

Bowl for the holiday

SPORTS — B



New memorial bench

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Siuslaw News

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

B&G CLUB STUNNED BY MAJOR GIFT

Local youth organization receives nearly \$200K in donations from Hardison family

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Approximately three weeks ago, John and Patricia Hardison walked through the doors of the Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County and introduced themselves to club executive director Chuck Trent.

According to Trent, they said they had heard some “enormously” conflicting reports as to the viability of the club.

“I went through the history of the club and the financial difficulties we have experienced for years,” Trent said. “Then we talked about the future and where we wanted to take the club.

And we talked a lot about our kids and what would happen if we didn’t have a Boys and Girls Club.”

Trent was up front in admitting that if the club were to close, the Boys and Girls Club of America would never charter another club in the Florence area.

“I laid out the club’s two-year ‘get

well plan’ to get the club back on a solid financial footing,” Trent said.

John Hardison then told Trent that he had some good news and some bad news for the club.

“The good news,” Trent said, “was that John was going to give the club some money. The bad news was that the club wouldn’t get it until he died.

You see, John has incurable cancer and told me, ‘My time is limited.’”

Trent and the other club board members had been saddled with the Herculean task of digging the club out of a financial hole that had been years in the making.

See **CLUB 6A**

SALUTE TO VETERANS



PHOTOS BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

Parade honors Vietnam War vets

Event begins at 1 p.m. tomorrow in Old Town

Honor the service and sacrifice of all active-duty and military veterans at the ninth annual Veterans Day Parade tomorrow, Nov. 11, at 1 p.m. in Old Town.

This year’s Grand Marshals will be veterans of the Vietnam War.

The parade assembles near the Florence Events Center on Quince Street and continues to Bay Street before ending at the Veteran’s Memorial Park. Show your red, white and blue spirit by waving flags along the parade route.

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.

Everyone is invited to attend the Veterans Day Parade in Florence and salute those who protect this country.

City considers Columbus Day name change

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Florence City Council will continue to discuss changing the name of the legal holiday “Columbus Day” to “Indigenous Peoples Day” at its next council meeting Monday, Nov. 16.

Councilor Ron Preisler first brought up the possibility of the name change at the Oct. 19 meeting.

“I’d like to ask that we consider supporting a resolution to mark the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day. Other cities in our country have passed similar resolutions as a way to honor those with indigenous ancestry, help heal old wounds and help teach residents about Native American culture,” Preisler said.

See **HOLIDAY 6A**

More than 150 veterans attended a veterans celebration last Friday at Shorewood Retirement Residences. The Nov. 6 event raised \$4,065 to support American Legion Post 59 and the Florence Area Veterans Relief Association. The Northwest Scots provided the color guard, and the Oregon Central Coast Military Vehicle Group displayed vintage World War II, Korean War and Vietnam-era jeeps.



Florence develops new nonprofit grant policy

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

At last Monday’s Florence City Council meeting, the council approved the new City Council Grant Program Policy. Megan Messmer, assistant to the city manager, presented the staff report. City staff had been preparing the policy at the direction of the council since October.

According to the report, Florence City Council approved discretionary funding during the recent budget season with the intention to develop a grant program for local nonprofit organizations.

“The purpose of the City Council Grant Program Policy is to set forth the procedures, terms and conditions under which the city will consider making grant

awards to community organizations that meet specific criteria, as budgeted funds allow,” the report said.

The new policy presents a limit on funding requests of up to \$1,000 per applicant per year.

The eligibility criteria for applicants include being a recognized nonprofit; serving City of Florence residents and providing either essential

utilities, such as food, clothing or shelter; educational or recreational opportunities for children or seniors; or support for economic activity in Florence.

The resolution to establish the policy was adopted by a quorum of the city council and is now in effect. Councilor Ron Preisler was absent and excused.

For this year, there is a

fixed application period from Friday, Jan. 1, to Monday, Feb. 15. The grant program will provide up to \$5,000.

Grant awardees will be notified by March 30.

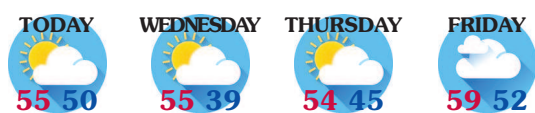
For all subsequent years, the application period will be open from Sep. 1 to Oct. 15, and available funds from year to year will be determined by fund availability during the budget process.

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