



www.florencechamber.com
541-997-3128

**Underwriters
 2014-2015**

Three Rivers Casino & Resort

Distinguished Sponsors

- 101 Things to Do
- Banner Bank
- Bi-Mart
- Burns's Riverside Chapel
- Driftwood Shores Resort
- Florence Heating & Sheet Metal
- Fred Meyer Stores
- KCST/Coast Radio
- Oregon Pacific Bank
- PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center
- Sea Lion Caves
- Shippin' Shack/Siuslaw Signs & Graphics
- Spruce Point Assisted Living
- TR Hunter Real Estate
- The Siuslaw News

Be sure to thank these members for their investment in our community!

Coming Events

For even more information on other exciting local events, visit www.FlorenceChamber.com/Calendar.

Noon Forum: Chamber members and the public are invited to the Chamber's Noon Forums on the third Thursday of each month at the World Market Buffet at Three Rivers Casino. Lunch is \$11.75. Come enjoy food, friends, and fun! Meet area business leaders and find out what's going on in the Florence business community!

May 21: Andy Marohl from Siuslaw Middle School presents his students' Lego Robotics class.

Business After Hours:

Chamber members and the public are invited to Business After Hours, an opportunity to network at a local business, exchange business leads and tips, and learn about the business that is hosting. These fun networking events are generally held on the first and third Thursday of the month:

- May 7** Siuslaw Public Library
- May 21** Florence Regional Arts Alliance
- June 4** Laurel Bay Gardens
- June 18** Banner Bank

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

- May** Chamber Board of Directors election—get involved!
- May 6:** Rhododendron Court Showcase
- May 15-17:** 108th Rhododendron Festival



July 4: Fireworks Display in Old Town, Wings & Wheels Fly-in/Car Show at Florence Airport

September

- 11-13: Rods 'n' Rhodies Invitational Car Show
- 12, 13: City Wide Garage Sale—FEC and everywhere

October

- 3 Oktoberfest—FEC
- 11 Chowder Festival—Historic Old Town

November

- 11 Veterans' Day Parade

December

- Florence Holiday Festival

Florence Area Business Beat

A service of the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce

May 6, 2015 UPDATE

Welcome New Members!

Call or visit these new Chamber members and tell them you're glad they joined!

Wind Swept Gallery – 85337 Hwy 101, Florence, OR 97439. 541-361-0122.

Unique sculptures made by chainsaw and featuring the works of Sculptures in Motion by Ryan Anderson. Custom orders welcome. They can even turn that ugly stump in your yard into a piece of art.

Y Marina of Florence – 14390 Hwy 101, 902-3513. www.ymarinaboats.com. Y-Marina of Florence offers many different brands of new and pre-owned boats including Hewescraft, North River, SmokerCraft, Duckworth, and many more.

Siuslaw Tale Spinners Toastmasters Club – meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Siuslaw Fire/Rescue Station, 2625 Highway 101 North, Florence, Oregon 97439. 541-999-5357. Provides a supportive and positive environment to develop communication and leadership skills.

If you'd like to know more about the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce and what it can do for you, call 541-997-3128 or e-mail Cal Applebee at Cal@FlorenceChamber.com

Meet Our Distinguished Sponsors

Burns's Riverside Chapel

Burns's Florence Riverside Chapel has been a part of the Florence business community even before it came under the management of Alan and Karen Burns in 1987. The Burns' purchased the funeral home and crematory in 1992 and soon after became the Chamber's first Distinguished Sponsor. They have been in their current location at 27th and Kingwood since January 2006.

They have always been active supporters of our community and the Chamber. With a staff of four, they provide a full range of funeral and burial services, including the only pet crematory on the Oregon Coast. In addition, they own Pacific Sunset Cemetery with a section devoted to Veterans, as well as provide support for families with VA funeral services. The Chamber is honored to have them as a Distinguished Sponsor.

Bi-Mart

As one of the first membership discount stores, Bi-Mart began serving membership families in the Northwest in 1955, starting in Yakima Washington. Bi-Mart opened the first Oregon store in Eugene in 1962, and opened the Florence store in 1990. They currently employ 35 Florence-area residents.

Bi-Mart is employee owned and operated by people who live in, and are closely involved with, the community they serve. They proudly support local charitable organizations, educational programs and sporting events, and the Chamber is proud to have them as a Distinguished Sponsor.

Florence Heating and Sheet Metal

Originating down on Bay Street under the bridge, Florence Heating & Sheet Metal evolved from Florence Welding with a move to its current location on Kingwood Street in 1991 as one of only two businesses on that street at the time. Steve and Krystal Wolford purchased the business in 2000, and currently have four employees. Florence Heating & Sheet Metal install heat pumps, furnaces, and ductless heat pumps, and is an independent Trane dealer. They service all brands, and do architectural flashings and custom sheet metal work. As residents of the Mapleton area, Steve and Krystal actively support the Mapleton Booster Club as well as Boys & Girls Club of Western Lane County and your Florence Area Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is proud to have Florence Heating & Sheet Metal continue their outstanding support as one of our Distinguished Sponsors for 2014-2015!

Get the Chamber's Membership Advantages

- **Networking**
- **Business Tips**
- **Cooperative Promotions**
- **Preferred Trade Status**



Local Royalty Dines With Business Leaders

Chamber members were introduced to the 2015 Rhododendron Court on Thursday, April 16, during the Chamber's monthly Noon Forum luncheon at Three Rivers Casino and Resort. These outstanding youth are representing our community and vying for the title of Queen Rhododendra and King of the Coast! Tickets are on sale for tonight's Rhododendron Scholarship Showcase at 6:30 p.m. at the Florence Events Center. Tickets can be purchased at the Florence Chamber of Commerce, The Siuslaw News, Banner Bank, Mon Ami Deli and Antiques, or from any member of the Rhododendron Senior Court. Photo: Siuslaw News

Free "After Hours" Events Open To All

"It's our 100th anniversary and we're having a party," says Meg Spencer of the Siuslaw Public Library. "The library has served Florence since May 7, 1915."

The library is hosting the first of two Business After Hours events in May. The events are free and open to the public.

Spencer invites everyone to stop by to check out the library and have a photo taken with the giant library card. There will be appetizers, beverages, live music, door prizes, a scavenger hunt, and other fun. The event is a Florence Area Chamber of Commerce "after-hours" so that means everyone, not just Chamber members, is welcome.

The event is tomorrow, May 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Florence Library, 1460 9th St.

Then, on May 21, the Chamber hosts another Business After Hours from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA).

"We are planning to offer a barbeque meal with side dishes and beverages, and expect to hold this outside next to the Art Center," says FRAA member Harlen Springer, adding that they have a fallback plan in the event of unfavorable weather.

"We want to encourage all participants to enjoy the art in the center, see how and where we conduct classes and workshops, and learn about our 'artist in residence' program," says Springer.

"If you want to know when the real business gets done in Florence, it's after 5:00 p.m., usually on the first and third Thursdays," says Chamber director Cal Applebee in jest. "It's a great time for the public and business people to meet, network, share business tips, get updates on the latest local business news, and visit with colleagues who can boost your business and whose business you can boost."

Business After Hours events are free and open to the public. They are sponsored by a different Chamber member each time, and each event has a casual, open-house feel. The Chamber does not charge members a fee to host or promote the event.

Why I Am A Chamber Member

By Scott Steward, Owner, Creative Wave Marketing Solutions



Networking and civic pride!

Shortly after joining the Chamber I participated in a Noon Forum presentation on public relations and marketing. Afterward, a member asked me if I could help his company with its marketing. At a Business After Hours a few weeks

later, I chatted with another member about her advertising. Suddenly I had two excellent new clients who have endorsed me to other potential clients.

I believe in the Chamber's work to strengthen local businesses and bring more business to the area. Contributing to those efforts has been rewarding. To not participate would be to shirk my civic duty to "be part of the solution" to grow a healthy business climate that will benefit all of us.

Tell everyone why you support your chamber. Email Cal Applebee at cal@florencechamber.com.



You Never Know Who You'll Meet

By Cal Applebee, Executive Director, Florence Area Chamber of Commerce



If you like meeting interesting people, have a good knowledge of the Florence area, and enjoy helping visitors find all the fun things to do and see in our area, you might just be a great candidate for the always fun and exciting opportunity to volunteer in the Florence

Area Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center!

At the Visitor Center we receive as many as 5,000 phone calls and more than 11,000 visitors annually from all over the globe. We mail out thousands of pieces of information about our community and get to meet and greet local and visiting business leaders. The questions and requests for information range from maps to trails to lodging to adventure and more. Visitors arrive as singles, couples, families, and tour groups, all seeking information and experiences in the Florence area. It's a rewarding job full of variety that will give you a feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment when you watch visitors leave with a smile on their face!

Our good-hearted group of dedicated volunteers includes our Ambassadors, and typically work four hour shifts one or two days each week between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on weekdays. On weekends, and through most of the year, the Visitor Center is open fewer hours. The business leaders who are Chamber members, and our many daily visitors, are always grateful for our volunteers for their time, talent, and helpful information – we couldn't successfully host thousands of visitors without them!

We have several opportunities for volunteer service at the Visitor Center, and we invite you to come learn more. If you are seeking an experience that's fun, challenging, and rewarding, please call Cal Applebee at 541-997-3128 or email cal@florencechamber.com

NEW! Florence First Friday

Come enjoy live music, dinner, shopping, art, and more from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the first Friday of the month in Historic Old Town and the Antique District!

Join the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce! • www.florencechamber.com • 541-997-3128

Have some good business advice? An event to promote? A story about your Chamber membership? To get an article or notice published in Business Beat, e-mail Cal@FlorenceChamber.com by the third Friday of the month. Publisher: Cal Applebee, Executive Director. Editor: Scott Steward, Creative Wave Marketing Solutions.

Come See What We See!