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## DUNES CITY BOMB SCARE



Portland Air National Guard members search for unexploded munitions across the parking lot from Dunes City Hall. Two World War II practice bombs (below) were discovered at the site during a recent cleanup.

PHOTOS BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

# DEFUSING THE SITUATION

## World War II practice bombs discovered during Dunes City cleanup

By JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

When a cleanup crew working across the parking lot from Dunes City Hall recently discovered two World War II era practice bombs, concerns were justifiably raised over what else might be lurking beneath the dirt pile.

According to Dunes City

Mayor Rebecca Ruede, the two practice bombs were initially mistaken for 60-millimeter mortar rounds, as they were similar in appearance, during the Aug. 19 cleanup.

Last Thursday, Sept. 3, the Eugene Bomb Squad and a bomb disposal unit from the Portland Air National Guard descended on Dunes City to clear the area of

any additional munitions.

Fortunately, none were found.

"It's not often that we call out the National Guard to Dunes City," Ruede said. "What began as a task to clean up around city hall ultimately ended in finding some old military ordnance located on our Dunes City property."

See **BOMB 7A**



# Arts alliance holds 'soft opening' for new digs

## FRAA art center moves from uptown to downtown

By CHANTELLE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) officially opened its new doors at 120 Maple St. in Old Town on Sept. 2.

The gallery and workshop moved from a location north of town, near Fred Meyer, when space became available in Old Town.

According to FRAA President Harlen Springer, the space has two portions.

The first part is the gallery, which contains juried commission works, rented artist or group space, one work by each FRAA member and cabinet space for jewelry, sculptures and other 3D artwork.

"Then we have space for our workshops and classes," Springer said. "We teach everything from beginning watercolor to oil painting, to literary things like creative writing and even jewelry making. We're a combination

of a gallery and workshop."

Florence Mayor Joe Henry was one of the first to enter FRAA's new doors.

"It's a very nice addition to the downtown community," Henry said. "It's a great place."

The mayor, city council and City Manager Erin Reynolds are some of the people that Springer credits with driving an arts movement in Florence.



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

See **ART 7A** FRAA President Harlen Springer welcomes Florence Mayor Joe Henry into FRAA's new space in Old Town.

# Parade honors Vietnam War vets

Nov. 11 Veterans Day parade features war's 50th anniversary

By CHANTELLE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

The Veterans Parade Committee announced that the grand marshal for this year's ninth annual Veterans Day Parade through Historic Old Town will be veterans of the Vietnam War.

This year is the 50th anniversary of U.S. military ground troops arriving in Vietnam.

Although organizers haven't decided on a theme yet, they want to celebrate the bravery and sacrifice of all veterans. If you are a Vietnam veteran and would like to get involved in the parade, or know someone you would like to nominate, contact parade co-chairman Jim Swant at 541-997-3695.

The community can honor the service and sacrifice of all active-duty and military veterans at the Veterans Day Parade on Wednesday, Nov. 11, at 1 p.m. in Old Town Florence.

The parade assembles near the Florence Events Center on Quince Street and continues to Bay Street before ending at the Veteran's Memorial Park.

This year's grand marshals will be Vietnam War veterans and current returning veterans from all branches of service. They will receive medals for participating.

The parade will take place rain or shine. Military vehicles, music from local bands, several floats, marching groups, elected officials and many others will pay tribute to all veterans during the parade.

# Fire victim identified

By CHANTELLE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

The family of Mark David Brown, 52, of Florence, identified him as the man who died in last week's fire in Glenada.

On Sept. 3, around 3 a.m., Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue responded to a fire involving a single-wide trailer at 85149 Highway 101, about a half-mile south of Siuslaw River Bridge.

A body was discovered in the master bedroom of the building, where Fire Marshal Sean Barrett said the fire originated.

"Right now it is considered unintentional, but that is still undetermined," Barrett said Friday.

Barrett and a Lane County Sheriff arson detective are working with the county's medical examiner to determine the exact cause of death.