

Local author wins Spoken Word Poetry Contest

“Crystal Radio,” by Peter Coyne, was the name of the winning poem at the Florence Regional Arts Alliance Spoken Word Poetry Contest held last Friday. Coyne took home a cash prize of \$210.

Coyne explained that, as a young man, he had a home-made radio that operated with a small crystal and nail to bring in very bad, static radio stations. Still, it was his way of escaping, like current young people with their video games.

Coyne has a Ph.D. from the University of Utah in speech communications and a law degree from Northeastern University in Boston. He was professor emeritus at



Peter Coyne

Humboldt State College, teaching readers’ theater, oral interpretation and public speaking.

He has also acted in local theater, performing in “12 Angry Men” and “Scrooge.”

The Spoken Word Poetry Contest is an event organized by Florence Regional Arts Alliance, taking place quarterly at the FRAA Art Center.

Prize money is an accumulation of entry fees paid by the poets and sponsorships.

Sponsors of this quarterly event include Organic Pest Control, NW Inspection Services, Bettie Egerton and Stephanie Spradling.

The poetry committee continues to look for \$100 sponsors which provides \$25 per quarterly event for a year.

Contact Bettie Egerton at 502-910-3625 for more information.

Next month, on Friday, Nov. 13, from 4 to 6 p.m., FRAA will hold a workshop called “How to Write and Perform Winning Poems.”

Coyne will be one of the panelist who will teach this workshop. Bring your poem and receive feedback on how to make it even better so you will be ready for the next contest set for Wednesday, Jan. 8.

Entrepreneurs prep for RAIN Oct. 28

The City of Florence, Florence Area Chamber of Commerce and Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (RAIN) are launching a new “Startup Florence Coast” initiative to support startup companies. The first ever free “Call of Interest” event is happening on Wednesday, Oct. 28, from 5 at 7 p.m. at City Lights Cinemas, 1930 Highway 101.

Beer, wine and light fare will be served.

Listen to presentations about RAIN’s successes:

- Hear Willamette Valley startups deliver 5-minute pitches about their high-growth venture.
- Hear from seasoned “angel investors” about how and why they invest in Oregon-based startup companies.
- Learn how Oregon RAIN is providing free resources to

local entrepreneurs and innovators — and learn how you can get involved in helping support startups in Florence.

The City of Florence asks, “Are you an entrepreneur or an aspiring entrepreneur? Do you have hard earned advice to share with those starting their business? Do you like to invent new products? Have you launched a startup company that sells products/ services nationally or internationally? Do you ever dream of being one of the ‘Sharks’ on the Shark Tank Show? Ever wonder how to invest in startup companies?”

If you can answer “yes” to any of the above questions, the city wants you to attend.

For more information, contact Kelli Weese, City of Florence’s Economic Development Coordinator, or Caroline Cummings, Oregon RAIN’s Venture Catalyst.

WORD ON THE STREET

HAVE A QUESTION WE SHOULD ASK?
EMAIL: EDITOR@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM

What is your favorite Homecoming memory?



“I went to an all-boys prep school, so my favorite part about Homecoming was when my girlfriends would come from out of town for the dance.”

—MERT BEEBE, 80, DUNES CITY



“Having lots of fun with my friends at the football game. We never won.”

—BRIANNA GABRIELSON, 22, EUGENE



“I don’t have one, because I ran cross country for Junction City High School. I was always away. It was always an invitational, so I missed out.”

—TIM FASSBENDER, 59, JUNCTION CITY

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Beachcomber Fest pours rain or shine today

The Beachcomber Brew Festival on Saturday, Oct. 17, brings brews and beers to Old Town Florence from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. today.

Beachcomber Pub, 1355 Bay St., is sponsoring the event and offering tastings and a full menu inside the restaurant.

Outside, rain or shine, the event features 10 breweries, 20 beers, live music by Denny Weaver and food from a variety of local restaurants.

It will take place on Maple Street in the lot next to Maple

Street Grille and across from the Siuslaw News.

There is a \$5 ticket fee and all adults participating will receive a souvenir taster glass.

All event proceeds will benefit the Beachcomber Community Scholarship Fund administered by Western Lane Community Foundation.

For more information, contact Scott Waiss and Beachcomber Pub at 541-997-6357 or email scott@beachcomberpub.com or go to beachcomberpub.com.

Deadlines for press releases and news items are by noon Mondays and Thursdays. Email them to:
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