

Siuslaw Talespinners inducts new member



COURTESY PHOTO

New Talespinners member Tracy Markley

The Siuslaw Talespinners Chapter of Toastmasters International inducted its newest member, Tracy Markley, at last Wednesday's meeting.

Markley has had a lifetime of hearing challenges and joined the Talespinners to gain experience in speaking clearer and slower. She enjoys hiking in the rainforest with her dog, Wasabi, when she is not working as a fitness instructor

and a personal trainer.

She specializes in biomechanics, yoga and pilates. Markley said she is looking forward to learning all that Toastmasters has to offer.

The Siuslaw Talespinners meet every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Siuslaw Fire and Rescue Station, Highway 101, in Florence.

For more information, contact president Irma Geller at 541-999-0912.

Forum to address 'aging in place' for seniors

The "Senior Tsunami: Aging in Place Forum" will take place May 7 at the Florence Events Center.

The number of Americans 65 and older is expected to double in the next 25 years.

The overwhelming majority of people say they want to grow old in their own homes or "age in place," but most communities have no strate-

gic system of supports for their aging citizens.

Florence Area Community Coalition wants to put Florence on the cutting edge of the nation by hosting, in partnership with many others, a forum on aging in place. Via panel discussions, vendors and resource providers, the forum will help identify factors for creating a plan.

Local ABSE seeks donations of toys, games and books

The Adult Basic and Secondary Education (ABSE) classroom at Lane Community College Florence Center needs donations of games, craft materials, books and puzzles appropriate for children ages 3-12.

The ABSE department offers Tuesday and Thursday evening classes at the Florence Center to help adults who are beginning English language learners to develop reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

The 5-hour per week class also offers child care on site at

no cost while the parents are in class. Childcare provider costs are paid through a contract with Siuslaw School District to help the district's parents better support their children's education and English skills.

ABSE will accept donations at the main desk at Florence Center. Include your name and email address if you would like acknowledgement of your donation.

Contact Leonora Kent at kentl@lanec.edu in Florence or call ABSE Florence at 541-463-4835 for more information.

Glenn Miller Orchestra swings into Florence

Glenn Miller — the name instantly brings to the ear the amazing music of the 1940s, and to mind the sights and sounds of USO shows, jumpin' and jivin' ballrooms, crackling radio broadcasts and the best swing-dancing music ever performed... or recorded.

"It's been a few years, so it's time to bring one of Florence's — and the world's — favorite dance bands back to the Florence Events Center," says Maggie Doud, a SEAcost Entertainment Association board member and producer for this concert.

SEAcost Entertainment opens the Florence Event Center's flat floor so you can enjoy big band music the way it was intended — with dancing and cabaret-style seating — on Friday, March 18.

There is limited "open" seating and attendees are urged to get their tickets soon.

"The Glenn Miller Orchestra stays ever-true to its founder's exacting sound, with the original mix of trombones, saxophones, trumpets... rich, powerful, melodious and unforgettable," Doud adds. "Dial Pennsylvania 6-5000 to travel back to that glorious era aboard the Chattanooga Choo Choo to Tuxedo Junction and get In the Mood for an all-American Patrol of Big Band classics. Don't miss a beat!"

Doud explains that Miller's signature sound "is created by the clarinet holding the melodic line, doubled or coupled with the tenor sax playing the same notes; and the harmonies produced by three other saxo-



COURTESY PHOTO

The Glenn Miller Orchestra

phones, while growling trombones and wailing trumpets add their oo-ahs."

"The Glenn Miller Orchestra is on the road longer and more continuously than any other in the world. The band covers more than 100,000 miles a year, working most every night for 48 weeks out of every 52.

"They play nearly 300 dates, performing for an estimated half-million people annually. We're fortunate to get them here," adds Doud.

The first Glenn Miller Orchestra was a total and absolute economic failure. But Miller knew what he wanted, held to that dedication and relentlessly worked to succeed.

He launched his second band — the one that lives on today — in March of 1938. Miller disbanded his musical organization in 1942 at the height of its popularity to volunteer for the Army.

There, he organized and led

the famous Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band. It went to Europe to entertain servicemen performing numerous live and radio shows.

On Dec. 15, 1944, Major Miller took off in a single engine plane to precede his band to Paris, disappearing over the English Channel, never to be seen again.

The release of the 1954 movie *The Glenn Miller Story* featuring Jimmy Stewart and June Allyson, led the Miller Estate to authorize the formation of the present Glenn Miller Orchestra.

On June 6, 1956, under the direction of drummer Ray McKinley, the reformed Glenn Miller Orchestra performed its first concert and has been on the road ever since, playing many of the original Miller arrangements both from the civilian band and the AAFB libraries.

The SEAcost concert sea-

son continues with a rare Thursday night concert April 7, with Shuffle, a group so multi-talented they let the audience select the pieces they will play from Baroque to classical and romantic; from jazz, to pop and Broadway.

Then, on Friday, May 13, you'll be in luck when The New Hot Club of America comes to "wow" Florence. This dazzling ensemble is comprised of some of today's top gypsy jazz artists in North America.

They recapture the sound, style, and spirit of the 1930s-era Hot Club of France.

More information is available at SEAcostEA.org.

Tickets are \$30, or \$10 for those age 17 and under.

Tickets may also be purchased at the Florence Events Center box office, 715 Quince St., by calling 541-997-1994 or online at www.eventscenr.org.

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