

New cottage industry forming for local artists

Be part of economic vitality project.

Start your New Year off with finding your value as an artist or craftsman. If you enjoy creating but can't find an outlet for it, a new opportunity is forming in Florence.

Katstyle Designs is looking for women who sew clothes, accessories, paint on fabric, make unique jewelry or create home-crafted items for a new cottage industry being started.

Phase two will be looking for teachers to teach other women how to supplement their income and discover their hidden creativity.

Work with a stylist for sea-

sonal themes and have fun creating.

Katstyle does the selling and marketing for artists with its online magazine and store and at trunk shows.

Supplement your income and enjoy doing it.

All line items are one of a kind to fit a seasonal marketing direction.

Contact Kat Cunningham of Katstyle Designs for an interview and to show samples of your work.

Be a part of the Economic Vitality Artisan Project by calling 541-999-1782.

MILITARY HERITAGE CHRONICLES — Code talk



By CAL APPLEBEE
Special to the Siuslaw News

Shortly before Veterans Day last year, one of my Chamber members brought a flyer to the Visitor Center for one of the many communitywide veterans benefit dinners in Florence, and it was designed with the military "Able Baker" alphabet.

Barbara, a volunteer working that day, commented that some of the words listed on the poster were different than when

she served in the Navy during the Korean War and her husband Rudy served in the Army during World War II.

I commented that if it has in fact changed that much, it might make for an interesting Chronicles story.

I didn't expect to discover such a variety of variations in my research.

First utilized during WWI by both American and British forces to avoid confusion in verbal communication, it evolved over future years with variations introduced by a variety of nations, as well as organizations.

Much of the emphasis for changes over the decades came primarily due to pronunciation challenges encountered between various international language exchanges, both in the military application, but also within the developing aviation world following WWII.

And Barbara was correct;

the U.S. phonetic alphabet that she and Rudy utilized in the 1940s and early 1950s changed in 1956, retaining only four of the 26 original words — and only one of the original words from the WWI version survived into the current version.

During my research I made an intriguing rediscovery: while a lot of effort went into developing a communication code to bring clarity to communication, the American military utilized code talkers during WWII for just the opposite reason — not just to prevent the enemy from understanding communication, but to prevent the enemy from breaking coded communications as well.

While a half-dozen Native American dialects as well as Basque dialect were utilized overall, and it was pioneered by Cherokee and Choctaw Indians during WWI, it is the Navajo code talkers of WWII, (particularly during the Battle

of Iwo Jima) that most people remember as code talkers.

The use of Navajo code talkers continued through the Korean War and was discontinued early in the Vietnam War, and is the only spoken military code to never have been deciphered.

Counting American military versions, aviation versions, individual foreign country variations and international variations, I counted at least a dozen versions or variations of the "Able Baker" spoken code, although some of those differences are very slight.

Next time you watch your favorite war movie, I challenge you to determine if the spoken code portrayed is the correct version for the period and locale depicted in the movie.

To learn more about military heritage in general, visit the Oregon Coast Military Museum website at www.ocmhm.com.

Ask Dr. Rincker, the Podiatrist

Q: What is a Neuroma?

A: A painful condition that affects the ball of your foot as if you are standing on a pebble. This can cause sharp, burning pain in the ball of your foot & into your toes.

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Viewfinders club members perform 'light painting'



Jane Pittenger, Stephen Jones and Larry Bacon took this month's winning photos, respectively. (courtesy photos)

The theme for January assigned to the Siuslaw Viewfinders Camera Club was to experiment with light painting. The technique is open to a variety of methods to achieve the end of having a photograph produced with a handheld light source that illuminates only part of the scene at one time.

The variety and quality of the submitted photographs was stunning.

First place went to Jane Pittenger with a picture called "Getting Ready To Go for a Drive on a Starry Night."

This photo was taken in a ghost town named Techatticup, near Las Vegas.

Flashlights were used for light painting, including one with a green filter.

In second place was Stephen Jones with a photograph of a whiskey glass illuminated by a high-powered laser.

Larry Bacon took third place with his photo of his car.

"The picture was taken in

my garage and lit primarily with a penlight in a process that took more than 12.5 minutes," said Bacon.

Next month will be the club's annual banquet on Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Elks Club.

The theme for February is "Macro."

Oregon Heritage grants available for museum projects

Awards up to \$8,000 are available; online webinar set for Feb. 5.

The Oregon Heritage Commission is offering grants for qualified museums to support museum collections, education and heritage tourism.

Awards typically range between \$1,000 and \$8,000, and occasionally higher.

Qualifying museums can apply for a variety of projects including archival boxes, records documentation, exhibits, brochures, school pro-

grams and more. While the grant applications are online, they are simple and there is plenty of support.

"Our goal is to support museums of all sizes, all over the state in their valuable work. We provide assistance in the application process," said Kuri Gill, grants program coordinator.

Carla Burnside of the Harney County Historical Society recently noted the importance and ease of the grant for their quilt documentation and storage project.

"The process of applying for the grant was very easy, she

said. "It will help us preserve important textiles in our collection."

Oregon Heritage grants program's staff is happy to discuss projects and review applications in advance.

There will be grant workshops on project planning and grant writing.

A two-hour workshop will be in Salem on Tuesday, Feb. 3. A one-hour webinar will be available on Thursday, Feb. 5.

The Heritage Commission is comprised of nine people representing Oregon's heritage and geographical diversity who have been appointed by the governor.

There are nine advisory representatives from state agencies and statewide organizations.

The commission's mission is to secure, sustain and enhance Oregon's heritage by ensuring coordination of heritage initiatives by public and private organizations; advocacy on its behalf; education of the public about its extent and value; and promotion and celebration of its diversity.

To learn more about the grants, visit www.oregonheritage.org or contact Kuri Gill at Kuri.Gill@oregon.gov or 503-986-0685.

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February is Veterinary Dental Health Month. To improve the dental health of your pets, Oceanside Veterinary Hospital will give a 10% discount on all dental services and products January 19-February 28. Discounts for dental cleanings will apply during this period, and slots are limited, so call for your appointment today!

Dr. John Bachmann and his certified Veterinary Technician Elizabeth

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Writers group meets monthly at Spruce Point

A writers group led by Arline Chellis, who was recently featured in the Siuslaw News article "Ninety-nine Years and Counting," meets the second Monday of each month at 2 p.m. on the second floor meeting room at Spruce Point Assisted Living Community on Ninth Street.

The group is not just limited to Spruce Point residents, and interested writers of all ages are invited.

Group members share and discuss their writings, prose or poetry, and encourage each other.

For more information, call Arline Chellis at 541-997-5222.