

Rhody Society to host plant auction

The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will meet Tuesday, May 17, at 6:30 p.m., for its annual plant auction of special and unusual azaleas, rhododendrons and companion plants.

This is the time to find that special plant for your garden.

The public is invited to come to the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3996 Highway 101 in Florence.

Also, the public is invited to the Late Rhododendron Show on Saturday, May 21, from 1 to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 22, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Florence Events Center.

Plant sales are outside on the south side of the building from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

For more information about the Rhody Society, call 541-997-3082 or visit www.siuslawars.org.

CAT auditions Saturday

Class Act Theatre (CAT) will hold auditions for the part of Gloria in “Grace and Glorie” on Saturday, May 7, from 7 to 9 p.m. and Sunday, May 8, from 2 to 4 p.m. at 509 Kingwood St., at the corner of Kingwood Street and Rhododendron Drive.

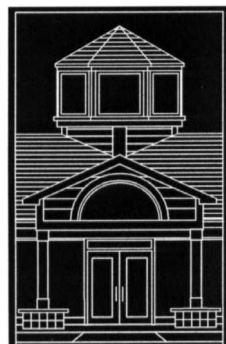
Those auditioning are

encouraged to borrow a script by calling CAT at 541-997-4815.

“Grace and Glorie” will be performed the weekends of Aug. 5 to 7 and 12 to 14.

Director Paula Lindekugel-Willis said it is “an artfully written play” of life lessons, respect and friendship.

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 Last Bus to Wisdom

By Ivan Doig

Book Review by Kevin Mittge

“The Last Bus to Wisdom” is the last novel penned by Ivan Doig, who passed away last spring in Seattle. This Montana storyteller wrote such wonderful books as “The Sea Runners,” “English Creek” and “Dancing at the Rascal Fair.”

In this book, Doig tells the story of 11-year-old Donal Cameron, who lives with his grandmother, a cook on a large ranch in Montana. When grandma has to go in for surgery that summer of 1951, she sends Donal off on the “dog bus” (Greyhound) to stay with her sister and brother-in-law in Wisconsin.

Donal, who wants to stay in Montana, is irrepressible. He travels with his autograph book seeking inscriptions from everyone he meets. The first part of the book takes place on the bus heading east, where Donal encounters young soldiers heading for Korea, a waitress his grandmother knew (who he promptly falls in love with), a sheriff transporting his prisoner — who just happens to be the sheriff’s brother — and more interesting characters.

Arriving in Wisconsin, he

finds that the great-aunt is not his grandmother’s sister, and together with his aunt’s henpecked German immigrant husband, he runs away, heading west and home.

The two adventurers continue to meet people, good and bad, on their way, stopping at the Crow Fair in Montana, at Yellowstone National Park and finally coming to the end-of-the-road town of Wisdom, Mont., where their stories, along with several of the characters they’ve met along the way all come together, in a heartwarming conclusion.

If you haven’t read any Ivan Doig before, “The Last Bus to Wisdom” would be a wonderful introduction and would lead you to read more of this Northwest author’s works.

Tip of the Week: Providing your email address

There are certain advantages if you have an email address and provide that address to the library.

First, when you are expecting to receive a book that’s been on hold for you, you will immediately be notified when available — you don’t have to wait for the mail and you help save the library postage.

How great is that?

Next, you will get an email three days before your materials are due, alerting you to either renew the checkout or return the items.

Also, you can receive overdue notices by email.

And finally, if you fail to renew your library account, which is required each year, you’ll get an email a month after it expires reminding you to renew. The accounts need to be renewed so that we have an opportunity to update any changes to address, email or contact information. If not renewed, your account will ultimately be dropped off the library system in 18 months.

So, be sure to provide your email address for some great advantages.

Jerry Rust to speak

Don’t forget that author and former Lane County commissioner Jerry Rust will be reading from and speaking about his latest book, “The Shandong Question,” tonight, at 6:30 p.m., in the Bromley Room at 1460 Ninth Street.

Rust has written two previous books, “Yew” in 1985 and “The Covered Bridge Murders” in 2011.

U.S. Coast Guard trains alongside Old Town

May Day was an amazingly beautiful day on the central Oregon coast. Florence came to life with people walking the beaches, classic cars cruising that had been garaged all winter, lines in the ice cream shops, and the hustle and bustle of a new season on Bay Street in Old Town.

If you were lucky enough to be watching the Siuslaw River view from Old Town around lunch time, you may have seen the local U.S. Coast Guard

performing training drills with their two 47-foot Motor Life Boats.

The training was a fascinating sight, with a gracefully synchronized dance of parallel movements between two large boats, as the current slowly moved them about the river.

The training, called alongside towing, is used so the Coast Guard can safely maneuver and dock disabled vessels, and accomplish law enforcement boardings of smaller vessels in calm seas.

According to the Coast Guard, “The maneuver can be very tricky, requiring careful teamwork on both vessels.”

After training, the boats docked and civilians had a chance to meet some of the Coast Guard crew and ask questions, as a few of the crew slipped away to get some ice



PHOTO BY DEBORAH HELDT CORDONE

Crewmembers from U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River completed alongside towing training drills on the Siuslaw River on Sunday.

cream.

For more information about the Coast Guard organization and missions, safe boating tips

or how to get free vessel checks, visit www.uscg.mil or the Facebook page for Station Siuslaw River.

Music venue to open ‘after hours’ at Mon Ami

Mon Ami has announced it will present music group Trés Chic on Tuesday, May 10, at 7 p.m., in celebration of the

grand opening of Mon Ami’s “after hours” music cafe at 490 Highway 101, in the middle of Antique Row.

The evening kicks off celebrating the new stage for local talent.

The exciting new Trés Chic duo, Tres Eberhard on keyboard and Teresa Mihm on flute, will be playing great music ranging from ballads to jazz from the 1950s through the ’90s.

The two Teresas, coming from vastly different backgrounds, have found a compatibility that promises new musical heights.

Eberhard has been playing professionally most of her life and her song book reflects the best of American music, from Gershwin and Broadway classics to today’s contemporary hits.

Mihm was classically trained on flute in her home state of Iowa and has enjoyed playing by ear and from the heart.

The result of their collaboration is sure to please diners and music lovers alike.

Owner Diane Marti opens her Mon Ami Cafe After Hours venue in high hopes of providing a welcoming space for Florence music lovers to enjoy the outstanding talent that populates the area.

To make dinner reservations, complimentary wine included, call 541-997-9234.

Trés Chic is dedicating proceeds from this kickoff event to listener-sponsored, community radio station KXCR 90.7 FM.

Deadlines for press releases and news items are Mondays and Thursdays at noon.
pressreleases@thesiuslawnews.com

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Learn how to embrace life changes while managing your health

- **Learn What You Can Do to Prevent Falls**
Thursday, April 21st, 2pm
Take simple steps to prevent falls and maintain your independence. Free screening clinic provided to help identify fall risk factors.
- **Facts About Macular Degeneration**
Thursday, May 19th, 2pm
Macular Degeneration is the most common cause of vision loss in seniors. Find out the latest facts and information about Macular Degeneration prevention and treatment options.
- **Advances in Digital Hearing Aid and Technology**
Thursday, June 16th, 2pm
Hearing better is possible! Learn about the unexpected benefits of correcting your hearing loss. Also find out about insurance coverage and hearing aid benefits.

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Prestige Senior Living, L.L.C.

RETIREMENT

[of]

Melissa Phillips
After 37 years

Thursday, May 12
5:30 - 7:30 pm

Banner Bank
777 Highway 101, Florence

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Located at 333 Kingwood St.

Annual Plant and Rummage Sale
Saturday, May 7th
9am - 2pm
(no clothes)

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