

HOMER'S BEST BETS



Photo by Michael Armstrong / Homer News

Science in action

Kachemak Bay Campus Semester By the Bay students Diondre Ryan, left, and Ana Noel, right, collect a dead sea otter pup on Tuesday, March 15, at Mariner Park on the Homer Spit in Homer. Ryan and Noel also are interns with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and members of the Alaska Marine Mammal Stranding Network.

Ryan, of Denver, attends the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, and Noel, of Madison, Wisconsin, graduated from the University of Wisconsin LaCrosse. Since January they have collected about 35 stranded or dead sea otters on Kachemak Bay beaches.

Stranded marine mammals can be reported to the Alaska SeaLife Center's marine-mammal stranding network hotline at 888-774-7325.

The guy who used to mow the Homer News lawn once let the Betster in on a secret: You can find shamrocks in the clover here on the south shore of Beluga Lake. Holy Snakes Alive! Of course, you'll have to wait until the snow thaws and summer comes to find them, but Phillip swore we had a little magic patch. On slow days when not much happened here, the Newsies have been known to kneel on the grass searching for that lucky four-leafed clover.

Technically, the shamrock is a three-leaf clover, not four, a fine example of how the Irish like to stump ya. Irish culture

Family Craft & Story Time from 1-2 p.m. Saturday. Join the museum for crafts, treats and story time. Projects and stories are available for all ages. This is a free, family-fun event. Check out @prattmuseum or the www.prattmuseum.org for more details. Masks are required inside of the museum.

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Technically, the shamrock is a three-leaf clover, not four, a fine example of how the Irish like to stump ya. Irish culture has all sorts of tricks like that. Today we're all Irish, or pretend to be. For many immigrants and refugees to America, it's not too hard to claim Irish ancestry, seeing as how famine and strife sent many a good soul from the old country coming to our safe shores.

Like most Americans, we mix and match our ancestors, which might be why a DNA test shows a few surprises. The Betster, for example, is a healthy mixture of Welsh, Scottish, Irish, Norwegian, English, Western European and a wee bit of What the Heck?

All of which means that come holidays like St. Patrick's Day, you can legitimately celebrate because of all that mixture. Have a nice pint or maybe some good Irish whisky, but be responsible, aye?

Bonus: Today the daylight will be 11 hours and 55 minutes, and by Sunday, the first day of Spring, it will be 12 hours and 14 minutes. Yeehaw! So put on the green, dial up your brogue accent and celebrate maaaaybe the start of real spring with these best bets:

BEST GO GREEN BET: Celebrate support another phenomenal ski season with great brews, homemade Irish stews, breads and desserts from 5-7 p.m. today at Grace Ridge Brewery for the Kachemak Nordic Ski Club's Brews and Stews.

A suggested donation is \$15. Grace Ridge also donates its tips this month to the ski club.

BEST IT'S ALL DOWNHILL FROM THERE BET: You'll want to fuel up today for Saturday's big Kachemak Nordic Ski Club Marathon starting at 9:30 a.m. for the 42k race. The marathon starts at the Lookout Mountain Trails and ends at the lower Baycrest Trail system — pretty much downhill except for that gnarly climb up Crossman Ridge and then back up to Diamond Ridge. There's a 13k race at Lookout and also a 25k race. Bib pick-up and last-minute registration is 8:30-9:30 a.m., but register online up to 9:30 a.m. to beat the crowds. Lower registration fees end today.

To register, visit <http://kachemaknordicskiclub.org/events-calendar/2012-kachemak-bay-nordic-ski-marathon-information>. Ski club members get discounts, as do members of other Kenai Peninsula clubs.

Not racing? Cheer on the skiers as they cross Diamond Ridge Road or at the finish.

BEST GET CRAFTY BET: The Pratt Museum & Park holds

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'14 Ruffino Riserva Ducale Ono Chianti Classico 750ml ~~\$5.99~~ **\$29.99**
Intense aromas of violet, blackberry, cherry, and ripe plum with intriguing notes of cinnamon and dove. Has a lingering finish of chocolate and coffee. **Rated 94(NM)**

Chandon Brut 750ml ~~\$24.99~~ **\$19.99**
This wine is subtle, fresh, almost complex, and perfect. Its aromas and flavors of dried herbs, tart fruit, and chalk would be a beautiful way to start dinner. **Rated 92(SJ)**

'18 Decoy Pinot Noir 750ml ~~\$26.99~~ **\$19.99**
Fresh raspberry and black-cherry aromas open this medium-bodied wine. The exuberant fruitiness up front leads to subtle baking-spice tones on the palate. **Rated 90(WE)**

'19 Allegrini Valpolicella 750ml ~~\$19.99~~ **\$14.99**
Well-structured wine, with a soft, long and persistent finish. Brilliant ruby red in color, with a pleasant scent of wild berries. Dry and velvety on the palate. **Rated 91(JS)**

'18 The Federalist Cabernet 750ml ~~\$17.99~~ **\$13.99**
Aromas of berries, tart cherry, sweet oak, and cinnamon exude from the glass. Nice entrance on the palate, medium weight with a lingering finish.

'18 Bogle Merlot 750ml ~~\$13.99~~ **\$10.99**
Opens with flavors of Bing cherries, saffra, and hints of pipe tobacco. Twelve months aging in American Oak imparts subtle accents of vanilla and baking spices. **Rated 89(WW)**

'20 Fetzer Sauvignon Blanc 750ml ~~\$8.99~~ **\$6.99**
This vibrant Sauvignon Blanc delivers tropical fruit with a refreshing twist. Enjoy zesty citrus-pineapple aromas and a splash of kiwi-lime in this cool, crisp white.

Silkie Irish Whiskey 750ml ~~\$46.99~~ **\$39.99**

G&W Private Stock 5yr Bourbon 750ml ~~\$35.99~~ **\$29.99**

Tullamore Dew 750ml ~~\$29.99~~ **\$24.99**

Effen Vodka 750ml ~~\$24.99~~ **\$19.99**

Harp or Smithwicks 6B ~~\$12.99~~ **\$10.20**

Iron Horse Irish Death 6C ~~\$11.99~~ **\$9.99**

Highlife 6B ~~\$9.99~~ **\$7.99**

Bud Light Mango Seltzer 25oz ~~\$9.99~~ **99¢**

Sale prices valid Wednesday, March 16 thru Tuesday, March 22, 2022

New patients are always welcome

**SVT Health & Wellness in Anchor Point
is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays.**

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