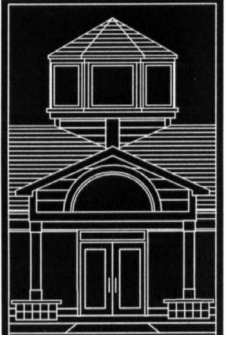


Library Tidings



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

Book Review

“Shadow of the Lions”
By Christopher Swann

How long must we pay for the crimes of our youth?

That is just one question Christopher Swann explores in this compulsively readable debut, “Shadow of the Lions,” a literary thriller set in the elite — and sometimes dark — environs of Blackburne, a prep school in Virginia.

When Matthias Glass’s best friend, Fritz, vanishes without a trace in the middle of an argument during their senior year, Matthias tries to move on with his life, only to realize that until he discovers what happened to his missing friend, he will be stuck in the past, guilty, responsible, alone.

Almost 10 years after Fritz’s disappearance, Matthias gets his chance. Offered a job teaching English at Blackburne, he gets swiftly drawn into the mystery.

In the shadowy woods of his alma mater, he stumbles into a web of surveillance, dangerous lies, and buried secrets — and discovers the troubled underbelly of a school where the future had once always seemed bright.

A sharp tale of false leads and surprise turns, “Shadow of the Lions” is also wise and

moving. Christopher Swann gives us a gripping debut about friendship, redemption and what it means to lay the past at rest.

Mapleton branch

The Mapleton Library is located at 88148 Riverview Avenue, in the Lion’s Club Building. With a nice view of the Siuslaw River, it’s a wonderful place to sit and enjoy a good book or read the newspaper.

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. Check with library staff about other events at the branch, such as story times, social hours and cribbage club.

Genealogy classes

The library will be offering two very basic, introductory family history classes in May. “Finding Your Roots” will be on Friday, May 11, from 1 to 3 p.m., and “Finding Records” will be on Friday, May 25, from 1 to 3 p.m.

These classes will introduce basic genealogy concepts and introduce library resources available to the family histori-

an.

Both classes are limited to 10 participants, so contact the reference desk at 541-997-3132 to register.

Free audiobooks for teens (and others)

SYNC is a free summer audiobook program through OverDrive. Aimed towards teens ages 13 and older, the books are downloadable by anyone and may be enjoyed by a wide range of ages.

From now to July 25, get two free downloads per week, which are yours to keep. Visit www.audiobookssync.com or text “syncya” to 25827 to get new title alerts and learn more.

The books cover a wide range of genres and topics. Examples of available books include: “The Great War” (nonfiction) by David Almond; “A Study in Charlotte” (mystery) by Brittany Cavallaro; “Love and First Sight” (fiction) by Josh Sundquist; “Macbeth” (play) by William Shakespeare; and many more. Each pair of books is available for download for one week’s time before the next selections become available.

For more information, check with library staff.

Artist holds annual sale on pit-fired ceramics at studio

Friday, May 11, through Sunday, May 13, are the dates for this year’s annual studio sale given by Mike Schwartz, well known Florence ceramic artist.

Each year on Mother’s Day Weekend, Schwartz opens his Mudmusic Studio to the public. Featured are his pit fired ceramics.

As the term implies, pit firing is an ancient process in which the pieces are not fired in a kiln, but, rather, in an open fire. No glazes are used. The dramatic colors Schwartz achieves are due to the interaction of fire and smoke working on the salts and metals applied to the ceramics.

The pieces themselves are thrown by Schwartz on a potter’s wheel. Each is a one of a kind work of art.

A psychiatrist in a prior life, Schwartz moved to Florence in 1995 and learned to become a potter to fulfill his view of retirement.

“It’s all about reinvention. Retirement should not be spent just sitting around,” he said. Currently, Schwartz’s work



COURTESY PHOTO

Artist Mike Schwartz creates unique effects on ceramics through a pit-firing process.

can be seen in five Oregon coast galleries from Gardner to Astoria. Locally, his work may be seen at the River Gallery on Bay Street year round.

He opens Mudmusic Studio once a year for the community to meet the artist, view his studio and purchase art.

The sale will be May 11 to 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

The studio is located at 04899 Heceta Beach Road, 1.3 miles from Highway 101. Watch for the signs.

For more information, contact Schwartz at 541-997-1012.

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