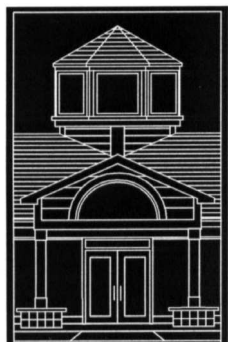


Library Tidings



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 Mitte
Adult Services Librarian

Siuslaw Public Library
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Book Review "Fire on the Track"

by Roseanne Montillo

When Betty Robinson assumed her starting position for the inaugural women's 100-meter final at the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam, she was participating in what was only her fourth-ever organized track meet. She crossed the finish line as a gold medalist and the fastest woman in the world.

This impossible athletic phenomenon was an ordinary high school study, discovered while running for a train in rural Illinois mere months before her Olympic debut. Amsterdam made her a star.

But at the top of Betty's game, her career (and life) almost came to a tragic end when a plane she and her cousin were piloting crashed. So dire was Betty's condition that she was taken to the local morgue; only upon the undertaker's inspection was it determined she was still breathing. Betty, once a natural runner who always coasted to victory, soon found herself fighting to walk.

While she was recovering, the other women of track and field were given the chance to shine in the Los Angeles Games, building on Betty's

pioneering role as the first female Olympic champion in the sport. These athletes became more visible and more accepted, as stars such as Babe Didrikson and Stella Walsh demonstrated to the world what women could do.

And — miraculously — through grit and countless hours of training, Betty earned her way onto the 1936 Olympic team, again locking her sights on gold as she and her American teammates went up against the German favorites in Hitler's Berlin.

Told in vivid detail with novelistic flair, "Fire on the Track" by Roseanne Montillo is an unforgettable portrait of these trailblazers in action.

Quattrosound at the library

Siuslaw Public Library is pleased to present Quattrosound, the Grammy award-winning group playing a mix of classical, jazz and Latin pop, at a free outreach concert on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 3 p.m. in the Bromley Room.

This event, a preview concert of their later performance that evening at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., is free and open to the general public.

Special thanks to SEAc coast Entertainment Association for making this event possible.

January art displays

The library has two wonderful artists displaying their work in the library lobby this month. The first is Polly Warren, of Eugene, who creates delightful, whimsical, acrylic paintings of people and faces, flowers and animals. Check out "Just 3 Guys" and "City Cat."

In the display case are "Gifts from the Forest: Finishing What Nature Began," the artwork of Rhonda Butler, a Florence resident. Rhonda loves trees, which is evident in her use of a wide variety of tree species which she cleans, sands, and slices to show the beautiful natural patterns in the wood.

As she says, "Nobody does patterns better than Nature."

When visiting the library this month, be sure to enjoy the work of these two great, but vastly different, artists.

Holiday closure

The library will be closed on Monday, Jan. 15, in honor of Martin Luther King Day. Regular hours resume on Tuesday, Jan. 16.

Woahink Lake holds winter meeting Jan. 21

The Woahink Lake Association will roll out the welcome mat Sunday, Jan. 21, at its winter meeting at 1 p.m. in the Honeyman Group Meeting Hall (Yurt).

Residents around Lake Woahink and others interested in issues related to the area are invited to join members at this free event.

Cameron LaFollette, executive director of the Oregon Coast Alliance (ORCA), will be the featured speaker at the meeting. With a law degree from Columbia University, LaFollette has worked on coastal issues advocacy for more than a decade. In earlier environmental work, she focused on protecting ancient forests on federal lands in Oregon to ensure clean drinking water, salmon habitat and

ecosystem protection.

Members of the association will bring a dessert or favorite snack to share. The association will provide lunch.

People interested in joining the Woahink Lake Association will have the opportunity to enroll at the meeting. Dues are a nominal \$20 per year.

An RSVP by Jan. 18 would be appreciated.

Contact Linda Yoder, lindsayoder@hotmail.com or 541-590-0944, to which you may send a text message.

The Woahink Lake Association was established in 1995 to promote the understanding, protection and thoughtful management of Woahink Lake, its watershed and its ecosystem.

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