

OCCO concert series to begin May 7 in Yachats

Beginning May 7 the Oregon Coast Chamber Orchestra (OCCO) will be presenting its Spring Concert Series in Reedsport, Yachats and Florence.

Musician and conductor John Bringetto will share the podium with long-time conductor John Monks.

The program offers a variety of musical styles and eras ranging from classical

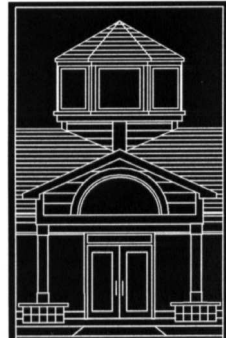
favorites to contemporary theater and film compositions.

Performance venues and dates are: Sunday May 7 at 2 p.m., at Reedsport Church of God, Friday, and Sunday May 14, 2 p.m., at Florence Community Baptist Church.

Tickets are \$10 at the door, children under 10 and students are free.

Visit occorchestra.org for more information.

Library Tidings



News about the Siuslaw Public Library

Library Tidings, a regular feature of the Siuslaw News, features news about upcoming Siuslaw Public Library programs for adults and children, new books and videos, and other library news of interest to the community.

Library Tidings by Kevin Mittge Adult Services Librarian Siuslaw Public Library (541) 997-3134

Book Review

"The Sleepwalker" By Chris Bohjalian

In best-selling author Chris Bohjalian's latest book, "The Sleepwalker," when Annalee Ahlberg goes missing, her children fear the worst.

Annalee is a sleepwalker whose affliction manifests itself in ways both devastating and bizarre.

Once she merely destroyed the hydrangea in front of her Vermont home. More terrifying was the night her older daughter, Lianna, pulled her back from the precipice of the Gale River bridge.

The morning of Annalee's disappearance, a search party combs the nearby woods. Annalee's husband, Warren, flies home from a business trip.

Lianna is questioned by Gavin Rikert, a young, hazel-eyed detective.

And her little sister, Paige, takes to swimming the Gale to look for clues. When the police discover a small swatch of fabric from a nightshirt ripped and hanging from a tree branch, it seems certain that Annalee is dead.

But the hazel-eyed detective still continues to call and he continues to stop by the Ahlbergs' Victorian home.

As Lianna peels back the layers of mystery surrounding Annalee's disappearance, she finds herself drawn to Gavin, but she must ask herself: Why does the detective know so much about her mother?

Why did Annalee leave her bed only when her husband was away?

And if she really died while sleepwalking, where is the body?

Conjuring the strange and mysterious world of parasomnia, a place somewhere between dreaming and wakefulness, "The Sleepwalker" is a masterly novel from a treasured storyteller.

Bohjalian is also the author of "The Guest Room," "The Light in the Ruins," "The Sandcastle Girls," "The Double Bind," "Midwives" and "Skeletons at the Feast."

Friends of the Library book sale

The Friends of the Library will be holding a book sale on Saturday, May 13, and Sunday, May 14, in the library's Bromley Room.

The hours on Saturday are 9 a.m. for Friends of the Library members only (you can buy a membership at the door) and 10 a.m. for non-members, until 4

p.m. On Sunday the hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Books for the friends sale come from donations as well as weeded copies from the library's collection.

One special for this sale: if you buy a Friends of the Library canvas book bag for \$15 you can fill it up with as many books (for free!) that you can carry.

Don't miss this great opportunity to get some great books at bargain prices, and help the Friends and the library at the same time

Summer reading is coming!

Mark your calendars – summer reading begins June 1.

A wide variety of programs for kids and adults are being scheduled.

Look for more information here in Tidings.

Mapleton Branch

The Mapleton library is located at 88148 Riverview Ave., in the Lion's Club Building.

The library also has books, magazines, DVDs and videos, recorded books, Internet computers, wireless Internet access, and more.

Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m.

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USA Today names Florence No. 2 on '10-best' poll

USA Today's "10Best.com" editors teamed up with a panel of travel experts chosen based on their knowledge and experience with the region to find the best small towns in the Northwest with populations less than 10,000.

Florence took second place out of the 50 originally considered for an online poll that concluded April 24.

"We were super excited to be nominated to this list of great places, and are delighted to be

the only Oregon town in the top 10," said Bettina Hannigan, executive director for the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce. "Especially considering the other awesome places from our great state that were part of this national survey."

USA Today's write-up stated, "Situated where the Siuslaw River meets the Pacific Ocean, Florence is home to two of the most popular attractions on the central Oregon Coast: Heceta Head Lighthouse and Sea Lion Caves. Fresh seafood dominates the restaurant menus at establishments clustered on Bay Street."

"We've got all that, and more," boasted Hannigan. "We had four weeks of voting, and voters were encouraged to vote daily using any and all of their electronic devices. The proof is

in the polling, and Florence rocked it."

Last year, Florence was named Expedia's Most Beautiful Town and received the Reader's Choice for Best Coastal Getaway from the state's largest media source, The Oregonian's OregonLive.com.

Reader's Digest, one of the world's most significant magazines, recommended visiting the Oregon Coast in its article, "The Best Summer Vacation Ever!"

"We couldn't agree more with each of these prestigious designations," added Hannigan. "We are grateful to have yet another national recognition as we build our identity as Oregon's Coastal Playground, and as great place to live and work."

The top 10 included Sequim, Wash., followed by Florence,

Buffalo, Wyo., Port Townsend, Wash., Sitka, Ark., Friday Harbor, Wash., Winthrop, Wash., Wallace, Idaho., Cooke City, Mont., and Talkeetna, Ark.

The remaining towns in the survey included Astoria, Ore., Cannon Beach, Ore., Cody, Wyo., Homer, Ark., Hood River, Ore., Jacksonville, Ore., La Conner, Wash., Livingston, Mont., Seward, Ark., and Whitefish, Mont.

"The tourism industry is a great fit for Florence, and it provides employment for hundreds of families. It brings happy people to town who make major contributions to the economic vitality of our beautiful community," added Hannigan. "Awards like this give us some serious bragging rights when encouraging people to vacation or relocate a business here."

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