Saturday, June 19.

Jim Fossett photo



THE LIGHT SHOW consisted of 25 floodlights and 100 mason jars containing LED's. Shown above: Coal Miners Memorial under the moon.

Jim Fossett photo



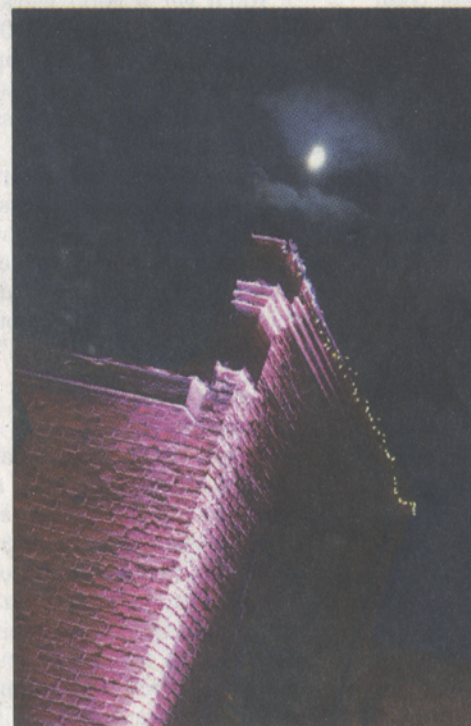
THIS RESTORED 1935 MASTERBUILT was a popular stopping point in the vintage trailer show. Visitors were particular interested in seeing it's bathtub.

Lyn Derrick photo



AND HERE IT IS, the bathtub is built into the dining table bench on the left.

Lyn Derrick photo



THE IDEA BEHIND ROSLYN NORTHERN LIGHTS: "Create smaller worlds of light inside the bigger world of Roslyn," explained light technician Linet Henry, (right) setting up a floodlight.

Jim Fossett photos



LEFT: PEGGY BIRLEY of Chehalis, WA shows off the galley of her teardrop trailer.

Lyn Derrick photo



"Anytime you plan events, you know the weather is a wild card," said Aurit. "And there were a few hiccups with inadequate electrical power, which put limits on the light show."

The light show became more of a light exhibit be-

cause of those problems.

"You had to walk to experience the light in different areas, but they did a good job of taking the light and putting it on buildings and other features."

Overall however, the festival was a success from the

Up on Second Street, the Kelson's annual camp trailer meet for the Teardrops of Oregon and Washington was expanded for the Festival to include other types of vintage trailers, too.

"Each year we come up here as a group," said Steve Birley of Chehalis, WA. "It just so happened that our meet coincided with the Northern Lights Festival and their vintage trailer show this year."

A notice on Craig's List brought the trailer enthusiasts to the Festival, and they spread their trailers nose to tail along the outer boundaries of Runje Park for the weekend.

"I've got to see your bathtub," visitor after visitor told trailer owner Ken Masden of Carnation, WA.

"Must be a lot of dirty people in camp," Masden joked.

His trailer, a rare 1935 Masterbuilt 'canned ham' trailer, was a popular stopping point for visitors to the show. It's called a canned ham, because it looks like one. In a space only slightly larger than one of the teardrop trailers, the canned ham had room for kitchen; bedroom and dining areas - with a bathtub strategically located under one of the bench seats in the dining area.

"The bathtub is original to the trailer," Masden told each visitor as he explained the

trailer's history. "I bought it six years ago in California, and for the first couple of years we just stared at it trying to figure out what to do."

He finally decided to restore the trailer as close to its original condition as possible. "We cheated a little," Masden said. "The awning poles would have been wood originally, and the trailer was originally made with Masonite, but it deteriorates rapidly."

Masden was happy to see the annual teardrop trailer meet expanded to include other vintage trailers for the Northern Lights Festival. "We all like to see other trailers," he smiled and said.

A down pour of rain threatened to dampen spirits, but the Festival went on as planned including the Northern Lights public art display at sundown.

"This is one of the projects students from the University of Washington's Storefront Studio designed," said Jenny Aurit, vice president of Roslyn Downtown Association. "I wanted something that would pay homage to the 20th anniversary of the Northern Exposure TV show. In one episode they built something they called the Northern Lights and this is paying homage to that."

Besides, Aurit thought the Festival was a way to get visitors from the Westside of the state over the pass early in the tourist season, and perhaps they'd make return visits throughout the rest of the summer.

merchants' point of view as represented by Theresa and Bret Alexander, owners of Roslyn Cafe.

"As Roslyn business owners we appreciate the valiant effort made by Jim Nicholls and the Storefront Studio students [on the light show]," Theresa said. "We hope 'Northern Lights' will return to illuminate Roslyn's unique character for many years to come."

by Lyn Derrick

A line of back-to-back cars moved down highway 903 toward Roslyn on the afternoon of Saturday, June 19, headed toward town for Roslyn's Northern Lights Festival, a part of the Mountain to Sound Greenway 'Summer' of events.

"That was my idea," said Will Chin of the Greenway committee. "We've been around for six years now and we've got so many exceptional events like this one going on throughout the summer, it just made sense to change it to Greenway Summer. That way people don't need to try to hit everything on one weekend."

Those hitting Roslyn on June 19 were greeted by the young musicians of Community Builder's Cascade Academy of Performing Arts rocking away for the audience lounging on the grass of City Hall Park. Over in the corner Glondo's sausages sizzled away, and vintage artists and vendors displayed their wares along the park's perimeter.

"What's been neat is the people I've been talking to from Seattle, Sammamish, Yakima and Bellevue," said Chin. "All of them came here today because of Greenway Days and the Northern Lights Festival. That's exactly what we're all looking for."