

Library Conversations to host Eugene senior planner today at 1 p.m.

The Siuslaw Public Library's adult summer reading program "Escape the Ordinary" wraps up with a free discussion about the role of the "downtown" today, July 25.

The event is part of Oregon Humanities' statewide Conversation Project.

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 down-



COURTESY PHOTO

Nan Laurence, Senior Planner for the City of Eugene, will discuss the role of "downtown" in city planning.

towns, but the qualities essential to this revitalization remain elusive.

This is the focus of "A City's Center: Rethinking Downtown," a free conversation with Nan Laurence, a senior planner for the City of Eugene, beginning at 1 p.m. in the Bromley Room.

This program is hosted by Siuslaw Public Library and sponsored by Oregon Humanities.

Laurence manages down-

town development projects and revitalization as a senior planner for the City of Eugene. Her role is to help the city's downtown urban form and activities more closely reflect the community's vision.

Laurence has a master of architecture degree from the University of Virginia and a master of city and regional planning degree from Cornell University.

Through the Conversation Project, Oregon Humanities

offers free programs that engage community members in thoughtful and challenging conversations about ideas critical to our daily lives and our state's future.

For more information about this free community discussion, contact Meg Spencer or Kevin Mitige at 541-997-3132.

For more information about this program and the library's summer reading programs in general, visit the Siuslaw Public Library in person, call 541-997-3132, or visit the library's website at www.siuslawlibrary.org.

Rhody Drive construction starts Monday

The City of Florence reports that portions of Rhododendron Drive will be closed starting Monday, July 27.

Chip and fog seal work will require the closure of Rhody Drive from 35th Street to Lighthouse Way the week of July 27 to July 31.

Due to the nature of the project there will be slight inconveniences, particularly to the residents that live along the

construction route.

Street closures will be limited for just the period that it takes to apply the chip and fog seal.

A fog seal protects the chip seal from harmful UV rays that deteriorate the chip seal over time; seals the chip seal from the top down virtually eliminating all loose rock that is generally associated with chip seals; and they add to the over-

all appearance of chip seals making them look like an ultra-thin overlay.

In addition, fog seals minimize "whip off" and damage to windshields that can happen with a chip seal only application.

For more information on this project, contact City of Florence Public Works at 541-997-4106.

Two days of mirth in August at FEC

For the first time, the Florence Events center will play host to the Second Star Festival, which brings together more than 40 vendors showcasing wares meant to inspire, spark the imagination and foster creativity.

Activities will include acoustic musicians, local and regional art, kids events, inspirational talks about the creative process and more.

Festivities will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8, and last until 10 p.m. There will be a break from 6 to 7:30 p.m. for visitors to grab dinner, followed by a performance in the auditorium by Tricky Pixie, as well as a film by critically acclaimed puppeteer and filmmaker Touby Fround.

Tricky Pixie is a fusion of talents from a musical trio that blends a myriad of instruments, strings, voices and drums to perform songs about pirates, dancing satyrs, gypsies and pixies to create a unique musical and visual experience.

The film "Lessons Learned," by Fround and his



COURTESY PHOTO

Stripey Pajamas Productions puppeteers with their creations for the short film, "Lessons Learned" which will be featured in the FEC auditorium during the Second Star Festival.

team of puppeteers at Stripey Pajamas Productions, is the story of a boy who is surprised by special treatment from his grandfather during his annual birthday visit — when he presents the boy with an intriguing gift offering adventure and other-worldly experiences.

The merriment continues Sunday, Aug. 9, with more

music, mirth and creative mayhem from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Obtain a weekend pass plus a concert ticket to see the entire two-day festival, with special pricing for children so that the entire family can attend.

Children ages 6 and under can attend free, with admission for kids between 7 and 12 years old for \$7.

Siuslaw News

garage sale GUIDE

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Get ready to 'Paint the Town Purple' for relay

The week leading up to Relay For Life of Florence will feature a decorating competition to see which local business can "purple" their location the best to raise awareness for the American Cancer Society and Relay For Life.

The competition is the week of Aug. 3-7, with judging and awards being given on Friday,

Aug. 7. Relay For Life of Florence is Saturday, Aug. 8, from noon to midnight, at Miller Park.

The Relay Committee is hoping to "paint the town purple" in anticipation of the event.

For more information, contact Nicole Hundley at 541-554-9862 or email her at nicole.hundley@opbc.com.

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