



Community News

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CROW reaching out to 'Raise the Roof'

Earlier this summer, and with the help of immediate funding by a private investor, Florence-based CROW (Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops), was able to purchase a building and begin to renovate it as a permanent performing arts facility for youth.

The entire inside of the outdated building was demolished by a team of volunteers, concrete was ripped apart to make room for ADA bathroom plumbing, electrical wiring began to be updated, and walls were reframed to bring the building up to safety standards, usefulness and code.

Many of these renovation expenses were either donated by generous local contractors, volunteers and tradesmen, or drastically reduced.

What CROW did need to fund itself came out of the group's very limited pocket — essentially donations and left-

over funds from previous show ticket sales.

CROW hopes to open the building in mid- to late October.

When completed, the facility, at 3120 Highway 101, will house ongoing education with classes in dance, theatre, voice and other fine and performing arts genres, as well as provide desperately needed space for rehearsals, small performances, set construction and artistry, and proper costume and prop storage.

"It's an important step forward for Florence to have a dedicated youth arts program with a home base where dreams can expand and soar," said CROW artistic director Melanie Heard. "The program has always expressed that it is dedicated to supporting and enhancing the community through the power of the arts."

But the nonprofit youth theatre organization needs a bit

more help in order to finish this project.

Recently, CROW launched a "Raise the Roof" funding campaign and is reaching out to Florence community members to help put a roof over the kids' heads.

Literally. "We are immensely grateful to the supporters and donors who have made it possible to get to this point, and we have a bit more mountain to climb," said Heard. "I can see the summit, but the facts are clear: Although the interior renovations are well underway, our roof also desperately needs to be replaced.

"Winter will be here before we know it."

Heard said she worries all of the hard work might be in vain if water leaks ruin all of the renovations.

CROW is asking the local community to help support the addition of a new roof to the

building. The fair cost of the project was quoted by a local contractor at \$7,500. CROW has raised \$525 via crowd funding website Go Fund Me (www.gofundme.com/zxh278).

A donation of \$87 will provide approximately one sheet of roofing material, while a \$20 donation will provide a sheet of sheathing material.

"Donations of any size are gratefully accepted," said Heard.

Those wishing to donate by mail can send a check to PO Box 184, Florence, OR 97439. Donations to CROW are tax-deductible, and donors will receive a letter by mail.

"Based on what we know and have witnessed from our generous Florence community, so many people are really behind this project," said Heard. "Florence wants the best for the youth of its small town. Through CROW's arts educational programs, we

promise that we will not only inspire and educate many future leaders and provide countless opportunities for local kids to succeed in the arts, but we will keep troubled kids on the right track and help provide them with a home away from home.

"Thank you to every single person out there who has helped us on any step of the way."

For more information, visit www.crowkids.com, visit its Go Fund Me website or call Heard directly at 541-999-8641.

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NEW OFFICERS



COURTESY PHOTO

In June, PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center volunteers installed the following new officers: Rosalie Johnson, president; Nancy Johnson, vice-president; Monica Kosman, secretary; Kay Law, corresponding secretary; and Colin Jameson, treasurer. Volunteers hold monthly luncheon meetings to keep members informed of hospital activities. Additional volunteers are always needed. For more information, visit the hospital gift shop and speak to the volunteer on duty.

Siletz Tribe donates to Food Share

The Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund distributed \$373,780 to 37 organizations on July 31 as it continued its quarterly donations to nonprofit groups.

In western Lane County, both Florence Food Share and Mapleton Food Share each received \$2,000 from the fund to help provide food.

The Siletz Tribe has made contributions through employment, monetary donations and cooperative measures to the Siletz community, Lincoln

County and the state of Oregon. The seven-member charitable fund advisory board has distributed more than \$9.6 million since its inception in 2001.

The next deadline to submit applications is Sept. 16. Eligibility for money from the charitable fund is limited to two categories:

- Entities and activities located in the Siletz Tribe's 11-county service area (Lincoln, Tillamook, Linn, Lane, Benton, Polk, Yamhill, Marion,

Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties)

- Native American entities and activities located anywhere in the United States

Applications and requirements can be obtained at ctsi.nsn.us/charitable-contribution-fund; by calling 800-922-1399, ext. 1227, or 541-444-8227; or by mailing Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund, P.O. Box 549, Siletz, OR 97380-0549. Applications can be submitted via e-mail at stccf@live.com.

BeachWalk signups begin

It's time to start getting teams together and gathering sponsors for the annual Habitat for Humanity BeachWalk, from the North Jetty to Driftwood Shores, on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Every donation raised goes to purchasing building materials to build Florence Habitat for Humanity houses here. Any walker raising at least \$100 will automatically be given a Habitat T-shirt.

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