

Florence Events Center

Center Stage

SEPTEMBER
2015

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Model cars to shine at collectors show

For the fourth year, the Pacific Northwest Model Car Contest, Display and Swap Meet will roll into the Florence Events Center, bringing with it some of the most impressive model cars from

throughout the region. The event will take place Sept. 12, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cars of all classifications, assembled by model-makers of all ages, will be on display, with many competing in one of the many divisions available. The show also offers a chance to talk with top modelers and area vendors, as well as swap creations with others — or just come to look.

Modelers of all ages are welcome to participate. Awards will be presented in 14 different classes, with a number of special awards that will be given.

Vendors can rent an exhibit table for \$30 with advance registration, or \$35 on

the day of the show. Contact Michael Carroll for registration or other information at 541-997-9747.

“This event is quickly becoming the premier model event on the West Coast,” Carroll says.



Look for 'Splash of Color' at FEC beginning Sept. 1

The Florence Event Center and the Friends of FEC Gallery Committee will share an exhibit of talented local and regional artists entitled, “Splash of Color.” Among the artwork on display will be the colorful blown glass work of Marion Hal, photographs by Ken McDougal, as well as art from Gene Olson, Jaroslav Lupinek, Richard Reynolds, Ronald Hildenbrand, Kate Alexander and Claudia Ignatieff.

The public is invited to an artists reception Saturday, Sept. 5, from 3 to 5 p.m. Come meet the artists and enjoy refreshments.

The artwork will be on display during the months of September and October in Gallery One.



Blown glass created by Marion Hal, along with photography by Ken McDougal will be featured, with other local artists at the “Splash of Color” exhibit at the FEC in September and October.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- Splash of Color artists reception — Sept. 5
- Splash of Color exhibit Sept. 1 through Oct. 29
- Model Car Show — Sept. 12
- Jane Kirkpatrick — Sept. 25
- Florence Festival of Books — Sept. 26

OCTOBER

- Good Life Senior Expo — Oct. 1
- Oktoberfest — Oct. 3
- Cascadia Opera — Oct. 4
- Quattro Sound — Oct. 9
- Lane County Blood Drive — Oct. 12
- El Sol De Verano Flamenco Dance — Oct. 13
- Eugene Ballet’s “Sleeping Beauty” — Oct. 14
- P.O.E.’s “Wine, Women and Whatever” — Oct. 18
- Bob Welch Show — Oct. 18
- Jazz Kings “Goody Goody” — Oct. 24



ONGOING EVENTS:
Florence Rotary Club luncheon -
Tuesdays at noon

Have an impact on local arts: volunteering or become a Friends of the FEC member

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.

CENTERSTAGE

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

Approximately 80 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.

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 representing many genres: fiction, non-fiction, memoir, children's literature, fantasy, mystery,



young adult, poetry and more. Nearly 20 of the authors in attendance will be local residents. Authors will also give presentations and readings from their books throughout the day. Kevin Rhodes, events center director, said the annual event has grown every year. "It's not only a good opportunity for increased exposure for the authors and publishers, but it serves as a great networking tool as well."

On Friday afternoon, Sept. 25, a panel discussion on the publishing process will be offered from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at no charge. Then from 6 to 6:45 p.m. will be a meet and greet for FFOB participants. Besides being an opportunity to meet the



other participating authors, it is also an opportunity to meet the Keynote Speaker, Jane Kirkpatrick, popular Northwest author of historical fiction. Kirkpatrick is the author of critically acclaimed books such as "Where Lilacs Still Bloom" and "The Daughter's Walk." She will be speaking at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door.

There is no admission charge to the festival for the general public on Saturday.

For more information, call the Florence Events Center at 541-997-1994 or visit www.eventcenter.org. Authors interested in finding out more about the festival can also visit www.florencefestivalofbooks.org.



Seniors, Boomers: Learn tips, services to enjoy 'The Good Life'

People are living longer, healthier and more productive lives than in any time in human history. How do we make the most of our lives in those later years? The Florence Events Center and Siuslaw News

will host the third annual Good Life Senior Expo, an event for baby boomers, seniors, caregivers and their friends and family members, on Thursday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The expo will feature a diverse range of exhibitors, along with entertainment and several informative seminars. The expo's goal is to help people age 50 and older to manage and enhance all aspects of their lives. The FEC will be full of vendors with products, services and resources tailored to seniors and boomers. In addition, the Good Life will include free admission and door prizes.

"We have a diverse senior

population in this community and we hope the Good Life Senior Expo offers new and creative ways to meet the needs of these residents," said Jenna Bartlett, committee co-chairwoman and Siuslaw News publisher. "We have programs for active seniors who are looking for everything from new fitness activities to financial services, or information and tips for those who need assistance getting around safely and affordably."

Come spend the day and learn how various businesses can help anyone make the most of their retirement years.



Grab your lederhosen and a good beer — Oktoberfest is here!



Authentic German food, beer and entertainment will be on tap for the annual Oktoberfest, with festivities set for Saturday, Oct. 3. German bands, Scandinavian dancers and Polka playing accordions are just parts of a full day offering entertainment for the entire family.

Last year, more than 700 people celebrated with authentic German food — bratwurst, sauerkraut, pretzels, apple strudel, German chocolate and more — along with beer and lots of entertainment. Gather with the crowd to watch the fleet-footed (use your imagination) Weiner Dog Races in the afternoon, with awards handed out to the top Dachshunds in several categories. In addition, there

will be three chances to hear Oktoberfest favorite the Alpine Echoes Band, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and 5 to 6 p.m. Other entertainment will include Sam's Polka Gems, the Tirolean Dancers and the Scandia Dancers.

The fun starts at 8:30 a.m. with a pancake breakfast hosted by the Florence Kiwanis Club until 11 a.m.

There will be fun activities for the little ones in a Kinder-corner, including balloon tying and face painting. During

the entire festival participants can enjoy German beer, brats, plus local wines and other delicious authentic German food served up by local nonprofit organizations.

Bring the whole family and meet friends you've never met before, or dress up in your best German attire. So dust off that lederhosen and join the fun!

The event is hosted by the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce.



Cascadia Concert Opera to present Mozart masterpiece 'Giovanni' Oct. 4

Cascadia Concert Opera will conclude its 2015 season with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Don Giovanni" on Sunday, Oct. 4, at 3 p.m.

The concert will be presented with piano accompaniment. A groundbreaking serio-comic masterpiece, Mozart's "Don Giovanni" recounts the story of a wealthy, charismatic Lothario who recklessly seduces a multitude of women only to meet his rightful yet untimely fate. Arguably the pinnacle of Mozart's collaborations with librettist Lorenzo da Ponte, the opera offers an incisive and ironic perspective on the duplicitous nature of humanity.

The convergence of Mozart's exquisite musical development and da

Ponte's vulgar depiction of the Don Juan myth results in a complex and electrifying opera that exemplifies Mozart's mastery of the form.

Currently in its seventh season, Cascadia Concert Opera is a non-profit performing arts organization based in Eugene. Showcasing some of the finest local and regional talent, Cascadia has a unique identity as a touring ensemble, presenting opera in intimate venues throughout the Northwest.

Tickets are \$20 for adults or \$10 for students. Purchase them by phone at 541-888-968-4086, online at www.eventcenter.org, or at the door.



Discover the fantastic musical fusion of Quattro Sound

The band Quattro Sound made its worldwide debut at last year's Latin Grammy Awards and created a buzz that has grown to into a full-blown roar. Combining their love for music and culture, the members of Quattro create an incredible new musical fusion that raises the bar of originality with fresh compositions and arrangements that pay homage to the classics while forging a new contemporary sound.

The group consists of four solo performers: cello, percussion, violin, guitar, plus vocals. Much like their music, members Giovanna Moraga Clayton, Lisa Dondlinger, Kay-Ta Matsuno and Jorge Villanueva came together from seemingly un-related

professional music worlds to meld into one dynamic group.

Clayton performs cello and vocals and currently holds positions with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Hollywood Bowl Orchestra and the New West Symphony. He's also an in-demand cellist in the Los Angeles recording scene, having recorded on hundreds of film scores, soundtracks, TV shows and records.

Violinist and vocalist Dondlinger has performed and recorded with top artists ranging from Christina Aguilera to Luciano Pavarotti, and plays in the house band for television shows such as American Idol, Dancing with the Stars, The Tonight Show and many others. She has performed on the Grammy Awards, the Academy Awards, is active in the film industry, and is currently performing with Celine Dion in her latest production: Celine.

Adding smooth guitar and vocals is Matsuno, who was born in Osaka, Japan and relocated to Boston at age 20 to study at Berklee College of Music. The broad scope of his playing style — from Gospel, R&B, country, jazz, and rock — helped kick-start his career as a session guitarist in Los Angeles. His long list of credits includes: performing with David Foster, Baby Face, Natalie Cole, Keiko Matsui, Lalah Hathaway, Amerie, Chante Moore, Jackiem Joyner, Daniel Bedingfield, Malcolm Jamal Warner, Steve Porcaro, Virgil Donatti, Tony Macalpine, Jody Watley and many others.

Villanueva is a Tijuana, Mexico native who provides pounding percussion and vocals. Villanueva's musical resume includes touring engagements, recording and movie soundtracks with artists such as Beth Hirsh of "Air", Diego Amador, Alex Acuña, Abraham Laboriel, Israel Varela, Debi Nova, Christian Castro, and Alexander Pires. Known for his unique percussion combinations, Villanueva brings Quattro's audiences to their feet.

Tickets are \$10 to \$30 and are available by calling the ticket office at 541-888-968-4086, online at www.eventcenter.org, or at the door.



PEO to host an evening of 'Wine, Women and Who Knows What?'

Chapter FQ of the Philanthropic Educational Organization (PEO) will sponsor its third annual "Wine, Women and Who Knows What?" evening of wine tasting at the FEC on Sunday, Oct. 18, from 5 to 7 p.m.

The wine tasting will feature five wines from Northwest vineyards, paired with unique foods created by local chefs.

An extensive list of door prizes has been donated, and there will be a silent auction that includes art, wine tastings and a special collection of themed gift baskets.

All proceeds raised from the event will go to provide scholarships, loans and grants to women pursuing higher education. Over the years, PEO has awarded many scholarships to local women who have obtained their degrees at various institutions and then returned to Florence to give back to the local community.

Tickets for the event are \$25 and must be reserved in advance. Call 541-997-2318 for tickets and information.



FEC stage to sizzle with El Sol De Verano Flamenco dancer Savannah Fuentes

Seattle-based Flamenco dancer Savannah Fuentes brings her latest show, El Sol de Verano to The Florence Events Center Tuesday, Oct. 13, 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 Latin-style 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.



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Eugene Ballet Company to bring classic 'Beauty' to FEC main stage

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

Eugene Ballet Company's 36th performing season awakens to one of the great ballets of all time. The Sleeping Beauty is for kids, parents, grandkids and grandparents, and everyone who loves fairy tales, Tchaikovsky, tutus and tiaras. This timeless story delights with classical variations and magical characters set in a

mythical land, starring Fairies, the White Cat and Puss in Boots, the Bluebirds, the wicked fairy Carabosse and, of course, Sleeping Beauty and her Prince.

This classic ballet tale will be

performed Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 to \$30. Purchase them by phone at 541-888-968-4086, online at www.eventcenter.org, or at the door.

Award-winning author, speaker Bob Welch to make Florence appearance with 'Friends'

When his 2014 debut show at the Hult Center sold out a month in advance, Bob Welch made a mental note last October: Two shows for 2015.

But that won't be the case this fall. Instead, he and his expanded cast and crew will actually offer three shows, including one at the Florence Events Center on Sunday, Oct. 18, at 2 p.m. Umpqua Bank is presenting all three events, with the cooperation of the Seacoast Entertainment Association for the Florence event.

"I'm already pumped about this fall's shows," says the author, speaker and former full-time Register-Guard columnist. "We blend stories, songs, images and — yep — s'mores to create a one-of-a-kind evening that honors the best of the human spirit. We tickle some funny bones, tug on some heart strings and generally have some fun."

Last year's focus was on community and families. This year, the focus will be "My Oregon," so-named for Welch's book series of Register-Guard columns titled as such, the third of which will be released this month.

"This is not The Welches' Oregon Vacation Slide Show," says Welch. "This is an exploration of the soul of this place we call home. An experiencing of Oregon through all the senses. An examination of the relationship between us and the land."

In the four-part show — The High Desert, The Mountains, The



Valley, The Coast — Welch and Co. will find the humor in Oregon, the heart-stirring stuff of Oregon, "the things that make us like no other place on earth," he says.

Beyond Welch's storytelling, the "My Oregon" show will feature:

- The Eugene Symphony's Dale Bradley and trio, whose music bridges his stories.
- Comedic poet David Perham, whose poetry will have the audience laughing wildly.
- The photography of six of Oregon's best: Stan Newman and Jason Friesen, Eugene;

Laren and JerriLynn Woolley (Oregon Coast Photography), Newport ; Jorma Meriaho, Dexter; and Eric Valentine, La Grande.

- A special video piece by AO Films' Ryan Welch, Bob's older son.

The show will again be directed by Judy Wenger, Rose Children's Theatre director and coordinator of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's Educator Preview Weekend.

"What's cool about 'Welch & Friends' is that we gather people with all these diverse talents and just let them do their things," says Welch. "The results, last year attested, are pretty amazing. And this year, with the photography and video, we're just adding to that 'amazing.'"

Florence sponsors are the River House Inn, Siuslaw River Coffee Roasters, City Lights Cinemas, the Chicken Coop Gift Shop and Mari's Books in Yachats.

Tickets are \$27 for adults or \$10 for youth. Purchase them by phone at 541-888-968-4086, online at www.eventcenter.org, or at the door.



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Last Resort Players to present award-winning musical 'Chicago'

Rouge your knees and roll your stockings down! Oregon Coast stage director David Lauria has announced one of the most exciting fall musicals to be presented by the Last Resort Players: Chicago. The iconic musical score includes one of the most famous opening numbers All That Jazz, along with showstoppers such as Mr. Cellophane, Razzle Dazzle, and Cell Block Tango. This score is fast paced and will leave audiences begging for more.

Chicago takes place in the roaring twenties when chorine Roxie Hart murders a faithless love and convinces her hapless husband Amos to take the rap. Awaiting trial, Roxie and another "Merry Murderess", Velma Kelly, vie for the spotlight and the headlines. The musical is based on a 1926 play of the same name by reporter Maurine Dallas Watkins about actual criminals and crimes she reported on.

For out of town theatre attendees, LRP has arranged discount lodging along with some secret menu items available at local eateries. To keep up on the latest details of the production and view our travel deals, visit www.lrpproductions.org

Opening night at the Florence Events Center is Nov. 6, with performances on Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Performances will be Friday and Saturday (Nov. 6-7 and 13-14) at 7 p.m. and Sundays (Nov. 8 and 15) at 2 p.m. For ticket information, call the Florence Events Center at 541-888-968-4086 or visit www.eventcenter.org.



Rehearsals have started for the Last Resort Players fall production of Chicago. Front row: Crystal Farnsworth, Matt Korso, Maree Beers. Back row: Erin Reinke, Polly Flemming, Tamara Szalewsky, Angela Palmer, Chantelle Meyer, Jennifer Marus, Tamara Cole, Siarrah Rain, Elizabeth Rose, Sabrina Hand, Courtney Ricketts, and Chantall Guzman.

Jazz Kings to celebrate 20th anniversary of Swing music — 'Goody Goody!'

For its 2015-16 20th anniversary season, Jesse Cloninger and the Emerald City Jazz Kings announced a complete year of big band swing! The Swing

Era unofficially began at the Palomar Ballroom in Los Angeles on Aug. 21, 1935, when Benny Goodman and his band went for broke and wrapped up this final

performance on a lackluster tour with an evening of their hottest "late night" tunes. The audience went wild! Coined "Swing," the new sounds coming from bands of

the era electrified audiences and began a resurgence of widespread popularity for larger and smaller jazz ensembles alike. This was the big band era, the era of demanding bandleaders, flashy soloists, swinging riffs, handsome crooners, and heartbreaking lady vocalists.

Spanning 12 years, The Swing Era produced such an iconic and massive volume of hits that it has remained one of the most loved and widely celebrated genres of jazz music today. In the Jazz Kings' "Year of Swing," each of the three concert series' will be dedicated to a four-year span of time. From each of these four-year blocks we will draw the greatest hits from the bands of the day as well as playing some of the most loved songs of the time. Focusing on bands and vocalists alike guarantees a rich blend of swinging material with more than enough to send everyone home happy.

In this first installment and examination of the Swing Era, "Goody Goody," the Emerald City Jazz Kings will focus on the years 1935-38 with hits from Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Jimmy Dorsey, Count Basie, Chick Webb, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald and the Andrews Sisters.

The Jazz Kings' "Goody Goody" performance will be Saturday, Oct. 24, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased by phone at 541-888-968-4086, online at www.eventcenter.org, or at the door.

