



MILK CARTON BOAT RACE

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Gerry Frank's Picks: The Wayfarer in Cannon Beach, The Ringside in Portland, and The Lovin' Spoonful in Lincoln City

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The Wayfarer Restaurant and Lounge (1190 Pacific Drive, Cannon Beach; 503-436-1108), a long-popular Cannon Beach restaurant, has taken on a new look, with spectacular ocean and Haystack Rock views in the main dining room and adjoining bar. Attractive portholes decorate the walls; comfortable chairs and tables, along with friendly and knowledgeable servers, combine to make dining here for breakfast, lunch or dinner a pleasure. Choose buttermilk pancakes or Dungeness crab cake Benedict for morning meals, or the Dungeness crab mac 'n' cheese (with Tillamook cheese curds) for lunch. A full dinner menu offers clams, fresh fish, a house ravioli and a tender Wagyu porterhouse steak.

The Ringside (2165 W. Burnside, Portland; 503-223-1513) has been a Portland tradition for 67 years. After decades of providing great steaks, fabulous onion rings and other delectables, newly refurbished digs live up to the superior food. Gone is the dark and mysterious atmosphere; space is airy and cozy with a welcoming fireplace, one of the few remnants of yesteryear. Service, as always, is highly professional, with finely trained tuxedo-clad ladies and gentlemen doing the honors. A three-course special dinner goes for \$35.95, one of the better values anywhere. The 10,000-bottle wine cellar is fabulous. In an era of chain restaurants, it is refreshing to boast about a homegrown winner; great credit goes to the three members of the Peterson family who keep watchful eyes on every phase of the business, and who have the confidence in Portland's future to make this huge investment. (The temporary space in the Fox Tower occupied during The Ringside remodel will open soon as The Ringside Fish House.)

It doesn't take long for word to spread about a good new eating spot on the mid-Oregon coast. **The Lovin' Spoonfull** (3521 S.W. Highway 101, Nelscott-Lincoln City; 541-557-1515) is just that kind of place. Tucked away on the west side of the coast highway with a coveted ocean view, this unassuming dining room serves breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week. Plates are easy on the budget as well as pleasing to the eye and tastebuds. Omelets, eggs Benedict and burritos run \$5 to \$8. Lunchtime burgers are \$8 to \$9, and fish and chips go for a thrifty \$10.95; a wide variety of sandwiches fills the daily menu, including a super BLT, turkey club and Reuben, all under \$9. Dinners feature razor clams, glazed salmon, pork tenderloin and prime rib (Friday and Saturday only); entrees are under \$19 and include vegetables and potatoes. Service is prompt and pleasant.

-- Gerry Frank

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