

CROW launches artist crows for next fundraiser

Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW) is seeking artists to paint and decorate 16-inch wooden crows that will adorn the walls of the new CROW Center for the Performing Arts, 3120 Highway 101 in Florence.

Finished crows will be sold or auctioned at CROW's Grand Opening Celebration in September. Money raised will be utilized for finalizing building renovations and providing arts programming for local youth.

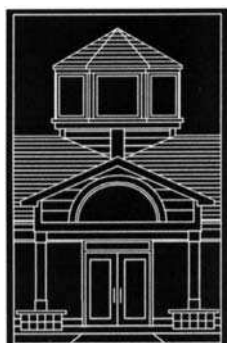
Artists are asked to be creative and have fun.

Artist crows must be completed and returned to CROW by Wednesday, Aug. 31.

Anyone interested in painting or decorating a crow can contact CROW Artistic Director Melanie Heard at crowtheatrekids@yahoo.com.

For more information on CROW, its activities for youth or to donate, go to www.crowkids.com.

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

Three ways to experience Longmire

By Craig Johnson
Book review by Susie Voth
Walt Longmire, the sheriff of Absaroka County in Wyoming, is introduced in "The Cold Dish," the first novel in the Longmire series by Craig Johnson. This first book is followed by 13 more. Several of the books have been nominated for or won prestigious awards.

"Another Man's Moccasins" won The Spur award for the best short novel in 2009.

As usual, the first book in a series introduces the reader to the cast of characters that will populate subsequent novels.

Sheriff Longmire is often aided and assisted by his long-time best friend Henry Standing Bear, a Cheyenne Indian often referred to as The Cheyenne Nation.

"Yes, it is so." Snarky, foul-mouthed Vic Moretti is his law enforcement second in command. Ruby oversees the office and is frequently Sheriff Longmire's conscience.

Cady, referred to as "The Greatest Legal Mind of Our Time," is Longmire's daughter.

The Longmire series is not limited to the printed page. The novels are also available as audiobooks narrated by George

Guidall. Guidall is "...acclaimed as one of the original 'Golden Voices' in Audiofile magazine, he holds the record for the most 'Earphone' awards (over 70) given... to any narrator for excellence in narration."

He has also been awarded two Audi Awards for excellence in audio narration. Guidall is my all-time favorite book reader. I would listen to him read the yellow pages of the phone book, he's that good.

There is a third way to enjoy the Longmire series: watching them. Robert Taylor stars as Sheriff Longmire (interestingly, Taylor is a native of Australia not Wyoming). Lou Diamond Phillips plays his friend, Henry Standing Bear, and Katee Sackhoff portrays Vic Moretti.

The first three seasons of the Longmire television series are available in our DVD collection.

Hiking the Oregon Coast Trail

Author Connie Soper will be speaking about her book, Exploring the Oregon Coast Trail, on Tuesday, July 12, at 6 p.m., in the library's Bromley Room.

Soper's book serves as a practical trail guide, describing how to navigate 40 consecutive day

hikes, starting at Fort Stevens State Park in the north, and ending in California.

Those walking the trail will experience the majesty of Oregon's beaches in personal and immediate ways, and are certain to better appreciate the open access to our shores.

Descriptions of most of the day hikes are accompanied with mile-by-mile maps and also includes many historic and present day photographs.

The author will have books available at this event for signing, as well as at the Books 'N' Bears store on Bay Street.

This program is free and is a part of the adult summer reading program at the Siuslaw Public Library.

Summer Reading is a huge success!

The summer reading program at the Siuslaw Public Library is a huge success, with hundreds of children, teens and adults registered to take part.

If you haven't signed up yet, be sure to do so. The program runs through the end of July.

There are programs and activities for participants of all ages, as well as wonderful prizes to be won. Summer reading is one of the most popular events the library puts on each year.

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Backstreet Gallery to celebrate 11 years July 9

Eleven years ago, according to founding member Kathryn Damon-Dawson, a group of local artists pooled their resources to create a cooperative gallery.

"Bill Durst became president and filed as a cooperative corporation. Jennifer French and Sally Wantz found a good deal on the house at 327 Laurel St.," said Damon-Dawson. "The artists rolled up their sleeves, altered the five rooms into gallery space and painted the front door red. Kari Mais's husband painted the interior walls."

Founding member and logo

designer Susan Weathers recaled that, "Kari and I climbed onto the porch roof and hung the Backstreet Gallery sign."

Leo Ellingson painted "Gallery" on the building's roof to attract attention from Highway 101. Backstreet opened May 2005, and the place filled to capacity.

Sharon Enga wanted a Music After Hours and local musicians such as Ron Adkins, Dave Craddock, Robin DeVour and Michael Anderson played monthly at the gallery.

Over the years, new performing art groups have offered a variety of musical experiences.

In the first four years, out-of-towners seldom crossed the threshold. longtime members recall the growing pains of early 2009, when members voted to move to Bay Street.

"It was scary for membership to sign a lease that nearly tripled the rent," said Damon-Dawson.

Within the first three hours of opening on Bay Street, more customers arrived than during an entire month at Laurel Street.

Today, the gallery has 23 artist co-op members.

The gallery boasts outstanding creations of painting, pottery, woodcarving, glass pieces, fiber art, jewelry, photography, and a wide variety of



COURTESY PHOTO

Backstreet Gallery in Old Town Florence

unique cards, prints and gifts.

Backstreet Gallery is a favorite stop for local and out-of-town customers. Travelers from around the world visit Backstreet and often times buy something, making Backstreet artists internationally known.

During the past 11 years, 59 artists have displayed art as members of Backstreet Gallery. The gallery presently hosts a few consignment artists.

Several times a year, community artists participate in month-long invitational events. The current communi-

ty show, "Summer Box Social Celebrates the American Spirit," will remain in the gallery until July 31.

The late Pat Romanov founded the GALA Art walk, which has morphed into the Second Saturday Art Tour.

The gallery's 11th anniversary party is Friday, July 9, from 3 to 5 p.m., and will include music, food, beverages and party treats.

Backstreet is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, and until 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The gallery is located at 1421 Bay St., or call 541-997-8980.

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Wednesday, August 10, 2:00pm

Advance Directives
Wednesday, September 14, 2:00pm

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Spruce Point
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If you would like to meet Raider any of his friends, please visit us at:

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