

IN BRIEF

Van Fans card game party today

The Van Fans card game party is today, Feb. 18, at the Florence Events Center. Ticket prices are \$15 with or without a card game, beginning at 11:30 a.m.

To reserve a spot at a favorite game table, call Toni Young at 541-997-3893.

Eat pizza and help Project Graduation

Everyone is invited to Abby's Pizza today, Feb. 18, from 5 to 8 p.m., for the monthly fund raiser to benefit Siuslaw High School seniors.

Abby's donates 20 percent of food sales to Project Graduation, the Class of 2015's drug- and alcohol-free post-

graduation party.

Port to discuss moorage fees

The Port of Siuslaw Board of Commissioners will hold its February regular meeting today, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m., at the Port office, at 100 Harbor St. in Florence.

Port meetings are open to the public.

This meeting will include a public hearing to discuss changing rates for campground fees.

For more information, contact the port office at 541-997-3426.

Library board holds regular meeting

The Siuslaw Public Library District Board of Directors will meet Friday, Feb. 20, at 1:30 p.m., in the Bromley Room of the Siuslaw Public Library, at 1460 Ninth St., for a regular meeting of the Siuslaw Public

Library District Board of Directors. A complete agenda is available online at www.siuslawlibrary.org.

Bowl for the Cure at Holiday Bowl Feb. 21

Bowl at Holiday Bowl on Saturday Feb. 21, from 1 to 3 p.m., and play three games for \$10 — with \$5 going to cancer research for a cure. Get friends together for a fun time and help the American Cancer Society.

The event is sponsored by Holiday Bowl and the Central Oregon Coast Bowling Assoc.

Flukes to strum again

Florence Ukulele Club (The Flukes) meets again Feb. 22, from 3 to 4 p.m., for a song circle in the Bromley Room at the Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth St.

Meetings are open to ukulele players of all levels and anyone interested in learning more about the club, as well as any-

one who just wants to listen and/or sing along

Beginners meet first from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

For more information, email janetwellington@charter.net.

Library to announce Best Books of 2014

This year's Best Books of 2014 presentation will be held Tuesday, Feb. 24, at 2 p.m., in the Bromley Room at the main branch of the Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth St. in Florence. Everyone is welcome to drop in and see if his or her favorite book is included in this year's list.

Library Friends at board meeting

The Friends of the Siuslaw Public Library (FOL) will hold its monthly board meeting Thursday, Feb. 26, at 11 a.m., in the Bromley Room at the library. All members and anyone interested in supporting the

library or learning more about the FOL is invited to attend.

Refreshments are provided. For more information, email siuslawlibraryfriends@gmail.com.

Pain Support Group begins March 3

On Tuesday, March 3, the Florence Pain Support Group will begin meeting at the Community Baptist Church, 4950 Highway 101, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

It will then meet regularly every first and third Tuesday of the month at the same time.

It is a member-run group where anonymity is respected.

The only requirements are that an individual must suffer from a form of pain that limits the ability to do the things one would like to do, and have a willingness to discuss and learn new ways of managing pain from others.

For more information, call 541-590-0591.

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Plan

from 1A

Last year, he budgeted for a strategic plan. With the board's approval, the plan can get under-way.

"In my mind, we are where we are," said Ward at the board meeting.

"I want to figure out what it's going to take to move forward and get us moving in the direction where we're a smooth-running operation," he said.

"We have goals in mind now. Probably a lot of what we're working on now is going to be validated through that process," Langborg said.

One challenge Langborg knows will come up on the strategic plan is the location of one of the SVFR stations.

"Our Old Town Fire Station, with our boat and our second newest engine, are right in the tsunami zone. It's masonry and not ready for a quake. We need to think about that," Langborg said.

Another challenge involves the members of the department.

"A challenge for us is recruiting and retaining volunteers. It's a challenge for every volunteer-based organization, but it's something we need to prepare for," he said. "If it continues to get worse, what are we going to do?"

Like with many fire departments in the United States, there are not as many new recruits.

However, this might be a bigger challenge for SVFR because it is so heavily staffed by volunteers. Right now, there are 39 volunteers and six sworn-in personnel, called "careers."

"There are three careers that work on the engines, two chief officers, and then myself," Langborg said. "We are a career staff whose sole intention is to support the volun-

teers. That's our job."

There also is a staff member in the management/HR position and an opening for a receptionist.

"One of the challenges for us is that you have to be able to grab volunteers' attention when they come. One of our sub-goals will be figuring out how we capture and retain these people," he said.

"The biggest thing the task force is going to do is get collaboration in here. To me, that's where the great ideas come from," he said.

The Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue board has its next meeting today, Feb. 18, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the conference room at 2625 Highway 101.

Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month. Agendas are posted prior to the meeting and can be found at www.svfr.org.

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Meet CAPRI

Capri was a dumped young cat who had her kittens outside in an area with other stray cats. She and her 2 week old kittens were brought to the shelter and went into a foster home. This girl raised her babies and now is ready and waiting for a home and family to love. She is very sweet and lays her head in your hand to be rubbed. Capri is playful, loves attention, & likes to be brushed with a soft brush. Don't miss out on the love this girl is ready to give!!

If you would like to meet Capri or any of her friends, please visit us at:

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