

# NEW FLORENCE BARBERSHOP HAS OLD TOWN FLAIR

This past Tuesday did more than herald in the month of September. It marked the official first day of business for Old Town Barbershop, 1341 Bay Street, in Florence.

"I designed my shop to fit the surroundings," says owner-proprietor Geraldine Lucio. "I really want to bring to life the best of barbering from the past and present."

With her modern garb and happy smile, Lucio may not look the role of traditional barber but in many ways she's exactly that.

Customers need only walk across the threshold to feel transported back in time. In the waiting area, antiques decorate the walls and floor. Even the ceiling sports a giant airplane model from a bygone era.

These are in place to accent the greatest fixtures of all: three authentic early 1900s barber chairs, carried here by Lucio from Texas — where she received her training and holds deep roots to her trade.

A prestigious line of local dignitaries attended Tuesday's grand opening and ribbon



Geraldine Lucio (second from left) celebrates the grand opening of her new barbershop on Bay Street in Old Town with members of the Chamber Ambassadors and her father, Gerald Lucio (second from right).

cutting ceremony, including director of the Florence Cal Applebee, executive Chamber of Commerce, as well as Chamber ambassa-

Retzer and Pattie Panther. The event was attended by more than 50 people, including local business owners and service industry representatives.

Guests coming furthest were Lucio's sister and father from Floresville, Texas. It seems a big part of her traditional values stem from her barber family. Her grandfather (before retirement), father and brother are all in the business.

"I am so proud of my daughter," Gerald Lucio says. "Until now, I never knew how proud my own father — and any father can be — of their child."

"It's an amazing feeling." Old Town Barber Shop is now high on the list of got-to-go-see-it places in Historic Florence.

The public is invited to sit in a chair and enjoy a haircut given the old fashioned way.

"I hope people come when they can slow down and relax."

"Then they receive a true time-honored barber experience."

— Submitted by Eileen West, freelance writer



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# Siuslaw Library to present 'Devil Cat' author Fleagle

Siuslaw Public Library is the place to be on Thursday, Sept. 10, at 2 p.m. to see a PowerPoint presentation by author Judy Fleagle about her latest book "Devil Cat and Other Colorful Animals I Have Known." It will be in the Bromley Room at no charge to the public.

"Devil Cat" is a collection of five stories of which four recount Fleagle's most memorable rescues (two dogs and two cats). These animals beat the odds to become not just good, but great animal companions, and their stories are over-the-top.

The fifth story includes the bizarre tale of "Devil Cat," in which neighbors try everything to protect their pets from an aggressive feline in



COURTESY PHOTO

the town of Los Gatos, Calif., which strangely enough means "the cats." These stories written over the years as they actually occurred form a memoir of

Frankie Jorgensen, left, former president of the Florence Area Humane Society, accepts a copy of "Devil Cat and Other Colorful Animals I Have Known," donated by author Judy Fleagle.

the author's life as seen through her most remarkable pets.

"Devil Cat" is a departure for Fleagle, who is known for her bridge books and "Around Florence."

This time, she didn't have to spend months doing research because the stories were already written. She just had to figure out how to put them together.

Then, she commissioned 15 paintings by Karen Nichols and worked with publisher Bob Serra of Pacific Publishing to come up with what one librarian hailed as

"a perfect jewel of a book." Because "Devil Cat" is about animal rescue, the presentation will also be a fundraiser for the Florence Area Humane Society.

Forty percent of every book sold at the event will go to the FAHS.

So come for an entertaining presentation, and an opportunity to support the local humane society.

For more information, contact Siuslaw Public Library at 541-997-3132 or go online to crossings author.wordpress.com and click on events.

# One-day nonfiction writing workshop offered in Yachats

YACHATS — Have you wanted to start writing but seem unsure how to begin? Many people aspire to write for themselves, publication and multiple other reasons, but can't seem to get started. This frustration often results in the aspiration disappearing.

Writer, publisher and educator Matt Love, author/editor of

14 books about Oregon and columnist for Oregon Coast Today, is offering a one-day "Getting the Writing Going" nonfiction workshop on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., in Yachats.

In this workshop, participants will experiment with different and innovative techniques to define an editorial

voice and purpose for various forms of nonfiction writing.

Whether a memoir, travel writing about the Oregon coast or blogging reviews about food, Love will help guide participants during the beginning process of becoming a writer and present options for them to publish their work.

The workshop will be held in

the greenhouse of the Yachats Farm Store, which was recently named one of the seven wonders of the Oregon coast by Travel Oregon.

The class costs \$105 and caps at 12 participants.

To sign up, email Love at nestuccaspitpress@gmail.com or call 503-812-1524.

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