

Begin the holiday season by 'Lighting Up a Life'

Peace Harbor Hospice will host its annual Light Up a Life ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., Funds raised at this event go to support a variety of hospice programs throughout the year. The event allows anyone to purchase a star in remembrance of someone who has passed away or to honor someone who has made a difference in their life. All are welcome, whether or not your loved one was on hospice.



Admission to the event is free. A tree decorated with the stars of names that are being honored will be lit.

Refreshments and music will be provided.

If you would like to recognize someone special in your life you can make a donation to PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Hospice, 400 Ninth Street, and a star will be hung with the recognition given to your loved one on this special day during the "reading of the names" ceremony.

Contributions are tax deductible; 100 percent of contribution to Light Up A Life remains in Florence to benefit PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Hospice program, a nonprofit organization.

For more information about PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Hospice or the annual Light Up a Life celebration, call 541-997-3418.



Community Chorus to present Appalachian Winter

On Sunday, Dec. 13, the Community Chorus of Florence (CCOF) will present a concert reminiscent of folk Christmas carols. "Appalachian Winter," written by Joseph Martin, is a cantata that celebrates the legacy of early American carols and hymnody. Composed in the spirit of folk music, the cantata combines traditional sounds with more rustic elements creating a blend that is fresh and pleasing.

Popular American carols like "Away In a Manger" and "O' Little Town of Bethlehem" dance with traditional spirituals such as "Children, Go Where I Send Thee" and "Go, and Tell It on the Mountain."

Thoughtful narration weaves the movements together in a meaningful tapestry of song and Scripture.

The chorus performance will be led by co-directors Elise Arnold and Paul Gauthmuller.

In addition to the cantata, a number of other familiar carols will be presented, including "Behold That Star," "Sweet Little Jesus Boy," "Silent Night," "I Wonder as I Wander" and several others that audiences will surely recognize.

The Flo Tones will be special guests as will the Siuslaw Valley Children's Choir.

The concert will begin at 2 p.m. at the Florence Event Center.

Tickets are \$10, with students attending free.

For more information, visit the CCOF website at www.communitychorusflorenceor.org.

Concealed handgun permit certification class being offered by NRA instructor

For anyone planning to purchase a handgun for the purpose of carrying a concealed firearm, the state of Oregon requires class and certification prior to applying for a permit. Oregon residents must apply for a CHL in the county they live in, and Oregon does not recognize any other state's CHL permit.

On Dec. 16, NRA certified trainer Shaun Curtain of Firearm Training Northwest will be offering two classes at the Florence Events Center providing the necessary Oregon Concealed Carry training certificate.

Curtain has been a Hunter Education chief instructor for 10 years, with monthly classes at the Vancouver Trap Club. He has also been a college instructor for 15 years, with concealed carry classes offered twice a semester at both Mt Hood and Lane Community College.

The class begins with a review of Washington Firearm Laws and how to obtain a Washington Concealed Carry Permit, and then Oregon Laws and how to obtain an Oregon Concealed Carry Permit (including a training certificate).

Two classes will be available, at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Class runs three hours. Cost is \$45, and payment can be made in cash or check at the class. An Oregon driver's license is all students need to bring.

Prior to class, the new NRA Personal Protection Outside the Home video will be presented, although not required viewing.

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