

JUNE
2015

Florence Events Center

Center Stage

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SEAcOast 2015 season to be exciting, eclectic mix

SEAcOast Entertainment Association has announced its concert lineup for 2015-16 and association president Ernie Doud promises it to be another outstanding season.

“For 35 years, SEAcOast Entertainment Association has provided Florence with world-class entertainment at affordable prices – from household names to undiscovered gems,” Doud said. “Classics to jazz, eclectic to electric, ballet to big band, concert goers will love this season’s variety. There will be something for everyone.”

The 2015-16 season will feature international-caliber Latin/pop/jazz/

classical artists Quattrosound, popular singer Ken Lavigne, guitarist Jesse Cook, Ballet Fantastique, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Shuffle Concert (a group so multi-talented they let the audience pick the playlist), and gypsy-jazz artists The New Hot Club of America. In addition, SEAcOast is partnering with award-winning author and speaker Bob



Welch to offer tickets for the debut of his new stage show, *Bob Welch & Friends*.

The season kicks off **Oct. 9** with Latin Grammy-nominated Quattrosound, an innovative ensemble that blends Latin pop, Jazz and classical into a delicious new genre called “POPZZICAL.” Quattrosound is raising the bar of originality while paying homage to the classics and forging a contemporary new sound.

Ken Lavigne – He’s got the looks. He’s got the charm. He’s most certainly got the voice. And now SEAcOast has got him for Florence. Lavigne has performed on many world stages, including New York’s Carnegie Hall and in England for Prince Charles. It will be a great date night or girl’s night out **Nov. 21**.

While most don’t get the chance to dine in the cafés of Seville or dance in the clubs in Havana, you will experience a sense of that passionate cultural vibe through the music of guitarist Jesse Cook and his band. Cook’s

music has been featured on episodes of *Sex and The City*, *The Chris Isaak Show* and during several Olympic Games. Cook and his group of multi-talented musicians perform **Jan. 23, 2016**.

On **Feb. 10, 2016**, Ballet Fantastique brings the premiere of *Dragon and the Night Queen: Celtic Stories*, which forges a new and dramatic retelling of ancient Irish legends in a vivid exploration of choreography and dance filled with riotous spirit. Violinist Cullen Vance and the Gerry Rempel Ensemble provide the exuberant live accompaniment.

March 18, 2016, one of most popular and sought after big bands in the world, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, returns to Florence. SEAcOast Entertainment opens the Florence Event Center’s flat floor so you can enjoy big band music the way it was intended – with dancing and cabaret-style seating!

“You choose, we play,” said the members of the world-class ensemble, Shuffle Concert. From Baroque to classical and romantic; from jazz, to pop and Broadway, this group is so multitalented they let the audience select the pieces they will play. You’ve never been to a concert like this. Every performance is a completely customized and memorable experience! Don’t miss this rare

Thursday night concert on **April 7, 2016**.

You’ll be in luck on Friday, **May 13, 2016**, when The New Hot Club of America comes to “wow” Florence. This dazzling ensemble is comprised of some of today’s top gypsy jazz artists in North America. You’ll want to tango in your seat as they recapture the sound, style and spirit of the 1930’s-era Hot Club of France.



This season four performers will participate in SEAcOast’s community enrichment program along with Living Voices, an award-winning, nationally-recognized educational theatre company, who will again collaborate with the Siuslaw School District to bring history to life in the

classroom.

“The best way to enjoy all of these amazing shows is with the \$150 season ticket package,” said Doud. “Individual concert tickets are \$30 each, so that’s a per-show savings of more than \$8! As a season subscriber you can enjoy all seven concerts for the price of five individual shows, and you get the same great seats at every performance.”

“And it gets even better,” Doud added. “By special arrangement with writer Bob Welch, SEAcOast season ticketholders can receive preferred seating until June 15 for just \$27 for adults and \$10 for students for the **Oct. 18**, premier of *Bob Welch & Friends*, an all-new show with the same cast from his 2014 sold-out Hult Center event.

Tickets, artist profiles, show times, video clips and more information are available at SEAcOastEA.org. Tickets can also be purchased at the Florence Events Center box office, 715 Quince Street, or by phone at 541-997-1994.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS JUNE

- SHS Band — June 1
- SHS Choir — June 2
- Coastal Fitness Spring Performance — June 4
- LRP’s “Putnam Spelling Bee” June 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21
- FEC Indoor Yard Sale — June 27

JUNE

- Backstreet Gallery Artist Reception — July 10
- LRP auditions for “Chicago” — July 10, 11 and 12
- Van Fans Ice Cream Social — July 18
- Rhody Quilt Guild Show — July 24 and 25
- Army Band concert — July 28
- Siuslaw Athletics Hall of Fame Ceremony (July 31)

Rotary Club meets every Tuesday at noon.
Box Office Hours: 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. weekdays and 1 hour before major events



ONGOING EVENTS:
Florence Rotary Club luncheon - Tuesdays at noon



CENTERSTAGE

A publication of the Siuslaw News.

Published each month. Distribution: 7,000 in the Siuslaw News, Florence and surrounding areas.



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715 Quince St., Florence, OR 97439
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DEADLINES: Event copy: 10th of the month prior to publication;
Display Ads: Camera-ready ads must be received by the 15th of month prior to publication.

Jenna Bartlett ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE

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Ron Annis, CENTERSTAGE LAYOUT & DESIGN

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Siuslaw High School choirs, bands to host spring concerts

Music from the Siuslaw High School bands and choirs will fill the auditorium when they perform their year-end concerts on the Florence Events Center's main stage. A concert featuring each of Siuslaw's award-winning bands will key-up Monday, June 1.

The following night, on Tuesday, June 2, the SHS choirs will gather to perform their singing talents with special, handpicked student selections.

Both concerts begin at 7 p.m. and are free to the public.

The choirs' Spring Pops Concert will feature the high school Concert Choir, the student-driven A'Capelicans (A'Cappella group) and the Chamber Choir in a special themed show.

On both nights, there will be solo and group acts by many individuals from the school's award-winning music programs. This concert will highlight SHS seniors in their final high school performance, as well as recognize some of the outstanding musicians and what they've accomplished throughout the year.



Coastal Fitness to present annual spring show June 4

On Thursday, June 4, starting at 6:30 p.m., the Florence Events Center will come alive again with jumping and tumbling fun from Coastal Fitness gymnasts. This year marks the 20th

annual show and will spotlight skills and talents of Florence's youth of all ages. Expect to be inspired by the dreams of young people whose tumbling routines will be filled with enthusiasm,

energy and fun effects. Come enjoy a wide array of abilities, color, costumes and themes with a few surprises mixed in as the participants show their skills.

The show is choreographed by Myrna Clark, a 30-year gymnastic coach and judge from Washington. She is assisted by Deena Mitchell, Brynne Sapp, Sarah Holdren, Erin Linton, Ivy Clement, Natalie Madden, Angie Herring, Lori Johnson, Tracy Markley and Bonnie Coombs.

The show will also be polished by several dance numbers from "Time and Tide Dance Company" taught at Coastal Fitness by Laura Brandon.

All performers featured have trained at Coastal Fitness and Aquatics, where gymnastics, trampoline and dance classes are offered to children ages three and older.

Pre-sale tickets are available at the Florence Events Center for \$8 each or \$10 the night of the performance.

The public is welcome to come and enjoy a wonderful evening.

For more information about the performance, or summer classes and swim lessons, call Coastal Fitness at 541-997-8086.



LRP's 'Spelling Bee' adult comedy opens June 21

The Last Resort Players are presenting The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee as its second play this season. Putnam, as it is referred to, is not really a spelling bee, but a musical adult comedy, bringing some exciting new talent to performing arts in this area.

Director David Lauria says, "What I like about 'Putnam' is it's different from usual theatre. It 'talks to the audience, not past the audience.'"

Lauria lends his considerable experience to both character development and staging of this production, directing the cast in refining its characters' quirks and idiosyncrasies.

Jason Wood, who audiences might remember as "Captain Von Trapp" in "The Sound of Music," is taking on the musical direction of Putnam.

"The music in this show is incredibly intelligent," said Wood. "Right off the bat, William Finn (music and lyrics) hits the audience hard with a high-energy opening number and he keeps the energy up while adding comedy.

"Something that I really appreciate is

how he takes you by surprise. Just when you think the entire show is going to be all jokes and up tempo music, Finn digs beneath the surface and sneaks in some poignant moments with his characters and this cast brings those moments to the surface beautifully."

In addition to musical direction, Jason is also playing the part of "William Barfee" (pronounced Bar-fay), the arrogant loner who has a lot to prove.

"Barfee has been picked on his entire life so his defenses are up. Friendship takes him by surprise," said Wood.

All of the characters personalities run deep and have stories that everyone can relate to: loneliness, puberty, sibling rivalry, etc.

This show is full of fun, humor, and some audience participation.

The play is suitable for more mature audiences, high school and above. Parental discretion is advised because the play is both comedic and adult at times. The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee will be playing Fridays and Saturdays, June



From left: Cast members Matt Korso, Tamara Cole, Elizabeth Rose, Hilary Roach, Leah Goodwin, Erin Reinke; stage manager LuAnna Moore and keyboardist Johanna Bonisteel rehearse the score for 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee under the musical direction of Jason Wood.

12, 13, 19 and 20, at 7 p.m., with matinee showings on two Sundays, June 14 and 21, at 2 p.m., at the Florence Events Center.

Tickets are available at www.eventcenter.org, by phone at 541-997-1994, or at the FEC box office.



Find your treasures at FEC's next Indoor Yard Sale

Be the first in line when doors open for the ever-popular spring Indoor Yard Sale at the FEC on June 27, beginning at 8 a.m. Coffee will be waiting for early-bird shoppers, along with booth after booth of treasures ranging from \$1 bargain items to antiques, tools, collectibles, prints, table linens, glass, jewelry, miniatures, art, music, needlework, books, household items, sporting goods, neon signs, clothing, shoes, furniture, appliances, vintage glass and more. Sign-ups for booths are June 1, beginning at 8:30 a.m., at the FEC

Though the doors will close at 2 p.m., you could leave with the find of a lifetime!



Backstreet artists step into spotlight July 10



The more than two dozen artists making up the collaborative known as Backstreet Gallery will be featured at the FEC through the month of July during an exhibit called “Celebrate the Diversity of Backstreet Gallery. In the show, the gallery’s artists will display an eclectic mix of mediums, from watercolors and acrylics, to jewelry, ceramics fused glass and found art. Many of the gallery’s artists have had their work featured in statewide and national shows. All full members are from the Florence area and take turns being on hand at the gallery on a daily basis.

An artists reception will be held at the FEC on July 10, during the Second Saturday Art Walk, from 5 to 7 p.m.



Last Resort Players to host auditions for ‘Chicago’



Florence-based theater group The Last Resort Players will be holding open auditions for its November production of the Tony Award-winning Broadway hit “Chicago.” Based on the book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse, with music by John Kander and lyrics by Fred Ebb, Chicago has won six Tony awards and six Drama Desk awards.

The sharp-edged satire features an unforgettable score that inspired the immortal stage direction of Bob Fosse. LRP’s production of Chicago will be directed by veteran actor and director David Lauria.

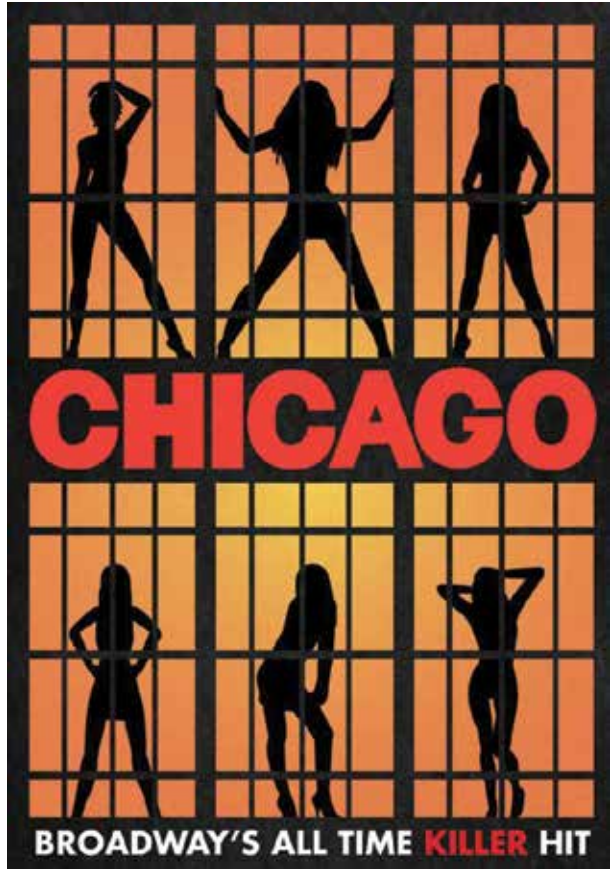
Auditions will be held for three days at The Florence Events Center: July 10, from 6 to 9 p.m.; July 11, from 9 to 11 a.m. and 2

to 5 p.m.; and July 12, from 2 to 5 p.m.

The story is set in Chicago during the “roaring 20s,” and revolves around “Roxie Hart” and “Velma Kelly,” each of who has been sentenced to death row. Each vies for the spotlight and headlines before ultimately joining forces in search of the American dream — fame, fortune and acquittal!

Performances will be Nov. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14 and 15, including four evening shows beginning at 7 p.m., and two matinees beginning at 2 p.m.

Auditions are always open to the public. For more information, visit www.lastresortplayers.org.



An FEC Guide to Giving

Capital Improvement Fund
Tax-deductible donations can be made to the Florence Events Center Capital Improvement Fund. These funds are maintained for special projects & new equipment.

Endowment Fund
An endowment fund for the Florence Events Center has been established with the Western Lane Community Foundation. Tax-deductible donations can be made to: Western Lane Community Foundation, P.O. Box 1589, Florence, OR 97439.

Named Theater Seat
You can have your name(s) placed on the back of a theater seat for a \$1,500 tax-deductible donation. www.eventcenter.org. Toll-free: 1-888-968-4086 We accept Visa or MasterCard. Fax: 541-902-0991 Phone: 541-997-1994

Quilters to gather for popular Wave of Quilts show July 24 and 25



The Rhododendron Quilt Guild's own Donna Schoening will be the featured quilter for the 2015 Wave of Quilts quilt show at the Florence Events Center, July 24 and 25. There will be door prizes, a quilt raffle, demonstrations, a boutique, silent auction, quilt vendors, a boutique and quilt contest.

There will be free admission to anyone age 12 and younger, or 80 and older. Admission for everyone else is \$5. Those interested in entering a quilt in the show's judged contest can get an entry form online at www.rhodyquilt.info. Entries are due by June 24.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each, or six for \$5. Proceeds go to RQG education and programs. The raffle drawing for the featured quilt will be Saturday, July 25.

The show will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, July 24, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on July 25.

Since the group's creation in 1992, it has grown from 15 members to 65 — and growing. During the year, members make quilts for the Pregnancy Center, along with clothing protectors and wheelchair bags for assisted living programs in the Florence area. The group also makes quilts for the Veterans Hospital in Roseburg and Eugene's Riverbend Hospital.

The Rhododendron Quilt Guild welcomes new members to experience the tradition of quilting through education, service and friendship by joining the guild. Annual membership dues are \$25. The guild meets at the Florence Christian Church at the corner of Second and Ivy streets, at 10 a.m., on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

Each year, the guild raffles off a quilt to benefit a local charity.



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Van Fans to scoop ice cream at FEC

The Van Fans' annual Ice Cream Social fundraiser will bring Florence residents and Van Fan members together for an afternoon of ice cream and pie and other treats while supporting this special service to the community. The event will take place Saturday, July 18, from 1 to 4 p.m., at the Florence Events Center.

Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the

door.

There will be homemade pie and cake, a la mode, along with hot and cold beverages, along with homemade candies and breads for sale.

The Friends of Florence Van Fans, a non-political volunteer organization, is sponsoring this event. All proceeds support the vans, which transport cancer patients daily to Eugene and

Springfield for radiation treatment. Vans run five days a week free of charge, and all workers are volunteers.

Come spend a relaxing afternoon enjoying ice cream and music while doing something that will help a neighbor or friend.



Strike up the band!



The 234th Army Band will perform a free concert at the Florence Events Center on Tuesday, July 28, beginning at 7 p.m. "Oregon's Own" band was formed and federally recognized as The Band Section, Service Company, 162nd Infantry Regiment, on June 20, 1919. The band remained part of the 162nd Infantry Regiment until 1940, when the band was inducted into federal service Sept. 16, 1940 in Portland.

Band members have seen service in the South Pacific and received credit for the Luzon, New Guinea and Southern Philippines

campaigns. After being deactivated after the end of WWII, it was reassigned as the 234th Army Band on May 7, 1947, and attached to the Oregon State Militia. Since 1947, the band has provided musical support for Oregon troops, toured the state, performed with the Eugene Symphony and entertained thousands of Oregonians with an ever-evolving musical line-up that incorporates the classics as well as pop culture.

Tickets aren't required for the July concert, but those wishing to attend are encouraged to arrive early because seating is limited.

Siuslaw Athletics Boosters to host annual dinner, auction

The 10th annual Siuslaw Booster Club Athletic Dinner and Auction will be held Saturday, Aug. 1, at 5:30 p.m. at the Florence Events Center. Guests can enjoy a delicious meal, followed by the ever-popular Dessert Dash. Guests can also peruse thousands of dollars' worth of auction items ranging from original art to getaways, as well as many regional and local goods and services.

Proceeds from the auction go to benefit the athletic departments of Siuslaw middle and high schools.

The dinner will come on the heels of the Siuslaw Hall of Fame induction ceremony,

which will also be held at the FEC a day prior, on July 31. During the ceremony, Siuslaw High School alumni and community members will gather as seven individuals and three teams are honored for their achievements and contributions to Siuslaw's athletics program. With names spanning nearly 40 years of athletic achievement and community service, this year's honorees include individuals who made their mark on everything from golf, track, basketball and football, as well as a spirit of volunteerism that has helped Siuslaw cross country and track programs become one of the best in the state.



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Two days of summer merriment, mirth in August



For the first time, the Florence Events center will play host to the Second Star Festival, which brings together more than 40 vendors showcasing wares meant to inspire, spark the imagination and foster creativity. Activities will include acoustic musicians, local and regional art, kids events, inspirational talks about the creative process and more.

Festivities will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8, and last until 10 p.m. There will be a break from 6 to 7:30 p.m. for visitors to grab dinner, followed by a performance in the auditorium by Tricky Pixie, as well as a film by critically acclaimed puppeteer and filmmaker Touby Froud.

Tricky Pixie is a fusion of talents from a musical trio that blends a myriad of instruments, strings, voices and drums to perform songs about pirates, dancing satyrs, gypsies and

pixies to create a unique musical and visual experience. The film "Lessons Learned," by Froud and his team of puppeteers at Stripey Pajamas Productions, is the story of a boy who is surprised by special treatment from his grandfather during his annual birthday visit — when he presents the boy with an intriguing gift offering adventure and other-worldly experiences.

The merriment continues Sunday, Aug. 9, with more music, mirth and creative mayhem from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Obtain a weekend pass plus a concert ticket to see the entire two-day festival, with special pricing for children so that the entire family can attend. Children ages 6 and under can attend free, with admission for kids between 7 and 12 years old admitted for \$7.



FEC's mobile-friendly site makes it easy to find fun this summer



Want to stay plugged in to what's happening with arts and entertainment at the Florence Events Center this spring and summer? The FEC's mobile-friendly website makes it easy! Visitors can check event calendars, view performer photos and order tickets on their smart phones and other mobile devices. A photo carousel on the home page displays previews of upcoming events and performances for the next 10 events. Look ahead, plan ahead and order ahead in just minutes. Users can click on a carousel photo and go directly to the detail page with information about that event and others in the carousel. In addition, a new map feature

helps out-of-town visitors find the FEC's exact location, as well as locate hotels and restaurants in town with easy-to-use hyperlinks.

"We've made our website totally user-friendly so that visitors feel welcome and can find us easily," says FEC director Kevin Rhodes. "We want everyone, both in and out of Florence, to enjoy the many features and activities we have to offer."

Bookmark www.eventcenter.org and stay in touch with what's happening at Florence's hot spot for arts, entertainment and cultural events all year long.