

Published in Hipfish Monthly • April 2011 • ©Elia Seely  
(What's Cookin'? column, part of the Food Groove section)

## What's Cookin'?

**Blue Scorcher Bakery** ([www.bluescorcher.com](http://www.bluescorcher.com)) is getting good at the gluten-free thing. Bakers Packy and Cheryl have perfected a white, "Golden Loaf" and a darker teff-based loaf. Tuesdays is the day for these low-gluten products (as they are not made in a completely gluten-free facility, the über sensitive are warned forthwith.) And in the "early rumor stage," as BSB owner Joe Sullivan puts it, are plans for an expanded kitchen and ventilation system. Faster service and more menu items would follow—what's not to love about that?

*Blue Scorcher Bakery is open 8am-5pm seven days a week; 1493 Duane St., Astoria  
[www.bluescorcher.com](http://www.bluescorcher.com); 503-338-7473*

Bastion of Brew, the **Fort George** has it goin' on. A visit to their quite impressive website ([www.fortgeorgebrewery.com](http://www.fortgeorgebrewery.com)) and blog will boggle your mind with events and news. Cans are the thing, 16oz lovelies full o' the finest Vortex IPA and 1811 Lager. Even PDXers are getting in on the brew, with a special pouring & poetry event at Spints Alehouse ([www.spintspdx.com](http://www.spintspdx.com)) on **April 17**: book release party for Walt Whitman award winner, Carl Adamshick. Beer *and* poetry, oh my. Methinks these boys mean to stay in business. Don't forget you *can* tour the new *canning* facility on Saturdays at 1pm or 4pm; meet at the bar.

*Fort George Brewery is open Monday-Thursday 11am-11pm, Friday-Saturday 11am to midnight, Sunday noon-11pm; 1483 Duane St., Astoria  
[www.fortgeorgebrewery.com](http://www.fortgeorgebrewery.com); 503-325-PINT  
Live music every Sunday night, 8-10pm ~ never a cover*

In other beery news, **SB 444** passed, which repeals a prohibition-era law that stated craft beer and wine brewers couldn't share their wares beyond home. Fear no more, brewers and vintners, your lovingly tended beverages have the green light for tasting at fairs, festivals, and lemonade stands—well, better leave this one to the kids.

The livin' is easy at **Sweet Basil's Wine Bar** in Cannon Beach, especially on Friday and Saturday nights. Tend your palate and enjoy live music most weekends from 6-9pm. Thursdays offers up the open mic scene, a Wed-Sat happy hour (5-6), and the Café has a good series of winemaker's dinners cooked up.

*Sweet Basil's + The Wine Bar are open Wednesday-Sunday from 5-10pm; 271 North Hemlock, Cannon Beach  
[www.thewinebarcannonbeach.com](http://www.thewinebarcannonbeach.com); [www.cafesweetbasils.com](http://www.cafesweetbasils.com); 503-436-1539  
Live music Friday & Saturday nights from 6-9pm, Open Mic (poetry & stories)  
Thursday 6:30-8:30pm*

Finally Astoria is getting an Indian restaurant. Just when you thought you'd eaten *everywhere* in Astoria, **Himani's**, beloved of Sunday market goers, will offer a bricks and mortar spicy alternative for a night on the town. The Kancharlas, residents of Alderbrook in Astoria, are illustrative of "the family that cooks together, sticks together," and will primarily be running the restaurant themselves, although mother Mani will initiate another cook into her secrets of stellar South Indian cuisine. To be open as soon as inspections allow.

*Himani is located at 1044 Marine Dr., Astoria*