

Loretta Lynn musical to play coast this month

A talented group of Oregon musicians paying tribute to Loretta Lynn will tour the Oregon coast this fall.

Fronted by the popular Portland folk and country songstress Mary Rondthaler, the five-piece band will perform two 45 minute sets featuring the songs of country music legend Loretta Lynn.

Also known as the "Coal Miner's Daughter," Lynn wrote many of her own songs and has been dubbed the Queen of Country Music throughout her five decade career. In 1972, she was the first woman to be nominated and named Entertainer of the Year by the Country Music Association.

Rondthaler has spent many years honing her craft around the Portland music scene. She has performed and recorded with George Chudacoff, Succotash, The Sagebrush Sisters and The Rocky Butte Wranglers.

She can be seen regularly singing country and western songs with the Wranglers at nightclubs around the Northwest, as well as with The Sagebrush Sisters, a three-piece cowgirl swing band.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mary Rondthaler portrays country music legend Loretta Lynn in the musical "Hey Loretta."

Rondthaler is well known for her knack of picking great unknown songs from the repertoires of many legendary country music artists.

The band features three graduates of Oregon State who studied music under Professor Neal Grandstaff, widely known

for his lifelong contribution to music performance and education.

They are Justin Schepige on bass, Tommy Brownson on drums and Erik Crew on lead guitar. Joining them on pedal steel guitar will be veteran Nashville touring pro and ses-

sion player Gary Thorsen, who toured with Lynn's twin daughters, The Lynns.

He has worked for many other country music greats, including Tanya Tucker. Thorsen is locally known for his inspiring work in the musical show "Who's Gonna Fill Their Shoes?" and with the Opry West at The Little Theater by The Bay in North Bend.

The entourage is scheduled to perform at several of the Oregon Coast's most endearing theaters. All Friday or Saturday night shows are at 7 p.m. and Sunday shows are a 2 p.m. for matinees.

Tickets are available at local ticket outlets and at www.heyloretta.com/tickets.

A portion of all proceeds will benefit the Children's Reprotery of Oregon Workshop (CROW) in Florence.

Shows will take place at these locations:

- Sprague Theatre in Bandon, Oct. 7, 8 and 9.
- Dori Randall Performing Arts Center in Brookings, Oct. 14
- Class Act Theatre in Florence, Oct. 21, 22 and 23.

Western artist Prechtel featured at Vardanian Gallery

Don Prechtel, a nationally acclaimed historical and western-themed artist will be featured Oct. 22 through Jan. 2, 2017, at the new Vardanian Gallery in Florence.

Experience the magnificence and grandeur of the old west and Oregon's landscapes in this unique exhibit of classic-style painting. Meet the artist and enjoy light hors d'oeuvres Saturday, Oct. 22, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Prechtel will also participate in an artist's question and answer session on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 1 to 2 p.m.

Prechtel is a career painter and muralist of historical and western art of almost 50 years. His works are featured in museums and his paintings are collected worldwide. He is the recipient of many awards, including the highly coveted National Arts for the Parks Juried Competition and his



Old West and historical artist Don Prechtel's "Buena Vista."

paintings are featured on numerous popular historical and western publications. Gallery owner Marianne

Brisbane said, "This show will be a fabulous opportunity for the community to view exceptional original paintings and local artists will have the chance to glean new insights from this profoundly gifted painter."

Vardanian Gallery is located at 1300 Bay Street in Old Town Florence. The gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

For more information, visit www.VardanianGallery.com, or contact the show's curator, SK Lindsey, at 916-554-0044.

Soroptimists seek applicants for award

The Soroptimist International Club of Florence (SIF) is seeking applicants for their annual "Live Your Dream Award."

This award is for a single woman who is head of household and wants to further her education. The funds are given directly to the individual to offset living expenses while attending school.

Last year, SIF gave \$1,000 to a local woman whose application was then forwarded to the Soroptimist International of the Americas (SIA) Northwest Region to be included in a pool for an addi-

tional award. The Florence woman was selected to receive an additional award of \$1,500.

The application period is open through Nov. 15.

The application can be found on the SIA Website at www.soroptimist.org/liveyourdreamawards.html, then click on the Live Your Dream link. This page gives more information about the award.

If there are any question about the award or filling out the application, call Nancy Bosket (SIF member) at 541-902-7250 or email siflorence@soroptimist.net.

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Senior Expo to feature antique appraisal

The 2016 Good Life Boomer and Senior Expo is coming to the Florence Events Center on Thursday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year, the expo features speakers on topics ranging from health and wellness to keeping your mind engaged through art.

Attendees are invited to visit 30 vendor booths to learn about senior-related products, services and resources. Bi-Mart will offer a flu shot clinic all day, and Florence Police Auxiliary will accept unused and expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications. No needles, however, will be accepted.

There will also be free BJ's ice cream starting at 1 p.m. until the supply runs out.

This year, the Good Life Boomer and Senior Expo is excited to announce the inclusion of a booth this year designed to offer participants a chance to have their heirlooms, antiques and vintage jewelry evaluated.

Tom Bassett, partner at Florence Antiques, 494 Highway 101, will be available during the entire expo to clean, test and value your gold and silver estate jewelry.

While Bassett has special equipment for testing diamonds and gem stones, he is not licensed to perform actual appraisals. However, based on his history of selling estate jewelry, he can provide you with fair retail market valuations.

Florence Antiques buys, sells and consigns pre-owned jewelry and vintage watches at its store and can provide information related to selling your own jewelry.

Bring your gem quality jewelry to be cleaned (please note that emeralds, rubies, lapis, jade, tanzanite, tourmaline, and turquoise cannot be steam cleaned due to their fragile

nature.) There will be a token charge of \$20 for each cleaning.

Bassett will also evaluate antique and vintage furniture that you can easily bring with you such as small tables, clocks, mirrors, etc. Pictures of larger items can offer some indication of age and condition so feel free to bring photos in lieu of the larger items.

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