

City Lights to screen special Earth Day film

City Lights Cinemas will celebrate Earth Day with the feature-length documentary "Love Thy Nature" on Thursday, April 21.

Narrated by Liam Neeson, the film explores the science of biomimicry and other new perspectives on our connection to the natural world.

The film will have its theatrical release on Earth Day, April 22, when it opens in New York City, then in Los Angeles May 6. But here in Florence, residents can see it a day early, April 21, at 1 p.m. and 5:20 p.m.

"We're excited to be a part of the rollout for 'Love Thy

Nature,' which has spectacular photography that really needs the big screen," says Susan Tive, co-owner of City Lights Cinemas.

Early reviewers have been impressed with the film, with movie critic Avi Offer calling it "A breathtaking, enlightening and powerful ode to the vital symbiosis of man and nature. It will nourish your mind, body and soul."

Tickets are \$9 general admission; \$8 for seniors, students and or those who are active military; \$7.50 for matinees before 3 p.m.; \$7 for children; or \$6.50 for members.

Learn about spring edibles at next herbalist meeting

Spring is in full bloom and providing a bounty of wild edibles and medicinals in western Oregon.

Join the Florence Herb Enthusiasts Thursday, April 21, at 11 a.m. at the New Life Lutheran Church, 2100 Spruce St., when the guest speaker will be Jen Nelson.

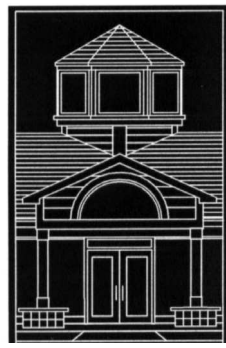
She will speak about foraging for local wild edibles and medicinals and how to

identify, harvest, prepare and preserve some local favorites.

Nelson has been a herbalist for more than 20 years. She is an expert in local food sourcing, be it foraging or working with local farms like Greenfields and Whiskey Creek Organics.

Everyone is welcome to attend; first meeting is free and annual dues are \$10.

Library Tidings



News about the Siuslaw Public Library

Library Tidings, a regular feature of the Siuslaw News, features news about upcoming Siuslaw Public Library programs for adults and children, new books and videos, and other library news of interest to the community. Library Tidings by Kevin Mittge

The Crossing

By Michael Connelly

Book review by Susie Voth

"The Crossing" is the 20th book in the Harry Bosch series. Anyone who has read this series knows Harry Bosch and what side of the courtroom he will sit on: The prosecution's side.

He has little regard for criminals who step over the line and outside the law. Bosch, retired from the LAPD with 30 years of experience as a homicide cop, is unwilling to cross the aisle to work for the defense.

In "The Crossing," Bosch finds himself in a grey area. Cisco, Mickey Haller's usual private investigator, is recuperating from a suspicious motorcycle accident — so Haller has asked Bosch for help. Haller's client, a reformed gang member, is accused of a brutal murder.

Although the evidence against him is strong, Haller believes it is a set-up. Upon reviewing the prosecution's file, Bosch finds the case against Haller's client to be full of holes, as well as unasked and unanswered questions.

Bosch reluctantly agrees to take the case. Bosch begins to do some digging and his investigation leads him to a place he

would never have suspected — inside the police department.

I have a fondness for Mickey Haller, so to have him be a major character in a Harry Bosch book is fine with me. "The Lincoln Lawyer" is the first Connelly book featuring Mickey Haller, a fierce lawyer who defends the rights of the downtrodden.

The book was made into an excellent movie starring Matthew McConaughey as Mickey Haller.

I listened to the recorded book read by Titus Welliver. An interesting tidbit of information is that Welliver plays the character of Harry Bosch in the Amazon series Bosch.

Tip of the Week: Placing holds

If the library has a book in its collection that is checked out, patrons can place the book on hold, through the library website at home or by requesting staff do so during a library visit.

Books that are not checked out, that are currently on the shelf, may not be placed on hold.

At home, you must be logged in to the library catalog (with card number and PIN) for the option of placing a book on hold to even appear.

If the "Place Hold" wording doesn't appear you either haven't logged in or there is a copy of the book on the library's shelves.

Feel free to bring any and all questions to the reference desk, or to walk you through placing a book on hold; we're happy to help.

Jerry Rust to speak

Author and former Lane County commissioner Jerry Rust will be reading from and speaking about his latest book, "The Shandong Question," on Wednesday, May 4, at 6:30 p.m., in the Bromley Room.

Rust was born in eastern Oregon, attended the University of Oregon, then joined the Peace Corps. Returning to Oregon, he organized a tree planting cooperative in Lane County in the 1970s. Later, he was elected Lane County commissioner and served five terms.

Today he spends part of the year teaching English in Shandong, China. Rust has written two previous books, "Yew" in 1985 and "The Covered Bridge Murders" in 2011.

He lives in Mapleton with his family.

Siuslaw Watershed Council to focus on beavers

At the next Siuslaw Watershed Council (SWC) general meeting, April 27, at 6:30 p.m., the topic will be "Understanding Beaver in the Beaver State."

The meeting will be held at the

Mapleton High School Library, 10868 E. Mapleton Road. Doors open at 6 p.m.

The meeting agenda includes a dual presentation by Oregon State University researchers Dr.

Jimmy Taylor and Dr. Mark Needham on the positive ecological effects of beavers and their dams, as well as the nuisance effects when dam building causes conflicts with humans.

There will also be recommendations for managing landscapes that include beavers.

The board and executive director will give project updates and announce upcoming activi-

Rhody from 1A

It will be a good ending to a project many years in the making.

"Back in August 2014 — the month lives in infamy in our minds — we had some interaction with the public and heard some concerns about a pro-

posed multi-use path," said Reynolds. "We went back to the drawing board on this project and tried to address most of those concerns."

The city held four public meetings and one open house during that autumn.

"We came back with a modified project that ODOT and the city worked on. We think

this is a really great project and we're excited to see it happen," Reynolds said.

Public Works Director Mike Miller said, "It's been a long process with this project."

His department has worked on the Rhododendron Drive project "since 2008 or 2009," when Florence marked it as a priority in its Transportation

System Plan.

Because it utilizes a federal aid project, the grant took time, as did finalizing designs.

The April 14 open house allowed community members, many of them residents of the neighborhoods on Rhododendron Drive, the chance to get clarification on some points.

People asked questions about parking and accessing the paths, safety for crossing the road to the other side of the trail, where the path begins, construction details and other safety features.

ODOT and the city representatives took notes and provided some answers. They hope to answer further questions as the project continues.

A big concern was vegetation removal.

Older phases of the project involved cutting through large swaths of native rhododendrons, shore pines and other greenery. The Shoulder Extension, however, should only involve pruning back mature rhododendrons.

City Councilor Joshua Greene said he walked the roadline with a measuring stick and could tell this project seemed like the best alternative.

"We were sensitive to minimizing the impact to rhodies and the trees that are there," he said.

Reynolds also assured those in attendance that the path isn't "a path to nowhere," as one person said.

"The next phase that we're working on starts at Ninth Street and goes south on Rhododendron Drive and connects to Highway 101. We will also have walking paths and sidewalks, and water and street projects. That should all be done by December," she said.

The city plans to continue connecting pedestrian and bicycle routes for access within Florence and to recreation areas.

Greene said, "It's a beginning, a start, a safe harbor where you can ride your bike or walk and be safer than the way it is now."

One woman in the audience said, "I know it's been a lot of hard work changing these plans. Thank you for listening to the community. We appreciate it."

For more information about the Rhododendron Drive Shoulder Extension Project, go to www.ci.florence.or.us.

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Thank you for your support during our free potting day. Because of our pledge to match all that we gave away, we can make another awesome contribution to the Siuslaw Elementary Schools' Garden Project!

Dave's Weekly Garden Tip

Allow foliage of spring-flowering bulbs to brown and die down before cutting off at the ground. Top dress with compost or fertilizer for flowers next spring.



"Bamboo Dave" Sedlacek

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