

MAPLETON



Mapleton Farm to Table had two guest speakers in November. First were Master Composters Barbara Dumesil and Shirley Betournay, master composters from OSU Extension Service.

The students learned how to properly construct a compost pile combining “greens” or “browns.” Then the students explored vermicompost, or partially finished worm compost. They found and identified many “creepy crawlies” in the compost.

Next, Molly Schroder, an occupational therapist from PeaceHealth, came and taught the students how to work in the garden and protect their backs.



The students practiced picking up items, carrying pumpkins and proper shoveling techniques.

Molly even brought a kneeling pad for each student to protect their backs when in the garden. — *Submitted by Elisa Gray, Resource Teacher at Mapleton School District*



COASTAL COMMUNITY



PTA DONATES TO FOOD BACKPACK 4 KIDS PROGRAM

Florence Community PTA held the annual Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 7 at Cross Road Church in Florence, inviting children and families throughout the community to have breakfast and meet with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

A breakfast of pancakes, sausage and potatoes filled appetites. In addition, while students spent time passing Christmas wishes on to Santa, parents had

the opportunity to purchase plates of sweets from the bake sale.

The mission of PTA is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families. Florence Community PTA feels that this event goes a long way in bringing families together to spend quality time with each other.

“It's just heartwarming to watch the joyous interactions of families

during the morning at Breakfast with Santa,” said PTA President Crystal Osburn.

With proceeds from this event, PTA decided to support the Florence Food Backpack for Kids program in their efforts to tackle food insecurity in our community.

Osburn and PTA Treasurer Diane McCalmont, presented the program's director, Marilyn Barba, with a check for \$750. Santa

was on hand to approve the transaction.

PTA thanks all of the individuals that volunteered time and talents to warm the hearts and feed the bellies of families in attendance.

For more information about Florence Community PTA, visit www.florencepta.org contact florencecommunitypta@yahoo.com or like the group on Facebook at Florence Community PTA

Audition for CROW's 'Mary Poppins'

Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW) will be holding open auditions for Disney's “Mary Poppins” in January 2020.

The beloved classic tale follows the story of young Jane and Michael, who have sent many a nanny packing before a magical new person arrives on their doorstep.

Utilizing a combination of snarky wit and common sense, Mary Poppins must teach the Banks family how to value each other again. Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical and memorable adventures, but Jane and Michael aren't the only ones upon whom she has a profound effect — even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from the practically perfect nanny.

“Mary Poppins” marks CROW's ninth spring production, and will be performed April 17 to 26 at the Florence Events Center, and for invited school audiences on April 16.

Local audiences may recall that last Spring, CROW produced a main stage production of “The Wiz,” which packed the FEC, and delighted local audiences.

CROW is a Florence-based nonprofit organization and is dedicated to giving back to the community by providing quality performing arts experiences to local youth. In addition to providing a very pro-

fessional work environment for the cast members, CROW utilizes the highest caliber costumes, sets, lighting design, choreography, music, sound, stage makeup and much more.



There are great roles for ages 6-22+, and all youth are encouraged to try out regardless of previous stage experience. Mature 3.5-7 years olds will be considered for “Telegrammers,” which is a reduced rehearsal commitment.

Auditions will be held at CROW Center for the Performing Arts, 3120 Highway 101 on Jan. 20 and 21 at 6:30 p.m. Invited Callbacks will be held on Jan. 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Parents should also attend the initial audition to help fill out forms. Hopefuls will need to bring 16-32 bars, or about one minute, from a song that they would like to sing (sheet music or a CD, MP3 track with no background voices are

acceptable), and a headshot/resume if they have one. If you don't know a song, “Happy Birthday” or “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star” are acceptable.

Prospective cast members will also be taught a short dance combination, and those asked to come to callbacks will read sides from the script. Interested families are strongly encouraged to check out the CROW website for all of the information needed to prepare for the audition.

Rehearsals for “Mary Poppins” will begin Jan. 27 and are generally held weeknights from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. A schedule will be available for perusal at the audition. Not all cast members are called every night.

Director Melanie Heard stresses that “performing in these productions is a big commitment. It's very hard work and requires dedication, but when the curtain opens in April, we know you will agree that it was worth it!”

For a casting breakdown, FAQ's, and detailed audition information, visit crowkids.com.

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