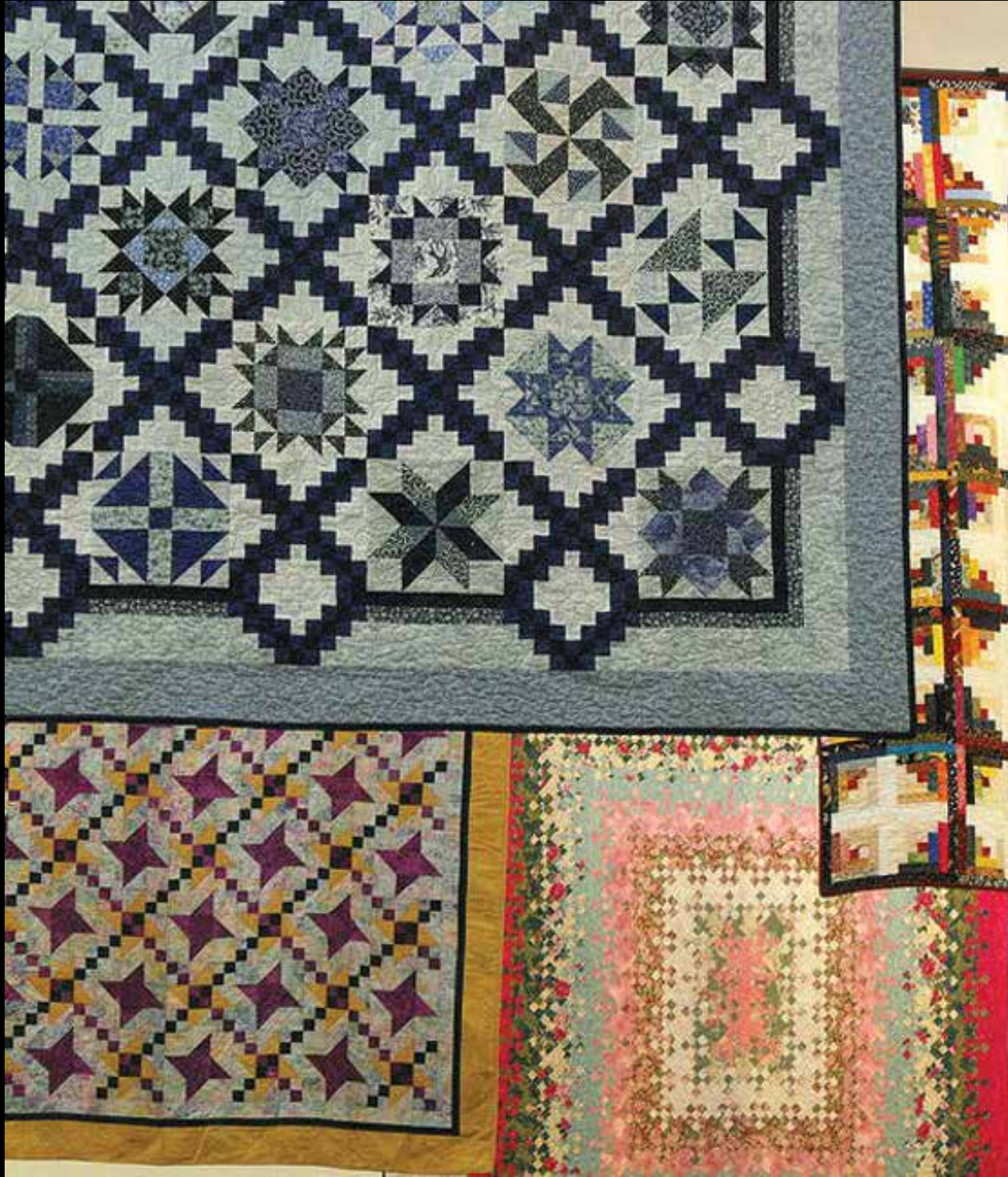


**JULY  
2015**

**Florence Events Center**

# Center Stage

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# Backstreet artists step into spotlight in Gallery One

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 and 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 Friday, July 10, at the FEC 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 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](http://www.lastresortplayers.org).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JULY

- Backstreet Gallery Artist Reception — July 10
- Savannah Fuentes Flamenco Dance — 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

### AUGUST

- Siuslaw Athletics Hall of Fame Ceremony — Aug. 1
- Second Star Festival — Aug. 8 and 9
- LRP's "Whose Wives Are They Anyway?" Aug. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30
- Florence Festival of Books Sept. 26



**ONGOING EVENTS:**  
Florence Rotary Club luncheon - Tuesdays at noon

## CENTERSTAGE

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

The Rhododendron Quilt Guild's own Donna Schoeningh 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](http://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.



## July to sizzle with Flamenco dancer Fuentes

Seattle-based Flamenco dancer Savannah Fuentes brings her latest show, El Sol de Verano ("Summer Sun") to The Florence Events Center on July 10 at 7:30 p.m. Spanish Flamenco encompasses the full spectrum of human emotion in its three key elements: Song, guitar and its signature percussive instrument: dance.

Fuentes will be joined by one of southern Spain's most promising singing prodigies, Jose Manuel Perez.

Perez acquired a deep understanding of el cante Flamenco (Flamenco singing) observing master artists in the Flamenco clubs of his hometown of Seville. Though only 22 years of

age, the Latin crooner has already performed with a long list of today's most prominent Flamenco artists, including Paloma Fantova, Maria Juncal and Moi de Moron.

The performance will be his first public appearance in Florence.

Fuentes and Perez will be joined by guitarist Bobby de Sofia. Originally from Bulgaria, Sofia discovered Flamenco while in Los Angeles and continued his studies in Andalusia with artists such as Pedro Viscomi and Paco Arroyo. He currently performs regularly at the various Flamenco clubs in the Los Angeles area.

Born in Seattle to parents of Puerto Rican and Irish ancestry,

Fuentes began her studies in Seattle and continued in Spain with dancers such as Belen Maya and Cristobal Reyes.

She currently tours throughout the western United States and has independently produced over 250 presentations and workshops featuring internationally recognized Flamenco singers.

Don't miss this chance to experience the enchantment of Flamenco in an intimate setting.

Tickets are \$23, with VIP seating available for \$35.

Student tickets are \$15, with youth tickets available for \$8 at [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com).



# 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.



## 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.



## Have an impact on local arts through volunteering or a Friends of the FEC membership

Want to support the local arts and the many activities at the Florence Events Center? Consider a donation of time, talent or dollars by volunteering or becoming a Friends of the FEC member! The FEC couldn't exist without the support of it many volunteers, who contribute more than 6,000 hours each year helping with daily operations and events. Volunteers assist with everything from lighting and sound for theater shows and musical events, to ushering, working the ticket booth and volunteering at the reception desk.

In addition, community members who are unable to volunteer but who want to contribute can either make a specific monetary donation or become a Friends of the FEC member for \$15 per year. Membership has its privileges, the most valuable of which is being a part of what allows the Florence Events Center to be home to dozens of unique artistic experiences every season.

For information of how to become a Friends member, volunteer or make a donation, call the office at 541-997-1994.

# SEAc coast 2015 season to be exciting, eclectic mix

SEAc coast 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, SEAc coast 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, SEAc coast 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 SEAc coast 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. 29, 2016**.

On **Feb. 20, 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. SEAc coast 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!



**Ballet Fantastique**



**Ken Lavigne**



**Bob Welch**

# SEAc coast season (cont.)

“You choose, we play,” said the members of the world-class ensemble, Shuffle Concert. From Baroque to classical and romantic jazz to pop and Broadway, this group is so multi-talented 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 SEAc coast’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, SEAc coast season-ticket holders 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 [SEAc coastEA.org](http://SEAc coastEA.org). Tickets can also be purchased at the Florence Events Center box office, 715 Quince Street, or by phone at 541-997-1994.



*Shuffle Concert*



*Quattrosound*



*The New Hot Club of America*

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# Oregon's 204th Army Band to play June 20

28, beginning at 7 p.m. The 204th Army Reserve Band is comprised of soldiers from the 104th Division Band (Vancouver) and the 70th Army Band (Seattle). The band is formed with soldiers from numerous professions and academic studies, to include music, education, transportation, information technology, engineering, banking, aviation, law enforcement, insurance and more.

The group schedules 10-15 performances per year and has performed recently at Seattle Mariners and Portland Beavers professional sporting events, The Alamo and on tour in Northwestern Washington.

In October 2007, Warrant Officer Robert A. Nicholas assumed command of the band. Nicholas began his military career as a trombone player and holds a Bachelor of

Music Education degree (magna cum laude) from Wichita State University, and a Master of Science degree in Instructional Design and Technology from Emporia State University.

The band is organized into a large concert ensemble of 50 Soldier-Musicians. From there, the unit is organized into various smaller "Musical Support Teams" to include jazz combo, rock band, brass quintet, woodwind quintet, Dixieland band and polka band. The modular nature of the 204th Army Band is keeping in line with the structure of the modern Army, and any of these musical support teams can be activated at any time to support the interests of our nation at home or abroad.

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 auction, Hall of Fame induction



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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# Florence Festival of Books invites all to 'meet the authors'

Approximately 70 authors, from the Northwest and beyond will be on hand during the 5th Annual Florence Festival of Books, sponsored by the Friends of the Florence Events Center. The festival will take place Sept. 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. During the festival, attendees can chat with authors and publishers, as well as buy their latest books.

For authors or publishers who would like to be a part of the festival, registration is now open. Author tables range in price from \$50 to \$90, depending on the number of authors at each table. Applications are available online at [www.florencefestivalofbooks.org](http://www.florencefestivalofbooks.org). Deadline for registration is Sept. 1.

Space is limited, so reserve your table early.

The book fair will feature at least six publishers. In addition, writers are invited to bring their manuscripts for a chance to meet with publishers, which will be representing many genres: fiction, non-fiction, memoir, children's literature, fantasy, mystery, young adult, poetry and more.

On Friday afternoon, Sept. 25, a panel discussion on the publishing process will be offered from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Following the

discussion, best-selling author Jane Kirkpatrick will be a featured guest speaker at 7 p.m.

There is no admission charge either day for the general public.

For more information, or to reserve a table

to showcase your book or publishing company, call the Florence Events Center at 541-997-1994 or visit [www.eventcenter.org](http://www.eventcenter.org).



## 'Whose Wives Are They Anyway?' Find out this August

Florence theater group It's About Time Productions will present the Michael Parker farce "Whose Wives Are They Anyway?" a comedy The Conejo Players called "A fly-by-the-seat-of-your-pants evening of fun entertainment."

Directed by well-known Florence thespian Judy Adams, by special arrangement with Samuel French, the play revolves around cosmetic company executives John and David,

who send their wives on a shopping weekend so they can go play golf. While at the club, they run into the company's new female CEO, who informs them no one who goes for a golfing weekend without their wife would ever work for her. Panicked and unable to reach their wives, the men have to produce suitable replacements. John is able to persuade the hotel receptionist, but there is no one to play David's wife.

Well, except John!

Written by the same playwright who wrote "Hotbed Hotel," Parker's "Whose Wives Are They Anyway?" is another comedic farce that keep you laughing long after the theater lights have dimmed

Main characters include:

**John Baker:** a vice president of The Ashley Maureen Cosmetics Corporation. He is a successful business executive who, because of his kind and gentle nature, allows himself to be manipulated into compromising situations by the more dominant personality of David. Alternating between the roles of himself and David's 'wife,' he is caught up in a whirlwind of events beyond his control, but nevertheless manages to show great strength of character and personality.

**David McGachen:** A distinguished looking man, he has risen to become a vice president of The Ashley Maureen Cosmetics Corporation more by guile and cunning than ability and hard work. Relentless in his efforts to impress his new boss, he attempts to manipulate all those around him. Even when his plan to create two alternative wives begins to unravel, he never gives up scheming and plotting — and always seems to come up with "one more idea."

**Tina:** A young, pretty country club receptionist. She is good at her job, impressing the guests with her smile and personality. Once she has been persuaded to impersonate John's wife, she embraces the role wholeheartedly. After a little too much champagne, she seems to have difficulty keeping all her clothes on, and ends up at the heart of many of the visual comic sequences.

**Mrs. Carlson:** The club manager, she is a straight-laced, severe woman who, in a few



years, will become a typical "old battleaxe." At this stage in her life she prefers to take the moral high ground and does not hesitate to preach the evils of sex and adultery. She sees herself as a guardian of morality for the country club, and makes sure all her guests know it.

Other characters include "Wilson," the hypochondriac handyman; "D.L. Hutchison," new president of the cosmetic company hell-bent on creating an atmosphere of gender equality; "Karly McGachen," wife of "David" who is intent on making him jealous; and "Laura Baker," a simple and sweet soul wrapped in beauty but who is easily dominated by "Karly's" insecurities.

"Whose Wives Are They Anyway?" will be presented on the FEC's main stage Aug. 21, 22, 28 and 29 at 7 p.m., with matinee shows at 2 p.m. Aug. 23 and 30.

Tickets are available by calling the FEC box office at 541-997-1994.

It's About Time Productions presents

**WHOSE WIVES ARE THEY ANYWAY?**

An American Farce

by Michael Parker

"A fly-by-the-seat-of-your pants evening of fun entertainment."  
Conejo Players, California

August 21 & 22 - 7 PM • August 23 - 2 PM  
August 28 & 29 - 7 PM • August 30 - 2PM

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