

Library hosts storyteller March 14

Kevin Kling, best known for his popular commentaries on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" and his storytelling stage shows like "Tales from the Charred Underbelly of the Yule Log," will be bringing an evening of story to the Siuslaw Public Library on Monday, March 14, at 7 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now, and are \$10 for adults or free for students ages 12 to 18.

Based in Minneapolis, Minn., Kling describes his zodiac as "Minnesota with Iowa rising" and brings a unique Midwestern flavor to his stories that will feel especially familiar to fans of the movie "A Christmas Story" and Garrison Keillor's Lake Wobegon.

In addition to his work as an award-winning author and playwright, Kling has travelled around the globe to numerous storytelling festivals, residencies, and has performed at the



COURTESY PHOTO

Kevin Kling

acclaimed National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tenn.

The National Endowment for the Arts, The McKnight Foundation, The Minnesota State Arts Board, The Bush Foundation and The Jerome Foundation have all provided funding and grants in recognition of Kling's unique artistry.

Meg Spencer, director of the Siuslaw Public Library, said she is excited to be hosting this award-winning performer,

playwright and author.

"Kevin Kling is one of the best and funniest storytellers I have ever heard, and I have been working to bring him to the library for more than a year," said Spencer. "I only wish we had more than 100 tickets available."

With funding from a grant provided by the Lane County Cultural Coalition and monetary support from the Friends of the Siuslaw Public Library, Kling's evening concert at the library will be preceded by a performance for both Mapleton and Siuslaw high schools during the school day, followed by a writing workshop with advanced language arts students from both schools.

Tickets for Kling's evening concert are currently available at the library's Florence location, 1460 Ninth St.

For more information, contact the Siuslaw Public Library at 541-997-3132.

Friendship Club to host card party fundraiser for Florence charities

On Wednesday, March 16, the Siuslaw Friendship Club will host a card party to benefit Florence charities.

The party will take place at the Elks Club RV Park, 05607 Mercer Lake Road, beginning at 11:30 a.m., and will include lunch of lasagna, garlic bread and dessert.

The cost is \$15 per person. To register, call Joan Randle at 541-997-5326 to let her know how many, their names and what game you will play to reserve a table.

All profits go to local charities.

The Friendship Club meets on the second Thursday of the

month, September through June.

In addition to raising money to help the community, the club sponsors card games.

Annual dues are \$15.

For more information, contact membership chairwoman Betty Fieldson at 541-997-2842.

Coast Jewelers event to benefit veterans

Coast Jewelers is hosting a Clean Out Your Jewelry Box event to benefit the Florence Area Veterans Relief Agency (FAVRA).

The event will be held at Coast Jewelers from March 8

to 11, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily.

Bring in any gold or silver items like rings, broken chains, coins — anything gold or silver — to donate to the cause.

One hundred percent of the

profits from these items will go to FAVRA, which is a nonprofit benefiting local veterans and their families whose needs are not being met elsewhere.

For more information, call Liz Breon at 541-997-7676.

Win gourmet dinner for 10 at Senior Center

The Florence Senior Center is offering a gourmet prime rib dinner for 10 to the winner of their annual dinner raffle fundraiser.

Although Chef Larry Osgood has retired from serving weekly meals, he has agreed to come back to prepare his delicious, five-course feast for 10 people.

The winner of the raffle will be drawn St. Patrick's Day, March 17.

The winner chooses the date

for the meal and can invite nine others to join him or her for the dinner. The raffle is open to the community and all ages are encouraged to participate.

"We printed only 300 tickets, so your chances of winning are really good," said Christine May, Senior Center board president. "Larry is an amazing chef and his dinners are fabulous. This is a 'don't miss' opportunity."


Tickets can be purchased for \$10 each at the Senior Center,

1570 Kingwood St., between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Call 541-997-8844 to reserve a ticket in your name. Senior Center Board Members also have tickets for sale.

Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the activities and operations of the Florence Senior Center.

The Senior Center offers daily meals and a variety of classes and activities for area seniors.



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The bonds are expected to be available on or about March 17, 2016,* and interested investors are encouraged to inquire prior to that date.

For more information, you may contact:

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Fire from 1A

Barrett said the fire began in the garage, and there was no sign of anyone being home.

An investigation conducted by Barrett, Oregon State Police and the Oregon Fire Marshal concluded at the site around 1:30 p.m. Thursday.

"Although there has been transient activity in the area in the past, there is no indication that they were the cause of the fire," Barrett said. He did not identify a cause.

The lot is cordoned off and fences were installed Friday.

"It's in the hands of the property owners and insurance company now," Barrett said.

The house, built in 1904,



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

The cause of Thursday's fire has not yet been identified.

was iconic in Old Town for its white picket fence. It was

vacant and was listed for sale for approximately \$300,000.

Meeting from 1A

The forest service originally set a deadline of Jan. 30 for public input, but extended the date to Saturday, April 30, to accommodate the concerns of the community.

District Ranger Michele Jones said, "We want to find solutions that meet the needs of the community and the forest service. Making sure the community has been heard and that we work together is more important than a deadline at this time."

Mapleton High School is at 10868 E. Mapleton Road, about 15 miles east of Florence.

Follow Jack on Twitter @SNews_Jack. Email him at jack@thesiuslawnews.com.

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WORD ON THE STREET

Siuslaw Public Library
celebrated Read Across America
from Feb. 29 to March 4.

What is your favorite book to read together?



"There are so many books that she absolutely loves. But one is definitely 'Fox in Socks' by Dr. Seuss. She loves that one."
—MELANIE, WITH DAUGHTER SABRINA



"'Pete the Cat!' Because there's lots of good guys." ("Pete the Cat" is a series by James Dean and Eric Litwin.)
—CAROLINE, WITH MOTHER LUCINDA AND SLEEPING BROTHER

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New Listing



13949 Hwy 36, Swisshome — Nice home with river views! 3 bdrm, 1 bath with tons of cabinetry in the kitchen, wood stove in living room with big view windows. Detached, roomy 1-car garage and additional storage/workshop. Water source is year-round stream. Holding tank and pump. \$175,000. #2550-16581305

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