

Community News

Medicare open enrollment underway through Dec. 7

Now through Dec. 7, Medicare recipients have an opportunity to review their coverage and, if needed, change their programs.

Representatives of SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance), are holding individual consultation appointments at Lane Community College Florence every Friday during Open Enrollment.

These certified SHIBA volunteers can help you determine whether your coverage continues to best meet your needs.

They can also sign you up for Medicare Advantage or drug plans.

If you are soon to be eligible for Medicare, you can get an overview of the system and an informative book to help you with the decisions you will need to make.

Every year the Medicare system, Medicare Supplement plans, Medicare Advantage plans and drug plans change.

These changes can result in more out of pocket costs to you.

Call 800-722-4134 for free, unbiased consult appointment.

AVID All-Stars visit aquarium



Mapleton School District treated 41 AVID All-Star students with a special field trip to the Oregon Coast Aquarium on Friday, Nov. 13. The students especially enjoyed visiting the otters.

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‘Appalachian Winter’ Christmas concert at FEC

On Dec. 13, the Community Chorus of Florence Oregon will present Appalachian Winter, a cantata that celebrates the legacy of early American carols.

This concert will take place at 2 p.m. at the Florence Event Center

Composed by Joseph Martin in the spirit of folk music, the cantata combines traditional sounds with more rustic elements.

Popular American carols like “Away in a Manger” and “O Little Town of Bethlehem” blend with traditional spirituals such as “Children, Go Where I Send Thee” and “Go, Tell It on the Mountain.” Sacred Harp

tunes are retooled and stand alongside new versions of Shaker hymns and Appalachian melodies.

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

Between sections of the Appalachian Winter cantata, the choir and special guests will entertain the audience with familiar Christmas songs.

Coming from Westminster Presbyterian Church in Eugene, the Intrada Bell Choir directed by Donna Snyder will present two selections.

This six-person choir will play “Angels We Have Heard on High” and “I Saw Three

Ships.”

Florence’s own jazz combo, the Flotones, will perform several tunes including crowd favorite, “Snowfall.”

Elise Arnold will direct the Siuslaw Children’s Choir composed of 26 local third- to sixth-grade children.

They will perform several folk and Christmas songs.

There will also be a group of six instrumentalists providing accompaniment for the Appalachian Winter concert.

The band will include Nancy Ash (violin), Chris Campbell (cello), Linda Yoder (mandolin), Greg Wood (guitar), Barbara Bublari (flute) and Johanna Bonisteel (piano).

The Community Chorus will also include several well-known carols and folk selections, including “The Holly and the Ivy,” “I Wonder As I Wander,” “Sweet Little Jesus Boy” and others.

Co-directors for the concert will be Dr. Paul Guthmuller and Elise Arnold.

Crystal Farnsworth will be narrator and Johanna Bonisteel will provide piano accompaniment.

Tickets are \$10 for adults; children can attend for free.

Call 541-997-1994 for tickets and more information, or visit www.communitychorus-florenceor.org.

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Kiwanis, Elks to host community Thanksgiving dinner

The annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner is being held Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, at the Florence Elks Lodge, from noon to 2 p.m.

Dinner, with all the traditional Thanksgiving trimmings is free to the public; the



COURTESY PHOTO

Community members enjoy a free holiday dinner last year at the Florence Elks Club.

Florence Kiwanis club organizes this annual event and the cost is funded by the Florence Kiwanis Foundation.

This is the sixth annual community dinner and more than 500 dinners are served each year. Volunteers from the local Kiwanis club, churches and other individuals will be on hand to cook, serve and visit with diners.

River Cities Taxi will once again provide free transportation within city limits to and from the lodge only.

Donations of cash and non-perishable food items will be accepted at the door.

The event requires the help of up to 100 volunteers and we are still seeking additional help.

You can volunteer by emailing dinner@florencekiwanis.org, or call 541-999-4883.

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Great Pumpkin Giveaway
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