

Find inner peace with Dr. Titus, blackberries Saturday

Tom Titus will be reading selections from his popular book, "Blackberries in July: A Forager's Field Guide to Inner Peace" in the Bromley Room at the Siuslaw Library on Saturday, July 25, from 4 to 6 p.m.

Titus is fourth generation Oregonian who grew up in the rural Willamette Valley foothills near Eugene. His family reveled in the outdoors, and vacations were usually camping trips with hiking, fishing and hunting.

He completed his B.S. in biology at Western Oregon State University and then traveled to the University of Kansas, where he completed

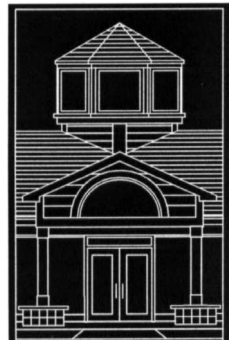
his doctorate in Evolutionary Genetics.

Returning home to Oregon, he became a research geneticist and instructor at the University of Oregon and began searching for the Oregon of his youth: old orchards, bay clams, wild mushrooms and spawning salmon.

"Blackberries in July: A Forager's Field Guide to Inner Peace" is a search for place, a year-long chronology of the hunting and gathering of his spirit that became a reunion with the land and intergenerational tradition.

Titus works, writes and forages from a home that two cats share with him and his wife in Eugene.

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

"Designated Daughters" by Margaret Maron

Book Review by Susie Voth
"Designated Daughters" is the most recent book in the Deborah Knott mystery series written by Margaret Maron. Several of my friends have encouraged me to read this series. Finally I did. However, I would not recommend starting with number 19.

The reason is that Deborah Knott has a huge family, so big that the author provides a family tree at the beginning of the book. For readers of Maron, perhaps this family tree is not required. For a first time reader, jumping in at the end of the series instead of the beginning, the family tree is essential.

What a cast of characters! The main character is the youngest of 12 children and the only girl in the family. Her father, Kezzie, (notorious as a former bootlegger) was twice married and is still going strong in his seventies. Her brothers are married with a bunch of children and grandchildren.

This well-written murder mystery will entertain readers immensely.

Deborah Knott is a district court judge in North Carolina. Her husband, Dwight Bryant, is a deputy sheriff. Between the two of them I suspect many mur-

ders have been solved in Colleton County.

In this novel, Deborah's aunt Rachel is on her death bed. Rachel is widely known throughout the county as a kind, humorous woman who runs a vegetable stand. As well as selling vegetables Rachel will sit and share a glass of icy cold tea and listen to anyone tell a tale or share a story. She is also known as a woman who minds her own business and won't pass on those tales or stories.

Why then would someone want to kill her, especially since she is so close to death anyway?

Friends of the Library prepare extraordinary food
Don't forget that tomorrow, July 23, at 2 p.m. the Friends of the Library are inviting all library patrons to enjoy some unusual finger foods in celebration of the adult summer reading theme Escape the Ordinary.

The library's huge collection of cookbooks will be highlighted and a recipe from each of nine cookbooks have been selected to be prepared by FOL members.

Come and enjoy some treats that are out of the ordinary.

A city's center subject of "Conversation"

On Saturday, July 25, at 1 p.m., the library will be hosting Nan Laurence in an Oregon

Conversation Project entitled "A City's Center: Rethinking Downtown."

Laurence is a senior planner at the City of Eugene and manages downtown development projects and revitalization efforts.

Historically, a city's downtown core has been the community's cultural and economic center, expressing shared values and aspirations.

Today, however, many downtowns represent a community's social and economic distress.

Cities of all sizes are trying to revitalize their downtowns, but the qualities essential to this revitalization remain elusive.

Laurence will explore the changing character of downtown activities, urban forms and public spaces and lead participants in a conversation about how downtowns can represent a community's ideals and aspirations.

Laurence's program is made possible by funding from Oregon Humanities, an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the Oregon Cultural Trust.

This program is free and open to the general public.

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Oregon preps for 'big one' with October ShakeOut

Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is urging all Oregonians to participate in the Great Oregon ShakeOut earthquake drill on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 10:15 a.m.

It is part of the nation's largest earthquake drill, and last year more than 390,000 Oregonians participated.

Register at <http://shakeout.org/oregon/register/> and take steps to make your family safer.

A recent article in the "New Yorker" called "The Really Big One" has drawn a lot of attention both locally and nationally to the damage a Cascadia earthquake and tsunami will cause, and emergency planners have been taking the opportunity to raise awareness about how individuals can prepare, and how the region and Oregon is also con-

tinuing to prepare and mitigate for the looming threat.

"We want Oregonians to be prepared, not scared," said Oregon OEM Director Andrew Phelps. "What we do now to prepare will save lives and property during any disaster."

OEM and other agencies are working on a Cascadia Playbook to synchronize state and Emergency Support Function partners during Cascadia and other emergencies.

The Cascadia Playbook is a cross-cutting emergency management tool for the State of Oregon that supports various, existing plans and efforts for the first 14 days of a catastrophic incident.

Oregon has also committed to being a full partner with Washington, Idaho and FEMA, in the development

and presentation of a regional exercise called Cascadia Rising.

The statewide exercise planning is in concert and collaboration with the regional effort for Oregon's largest emergency management exercise ever that is scheduled for Spring 2016.

Althea Rizzo, the Geologic Hazards Coordinator for Oregon OEM said that the success of what emergency management partners are doing to prepare Oregon for Cascadia and other emergencies is one aspect of preparedness — and that individuals and families should strive to be self-sufficient during a disaster.

A good goal is to work toward having two weeks of emergency supplies to be ready for an emergency.

"Now is a perfect time for

everyone to evaluate a family emergency plan and update or establish emergency kits," Rizzo said. "Make sure you and family members know about established exit routes, contacts, meeting places, etc., after a disaster."

For emergency kits, Rizzo said it is a good idea to add new items, over time.

"You don't have to run out and spend a lot of money," she added. "If you go camping, you probably have a lot of your preparedness already done."

Rizzo said everyone should practice what to do during an earthquake and know where tsunami routes are if they live near the coast.

For more information on preparedness go to: http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM/Pages/preparedness_information.aspx.

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Quilters to offer wave of creations this weekend

The Rhododendron Quilt Guild's (RQG) Donna Schoeningh will be the featured quilter for the 2015 Wave of Quilts quilt show at the Florence Events Center on Friday, July 24, and Saturday, 25.

There will be door prizes, a quilt raffle, demonstrations, a boutique, silent auction, quilt vendors and a quilt contest.

General admission is \$5.

There will be free admission to anyone age 12 and younger, or 80 and older.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each, or six for \$5. Proceeds go to RQG education and pro-

grams.

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 is 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 RQG 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.



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