

Alissa Clark Clayworks offers ceramics, classes

FLORENCE — Alissa Clark Clayworks, 180 Laurel Street in Florence, is now open for business and holding clay classes for the community.

The restored Kyle house is now a combination community education space, gallery and personal studio for Alissa Clark.

Clark has been a professional ceramist and artist for more than 15 years, following the completion of her MFA from the University of Arizona in Tucson.

Most recently, Clark was the ceramics-studio manager at the Ashland Art Center for more than five years.

She has now brought her years of educational and artistic experience to the Florence.

Partnering with the Florence Regional Arts Alliance(FRAA), the classes are scheduled from 3 to 5 p.m.



COURTESY PHOTO

Ceramic mugs created by Alissa Clark, available in her new studio Clayworks on Laurel Street.

on Wednesday afternoons, with the studio remaining open from 5 to 7 p.m. for those wishing to extend creative time.

Class is \$15 for FRAA members and \$20 for community members.

Registration is through FRAA or by simply showing up to class.

Cost includes most materials with an extra nominal firing charge.

“We are starting with one class and hope to expand through the season and offer children’s classes in the summer,” says Clark. “The gallery is small now but will expand as we grow.

Currently it features solely my work. I hope to expand the gallery and offer community works for sale, as well.

“We feel so privileged to be working with the fabulous arts community in Florence.”

Call Clark at 503-957-5222 for more information, or just stop the studio on Laurel Street.

Winter hours are currently Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., or by appointment.

Bay Area Concert Band features American composers

NORTH BEND — The Bay Area Concert Band is offering a concert featuring American composers on Thursday, March 17, at 7:30 p.m. at the North Bend Presbyterian Church on Pony Creek Road in North Bend.

Steve Simpkins will conduct with guest conductor Dan McGraw.

The American songs will include, among others, “The Purple Carnival” by Harry L. Alford.

This tune has a unique 6/8 feel, technical woodwind lines and powerful low brass melodies.

“American Civil War Fantasy,” by Jerry Bilik, is a tone poem that musically portrays the mood, music and events leading to the Civil War.

George Gershwin described his “An American in Paris:” “My purpose here is to portray the impression of an American visitor in Paris as he strolls about the city and listens to various street noises and absorbs the French atmosphere.”

A John Philip Sousa march, “The New York Hippodrome,” will round out the evening.

Mark this date on your calendar as it will be an enjoyable experience. It is a free concert with donations accepted and given out as scholarships for students participating in the band.

Cavy enthusiasts to gather March 19 in Florence

FLORENCE — What’s the difference between a cavy and a Guinea pig? Find out March 19, when the Florence Events Center (FEC) will be alive with the happy squeal of Cavies and their enthusiasts during the Oregon Cavy Breeders Society’s winter Cavy Show.

Local owners and breeders will be bringing their favorite cavies to be judged and assessed for their quality. Top winners will be awarded prizes.

In addition there will be a youth cavy show open to the public.

“Our youth have some beautiful examples of cavies,” said Manetta Deggleman, organizer of last August’s summer show at the FEC. “Everyone is invited to see why we love our animals, and why we have so much fun.”

Though there are 13 breeds of Guinea pig, only a few breeds are commonly found off the show table as pets.

The short-hair, Abyssinian, Peruvian and Sheltie (aka Silkie) breeds are those most frequently seen as pets.

“We welcome questions about our little



COURTESY PHOTO

Come see a variety of cavies at this year’s Oregon Cavy Breeders Society event March 19 at the Florence Events Center.

friends at this show or any of our many shows around the state,” said Deggleman.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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