

'Uprooted' exhibit opens at historical museum

EUGENE — Opening Feb. 10 at the Lane County Historical Museum, the exhibit "Uprooted: Japanese American Farm Labor Camps During World War II" visually documents the first of the Japanese-American farm labor camps with photos taken in July 1942 in Oregon and Idaho.

This exhibit tells the rarely told story of the 33,000 Japanese Americans from the high security WWII assembly centers and concentration camps who volunteered to harvest sugar beets for the war effort.

Removed from their homes, farms, businesses and communities because of war hysteria, prejudice and failed political leadership, photographer Russell Lee captured the hardships, dignity and spirit of these individuals — more than half of



them US citizens.

This timely exhibition commemorates the 75th anniversary of the Day of Remembrance.

On Feb. 19, 1942, Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, authorizing military commanders to designate military areas from which any person could be excluded.

Gen. John L. DeWitt, Western Defense Command, issued more than 100 military orders applying only to civilians of Japanese ancestry living in the west coast states.

Congress authorized a prison term and fine for any civilian convicted of violating those orders.

Uprooted will be on exhibit at the Lane County Historical Museum from Feb. 10 to May 25, Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission is \$5 adult, \$3 senior, \$1 youth, and children 14 and under are free.

The exhibit is funded by the Eugene-Springfield Asian Council and is a partnership event with the Oregon Asian Celebration, Feb. 18 to 19, 2017 at the Lane Events Center.

Asian Celebration visitors get free admission to the Lane County Historical Museum with their stamped admission to the festival.

There will be an opening reception Feb. 10, 6PM at the Lane County Historical Museum, 740 W 13th, Eugene, Ore.

Admission for the reception is free.

Backstreet features 4 authors, artists in February

Backstreet Gallery features four outstanding authors next month. There will be a reception in their honor on Saturday, Feb. 11, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the gallery on Bay Street in Historic Old Town Florence.

"Dogs, Crows and the Corn Chip Dance," by Kathryn Damon-Dawson, Darby McCann and Riley McCann, is a children's book which teaches backwards-counting through rhyme.

The text is whimsical, engaging and fast-paced. Watercolor illustrations are by Damon-Dawson, who incorporated digital images and drawings of dogs, crows and cars gathered by granddaughters Riley and Darby.

The book was conceived one afternoon while they traveled by car from Beaverton to Florence. Damon-Dawson wanted her granddaughters to understand how, with diligence and effort, an idea can be taken to completion.

Judy Fleagle worked as editor and staff writer for Oregon Coast and Northwest Travel magazines for 21 years. Prior to that, she taught first and second grades in California for 22 years. In 2009, she retired to write her first book.

In 2011, she co-founded the Florence Festival of Books.

Fleagle's books include "Crossings: McCullough's Coastal Bridges," "The Crossings Guide to Oregon's Coastal Spans," "Around Florence" and "Devil Cat and Other Colorful Animals I Have Known."

A fifth book is in the works that will

be another guide to the Oregon Coast and available late in 2017.

Pattie Brooks Anderson is first a painter and printmaker, but most recently she has become an author of books for children, she says, "from eight to eighty."

She has always loved illustrations in children's stories and her work is evidence of that inclination. Though she has always loved writing, she has found her paintings are the inspiration for the stories she writes.

She said she hopes to use her children's books as a message to children of all ages to respect the earth and all its creatures and the importance of our role as human beings in preserving our environment.

Karen Nichols, an artist, is also author of five books. All her novels are set in Florence. Her books: "Triumph Over Fear: An inspirational novel of wilderness survival;" "Second Chance Heart: How often does one witness a miracle?;" "The Unexpected Gift: A novel of Inspiration" — a Marine returns from Afghanistan to reclaim purpose and trust through love and redemption; "Thornton House" — mysterious love transcends time and opens death's door.

The latest, "The Moral of the Story," is a collection of short stories from the poignant to the hilarious.

Join the authors on Saturday, Feb. 11, for a book signing at Backstreet Galleries and they will tell you about their many adventures.

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*** Raffle Tickets will be sold for artwork created during the performance ***