

Light Up a Life

Peace Health Peace Harbor Hospice will hold their annual Light Up a Life Ceremony on Saturday, December 9th at 2:00 p.m.

The event will include an opening prayer, introduction of the Peace Harbor Hospice team, a ceremonial reading of the names of those who have passed and music performed by Strings of Compassion.

The ceremony will conclude with the lighting of the holiday tree and the menorah.

There is no cost to attend and refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

Family and friends are invited to share in remembrance and compassion for those who have passed. Stars can be purchased in memory of a loved one and will be hung on either the holiday tree or placed on the Menorah table.

Light Up a Life is the only fundraiser held by PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Hospice. To learn more about Light Up a Life and Peace Harbor Hospice, contact Kathy Murphy at 541-997-3418.

Siuslaw High School Band and Choir Concert



Under the musical direction of Chris Rowbotham, the Siuslaw High School Jazz and Symphonic Bands will present their annual holiday card to the Florence community.

On Monday, December 11th at 7:00 p.m. the Siuslaw High concert and chamber choirs will join the high school band for a holiday presentation. The public is invited to this free concert.

Crab Crack Tickets On Sale

Tickets will go on sale for Florence Food Share's 7th annual Crab Crack fundraiser after December 1st.

Happening at the Florence Events Center on Saturday, February 3rd from 4 to 7pm, enjoy Oregon Coast crab along with pasta, coleslaw, garlic bread, sodas, coffee and dessert by BJ's.

A no-host bar will be available. There will also be a silent auction held during the event that will include a beautiful selection of items.

Ticket price is \$40 per person. Advance purchase is required. Only 400 tickets will be sold and the deadline to purchase is January 25th.

All proceeds will benefit the hunger relief efforts of Florence Food Share (www.florencefoodshare.org), an emergency and supplemental food pantry serving individuals and households in West Lane County.

For more information, to arrange group seating or to purchase tickets contact Norma Barton, at 541-997-9110 or nbarton@florencefoodshare.org.

Tickets also are available (after December 1st) Monday to Friday, 10am to 1pm at Florence Food Share, 2190 Spruce St., 541-997-9110.



BALLET - THE NUTCRACKER

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Whether it's a long standing holiday tradition for your family or your first Nutcracker, Eugene Ballet's "Nutcracker" will be dancing across the Florence Events Center stage Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

There's a joyful magic at every performance as hundreds of aspiring young dancers join the Company on stage, while the Sugar Plum Fairy transports all to the Snow Kingdom and the Land of the Sweets.

You'll cheer and boo at the battle with the not-so-scary Mouse King and his Pirate Henchmice, as Clara and The Nutcracker win the day.

Celebrate your holiday season with a marvelous journey to Eugene Ballet's The Nutcracker.



Call or stop by the FEC box office for holiday ballet tickets or jump on-line at www.eventcenter.org.

OREGON BRASS SOCIETY

The Oregon Brass Society returns to the Florence Events Center. Come enjoy an evening of seasonal brass music on Monday, December 18 at 7 pm. All are welcome to attend. A small donation at the door is suggested.

Come enjoy the warm sounds that only a brass band can bring to Christmas. The Oregon Brass Society is under the direction of Dr. Chris Chapman, director of bands at Oregon State University, and is Oregon's only British-style Brass band.

The group's traditional instrumentation differs from U.S. brass groups, and produces a distinctively dark English sound. Since their founding in 2003, the all-volunteer group has performed throughout the western Oregon.

The ensemble has performed in recent collaborations with The Canadian Brass as part of the Oregon Bach Festival and is a regular performer at the Washburne Park Summer Concert series.

Come experience some olde tyme heavy metal to start out the week before Christmas.

BALLET FANTASTIQUE AN AMERICAN CHRISTMAS CAROL

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Ballet Fantastique's sparkling holiday tradition, "An American Christmas Carol," returns to the Florence Events Center for the first time since 2014.

Donna and Hannah Bontrager have re-imagined Charles Dickens' beloved story in iconic post-WWII America with their original choreography set to original arrangements of holiday standards by Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, and Nat King Cole.

Actor Adam Goldthwaite joins the company as "Smokey Joe" Marley. Ballet Fantastique's flagship American Christmas Carol is for the young and young at heart, and it promises to charm even the stoniest of humbug hearts. "If you imagine what a ballet-Broadway version of a Christmas Carol is, that's sort of how I would describe this project," says Ballet Fantastique Co-Choreographer-Producer Hannah Bontrager.

"We look at how to best tell the story and make it fun for modern

audiences. We immerse ourselves in the aesthetic and music of the era, we choose songs that tell the story—even tweaking lyrics if needed. We also re-imagine the perspective from which we tell the story."

In this case, Ballet Fantastique's unique new narrative perspective is a 40's Brooklyn gangster, "Smokey Joe" Marley, a period-inspired re-imagining of the character of Jacob Marley (Scrooge's long-dead slimy business partner) in Dickens's original. The Bontragers and their creative team (including Ballet Fantastique staff Librettist/Historian Genevieve Speer) birthed Joe out of the 1939 Cab Calloway song "The Ghost of Smokey Joe."

"This gravelly song about a really bad guy became our inspiration for a comedic character that drives the drama. And artistically, Smokey Joe's voice also lends our ballet a bit of grit and humor." Guest actor-singer Adam Goldthwaite plays Smokey Joe.

The score for An American Christmas Carol is 17 iconic standards songs that explore two related musical traditions—big band jazz and

the popular tunes of Tin Pan Alley," says Donna.

Donna and Ballet Fantastique's creative team worked to include the Ella Fitzgerald classic "Undecided" for the scene when fiancée Marilyn breaks off her engagement with the ever-greedy young Ebenezer. Traditionals including "Winter Wonderland," "Baby It's Cold Outside," "Let it Snow," and "I'll Be Home For Christmas" also set the stage for the ballet's choreography.

"An American Christmas Carol" takes the stage on December 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the Florence Events Center. Tickets are now available from the box office or on-line.

Additional performances will be held in Bandon and Eugene. More information on Ballet Fantastique can be found on their website at www.balletfantastique.org.



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Last Resort Players wishes you and yours a Happy Holiday Season and all the best for The New Year!

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