

Festival of Books gearing up for sixth annual event

If you have a favorite Northwest author, want to find a new one or are ready to find a publisher for your own book, the sixth annual Florence Festival of Books (FFOB) is your chance to meet and talk with authors and publishers firsthand.

Approximately 70 authors from throughout the Northwest and parts of California will be onhand for this year's festival on Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Florence Events Center, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Come chat with any of these authors as well as see and buy their books and have them signed and personalized — all with no admission charge.

This year will see about 30 new authors participating, as well as many returning authors with their latest books.

Because this is a book fair for publishers as well, there will be about 10 publishers participating, several of which are new this year to the festival.

If you have a book idea or a manuscript that is either finished or in progress, this is an opportunity to pitch it to a potential publisher.

The authors and publishers represent many genres, including fiction, nonfiction, memoir, children's books, young adult, western, mystery, humor, poetry and more.

There's something for



COURTESY PHOTO

This year's festival will feature about 70 authors, as well as New York Times bestselling author Phillip Margolin.

everyone at the festival, including a great opportunity to shop for that perfect gift or add to your own book collection.

In addition, come meet New

York Times bestselling author Phillip Margolin, who will also be the keynote speaker the night before the festival on Friday, Sept. 23.

Margolin, a former Portland

criminal defense attorney and author of many award-winning and numerous New York Times bestsellers, will speak about his experiences and process as a writer, beginning

at 7 p.m. at the FEC.

He will also have his latest novel, "Worthy Brown's Daughter," available for purchase and signing.

Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. Buy your ticket early; Margolin has many fans and this event will likely sell out.

Earlier that evening, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., there will be a panel discussion titled: "The Path: Idea to Book" which will include several Northwest authors who will share their individual paths to publication.

Authors will include poet Byron Dudley, romance novelist Janet Wellington, nonfiction author Duana Welch, fiction writer and Emmy-award winning television director Tom Cheronos and nationally syndicated Siuslaw News humor columnist and author Ned Hickson.

The event is free and open to the public, and will be held at the FEC.

This is a very popular event, so come early to assure yourself a seat.

For more information, check the FFOB website at www.florencefestivalofbooks.org, or to buy tickets to hear Margolin, contact the Florence Events Center 541-997-1994 or www.eventcenter.org.

Berlin Wall Art photos at library

This year marks the 55th year since the Berlin Wall was built in August 1961 and the "cold war" entered a new dimension.

The photographs of the Berlin Wall art taken by Birgitt Lyon during the summer of 1991 while visiting Berlin, are currently on display at the Siuslaw Public Library.

The 26 photographs are of paintings done by an international group of artists on a remnant of the Berlin Wall left standing in the former DDR (east Berlin) after the Wall came down.

The unification of East and West Germany had become official 10 months earlier in October 1990.

Several of the artists who had lived under that communist regime freely expressed their feelings through paintings — art which had been heavily censored in communist East Germany. Until the wall came down, only state-approved paintings depicting their "happy" life were allowed.

These paintings express the anguish of having lived under that oppression and then the joy of finally having been set free.

The exhibit will remain on display through Sept. 30.

Class Act to premiere 'Sylvia'

The cat will mew and every dog will have his day at Class Act Theatre (CAT) as Florence's newest theater company opens the second show of its premier season with A. R. Gurney's "Sylvia," a hilarious comedy about a marriage put on the skids when a dog wanders into their lives.

David Lauria will direct and star in this both poignant and funny look at middle age and the mid-life crisis years.

Paula Lindekugel-Willis will be assistant director.

"I was drawn to this play by its wit and fast pace," said Lauria. "'Sylvia' holds up a mirror to today's relationships."

"Sylvia" is the story of what happens when middle-aged Greg finds a dog in the park and brings her home. His wife, Kate, is launching her career as an English teacher specializing in Shakespeare and enjoying their empty nest. Greg, however, is frustrated with his current job as a financial trader.

Then Sylvia, a street smart mix of Labrador and Poodle, becomes Greg's best friend and gives his life new purpose — but she drives a major wedge between Kate and Greg.

Filled with lots of laughs and thoughtful insights, "Sylvia" is a unique and perceptive look at modern love.

"Sylvia" will run Sept. 23, 24, 25, 30 and Oct. 1 and 2.

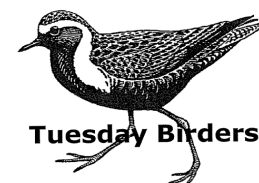
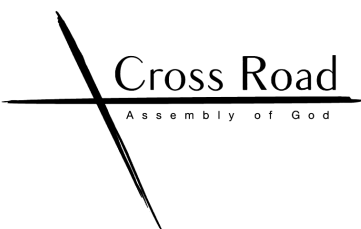
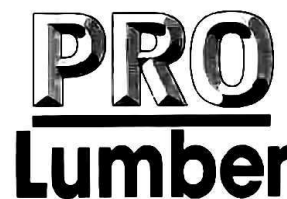
Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$18 for general admission, \$16 for seniors and military and can be purchased online at www.catproductions.org.

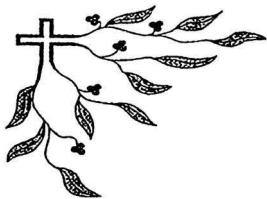
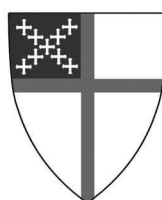
Class Act Theatre is at 509 Kingwood St. Florence, at the corner of Kingwood Street and Rhododendron Drive.

For more information, call the theater at 541-991-3773.

A Big THANK YOU from Florence Habitat for Humanity to all the following 2016 BeachWalk Sponsors and great appreciation to all those that came to the beach.



St. Andrew's Episcopal Church



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