

Dentists to give free dental help 'From the Heart'

From The Heart Dentistry, an annual event established by The Korando Dental Group to serve marginalized populations in Florence with free dental care, will be tomorrow, Aug. 13.

For 30 years, From The Heart Dentistry has changed lives through free dental care for those who need it most but can't afford it. This year's event takes place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Korando Dental Clinic, 1705 22nd St. in Florence.

"During From The Heart Dentistry, patients can have a thorough cleaning, extraction, or certain other repairs done at no cost to the patient," said Dr. Charles W. Korando. "These patients are typically uninsured, un- or under-employed, and/or homeless men, women and children in the community.

"Each is deserving of respect and dignity, and needs just a little help that will have big results in their lives," added Korando. "We've had patients who received corrective work

who went on to regain their confidence and get a job."

Korando also says this kind of care saves the taxpayers money.

"The State of Oregon pays upwards of \$800 for an emergency room visit for an uninsured person," Korando said. "If that person is suffering from a dental emergency brought on by poor dental hygiene, they can get antibiotics and pain pills; but that doesn't include the extraction, sedation or other costs to resolve the situation.

"By giving these treatments and preventive care, we're saving the community, and the patient, money — and in some cases we've even saved lives."

Korando related the story of a middle-aged homeless man whose impacted tooth was so infected it threatened the man's

life due to blood poisoning.

"We run into all kinds of horrific conditions during From The Heart Dentistry," he explained. "Sometimes we have to make referrals to other medical professionals to resolve the additional disorders, and sometimes we have to send people directly to the ER as we did for that man."

Each year since the it opened in 1984, The Korando Dental Group has made possible — at no cost to the patient — improved health and better smiles for about 50 different patients each year.

"That's about 1,500 dental visits that people may never have made," said Korando. "From The Heart Dentistry is changing lives of local underserved people by providing them free dental care resulting in improved health, enhanced lives and personal advance-

ment.

"But we can't do it without our community's support."

From The Heart Dentistry is a nonprofit subsidiary of The Korando Dental Group.

Financial contributions are tax-deductible. As in the past, the clinic is asking the public's support.

"This year, we are seeking community members to become 'Silent Heroes,'" said Korando. "Those who can contribute financially will make a difference in the lives of several dozen worthy men, women, and children again this year."

All of the work done during From The Heart Dentistry is donated by hygienists, X-ray technicians, anesthesiologists, and doctors. Many of the resources to do the work are donated or discounted.

However, contributions from the public will buy additional

X-rays, cleaning supplies, anesthesia and post-appointment educational resources for patients.

Korando says people can contribute securely online by credit card at www.korando-dentalgroup.com, courtesy of a

link provided by Oregon Pacific Bank.

Make a contribution in person in the office at 22nd and Pine streets in Florence, or by mail to: From The Heart Dentistry, PO Box 159, Florence, OR.



Charles W. Korando

Trudie, Denyse, Shelby and Lalitha

Time for a new look? Call and make your appointment today. We look forward to seeing you!

Cheveux Salon
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'Raw Canvas' returns to Florence Playhouse

For one weekend only, the Florence Playhouse hosts a return engagement of Fools Haven theater company's production of "Raw Canvas," as well as "Bits and Pieces: Theater of the Absurd."

Evening performances are set for Friday, Aug. 14, and Saturday, Aug. 15, at 7 p.m., and a matinee at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 16.

Performers are Nancy Hopps, Joe Cronin, Judith Roberts and Chris White.

"Raw Canvas" is a one-hour play, the personal saga of an aspiring painter in 1952 Paris who is deciding

whether to stay and pursue her passion for painting — and face an uncertain future as a bohemian artist — or to return to a comfortable married life in Canada.

The Florence Playhouse is at 208 Laurel St. in Old Town, Florence.

The performance is recommended for mature audiences.

Tickets are \$13, and may be purchased at the door or at On Your Feet with a Splash and Best for Hearing.

For more information, call 541-997-1675 or email sparky@foolshaven.com.

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