

LRP announces cast of 'Pirates of Penzance'

Prepare for high energy on the high seas with Last Resort Players' "Pirates of Penzance," sailing into the Florence Events Center this November.

The creative team that brought "Les Misérables" to local audiences has gathered a stellar cast of new and old faces to bring Gilbert and Sullivan's classic comic opera of a band of pirates, faithful daughters and a very modern major general in a comedy of epic proportions.

"Pirates of Penzance" will star Sandy Vaccaro as the Pirate King, Jim Wellington as the major general, Dana Rodet as the sergeant, Patrick Rowley as Samuel and Sean Abplanalp as Frederic, a young pirate apprentice in love.

Hilary Roach plays Mabel, daughter of the major general, and Abplanalp's real-life best friend.

"I'm thrilled to be acting opposite one of my best friends, Sean," Roach said. "In addition, I am so excited to be working with Leah Goodwin, Laura Merz and this fabulous cast and crew, many of whom I worked with in 'Les Mis.'"

The major general's other daughters include Kate, played by Erin Leonard, Edith, played by Taylor Winona, and Isabel, played by Lilly Cox.

Crystal Farnsworth stars as Ruth, Frederic's nursemaid.

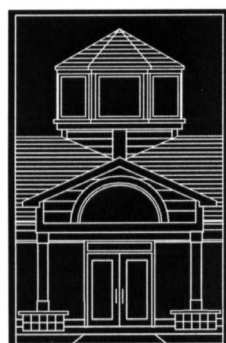
The "Pirates of Penzance" pirate chorus includes Jim Adie, James Bonisteel, Cesar Castillo, David Collins, Butch Goodwin, Paul Guthmuller, Grant Harmond, Daniel Keppol, Dorland Neale, Annie Schmidt, Sue Sweatt and Sally Wantz. The women's chorus includes Karin Bigler, Johanna Bonisteel, Shy Coverdale, Alison Cox, Tanya Garrett, Jessalynn Keppol, Karylynn Keppol, Lyndsey Keppol, Erin Leonard, Alizabeth Norton, Joanie Schmidt and Myrna Lee Sullivan.

Last Resort Players will play "Pirates of Penzance" at Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., the weekends of Nov. 4 to 6 and 11 to 13, with evening and matinee performances.

Tickets will soon be available at eventcenter.org.

For more information about the production, go to www.lastresortplayers.org.

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 Mitghe

Rise of the Rocket Girls: The women who propelled us, from missiles to the moon to Mars

By Nathalia Holt

Book Review by Linda Weight
Microbiologist and author Nathalia Holt discovered a remarkable group of women by happenstance while researching names for the daughter she was expecting. One name, Eleanor Frances, led her to Eleanor Frances Helin, who was a scientist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in charge of a program that tracked asteroids nearing Earth.

Intrigued, Holt delved further, discovering a group of women known as "the human computers" at JPL during the 1940s and 1950s.

These women, with their amazing math skills, were responsible for the critical calculations at JPL that helped develop rocket fuels, launch America's first satellite, guide lunar missions and navigate Mars rovers.

At first, all their computing was done with pencil, graph paper and slide rules. Even after the introduction of early IBM computers, JPL's engineers preferred to rely on the "human computers" as their work was

faster and more accurate.

Holt's book, "Rise of the Rocket Girls," provides a fascinating history of JPL, starting with its early days at CalTech with four young men who were experimenting with rockets from the roofs of campus buildings (until CalTech administrators decided this might be too dangerous), all the way up to current projects that are running — including Project Juno, overseen by Sue Finley, one of the original team, which is on its way to Jupiter.

But Holt's book also shows the challenges a group of extremely intelligent women faced while contributing their formidable talents to the development of America's space program.

Fired for pregnancies, denied the title of "engineer" because JPL's policy stated that only someone with an engineering degree could hold that title (and colleges of engineering were, at that time, male-only), the Rocket Girls persevered because they loved mathematics and believed in the goals of the program.

Story Time on hiatus

Twice-weekly story times with Ms. Gayle are on hiatus until September. Story times

resume Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 10:30 a.m.

August art display

This month's lobby art display features the beautiful water media work of Lin-Su, a Hang-It-All award winner from last year. And in the case, just in time for the election season, is a collection of Harlan Springer's political campaign buttons.

Get your notices through email

If you would like to save the library a little money, be sure to ask that all hold notices, overdue notices and any other library messages be sent through email rather than through "snail" mail.

You will get the information much quicker and you'll save the library a stamp. Just stop by the Circulation desk and they can make sure they have the correct email address for you.

Mapleton branch

The Mapleton library is located at 88148 Riverview Ave., in the Lion's Club Building. With a nice view of the Siuslaw River, it's a wonderful place to sit and enjoy a good book or read the newspaper. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Check it out!

FRAA to feature 'Three Glassy Ladies' in August

The public is invited to attend a three-women show titled: "Three Glassy Ladies."

This will be held at the Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) Art Center at 120 Maple St. A reception with refreshments will be held on Friday, Aug. 12, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Then on Saturday, Aug. 13, the three artists' beautiful glassworks can be viewed from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., including during the popular Second Saturday Gallery Tour, from 3 to 5 p.m.

The artists will be available during these times to meet guests and answer questions about their art forms.

The three "Glassy Ladies" include Peggy Goodrow, who works with stained glass; Tina Shoys, who works with mosaic glass; and Kristin Anderson, who works with fused glass.

Goodrow has lived in the Pacific Northwest her entire life, and loves the natural beauty of the Florence area.



COURTESY PHOTO

Artists (from left): Tina Shoys, mosaics; Peggy Goodrow, stained glass; and Kristin Anderson, fused glass

"After a long career in dental hygiene, I decided to make good use of the right side of my brain and started 14 years ago

to take stained glass classes," said Goodrow.

Her favorite thing to do with glass is to "use lots of color and

different textures of glass," she said.

In addition to being a member of FRAA, Goodrow is on the art display committee at the Siuslaw Public Library.

Shoy started to do mosaic work after retiring from a career in corporate telecommunications management.

She sells her art on Etsy, at local arts and crafts events and has sold work in several local Florence shops. She is also a member of FRAA.

Anderson said she began working with fused glass "as a counterbalance to my analytical daily work as an engineering director."

"I fell in love with the color and creativity that comes with creating glass art," added Anderson.

She has an Etsy store and has sold work in galleries, including FRAA.

She serves as vice-president of FRAA, and enjoys "helping to promote the arts in Florence."

'Midnight in Florence' literary salon set for Saturday

The literary salon of 1930s Paris is making a comeback. Designed as a convivial event celebrating the written word and

made famous by the film "Midnight in Paris," literary salons help to promote local writers and their work while upholding the literary arts in a digital era.

Writers on the River will present its first "Midnight in Florence" literary salon on Saturday, Aug. 6, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA), 120 Maple St. in Old Town.

Presented by FRAA creative writing instructor and award-winning journalist Catherine J.

Rourke, the salon is free and open to the public.

Following the tradition of Gertrude Stein's infamous Parisian salons, each monthly event will highlight a featured writer who will talk about their writing and share an excerpt from their work.

An open mic segment follows, during which writers of all levels and genres are invited to read, recite or sing excerpts from their published or unpublished material.

Florence artist and author

Karen Nichols will appear as this month's featured writer, sharing passages from her four published novels: "Triumph Over Fear," "Second Chance Heart," "The Unexpected Gift" and "Thornton House."

Nichols facilitates the Coastal Writers, a local critique group, and will soon finish an anthology of short stories in time for the sixth annual Florence Festival of Books, for which she is also a member of the planning committee.

Visit www.karendnichols.com for more info.

Reading slots are limited to five minutes on a first-come basis. Those who wish to participate in the open mic must arrive at 5:30 p.m. to sign up.

Call 541-708-2120 or email Catherine J. Rourke at CJReditor@gmail.com for more info, or if interested in becoming a featured writer.

The next salon will take place in October.

A \$5 donation is suggested to support FRAA for hosting the event.

Refreshments will be available.

"Literary salons inspire, unite and support all writers while providing cultural enrichment and entertainment," Rourke said. "We are bringing the River Seine to the Siuslaw and the Left Bank to Bay Street."

Writers on the River offers educational workshops and social events as an opportunity for open exchange and networking to support writers on their journey.

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