

Learn to identify wild edibles locally

Join Jen from the Real Food Co-op and Kelsey from Homegrown on Saturday, April 11, at 1 p.m., to learn more about identifying and preparing wild edibles that grow in our area.

Attendees will learn how to identify and prepare stinging nettles into a soup or a pesto, and how to identify miners lettuce, chickweed, wood violets, fiddle heads, sea beans and more.

The beautiful area of Florence is abundant with foods that grow in the wild. They are easy to pick and to prepare into amazing dishes. Foods grown in the wild are full of vitamins and minerals and no effort is needed in

growing them.

Harvesting them allows time in the woods to relax. Many of these foods can be found right next to many favorite hiking trails.

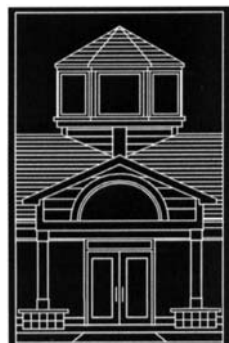
Follow up this class by attending the Spring Celebration at Homegrown Pub on April 13, beginning at 5:30 p.m., when you can try some of Kelsey's food dishes using wild edibles.

There will be a dessert auction to benefit the local school gardens.

The Co-op is located at 1379B Rhododendron Dr., and is open to the public Monday through Saturday.

For more information, call 541-997-3396.

Library Tidings



News about the Siuslaw Public Library

Library Tidings, a regular feature of the Siuslaw News, features news about upcoming Siuslaw Public Library programs for adults and children, new books and videos, and other library news of interest to the community. Library Tidings by Kevin Mittge

“Jackaby”

by William Ritter

Book Review by Susie Voth

In 1892, it isn't seemly for young ladies in the United Kingdom to desire adventure. Young ladies lead quiet lives, concern themselves with fashion, and get married. Abigail Rook is not a typical young lady. She yearns for adventure, pleading with her father (an anthropologist and paleontologist) to take her on his digs. He refuses. Ultimately, Abigail runs away from home to seek adventure.

She finds it in New Fiddleham, a small town in America, when she notices an advertisement:

“Investigative services assistant wanted. \$8 per week. Must be literate and possess a keen intellect and open mind. Strong stomach preferred. Inquire at 926 Augur Lane, DO NOT STARE AT THE FROG.”

Of course she applies and is hired by R. F. Jackaby, Investigative Services: Unexplained Phenomena Our Specialty (also murder and mayhem). Jackaby is able to see supernatural beings. He often aids the police with investigations, much to the chagrin of Inspector Marlowe.

This fast paced book is full of

clever dialogue and humorous exchanges between an engaging cast of characters including Jenny (a live-in ghost), Douglas (a duck once Jackaby's assistant), and Detective Charlie Cane. Jackaby is eccentric in the extreme from his knit cap to his thick brown coat with the over-stuffed pockets that falls past his knees.

Abigail Rook is a role model for young ladies who wish to live on their own terms. She notices the ordinary, mundane things that Jackaby overlooks but that are critical to his investigations.

Jackaby is the first in a YA series written by local author, William Ritter. He lives in Springfield, teaches Language Arts to high school students, and this is his first book.

The second book in the series, “Beastly Bones,” is to be published in September 2015. I can hardly wait!

Abraham Lincoln Town Meeting

What American wouldn't love to have a conversation with Abraham Lincoln? Don't forget that this Saturday, April 4, at noon, you can do just that!

Actor Steve Holgate has brought Lincoln to life across the nation for more than 12 years.

Join him for a special town hall featuring selections from some of Lincoln's most moving speeches, complete with an opportunity for you to ask our 16th President some questions of your own.

This is the first in a series of free public programs for April honoring the life of Abraham Lincoln and the end of the Civil War 150 years ago.

Breaking Chains: Slavery in Oregon

Author R. Gregory Nokes will be at the library on Tuesday, April 14, at 1 p.m., to discuss his book “Breaking Chains: Slavery on Trial in the Oregon Territory.”

Missouri slaves Robin and Polly Holmes, and their children, are brought to Oregon by their owner over the Oregon Trail, expecting to soon be freed in a region closed to slavery.

But slaveholder Nathaniel Ford ignores the law and keeps them in bondage. Despite being illiterate and with the odds stacked against him, Holmes takes his former master to court in an attempt to free his family.

Learn what happened next in this fascinating free program featuring Oregon historian Gregory Nokes.



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Pre-registration is suggested.

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Free calligraphy demo for upcoming FRAA class

Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) is offering a free demo on calligraphy titled “The Pride of Craft – The Daily Gift of Your Calligraphy.”

The demo is for anyone interested learning this artistic and professional writing skill. The free demo will be offered on Thursday, April 2, from 1 to 2 p.m., at the FRAA Art Center, 4969 Highway 101, Munsel Lake Plaza No. 4.

No preregistration is needed for this demo.

Starting April 16, on-going classes on this subject will be offered for two hour segments, 1 to 3 p.m. Classes will continue on April 30, May 7, May 21 and June 4, with students receiving “Tyro Certificates” for graduation.

The instructor is Lawrence Blakeslee. He is a native of

Minneapolis, Minn., and he and his wife, Anne, have lived in Florence for several years.

Blakeslee is college educated, and has also earned degrees from the American Academy of Art and the Beaux Artes in Europe.

He has practiced his art as an illustrator, painter, typographer, calligrapher, sculptor, designer and master engraver.

His main studio is called Imagination's Chamber.

Blakeslee has practiced his art, taught and mentored other professional artists, and executed commission work since 1952. His work is based upon the engraving concept expressed as “The Line of Beauty.”

For more information on this class or other classes and workshops offered by FRAA, visit www.fraaoregon.org.

Photography fundamentals class being offered at LCC

Lane Community College Florence Center is offering a “Fundamentals of Photography” course this spring, beginning Tuesday, April 7.

Classes will be each Tuesday through April 28, and are from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

This hands-on photography course, taught by local award-winning photographer Curt Peters, includes both instruction and presentations in the classroom and in the field, with the instructor.

All four classes meet

at the college.

However, two of the sessions will be held off-site to take photos.

The class is for anyone who would like to learn professional tips on lighting and composition, while focusing on the beauty of spring on the Oregon Coast in and around Florence.

For more information call 541-997-8444, register online at www.lanecc.edu/florence or stop by the school at 3149 Oak St.

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