FRAA offering free woodcarving demo Thursday

A free woodcarving demonstration will be offered to the public by Keith Garvey on Thursday, March 12, from 10 a.m. to noon, at the Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) Art Center.

For his demo, Garvey will be demonstrating the art of woodcarving from the simplicity of using a pocket knife to using specialty woodcarving tools. No pre-registration is required to attend.

The FRAA Art Center is located on Highway 101, Munsel Lake Plaza No. 4, just north of Fred Meyer.

Garvey has been carving for

more than 55 years, starting around age 10 with a pocket knife. He prefers art with true dimension, and sometimes sculpts with clay to model some ideas before proceeding to wood.

His carvings have been exhibited in competitions and he has won several awards. He has also displayed at the Siuslaw Library.

Garvey is a retired Senior Electronics Engineer and manager, and is currently a volunteer with Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue. He bicycles and runs local trails and occasionally competes in marathons.



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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

The Animal Book: A Collection of the Fastest, Fiercest, Toughest, Cleverest, Shyest — and Most Surprising — Animals On

Earth By Steve Jenkins Book Review by Susie Voth

Books by Steve Jenkins are easily recognizable because of the distinct torn or cut paper collage artwork that graces the covers. When I noticed "The Animal Book: A Collection of the Fastest, Fiercest, Toughest, Cleverest, Shyest – and Most Surprising – Animals on Earth" on the new juvenile nonfiction shelf, I had to check it out.

Jenkins is an astounding artist. His interest in animals and art began when he was six years old. He wrote and illustrated a volume he called 103 Animals (pictures of it are included in the introduction).

He had stapled together sheets of graph paper with text and drawings that he at the time thought of as "an in-depth survey of the animal kingdom."

Thirty-five years later his first book was published, and since then Jenkins has written and illustrated more than 30 books about the natural world.

The Animal Book is divided into seven sections: Animals!, Family, Animal Senses, Predators, Defenses, Animal

Extremes, and The Story of Life. All of these sections have amazing facts about the world of animals. Charts and graphs are also included (check out How Many Eyes Do Animals Have on page 66 or the Timeline of Animal Life on pages 172 and 173). And as much as I was fascinated by the body of the book, of more interest to me was the "More Information" section that explains how Jenkins goes about making a book — from conception to completion.

"Making a Book — a timeline" is especially informative.

There is something for everyone between the pages of this book. Our library has many other Steve Jenkins titles in the children's collection.

Seabird Monitoring

Tonight, Wednesday, March 11, at 6 p.m., Amelia O'Connor of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be at the library to discuss the results of a vital citizen science project taking place right here in our own backyard: migratory seabird counting.

This important work, done by

volunteers, is a simple act of science with a real impact. Learn more about the species counted and how such work benefits us

"Death Riding Shotgun" with Lisa C. Taylor

Poet and fiction writer, Lisa C. Taylor will be conducting a workshop at the Siuslaw Public Library on March 17, beginning at noon. The theme of the workshop, "Death Riding Shotgun: How Awareness of Our Mortality Impacts Our Writing," includes a discussion of poems that deal with mortality as well as an exploration of writing poems about death from different viewpoints.

Taylor will wind up the workshop inspiring the audience by reading from her poetic writings. Taylor says she is looking forward to "meeting the writing enthusiasts in Florence and near-

Attendees are asked to bring their own writing devices such as pen, pencil, paper, or electronic device to record their own eloquent and creative words.

This program is open to the public with no registration required.

CROW to present 'Once Upon a Mattress'

"Once Upon A Mattress" was Carol Burnett's star vehicle in the 1960s, and there is very good reason why. The show may re-tell the age-old fairy tale of "The Princess and the Pea," but if you think you know what to expect, you are in for quite a walloping sur-

Carried on a wave of beguiling songs, by turns hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic, this spin on the familiar classic of royal courtship and comeuppance provides for some side-splitting scenarios.

CROW's latest production

opens April 10, with shows set for April 11 and 12 on the Florence Events Center's main stage. More than 50 children and young adults have been put through the paces by experienced CROW volunteers, like musical director Jason Wood and assistant musical director Mary Beers.

At the director's helm is Melanie Heard, who has plans for the play's leading lady to make a grand

and glorious entrance (back-

Castmembers of CROW's upcoming "Once Upon a Mattress" a castle turret. And that's just a



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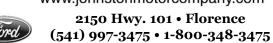
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gans audiences can expect in

April. "We are all so thrilled about producing this show...it's one

of our favorites," says CROW producer Michael Jacobson. "Last year's production of 'The Little Mermaid Jr.' was truly wonderful, but this production is going to delight and impress audiences even more."

In addition to an outstanding young cast, which was just selected through a rigorous professional audition process, CROW has assembled the best all-volunteer production team

Spectacular set pieces have been created by Chris Heard, David Tidball and Crystal Shahan. Karen Mechek and Judy Murphy will once again dazzle with their artistic skill.

Margaret McDiarmid has returned to design beautiful stage lighting, and Chris Owens will provide professional soundboard operation. Polly Fleming and Barbie

Madden have been sewing costumes like mad in order to creatively clothe the large cast of lords and ladies.

Debbie Waiss returned this year to stand guard at the castle doors as stage manager.

Other outstanding voluninclude Genevieve Meltzer (assistant director and hair and make-up designer) have devoted countless hours to make the show the absolute best it can be for local children on stage and in the audience.

"There are many unsung heroes who work behind the scenes on our productions," says Heard. "Parent and community volunteers have helped with T-shirt sales, safety team organization, fundraising and prop collection, to name a few. We could not do what we do without these amazing people donating their time and ener-

Tickets for "Once Upon A Mattress" can be obtained by calling the Florence Events Center at 541-997-1994, or visit www.eventcenter.org.