



Siuslaw News

WEDNESDAY

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Mystery unfolds at Siuslaw museum

Travel Channel crew delves into local historical event for August show

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

A production crew from New York and a sound crew from Portland spent Saturday, Jan. 31, recording at the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum for an upcoming episode of the Travel Channel's "Mysteries at the Museum," scheduled to air in August.

The film and sound crews arrived at the museum at 7 a.m. and immediately began setting up for an all-day shoot. The museum was closed to all visitors during the production. Upstairs, in the Native American room, crew members staged the equipment for easy access.

The military room was draped in black to shoot the artifacts used in the segment, as well as an interview.

Siuslaw Pioneer Museum board President Del Phelps said, "A person who shall remain anonymous was brought in from Portland to be interviewed in relation to the feature. I'm under contract not to say anything about why they were here, or what the segment is going to be about."

The crews didn't finish until after 3 p.m.

As quickly as they had arrived, the production crew was off to another mysterious shoot in a small museum in Colorado.

"Mysteries at the Museum" is an hour-long series that has aired on the Travel Channel since 2010. It features segments about museum artifacts that have unusual or mysterious origins and the stories regarding them.

Events center catering opens to new options

FEC removes exclusivity, allows local caterers to apply

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

After 19 years of operating with an exclusive caterer, the Florence Events Center (FEC) will now provide catering options to its clientele.

FEC Director Kevin Rhodes presented the proposed change in catering services to the Florence City Council on Monday, Feb. 2.

"The FEC hosts over 300 events per year," Rhodes said. "Food and beverage services have been contracted exclusively through a caterer that operates out of our kitchen. In response to our clients' desire to have a choice in catering options and allowing local caterers access to provide services at the FEC, staff proposes opening the services to a list of approved caterers."

With the council's approval, the FEC will now accept proposals from area caterers. Red Rose Catering, which has provided FEC with catering services for the past 10 years, could be a possible option as well.

Clients could then pick from qualified caterers for specific events.

See **FEC 7A**



For the
LOVE
of animals

DOGS DAY OUT
AT EVENTS CENTER
BENEFITS FLORENCE
HUMANE SOCIETY

Visitors to the Florence Events Center celebrated their love of animals Jan. 31 while raising money for the local humane society. The exhibit and fundraiser, "For the Love of Animals," garnered more than \$600 in donations, pet photo and raffle ticket sales, and 343 pounds of dry pet food and 74 pet food cans, all for the Florence Area Humane Society. It was estimated that more than 100 people attended, along with 35 pets. Above, Kiki hams it up for the photographer. At right, Anya is ready for a road trip. Far right, local artist Ron Hildenbrand shows a sample of the pet portrait he will paint for a lucky pet owner.

PHOTO ABOVE BY CLAUDIA IGNATIEFF



PHOTOS BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

60 YEARS STRONG

Westover honored for American Legion membership

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

The local American Legion Post 59 honored Harold (Hal) Westover for 60 years of membership in the American Legion at its regular meeting last week.

The American Legion is a veterans group for all branches of the military.

According to Oregon Post 59 Adjutant Mike Nielsen, those eligible are those who "served honorably within certain time periods set by congress. They are also eligible to join the legion if they have been overseas in the same time frame."

Each legion post functions to serve its members and community.

"If there's a specific need in the community, each American Legion post can try to concentrate on that," Nielsen said.

"We care about everything. We have a whole bunch of committees. We just had elections for the post and we've got several committees



PHOTO BY R. J. SHORES

Post 59 Adjutant Mike Nielsen, Hal Westover and Commander of Oregon American Legion District 3 David Bowman

that we're trying to get going here that we're trying to get leaders for, such as community service, rehab, community affairs, Boy Scouts and things like that," Nielsen added.

Westover, 84, joined the

American Legion in 1954 after he got out of the Army.

Westover now lives in Florence, but he maintains his original membership.

"I'm a faithful member of

Pierre, S.D., Post 8. I haven't been an active member, but I've been faithful. I come from a long Dakota family line, so I stay close," he said.

Post 8 contacted Nielsen at Post 59 in Florence about Westover's membership.

Nielsen said, "They said that one of their members, Hal Westover, had just completed 60 years of continuous service in the American Legion. They asked if our post would be willing to put on some sort of recognition ceremony. It took me about three seconds to say, 'You bet!'"

Westover received the award at a ceremony on Jan. 27.

"I was so surprised and humbled by the award," he said. "Many members know me well in South Dakota and they took a special interest. I received a plaque ... and a box of South Dakota-type items."

These gifts included a book about flights over South Dakota.

See **LEGION 7A**

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Your Weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Cloudy	Rain	Rain	Mostly cloudy
59 51	58 49	57 48	58 49



Sports — B



BLACK
YELLOW
MAGENTA
CYAN