

Siuslaw News Community News

Florence Habitat receives grant from Coquille Tribes

A grant of \$3,000 from the Coquille Tribal Community Fund will help build the roof of the 28th Habitat House in Florence — the new home of Nathan and Amber Fuller's family.

The lot on 37th Street is being prepared and construction is due to begin soon. Receipt of this grant is a great boost to the Fuller family's home building campaign.

Florence Habitat for Humanity's Sweat Equity and Zero-interest Loan Program is the only opportunity available to low-income families to achieve home ownership or needed home repair services in the Florence area.

Every time Habitat for Humanity helps a family build and take ownership of a new house, or provides repairs or other services to a disabled or elderly homeowner, another citizen, with an investment in the community's success, is enabled.

Funds are sorely needed to support and further Habitat's community-building program and this grant is particularly important because it comes from a community-minded organization.

Founded in 2001 by the Coquille Indian Tribe, the Tribal Community Fund has distributed more than \$5.5 million to support projects in the areas of education, health, public safety, arts and culture, problem gaming treatment and historic preservation, in a five-county region of Southwestern Oregon.

This year the Fund awarded grants totaling \$400,000. For organizations wishing to be considered for the next round of funding, the deadline for applications is Nov. 30.

For more information, visit the fund's website at www.coquilletribalfund.org.

Florence Habitat for Humanity is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International and has been active in Florence since 1999.

Volunteers are needed for construction, home repair or the ReStore programs.

For more information, call 541-902-9227, email florencehabitat@gmail.com, go to www.florencehabitat.org or visit the Habitat office at 2004 Highway 101 in the Grocery Outlet mall.

Organizations to offer art grant funding

A new partnership between the Oregon Community Foundation and the Oregon Arts Commission will provide an additional Career Opportunity Grant funding opportunity for literary and performing arts artists this spring. Applicants may apply for up to \$1,500 from the Arts Commission and up to an additional \$7,500 from The Oregon Community Foundation.

The deadline for the expanded funding is Tuesday, April 5.

The partnership mirrors a similar collaboration between the Arts Commission and The Ford Family Foundation for grants to visual artists.

"In 2015, the OCF Arts Committee identified four new areas for learning — one of which is support for individual artists," said Michelle Boss Barba, OCF Program Officer for Arts and Culture. "By enhancing a program that is already in place to support artists we have a great opportunity to understand the impact direct financial support has on literary and performing arts and artists. This is an exciting way we can support creativity."

"This partnership will sig-

nificantly deepen the support we are able to provide to hard-working established literary and performing arts artists at a very important time in their careers," said Brian Rogers, executive director of the Arts Commission. "We are extremely grateful to The Oregon Community Foundation for their vision in knowing that an investment in Oregon's creative community is an investment in the overall vitality of our state."

Oregon Arts Commission Career Opportunity Grants fund opportunities for artists to further their careers in areas that include artistic, business or professional development. Oregon Community Foundation Opportunity Grants are available only to established Oregon literary and performing arts artists who are over 30 years of age and actively producing new work. Most of the grants will support the artists' participation in residencies or performance opportunities that advance their careers.

Visit the Arts Commission website for grant guidelines and application information or contact Carrie Kikel at 503-986-0081 or carrie.kikel@Oregon.gov.

Pancakes to raise funds for Caring Pregnancy Center

The Caring Pregnancy Center of Florence (CPC) is hosting a pancake breakfast fundraiser Saturday, March 19, from 8:30 to 11 a.m., at Florence Nazarene Church, 1536 12th St., across from the Elk's Lodge.

Mayor Joe Henry will be on hand to flip flapjacks and add to the fun.

CPC is a faith-based community service, nonprofit organization supported solely via private contributions. The center offers nonjudgmental

peer counseling for women and men, referrals and ongoing support for women and families.

Whether it be infant or toddler clothing, formula, counseling or other services, CPC is there to help.

Contact CPC at 541-902-2273 during business hours.

For more information, or to be a sponsor of this event, contact Joe Crenshaw at joecrenshaw1@gmail.com, or call Deborah Heldt Cordone at 541-991-9300.

Glenn Miller Orchestra swings into Florence Friday



COURTESY PHOTO

The Glenn Miller Orchestra

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 SEAc coast Entertainment Association board member and producer for this concert. SEAc coast Entertainment opens the Florence Event Center's flat floor so all 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..

"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 said. "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 saxophones, while growling trombones and wailing trumpets add their oohs."

"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 lib-

raries.

The SEAc coast concert season continues with a rare Thursday night concert April 7, with Shuffle, a group so multitalented 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.

You'll want to tango in your seat as they recapture the sound, style, and spirit of the 1930s-era Hot Club of France.

Tickets, artist profiles, show times, video clips and more information are available at SEAc coastEA.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 Street, by calling 541-997-1994 or online at www.eventscenter.org.

Soroptimists help woman 'live her dream'

The Soroptimist International Club of Florence presented the "Live Your Dream" award of \$1,000 to Covita Hughes on Feb. 24 during a meeting at Chen's Restaurant.

Hughes was chosen over eight applicants locally, and only one of 10 recipients at this level — and one of only three from Oregon.

Because there is a chance for her to receive an additional award, Hughes' application was submitted to the region level for consideration.

Hughes was chosen to receive one of 18 awards at the region level, which is an additional \$1,500.

Hughes is a 20 year resident of Florence with three sons who have attended — or currently attend — school in the Siuslaw School District.

These awards will go to supporting her educational dream.

Hughes worked for the Confederated Tribes in the past and in Tribal Workforce, where she met teenagers at a



COURTESY PHOTO

Live Your Dream award winner Covita Hughes (second from left) with members of the Soroptimist International Club of Florence.

Job Corps facility in Wolf Creek, Ore.

At that time she decided that her life's work should involve helping at-risk or

under privileged teens find productive life goals.

Since the "Live Your Dream" award and a predecessor award were instituted

in 1972, more than \$30 million has been awarded to deserving young women throughout the Soroptimist International Organization.

Seniors, improve driving skills with AARP class

Even the most experienced drivers can benefit from brushing up on their driving skills.

The AARP Smart Driver Course, hosted by Lane Community College Florence Center, is designed especially for drivers age 50 and older, but is open to all drivers.

Learn the current rules of the road, defensive driving techniques and how to operate a vehicle more safely in today's increasingly challenging driving environment.

Participants will also learn how to manage and accommodate common age-related

changes in vision, hearing and reaction time.

Also, most drivers over 55 may save money on car insurance by taking this course, under Oregon Law ORS 742.490.

AARP membership is not required to take the course and

there are no driving or graded tests in this small classroom course. Class fee is \$20 with a \$5 discount to current AARP members. The next classes are Thursday, March 17, and April 21.

Call 541-997-8444 to register.