

YACHATS SPRING FESTIVAL FEATURES FLORENCE ARTISTS

The 21st Annual Spring Arts & Crafts Festival by Crafts on the Coast will bring 70 exhibitors together inside the Yachats Commons, in Yachats, the Gem of the Oregon Coast, during Memorial Weekend, Saturday, May 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, May 27, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission to this family-friendly event is free. The Yachats Commons, a beautiful, refurbished elementary school, will be filled with 70 of the best artisans from the Pacific Northwest including a large number of award winners.

From gourmet foods to fine art, jewelry, clothing, wood, metal, fabric, paper and glass art, garden art, body products; dog treats, toys, photography, pottery, candles and rugs this selection offers something for everyone in everyone's budget.

Upcycled, green art is a featured attraction with many artisans using their creative genius and recycled materials to turn out truly interesting items. This is a great oppor-

tunity to find the perfect gifts for dads, grads, weddings and spring birthdays.

Many of the artisans at the Festival will demonstrate their arts including beading and jewelry making. Children and adults are fascinated watching each designer creating something of lasting value.

Florence area artisans are: Paul and Sandra Bowen, wood boxes and trays; Alissa Clark, modern ceramic ware with a whimsical theme; Debbi Simpson, embroidered shirts and bags and hand-made purses and Charmaine Pesnell, award winning bead work, silver and glass jewelry. Lane County artisans include: Carol Morrison, fabric accessories; Martin Gabbert, decorative and practical iron work; Kristin Hawke, stained glass art; Wendy Hoffman, jewelry and zentangle art; Kim and Jeff Wiktowski, terrariums, air plants, glass and pockets; David Duckett, unconventional upcycled woodwork; Joe Blakely, author of 15 books; Linda Lessner, hand dipped candles; Sonja Curtis and Leslie Laing, pens, cutting

boards, game boards and key rings; Melody Morton Gandy, chair massage; David Brady, woodworking and original photography; David Hascall, author of 3 novels and Barbara Hascall, lotions, lip balms and soaps.

Gourmet food producers will offer free tastes of their products. Meet Ethel Stratton of Celia's Gourmet Balsamics and sample authentic Italian, barrel-aged Traditional and White Balsamic vinegars and oils; Starla Gade of Stargazer's Gourmet offers caramels, chocolates, fudge and biscotti; Jan Barbee will offer samples of Jan's Robust Salami, hand-made, home smoked beef salami and home canned pickled vegetable and try some honey and roasted hazelnuts from Darl & Kelly Hajek's Oh Honey & Nuts.

Stop by the Cafe, have a seat and relax with a pick-me-up from Debi Degele of The Depoe Bakery who will offer an array of delightful original recipe baked goods and beverages for sale during the event.

Melody Morton Gandy, LMT, will be offering soothing

chair massage throughout the weekend.

Crafts on the Coast always offers community groups, using crafts as a way of fundraising, free booth space in the Festival. Visit with the Yachats Ladies Club will offer crafts made by the ladies of the club and The Yachats Volunteer Fire Department will have info about programs they offer.

Yachats is the place to be during Memorial Weekend because in addition to the Arts & Crafts Festival there are several other events planned.

On Saturday, if you like pie, visit the Yachats Ladies Club 17th Annual Pie Social at the Yachats Ladies Club, 286 W. 3rd St. from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. or until the pies are gone. Handmade pies will be available by the slice with or without ice cream.

On Sunday, The Yachats Lions Club holds their annual Pancake Breakfast from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Lions Hall and the Yachats Farmers Market will be on Fourth Street featuring home grown veggies and craft items.

SEAcOast brings Vivace for season finale

Vivace, a modern and thrilling combination of four unique and exceptional pop and classical singers will perform Thursday, May 24, at 7 p.m. at the Florence Events Center (FEC), 715 Quince St. The pre-show talk will begin at 6:15 p.m.

This performance closes SEAcOast Entertainment Association's 2017-18 concert season.

The members of Vivace first merged their talents in 2010 at the Vancouver Winter Olympic Games. Since then, they have gone on to tour extensively through out the US and Canada, captivating audiences everywhere they go.

Vivace is the latest addition to the classical crossover/"popera" genre. Their stirring combination of powerful male voices and emotionally driven female vocals come together to create a sound that is exclusively their own. With a rich and diverse repertoire ranging from pop, to arias, to their own

self-written material, Vivace puts a fresh new take on the classical and modern music of today.

Critics from the U.S. and Canada say, "Each of their voices is incredible and powerful individually, but together, their harmonies could make angels in heaven cry tears of joy" and "Their beautifully blended harmonies and passionate performances are engaging and highly emotional."

Based primarily in Vancouver, Vivace is made up of Melody Courage, Tiffany Desrosiers, Joey Niceforo and Joel Ros.

Tickets are on sale now at the FEC box office or the Seacoast Entertainment Website www.seacoastea.org and are \$32 for adults or \$10 for students under 18.

SEAcOast Entertainment Association is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit that has been bringing entertainment to the Oregon Coast since 1980.

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"All options were on the table and city staff coordinated with Lane County and other jurisdictions in the county, and we have some great options moving forward," Williamson continued.

Friday's letter rescinded temporary rules set forth in an April 24 letter, which declared the City of Florence to be in violation of the new rules, and thereby unable to renew its building inspection program.

"We first received a letter from the Building Code Division telling us they had enacted new rules, emergency rules, and they were in effect — and on top of that, not only were they in effect, we were out of compliance with those rules for our local

building program," said Florence City Manager Erin Reynolds.

In order to bring Florence's program into compliance by the division's deadlines, Reynolds and city staff needed to have a plan right away. A city council work session and executive session were schedule to be held before the May 21 city council meeting.

And then came the good news.

"What I know now is we do not need to follow those rules that were published April 24, but we do have new rules published May 18," Reynolds said. "That extends the renewal date of our program until next year, and we will basically need to know what we're doing in the

next six months. ... We'll probably find out more and have more rules to research diligently, like we were, to find a way that the City of Florence can keep a program local, keep it cost effective for our builders — because we don't want to provide yet another hindrance to building — and be able to provide that excellent level of customer service that we've come to be able to provide locally. All while doing that in compliance with whatever the new rules are."

She said that city staff and Williamson "have done a mighty amount of work" with multiple partners to bring attention to the issue.

"It was a pretty massive coordination effort across Lane County, down south to Douglas

County and Coos County, with our neighbors up to the north in Lincoln County, across the state and with the LOC, including members of the Coastal Caucus, Sen. Roblan's office and Rep. McKeown," Reynolds said.

According to Williamson, the main person efforts targeted was Oregon Gov. Kate Brown.

"This is an election year, and one of Gov. Brown's election points is affordable housing and rural development. We were telling the governor from many facets, from legislators and senators to the LOC, that she was shooting herself and her incentives in the foot," Williamson said. "No builder is going to build a house if it's going to take eight weeks for a permit. There was a lot of pressure applied."

One of the new rules set forth in the April 24 rules was to require six- to eight-week turnarounds for building permits.

"It doesn't work for our builders here in Florence or builders anywhere in this state," Williamson said.

Reynolds described the process as inquiring "about the reasonableness of asking local cities to change what they have been doing for a very long time, in such short order, that had significant financial impact to the operations of what we felt were very well run, effective programs using third-party contractors to be our city's building officials and inspectors."

By July 1, Oregon Senate Bill 1051 will go into effect, requiring cities with population great-

er than 5,000 or counties with population greater than 25,000 to decide within 100 days on applications for housing developments containing affordable housing units. In addition, many Oregon communities must allow Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) by that date.

On Monday, Florence City Council voted to approve Ordinance No. 4, Series 2018, to update Florence City Code to include amendments for ADUs and other requirements under SB 1051.

"We're going to work hard to find a local, permanent permit program that can serve your builders and get all these housing units built," Williamson said.

Reynolds referred to the past month as a "whirlwind" period for many of Oregon's cities and communities.

Williamson said, "I commend your staff. They've got your back. This last three weeks has been incredible and a huge amount of work, meeting after meeting, changing landscape after changing landscape."

For example, he said that the agenda for Monday night's meeting was approved on Thursday, but by 4:30 Friday, it was outdated.

Florence Mayor Joe Henry said, "It's not over with. It just gave us a reprieve."

Williamson agreed.

"There will be more rules coming out," he said. "There will likely be legislation in this next 2019 session, and we'll be coming back to you before July of next year, probably on another deadline to meet whatever standards they come up with. But we're well prepared now."

Henry concluded, "On behalf of the council, I add our thanks to our staff, Ross, the LOC, who did a lot of work on this thing, our local legislators, our county commissioner and our state representative and senator, who all went to bat for us on this issue. ... I do believe we should be prepared to aggressively resist it as it moves forward."

According to LOC, "While this news is making its way to the cities that were potentially under investigation, there is still work to be done. The league will continue to keep cities informed as we learn more, and will keep working with all stakeholders interested in reaching a considered and legally defensible solution. Special thanks to the cities of Aurora, Clatskanie, Hood River, Dunes City, Florence, Estacada, King City and Cottage Grove and others that have kept this issue in the news and in front of state policymakers."

In addition to these topics, Florence City Council also reviewed the solid waste rate for area haulers. See Saturday's edition of the Siuslaw News for more coverage on these issues.

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