

Get tickets early for fifth annual Crab Crack

The fifth annual Florence Crab Crack is a sure fire remedy for the dreaded “cabin fever,” which threatens to afflict the general populace of the central Oregon coast every winter. Get your ticket and join the other 399 people who will attend the Crab Crack at the Florence Events Center on Saturday, Feb. 6, from 4 to 7 p.m. Enjoy great food and company while aiding the less fortunate in this area.

Tickets are available Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Florence Food Share, 2190 Spruce St. All the proceeds from this event will benefit Florence Food Share, a local food pantry that provides resources to those facing hunger in Western Lane County.

Oregon coast Dungeness crab, along with pasta, coleslaw, garlic bread, sodas, coffee and BJ's Ice Cream, will be served by “crab head” volunteers. A no-host bar will also be available.

While savoring the delectable crustaceans and side dishes, attendees will also have the opportunity to purchase one or many of the special silent auction items.

Tickets to this event are \$35 each, with only 400 tickets available. The deadline for ticket purchases is Jan. 25 and will not be available at the door. Past Crab Cracks have sold out early, so get tickets early.

Several sponsors are already stepping up to make this event possible. All individuals and companies are welcome to “sponsor a crab” for the event and help Florence Food Share serve those in need in our area.

For more information, arrange group seating or purchase tickets, contact Bob MacDuffee at 541-997-9599 or email dunesguy97439@yahoo.com.



Local youth repertory theater CROW to host second-annual Share Your Heart fundraiser

Anyone who's ever had a really big dream knows that the word “impossible” can't be part of the vocabulary. Artistic director and CROW (Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops) founder Melanie Heard said that big dreams “bring a rare combination of feeling excited and terrified at the same time.”

It was Heard's dream of establishing and renovating a building to house the program's many set pieces, as well as rehearsals and workshops, that led to purchase and renovation of the new building CROW was able to establish last year — thanks in large part to funds raised during the 2015 Share Your Heart event.

On Friday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m. CROW will present an incredible opportunity for the Florence community to become personally involved in continuing to support the dreams of local youth and the arts.

“Share Your Heart is a fundraising party like nothing you've ever attended,” said Heard. “It's designed to raise funds for our nonprofit to continue pursuing our dreams for CROW.”

Reservations are required for this event. Single tickets are \$39 for adults and \$25 for youth (12 and under). A full table of 8 can also be purchased for \$285. Tickets include wine (adults only) and hot hors d'oeuvres, as well as a chance to bid on the amazing baskets, prizes and desserts up for grabs. The evening will culminate with a “Raise Your Paddle” donation opportunity that we hope will kick off fundraising with a big bang.

For tickets, visit the Florence Events Center box office, 715 Quince Street; call at 541-997-1994; or order tickets online at www.eventcenter.org.

Ballet Fantastique to present Celtic stories

Be swept away by the magic and whimsy portrayed by Eugene's critically acclaimed Ballet Fantastique as it presents “The Dragon and the Night Queen: Celtic Stories.” The performance, choreographed and produced by Donna and Hannah Bontrager, will transport audience members to ancient Ireland for a dream-like visit of a mesmerizing world haunted by elemental powers and dragons, gatekeepers to other worlds, and guardians of universal treasures.

In Dragon and the Night Queen: Celtic Stories, the Bontragers forge a new telling of ancient Irish legends with live music by The Gerry Rempel Ensemble and internationally-renowned Irish musician Eliot Grasso. There is new choreography, drama and live songcraft capturing the rich myths of Morgan le Fay (sea goddess of the legends of Avalon), the Night Queen Rhiannon, the Morrigan, and the Dragon King.

Anchored in the medieval, Dragon and the Night Queen promises a bonny, defiant new ballet — a vivid exploration of new borders, filled with riotous spirit.

The performance at the FEC will take place Feb. 20, beginning with a pre-talk with cast members at 6:15, followed by the live performance at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 to \$30, and are available at the Florence Events Center box office, 715 Quince Street; call at 541-997-1994; or order tickets online at www.eventcenter.org.



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