

Mapleton Student Council sells wreaths for fundraiser

For the past few years, Mapleton High School's Student Council has collaborated with Granstrom Evergreens to sell the student body and the surrounding community Christmas wreaths and swags.

The MHS Leadership class takes this on as a fundraiser for annual conference with the Oregon Association of Student Councils in Seaside, Ore.

"It's a really straightforward fundraiser for the student council to do because there's very little involved. It's also different because it's not candy bars, or jog-a-thon," said council advisor Aaron Longo. "It's not your typical fundraiser and that's cool."

MacKenzie Cleary, Mapleton High School's student body vice president, is doing this for her second time this year.

"I think it's a nice little project that we do — spread positivity by selling wreaths for an upcoming holiday, and then use what we got from that to go to a really interesting conference that teaches us more on how to spread positivity," said Cleary. "It's a win-win situation."

The wreaths and swags or Oregon grown and harvested.

Anyone interested in buying a Christmas wreath or swag can contact the Mapleton High School office at 541-268-4322.

Crumpet wishes you the best of holiday jeer

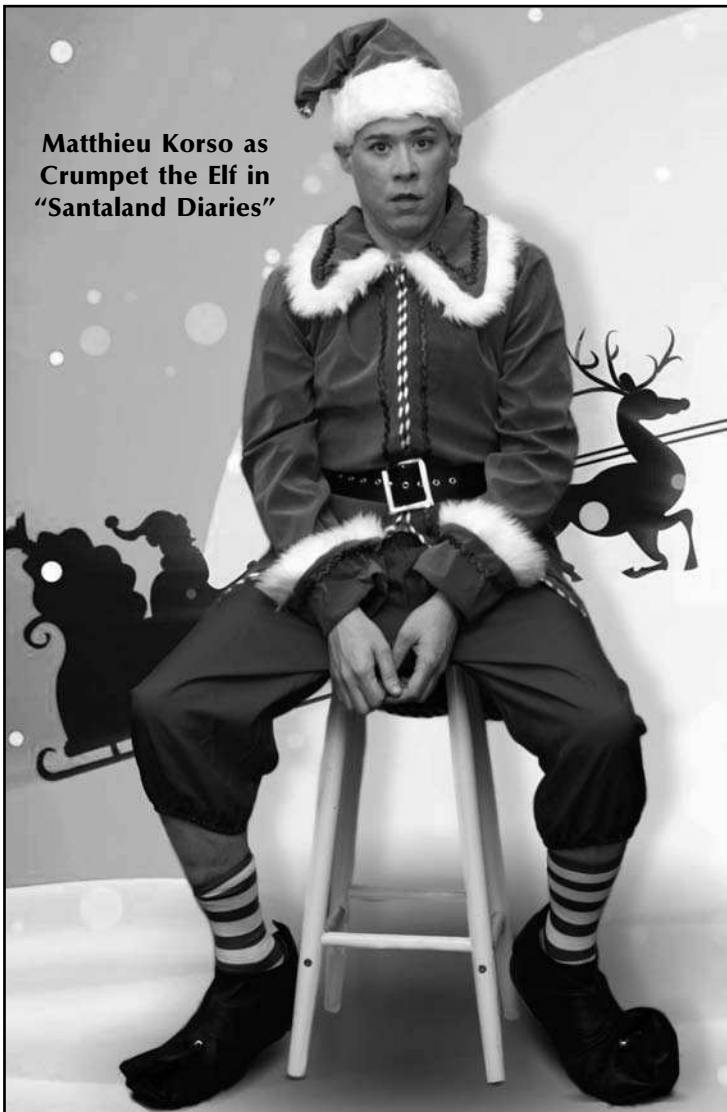
Class Act Theatre (CAT) presents Matthieu Korso as Crumpet the Elf in "The Santaland Diaries" the weekends of Dec. 9 to 11 and 16 to 18. Friday and Saturday performances will be at 7 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. It will be a PG-13 show.

Christmas is fast approaching, and Crumpet has a special invitation for everyone who looks forward to the holidays with joy, leavened with a certain degree of dread: You are not alone.

"Santaland Diaries" began as an essay by humorist David Sedaris. It is a humorous account of Sedaris' stint working as a Christmas elf in "Santaland" at Macy's department store in the early 1990s. He later published the essay in the collections "Barrel Fever" (1994) and "Holidays on Ice" (1997). The piece is now a one-man, one-act play performed by Korso to perfection.

In CAT's production, Korso is accompanied with bonus holiday music and musings by Jason Wood, Maree Beers and Hilary Roach, three of the best voices in Florence.

It promises to be a memorable, if irreverent, evening. But be warned: This



Matthieu Korso as Crumpet the Elf in "Santaland Diaries"

PHOTO BY DAVID HANSEN

show doesn't paint a Norman Rockwell Christmas. In the play, Korso's character decides to become a Macy's elf during the holiday crunch. At first the job is

simply humiliating, but once the thousands of visitors start pouring through Santa's workshop, he becomes battle-weary and bitter. He grins and bears it, occasionally taking out his frustrations on the children and parents alike.

Korso has lived in Florence for 12 years now.

In that time, he has enjoyed playing such roles as The Baker from "Into The Woods," Leo/Maxine in "Leading Ladies," Billy Bibbet in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" and The Emcee in "Cabaret," the latter being his favorite role to date. Most recently he played Billy Flynn in "Chicago: The Musical" and the irrepressible Leaf Coneybear in two productions of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."

Tickets are \$18 and can be purchased at www.cat-productions.org, 866-967-8167 or at the CAT Box Office.

CAT is at 509 Kingwood St. in Florence, at the corner of Rhododendron Drive.

The Florence Repertory Theatre Company is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.

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4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) — 997-3951
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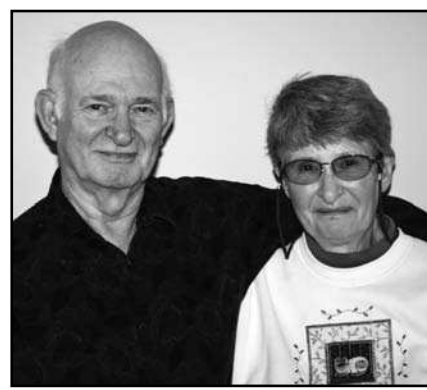
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Popes named OCHS Volunteers of the Month

Patty and Ed Pope have been dedicated volunteers of the Oregon Coast Humane Society since 2006. After retiring in 2005 and moving west from Minnesota to Florence's warmer climate, Patty began volunteering her time at the OCHS Thrift Store sorting, folding and stacking donated clothing that comes into the store daily.



COURTESY PHOTO

Ed and Patty Pope

For the past three years, Patty has also spent a great deal of personal time manufacturing pet bed pads for dogs and cats, which are then sold at the Thrift Store and the Animal Shelter and currently are also available at the OCHS Christmas Store.

She also makes hammocks for cats, as well as pot holders in a wide range of colors and patterns that are also available for sale at the Thrift Store.

Those who have worked with Patty over the years describe her as a very valuable volunteer with admirable ethics, values, a very good heart and one

who "goes the extra mile." Ed volunteers his time as well, supporting Patty by helping out whenever he is needed. For five years, Ed allowed OCHS the use of his barn to store the overflow furniture and large donated items that would not fit into the small Thrift Store.

The use of the barn as no charge was a great gift of financial savings to the animal shelter.

Patty and Ed Pope are very valued and appreciated for their time, efforts and dedication to the overall welfare of the dogs and cats cared for by the Oregon Coast Humane Society.

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Meet Smudge

Hi, I'm Smudge. I am a sweet and gentle girl. I love to be scratched behind the ears and under the chin. I'm also very playful - I'll play with anything, even my own tail; but I especially like chasing the laser light. I get along with other cats, but I am really shy with humans at first and can be scared at sudden movements, making me find a hiding spot; so just take it slow and calm and I'll warm up to you in no time. Plus if you have treats or canned food, I'm your best friend.

If you would like to meet Smudge or any of her friends, please visit us at:

OREGON COAST HUMANE SOCIETY
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