

FEBRUARY
2016

Florence Events Center

Center Stage

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BALLET FANTASTIQUE

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Visit exhibit and share 'For the Love of Animals'



The month of February will include the second annual "For the Love of Animals" exhibit at FEC. This highly successful event is a chance as an artistic community to support the local Florence Area Humane Society (FAHS). With paintings or photographs, artists share their talents and help get the word out about the importance of supporting shelter animals. Beside each rod displaying the works of individual artists is a photo of an animal up for adoption at the FAHS.

During a special reception set for Friday, Feb. 12, all proceeds from the exhibit between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. will be donated to FAHS.

In addition, while at the reception, guests can buy raffle tickets to win a voucher for a portrait of their pet to be painted by well-known local artist John Leasure.

The drawing will be held at 2 p.m. Also, there will be a photo booth set up for pet photos, to be developed almost instantly.

Complimentary refreshments will be served for both pet owners and their pets, along with a bin for donations of pet food for the FAHS. This exhibit is a win-win for all.

For more information, visit www.eventcenter.org.

Share your heart, support for local youth arts

On Saturday, Feb. 13, beginning at 6:30 p.m., Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW) will once again celebrate the magic of youth performing arts through a lively fundraising party called "Share Your Heart." Sweethearts, singles, friends and supporters are encouraged to join

the fun at this Valentine's Day themed event. Children will sing songs from the heart, and guests will be invited to participate in a unique silent auction, live auctions, dessert auction and games such as the "Kissing Booth" and a brand new "Heart Breaker!" game, in which guests can try their luck at winning delicious wine — all while supporting local kids in the arts.

Last year, CROW raised \$46,000 through auctions, pledges and donations, which put the nonprofit well on it's way to securing it's new home: The CROW Center for the Performing Arts, located at 3120 Highway 101 in Florence.

"Share Your Heart is like anything else CROW does — it's over the top," says artistic director and CROW founder, Melanie Heard. "Events like this are made possible by countless volunteer hours, incredible silent and live auction donations from community members, and lots of old-fashioned hard work from the CROW parents, volunteers and production team. We are so incredibly grateful to everyone who has helped us get to this point. But we still have miles to go before we sleep,"

In the spring of 2015, CROW temporarily secured it's new home through the help of an infusion of immediate funds from an anonymous investor. However, the funds must be repaid in full with a period of one year to 18 months. "And the sands are already slipping through the hourglass,"

said Heard. CROW still has to raise nearly \$220,000 to repay the investor, plus additional funds to finish renovations so that they are able to open their doors to the kids.

In addition to concentrated fundraising efforts, CROW has been actively pursuing large grants from major foundations throughout the United States. "We have hired an incredible grant writer to help with our efforts, and are truly blessed by this individual's talent and propensity for writing eloquent grants."

CROW has big plans for the new facility, which will house ongoing classes in dance, voice, theatre, and scenic artistry, as well as protect the organization's sets, costumes, and props. With the addition of their own space, CROW plans to continue its ongoing community outreach in even more ways, through more involvement in local schools, more scholarships for summer camps, a Senior living center mentorship program, and "anti-bullying" and "literacy building" theatrical programs, targeting students of various grade levels.

Single tickets are \$40 for adults and \$25 for youth (12 and under). A full table of eight can also be purchased for \$300 and CROW encourages local businesses to sponsor a table and bring some friends and colleagues. Tickets include wine

(adults only) and hot hors d'oeuvres, as well as a chance to bid on the amazing baskets, prizes and desserts up for grabs. The evening will culminate with a "Raise Your Paddle" donation opportunity and exciting live auctions on some "big ticket" items.

Doors open at 6 pm, and the event begins at 6:30. To reserve your seats, call the Florence Events Center at (541) 997-1994, or visit www.eventcenter.org. For more information about the CROW program, visit www.crowkids.com or contact Melanie Heard at (541) 999-8641.

"Our Florence area folks have always shown how big their hearts are for worthy projects, and we hope we can count on this same generosity and love to carry us through to the finish line," says Heard.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FEBRUARY

- February:
Crab Crack — Feb. 6
Lane Blood Mobile — Feb. 8
For the Love of Animals art reception — Feb. 12
CROW Share Your Heart — Feb. 13
Ballet Fantastique — Feb. 20
Heart 2 Heart — Feb. 20
Wallflowers and Wine — Feb. 26
If Gathering Women's Conference — Feb. 27

MARCH:

- Concealed Weapons Training — March 2
Florence Home & Garden Show — March 4-6
SHS All-Band Concert — March 7
PTA Talent Show — March 10 and 11
Rotary Auction — March 12
Glen Miller Orchestra — March 18
Cavy Show — March 19
SMS Band Festival — March 30



ONGOING EVENTS:
Florence Rotary Club luncheon - Tuesdays at noon

CENTERSTAGE

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Take a 'Fantastique' ballet trip and more with SEAcost's latest season



The adventurous in Florence will want to journey to the Florence Events Center on Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. for Ballet Fantastique's *Dragon & the Night Queen: Celtic Stories*.

"Ballet Fantastique is fresh and bold. They take ballet out of the box, have a lot of fun, and build new audiences for dance in the process," says Karen Smales, SEAcost board member and producer for this event. "They're based in the fiercest Russian traditions of classical dance, but are forging new stories, a new dance vocabulary, and a new brand of contemporary narrative dance theater."

"This will be one of the most exciting ballets we've ever brought to Florence," adds Smales. "Colorful, lively, and the costumes are absolutely fabulous. They have great taste in music and we

are proud to present their 100-percent original work this season — especially with the live music."

The Eugene troupe has proven a Florence favorite and is sure to thrill again with a bold, defiant new telling of ancient Irish and Celtic legends — a vivid exploration of new borders, filled with elemental powers and riotous spirit. The performance includes live music from Gerry Rempel Ensemble and internationally-renown Irish musician Eliot Grasso; and a pre-concert talk at 6:15 p.m. given by Rempel and producers/choreographers Donna and Hannah Bontrager.

Dragon & the Night Queen: Celtic Stories takes the audience to ancient Ireland, a mesmerizing world haunted by elemental powers and dragons, gatekeepers to other worlds, and guardians of universal treasures.

The Bontragers forge a new telling of ancient Irish legends with dynamic live music by and Grasso.

New choreography, drama, and live songcraft capture the rich myths of Morgan le Fay (sea goddess of the legends of Avalon), the Night Queen Rhiannon, the Morrigan, and the Dragon King. In this story, medieval faerieworlds collide through fantastical sets, costumes, and evocative, contemporary ballet choreography.

"This performance will make for a great date night; but Donna and Hannah always make it tasteful and compelling theater for younger audiences," says Smales.

This electrifying show is the fourth in SEAcost Entertainment Association's seven-concert season. Upcoming performances include one of most popular and sought after big bands in the world, the Glenn Miller Orchestra, which returns to Florence on Friday, March 18. SEAcost 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," say 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.

You'll be in luck on Friday, May 13, 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.

Tickets, artist profiles, show times, video clips, and more information are available at SEAcostEA.org. Tickets are \$30, or \$10 for those under 18.

Tickets can also be purchased at the Florence Events Center box office, 715 Quince Street; or by phone at 541-997-1994 or online at www.eventscenter.org.



Fun and games for a good cause at Van Fans fundraiser



Get together with friends for a fun day of card games and lunch at the Van Fans fundraiser Wednesday, Feb. 17. The fun begins at 11:30 a.m. There will be raffle prizes and other exciting games and happenings throughout the event.

Sign up for a table and choose your game. Ticket price, with or without card games, is \$15 per person and includes the luncheon.

The Friends of Florence Van Fans is a non-political organization that sponsors this event. All proceeds go to support the Van Fans program, which transports cancer patients every weekday to Eugene and Springfield for radiation treatments.

For more information or to sign up for card games, call Karen Lee at 541-997-9669.

FEC names Artistic Visions exhibit winners

The January exhibit “Artistic Visions” at the FEC featured a wide variety of 2-D, photography, and 3-D artworks in Galleries One and Five. At a special awards reception, first place winners received \$150 each, as well as a gold ribbon. Silvia Trijillo won the 2-dimensional award for her painting “Equinox.” Stephanie Ames won the photography award for her photograph “Singularity.” David Johnsen won the 3-dimensional award for his walking stick “Falling Leaves.”

Honorable Mention ribbons went to artists Collen Goodwin, Julie Strecker, Julie Ripley, Lin-Su Nordin, Ben Cahoon, Patricia Ball, Stephanie Ames, Stephen Jones, Patrice Lampton, Ken McDougal, Amy Rickford and Mike Shoys.

Judges for the show were Susan Lehman from Bandon, 2-D; Mack Holman from Gardiner, 3-D; and Susie Morrill and Donna Gilhousen from Eugene, photography.

Coordinators of this awards show were FEC Gallery Committee members Claudia Brown and Liz Johnson, and sponsors were the Friends of the FEC.

Liz Johnson, Judge Susan Lehman, Claudia Brown, and Photography first place winner Stephanie Ames



PeaceHealth to host women’s Heart 2 Heart event

Peace Harbor Medical Center will host the ninth annual women’s health event Friday, Feb. 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The program will feature a variety of speakers providing overall health information to help women understand and manage the many health conditions facing them today.

Although there are genetic risks that you cannot control for many diseases, there are some risks that you can overcome by following key preventive steps. Come hear how to make healthy choices for yourself and for the people you love. Speakers will include Dr. Gina Wilson, OB/GYN at PeaceHealth Medical Group, Patricia Immel from Wellspring Clinic, and others, along with a food demo by our very own Chef at PeaceHealth Peace Harbor, John Joyner. Massage therapy will be offered throughout the event and vendors will be on site to give heart healthy tips and treats.

The event is Saturday, Feb. 20, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Numerous exhibits, free massage, food tastings, demonstrations and learning activities will be available throughout the morning, providing attendees with opportunities to explore options, ask questions and gain knowledge about many of the serious health issues facing women today.

“Our focus is to provide the best experience possible for attendees,” said Kat Rannow, Senior Communications Specialist for PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center. “Addressing issues that are important to women, while giving them the opportunity to laugh and live it up a bit are the goals of everyone involved,”

Admission is \$10.



Women’s
HEALTH



Florence women to gather for two-day faith event



If: Gathering Women's Conference brings together women from across the globe to humbly seek God and help equip them to better live out their calling. The

event helps empower women so that they can create fresh, honest spaces in their local area to wrestle with the essential questions of faith.



If: Gathering, Florence, will feature the national If: Gathering conference via high-definition video during the two-day event, Feb. 26 and 27. Attendees will hear challenging stories and messages of faith from If: Gathering founder Jennie Allen (author of "Anything" and "Restless"), as well as Ann Voskamp, Christine Caine, Bianca Olthoff and others.

Come enjoy live worship music and spend time sharing Christ-focused conversations on how to have an impact in your local community through prayer, action and friendship. Discover what calling God has given in your life, how to live it and what your next step in faith should be.

The conference opens Friday, Feb. 26,

from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., with doors opening at 6 p.m. The event continues Saturday, Feb. 27, from 9 a.m. to noon, and 1:30 to 5 p.m. Doors open at 8:30 a.m.

There will be a lunch break from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Conference admission is by cash or check donation only on the day of the event. A donation of \$1 or more will be used to cover expenses involved with hosting the event, with any additional monies being donated to local nonprofit organizations.

Light refreshments will be available throughout the conference.

There is no childcare available at the event.

Concealed handgun permit certification class being offered by NRA instructor

For anyone planning to purchase a handgun for the purpose of carrying a concealed firearm, the state of Oregon requires class and certification prior to applying for a permit. Oregon residents must apply for a Concealed Handgun Permit (CHP) in the county they live in, and Oregon does not recognize any other state's CHL permit.

On March 2, NRA certified trainer Shaun Curtain of Firearm Training Northwest will be offering two classes at the Florence Events Center providing the necessary Oregon Concealed Carry training certificate.

Curtain has been a Hunter Education chief instructor for 10 years, with monthly classes at the Vancouver Trap Club. He has also been a college instructor for 15 years, with concealed carry classes offered twice a semester at both Mt Hood and Lane Community College.

The class begins with a review of Washington Firearm Laws and how to obtain a Washington Concealed Carry Permit, and then Oregon Laws and how to obtain an Oregon Concealed Carry Permit (including a training certificate).



Annual Florence Home and Garden Show to celebrate 20 years

More than 2,000 people attended the 19th Annual Florence Home and Garden Show last year, with even more visitors expected for this year's 20th annual event.

"We base the success of the show on comments about the quality and variety of vendors we receive from those attending and vendor feedback and sales," says Jon Thompson, general manager of KCST Radio, which co-sponsors the event. "We've been told numerous times that our show is one of the best, even in comparison to much larger venues."

Thompson said local businesses are the highest priority, but bringing in out-of-area vendors with products and services that cannot be found in the Florence area is also critical to its success. Custom wood products, kitchenware, hot tubs, spas, skylights and dozens of vendors featuring products and services for both the home and garden will pack the Florence Events Center.

Landscape designs will feature local crafted garden art, including sculptures, plants and glass art. Urban designs will highlight planting ideas to create a haven for wildlife. Low-maintenance and native plant



selections will give homeowners great ideas on enhancing their yards to add color, texture and wildlife habitat.

Show hours are from 2 to 6 p.m. on

Friday, March 4, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, March 5, and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 6.



Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children 12 and under. Admission is free from 4 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, and half-price coupons will be available at Bi-Mart two weeks prior to the show.



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Rotarians say 'Sky's the Limit' for annual auction March 12



"The Sky's the Limit" is this year's theme for the annual Florence Rotarian auction, which takes place at 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 12. The event features an international travel theme, with each table decorated to portray a different destination. Paris will be featured, along with Cuba, Jamaica and everywhere in between. Costumes are expected to fit each table's theme.

The Sneddens — Bob, Blair and Gerry — will once again take to the stage to auction everything from exotic trips to upscale furniture, sports packages and more. The evening begins with a silent auction that displays the work of local

artists and craftspeople, along with entertainment packages, gourmet food baskets, sports equipment and gift certificates to local restaurants and entertainment venues.

The event was nearly already sold out by the end of January, with fewer than six tables remaining. Table sponsors include: On Your Feet With a Splash, Florence In Bloom, Oregon Pacific Bank, KCST & KCFM, The Siuslaw News, Oley and Bobbi Nelson, The River House Inn, Laurel Bay Gardens, Hoberg's Complete Auto Repair, Deb and Larry Lamb, Guy H. Veach, Law Office of Jane C. Hanawalt, State Farm Insurance, and Michael and Nancy Pearson.

Also planning to attend are Wok Up Windows, Heceta Self Storage, Florence Eye Clinic, Maple Street Grille, Brian Holmes, DMD, FAGD, Justin Linton, DDS/Florence Dental Clinic, TR Hunter, The J Group, Senator Arnie Roblan, Sea Lion Caves, Banner

Bank, Peace Harbor Medical Center, Three Rivers Casino Resort, Ocean Dunes Golf Links, Dr. Al Brauer, Anne Blakeslee, 101 Things to Do Magazine, City Lights Cinemas, The Shippin' Shack, Siuslaw Sign and Graphics, City of Florence, The Archives, The Speakeasies, Mina Dickson, Licensed Professional Counselor LLC, and Fred Meyer (Tim Cornish).

For information about tickets or donations to the auction, call Craig Sanders at 541-999-1713.



You say Guinea Pig, I say Cavy. What's the difference? Find out March 19



bringing their favorite cavies to be judged and assessed for their quality. Top winners will be awarded prizes. In addition there will be a youth cavy show open to the public. "Our youth have some beautiful examples of cavies," said Manetta Deggleman, organizer of last August's summer show at the FEC. "Everyone is invited to see why we love our animals, and why we have so much fun."

Though there are 13 breeds of Guinea pig, only a few breeds are commonly found off the show table as pets. The short-hair, Abyssinian, Peruvian and Sheltie (aka Silkie) breeds are those most frequently seen as pets.

Here's a quick look at how to

determine the difference:

Short Haired: The short coated cavy — often called the American, Self, or English — has consistently short, glossy hair without a part.

Abyssinian: Known for its short, rough coat that has cowlicked rosettes of hair.

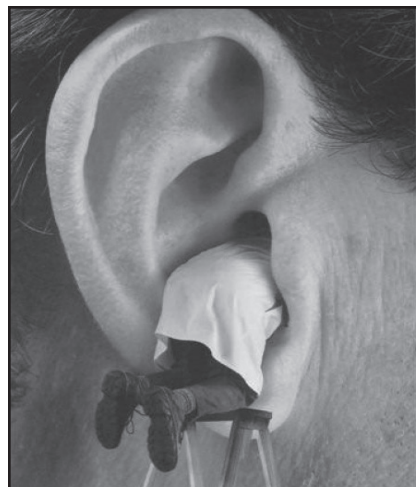
Peruvian: The Peruvian is the progenitor of all modern long-haired breeds, being a Guinea pig with hair that grows long continuously all over its body,— sometimes to an excess of 20 inches.

Silkie or Sheltie: A Silkie has long hair that flows back over its body and never forward over the face (as in the Peruvian).

Texel: Like a Silkie, but with curls.

"We welcome questions about our little friends at this show or any of our many shows around the state," said Deggleman.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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Glenn Miller Orchestra to bring big band music to FEC

One of the most popular and sought after bands today, the Glenn Miller Orchestra is considered by many to be one of the greatest bands of all time. The current band began playing together in 1956 and has remained touring ever since. On Friday, March 18, SEAcost and the FEC will open the dance floor so that audience members can truly enjoy the cabaret-style concert the way big band music was intended.

The legendary Glenn Miller was one of the most successful of all dance bandleaders back in the era of Swing during the 1930s and 1940s. Miller's band was unmatched in its string of hits. Miller disbanded the orchestra in 1942 at the height of its popularity to volunteer to serve his country. It was while in the military that he organized and led the famous Glenn Miller Air Force Band. It traveled Europe entertaining servicemen and performing numerous live and radio shows. His most popular orchestrations

include "In the Mood," "Moonlight Serenade," "Chattanooga Choo Choo," "A String of Pearls," and "Pennsylvania 6-5000."

On Dec. 15, 1944, Major Glenn Miller disappeared into the English Channel in a single-engine plane and was never seen again.

The release of the movie *The Glenn Miller Story* starring Jimmy Stewart and June Allyson in 1954 renewed interest and demand for the return of the Glenn Miller Orchestra. In June 6, 1956, under the direction of drummer Ray McKinley, the reformed orchestra performed its first concert and has remained on the road ever since, traveling the globe.

Today, the 18-member ensemble continues to play many of the original Miller arrangements from both the civilian band and Air Force Band

archives. It also plays some more modern selections arranged and performed in the Miller style and sound.

The March 18 concert will take place at 7 p.m. Tickets range in price from \$10

to \$30.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call the FEC at 541-997-1994 or visit www.eventcenter.org.



CROW rehearsals begin for spring production of Shrek the Musical, Jr.

In a faraway kingdom, the green ogre, Shrek, finds his swamp invaded by banished fairytale misfits, runaways who've been cast off by Lord Farquaad, a tiny terror with big ambitions. When Shrek sets off with a wise-cracking donkey to confront Farquaad, he's handed a task: if

he rescues feisty Princess Fiona from the Dragon-guarded tower, his swamp will be returned to him.

But, a fairy tale wouldn't be complete without unexpected twists and turns along the way. Part romance and part twisted fairy tale, "Shrek The Musical, Jr.," is

an irreverently fun musical comedy with lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire, and music by Jeanine Tesori.

This marks CROW's fifth mainstage production at the Florence Events Center.

The show will be performed April 15, 16 and 17, and for invited school audiences

on April 14. Local audiences may recall that last spring, CROW produced a main stage production of "Once Upon A Mattress," which dazzled and delighted local audiences. CROW is a Florence-based nonprofit organization dedicated to giving back to the community by providing quality performing arts experiences to local youth.

Artistic director Melanie Heard is a credentialed teacher, and founder of the program. "We are not your 'typical' children's theatre organization," says Heard. "There is no charge to participate in a CROW mainstage musical, and this differentiates us from 95 percent of all other youth theatre organizations in the nation."

"It's much more than just theatre. It's an opportunity to hone crucial life skills such as teamwork, motivation, dedication and self-esteem," says Heard. "We hope that these things will serve our kids well, no matter what life path they may select."

In addition to providing a very professional work environment for the cast members, CROW utilizes the highest caliber costumes, sets, lighting design, choreography, music, sound, stage makeup and more.

"Just wait till you see this year's fire breathing dragon," says Heard.

