

# Author Robert Heilman to read from latest book tomorrow at Siuslaw Public Library

Author/essayist Robert Leo Heilman will read from his latest book on Thursday, March 30, at 6 p.m. at Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth St.

The author and commentator will share selected works from his recent collection of short writings about life in Oregon, "The World Pool: A

Literary Variety."

Published in 2016, "The World Pool" is a collection of Heilman's short pieces written about life in Oregon over the past 30 years and what it means to be human.

His essays, memoirs and other assorted nonfiction writings have roots in rural Oregon,

specifically Myrtle Creek, where the author resides.

His work has received the Andres Berger Award for non-fiction and a previous collection of his was runner-up for a 1996 Oregon Book Award in the nonfiction category.

Heilman says in and through his writing he has "tried to ... look at connections, between my life and the lives of my

neighbors, between our work and our place, our families and our community."

His pieces are introspective and delve into the joys and pains of the blue-collar life he has experienced.

His easy presence and readings are certain to lead to insightful and engaging conversation about the topic of community and life in general. He

received a warm welcome and praise for his work when he appeared last year at the Mapleton Branch Library.

Join fellow community members at the Library's main branch for this opportunity to hear Robert Leo Heilman share his touching stories and thought-provoking essays.

This program is free and open to the public, and light

refreshments will be served. The event will appeal to all who have an interest in hearing Heilman's award-winning words about life in rural Oregon and is appropriate for high school-aged young adults and above.

For more information about the program, visit Siuslaw Public Library, call 541-997-3132, or visit [siuslawlibrary.info](http://siuslawlibrary.info).



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## History from 1A

Duniway's work on the issue began in 1870 with the formation of a local "Suffrage Association," which was created to bring the issues associated with voting rights for women to the attention of the public.

Duniway was insistent that the right to vote was fundamental to the intent of the founding fathers, and she went to great lengths during the presidential election of 1872 to draw attention to the issue.

She invited and hosted a trip to Oregon by Susan B. Anthony, who at the time was the controversial leader of the national effort to obtain voting rights for all women.

Duniway also wrote and oversaw the distribution of suffragist literature across the state. She did more than write about her beliefs, she also took action.

She did this by joining a small group of suffragist women that illegally cast ballots in the 1872 election. The women were allowed to place their votes in a separate box that was symbolic, in that the votes therein were not counted or added to the totals for

the state.

It did however, set the precedent that Duniway and her associates would use to persuade the voters at the time, all men, to consider their wives and daughters when deciding on whether or not to allow the law to be put before the voters.

"When women's true history shall have been written, her part in the upbuilding of this nation will astound the world," she said.

The New Northwest was published for 16 years during the height of the battle for passage of the right to vote. Her editorials and high public

**"The young women of today, free to study, to speak, to write, to choose their occupation, should remember that every inch of this freedom was bought for them at a great price."**

— Abigail Scott Duniway

Duniway was a prolific writer, and she was the first person to publish a novel that was commercially available in Oregon. She was the author of dozens of books, both fiction and non-fiction.

More significantly than her fictional writing was her work for the New Northwest newspaper. She established, edited and wrote for the paper for the purpose of promoting economic and social rights for women, minorities and immigrants.

Duniway also believed that women's contributions were undervalued by their male counterparts.

profile succeeded in bringing attention, sometimes unflattering, to her and the nascent Women's movement in Oregon.

These editorials and the position they supported eventually made inroads with the public. Duniway also believed that the fight for social justice was ongoing and urged future generations to continue the work.

"The young women of today, free to study, to speak, to write, to choose their occupation, should remember that every inch of this freedom was bought for them at a great price," Duniway said. "It is

for them to show their gratitude by helping onward the reforms of their own times, by spreading the light of freedom and of truth still wider. The debt that each generation owes to the past it must pay to the future."

Ultimately, in 1874, Duniway succeeded in getting the legislative support she needed to get the law on the ballot. This first effort to approve the vote for women was rejected by the male voters of Oregon by a vote of 11,223 to 28,178. The law was reintroduced for voter consideration six times, more than any other state, until it was passed in 1912.

The sitting governor, Oswald West, in recognition of Duniway's unrelenting efforts to pass the legislation, asked the 79-year-old activist to author and sign the proclamation that announced to the public the passage of the law.

Duniway was also given the honor of being the first woman to legally cast her vote in an Oregon election, a fitting tribute to the women many consider the "Mother" of the Oregon law that prohibits voting discrimination, based on an individual's gender.

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## Memorial from 1A

"To move forward, we need to have the city on board," Spayd said.

"The park would be used primarily as a gateway to the airport. We are tying that in with the location of the military museum," he added.

He said the park would also draw attention to the airport from people driving by on Kingwood Street.

Spayd said, "We also want to honor a distinguished citizen of Florence. Most people don't even know who he was."

DOV vice president Terry Tomeny gave a brief history of King's military career, which included being a fighter pilot ace, serving in both the Pacific and European theaters of war during World War II. King also flew fighters in the Korean conflict and later served in

Vietnam and during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

"King was shot down in the Solomon Islands while flying a P-38. Normally pilots would jump out with a parachute, but since he was worried about being shot while coming down in a parachute, he crash landed the aircraft in the ocean, got out before it sank, was strafed in the water and finally got ashore on one of the Japanese held islands," Tomeny said.

He said King was hidden from the Japanese for two months by local natives, along with seven others, until escaping on a raft.

"At Elgin Air Force Base, in California, where USAF Special Operations is headquartered, they named an auditorium after him," Tomeny said.

According to Tomeny, King died of cancer in 2004 after retiring to Florence.

His relatives still maintain the family home here in Florence.

DOV secretary Cal Applebee said, "This project is an ideal project for grants under the Oregon Parks Department (OPD) Veterans and War Memorial grant program."

Mayor Joe Henry said, "For what little financial involvement the city is going to have, I think we should jump ahead on."

Applebee said the OPD grant cycle was already closed for this year and that the group would not be able to apply for a grant until next year, but that the group could move forward with smaller park improvements.

The council agreed to place the DOV's request to develop a comprehensive master plan for approval on the April 3 city council meeting agenda.

## Study from 1A

area, only 50 percent of those emergency generators actually

worked," Schultz said. "That event impacted the area for two weeks at most for power loss. With a Cascadia event we are talking potentially significantly longer."

Schultz does not see underground utilities as a solution.

"With a tsunami, underground utilities are not your best option. It will be much easier to repair lines that are above ground, as opposed to having to retrench and fix all the ones that get severed underground," he said. "Underground is a good strategy for places that have wildfire risks."

According to Schultz, funding whatever solutions the teams come up with will be a challenge.

"Funding is a big question. Some of it will probably be folded into existing distribution plans for structure upgrades. We will also be looking to the NGA for help in identifying funding sources. They have done good work in identifying innovative financing solutions in the past," Schultz said.

Schultz hopes to share the findings of the study with the state's other 36 PUDs after the program is completed next year.

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