

Pacific Coast Wind ensemble to perform Monday night

The Pacific Coast Wind Ensemble will present its sixth annual Holiday Concert on Monday, Dec. 10, at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3996 Highway 101, beginning at 7 p.m.

Proceeds from the concert will the Helping Hands Coalition in the Florence area.

The program will draw heavily on traditional favorites — carol medleys, tunes from Christmas film soundtracks, sing-alongs — plus lively non-seasonal numbers.

One big change from last year is that we have a new conductor. Jerry Lees comes to us from southern California, where he taught band and played in jazz combos, orchestras and pits for a number of years. He brings a wealth of experience and energy to the band.

The concert is free but a donation of \$5 per person and \$10 per family would be appreciated. Proceeds will go to Helping Hands. Non-perishable food items will also be collected for the local food pantry.

The Pacific Coast Wind Ensemble is composed of approximately 35 professional and amateur musicians from the central Oregon coast, and has provided concert band entertainment for



Members of the Pacific Coast Wind Ensemble perform during last year's holiday concert. This year's Florence concert will take place Dec. 10.

more than two decades. The band plays several concerts per year throughout the region. Besides the Seasonal Celebration Concert, the band will be performing at the "Sea of Lights" at the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport on Saturday, Dec. 15.

Spring concerts will be held in Florence on May 4.

No auditions are required

to join the band. Rehearsals are Monday nights during the school year, alternately in Waldport and Florence. Most of the members are adult, but high school students make up about a third of the band.

As part of the band's outreach program, we provide scholarships to local music students, mainly from Newport, Wald-

port and Siuslaw high schools. Persons interested in applying for a scholarship should contact the music teacher at their local school.

For more information about Pacific Coast Wind Ensemble, visit www.snagglebunnytribe.net/PCWE_Home.

Kiwanis selling See's chocolates now through Christmas Eve.

The Kiwanis Club of Florence is selling See's Candy as a fundraiser at Roby's Furniture and Appliance, 1870 Highway 101, now through Dec. 24, or until the candy is gone.

Candy sales are open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This is a new location for the Kiwanis See's Candy Sales, so people are encouraged to stop in and visit Kiwanis volunteers in this new, warm venue.

Proceeds from the candy sales go to Kiwanis projects like the Community Thanksgiving Dinner (which served over 665 people in November), Head Start Harvest Festival, school supplies for Mapleton and Siuslaw schools, Rhody Days Kids Games, Key Club & Builders Clubs at area

schools and the Florence and Mapleton Food Shares, just to name a few.

Candy includes the traditional 1 pound boxes of chocolates, but Kiwanis will also be selling peanut brittle, truffles and holiday boxed chocolates. "Please help support the Kiwanis Club of Florence so we can continue our local projects," said Kiwanian Jean Murphey.

Kiwanis — serving the children of the world, one community at a time.

For more information, visit www.florencekiwanis.org.

Interested in volunteering? Stop by the weekly Kiwanis Club Meeting each Wednesday at Ocean Dunes Golf Links on Munsel Lake Road at noon.

PeaceHealth holding 23rd annual 'Light Up a Life' today

This afternoon, PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center will host its 23rd annual Light Up A Life ceremony, which raises funds for vital local services.

This year's ceremony will be from 2 to 3:30 p.m. at the Florence Events Center.

The Light Up A Life ceremony offers local residents a wonderful opportunity to remember and recognize their loved ones. Stars may be purchased to honor a loved one who has died or someone special. The names will be attached to the stars, which are hung on a holiday tree. Stars of David are placed on a menorah table. Recognition is also given during the "reading of the names" segment

of the ceremony.

Peace Harbor's Hospice and Palliative Care programs are overseen by Medical Director Stephen Kerner, DO. Although the hospital has provided hospice services for many years, the palliative care program is just two years old.

Dr. Kerner, who joined Peace Harbor 13 years ago, is a passionate promoter of palliative care and hospice. His patient-centered philosophy has motivated him to drive as far as 45 minutes out of town on occasion to care for hospice patients who aren't able to travel to the hospital.

Together, Dr. Kerner and his highly motivated team have built a successful communi-

ty-based palliative care program that has bridged the gap for many patients who did not qualify for home health services and were not yet ready for hospice.

The program has greatly improved access to care for the most vulnerable patients, thereby reducing emergency department visits, boosting home health and hospice referrals and improving end-of-life care across the care continuum.

Dr. Kerner attends all Hospice Advisory Board meetings, collaborating on ideas for providing hospice in rural, remote locations. He also helps with fundraisers — in fact, he's in the process of compiling a memorial video for the Light Up A Life

ceremony.

For more information about Peace Health Peace Harbor Hospice or the annual Light Up A Life celebration, call 541-997-3418.

LRP holding auditions for murder mystery comedy today

Florence's Last Resort Players will be holding open auditions on Saturday, Dec. 8, and Sunday, Dec. 9, for a comedy murder mystery.

The performance dates for the comedic show will be Feb. 9 and 10.

The murder mystery cast requires four men with stage

ages between 25 and 70 and six women of any age, with one having a stage age of a teenager.

Auditions will be held on the main stage at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., Saturday from noon to 2 p.m. and Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

People do not need to have experience to audition.

For more information, visit lastresortplayers.com or find Last Resort Players on Facebook.

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