



**shoppe**  
Keep it local.  
www.shoppelocal.biz

**ALICE BRAUER**  
**CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL**  
**\$10 off**  
Registration Fee  
If registered in February  
(offer expires February 29, 2016)  
Meggan Haslett, Director  
Call 541-603-1562  
abchristianprek@gmail.com

**BEST FOR HEARING**  
Get a **FREE**  
no-obligation  
**HEARING**  
**CONSULTATION**  
& **EVALUATION**  
Expires 02/29/16  
(541) 997-8866  
2285 Highway 101 - Florence

**Bud's Upholstery**  
**20% off**  
Materials on  
any new job  
When you present this coupon.  
expires February 29, 2016  
541-997-4856  
4981 Hwy. 101 N., Florence

**Coast & Valley**  
**Cleaning**

**FREE**  
**ESTIMATES**  
(541) 790-1454  
CnVCleaning@gmail.com

**Cross Road**  
Assembly of God  
We invite you to  
join us  
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.  
for Worship.  
First time visitor coupon for a free  
espresso drink.  
Corner of 10th & Maple  
541-997-3533

**DENTUREMASTERS**  
& **IMPLANT CENTER**  
**45% OFF**  
**IMPLANTS NOW**  
Dr. James Ridley, DDS  
(541) 997-6226  
206 Nopal Street - Florence

**Denture Services, Inc**  
**FREE**  
**CONSULTATIONS**  
William Foster, LD  
(541) 997-6054  
524 Laurel Street - Florence  
(coupon required)

Welcome visitors!  
**Florence church of**  
**Christ**  
1833 Tamarack  
Bible Study: 10 AM  
Worship: 11 AM  
www.churchofchristflorence.org  
Bring this coupon for a  
free DVD when you  
visit us.

**Siuslaw**  
**News**  
+  
**shoppe**  
Keep it local.



## Van Fans fundraiser to be all 'fun and games'

Get together with friends for a fun day of card games and lunch at the Van Fans fundraiser Wednesday, Feb. 17.

The fun begins at 11:30 a.m. at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St. There will be raffle prizes and other exciting games and happenings throughout the event.

Sign up for a table and choose your game. Ticket price, with or without card games, is \$15 per person and includes the luncheon.

The Friends of Florence Van Fans is a non-political organization that sponsors this event.

All proceeds go to support the Friends of Florence van program, which transports cancer patients every weekday to Eugene and Springfield for



COURTESY PHOTO

radiation treatments. For more information or to sign up for card games, call Karen Lee at 541-997-9669.

## School from 1A

The district submitted the grant application Jan. 15 and expects to learn if it has been selected in February.

Superintendent Ethel Angel said the board would not take the next step until they learn if the state grant has been approved.

"It is the luck of the draw for us," Blake said. "If we are lucky enough to get the \$4 million, we would want to try and do the bond in order to take that off the bill."

The district will only be able to utilize the funds if the bond measure passes.

The nearly 50-year-old high school facility is the oldest building in the district.

According to Blake, costs have increased significantly since the middle school was built in 1999. The rough estimate to build a new high school is approximately \$35 million.

"There is still a lot to consider in whether we want to go out for an election in May," Blake said. "We are another year out if we look to the November election. The cost increases are what make me a little bit nervous."

"The maintenance costs are increasing at the high school, because our systems are aging. They are reaching the end of their lifecycle. We thought this would be the perfect time to take a look at going out for another bond," she added.

Angal said a cafeteria would be a priority in the new high school plans.

"The present high school does not have a cafeteria," she said. "It is a challenge, especially when so many kids in our district are eligible for free or reduced-cost lunches."

Food for the high school lunch program must be brought over from the middle school kitchen. Blake feels that this is the primary reason fewer students participate in the high school lunch program than the elementary or middle school programs.

The board will not take the next step until they learn if the state grant proposal has been approved. If it is, then the board plans to form several committees made up of board members, school staff and members of the community.

"It feels premature to be talking in detail, because a lot of the details will be strongly influenced by what our community sees and wants," Angal said. "We are hoping that they want the same things, but we know better than to ask for input and then not take it. We are taking the input with an open heart and an open mind."

Angal and Blake are concerned about waiting until the middle school bond is paid off in 2019 because there is no guarantee the state will continue the matching grant fund beyond the 2016-17 biennium.

"We could wait and see if the state will release more funds in the next biennium," Blake said.

"But then we are looking a couple of years farther before making a decision and that feels a little too far down the

road for my comfort zone."

If the state approves the funding grant and voters approve the bond measure, then the district has six months to sell the bond.

A key factor in the salability of a bond, and of concern to the taxpayers who will finance the bond, is the creditworthiness of the school district.

"When we went out to finance our kindergarten facility through Oregon Pacific Bank," Blake explained, "we were told we had an excellent rating."

According to Blake, there is a lot of nostalgia connected to the high school facilities.

"We want to make sure that the community has input on

how we can keep some of that history here, even though we are going to move forward with a new building," she said.

Many basic questions still need answers, such as where to construct the new building and whether to begin construction at the end or beginning of a school year.

But the question of the moment is, will the district get the \$4 million grant from the state?

"I think that would be the tipping factor," Angal said. "We live in exciting times."

Follow Jack on Twitter @SNews\_Jack. Email him at jack@thesiuslawnews.com.

**Florence**  
**food delivery**  
Food Delivery  
Mon-Sat. 11am-9pm  
View Menus Online  
Chen's Family Dish,  
Homegrown, Los Amigos  
Burritos, Craig's BBQ,  
Beachcomber, Ichiban,  
A Taste of Hawaii, Best-Thai  
Cuisine, Jerry's Place  
Order online at:  
FlorenceFoodDelivery.com  
or call 541-991-8399  
Find us on Facebook

## Rhody from 1A

"We will still have a Queen Rhododendra, but the entire team will win prizes," Wobbe added.

Each Senior Princess now has a team of three to four Junior Court members. They will have a team name, color, uniform and motto that goes with the nautical "Catch the Wave" theme.

Anderson's team is called the Wallowing Whales and includes Flansberg, Waggoner and Kenji Tanikawa. Coolidge's team is the Jumping Jellyfish. Her Junior members are Dascher, Wall and Jones. Keppol's team, the Electric Eels, has Selig, Armer, Garcia Galvan and Meadows.

"They will compete at the showcase as a team," Wobbe said.

Jared Anderson and Meg Spencer return to produce the Scholarship Showcase on Wednesday, May 11.

Wobbe said it may feature tug-o-war and other games.

"The Showcase will actually gear around the talents of our teams," she said.

The Rhody Court is not all about games, however. In the

months leading up to the Showcase and the Rhododendron Festival on May 20-22, the court will visit community events, business leaders, senior living centers, youth organizations and civic groups with an emphasis on giving back.

Wobbe said, "If we can put more emphasis on promoting that at a younger age, we get to really intervene in young kids' lives at a time when having an extra person in their life can be really helpful."

Court members will receive one-on-one mentorship from advisers. The Senior Princesses will mentor their teams.

The Rhododendron Court program provides scholarships for higher education, promotes community outreach and volunteerism and offers mentoring opportunities in a program that perpetuates an appreciation for 109 years of Rhododendron Festival history and tradition.

This is a transitional year for the Rhody Court, said Wobbe, who again will be the master of ceremonies for the showcase, but she thinks it will be her last.

"This is a wonderful program and the benefits are good for the students," she said. "A lot of sponsors stay involved in the students' lives."

**We offer Custom Engraving!**  
**Jewelry, Name plates, ID bracelets, Pet tags and more.**

- Plates
- Sterling Silver Jewelry
- Collectible Hand Carved Eggs
- Gallery Pieces
- Turquoise Jewelry
- Glass Art • Earrings
- Pendants
- Gift items and

**MORE ON SALE!**

**Silver Sand Dollar**  
Gallery Jewelry and Gifts  
1499 Bay Street (Old Port Building)  
541-997-0111  
Closed Sun.-Mon. facebook

Please join us as we celebrate the  
**American Cancer Society's**  
**Relay For Life of Florence**  
**Kick-off Party!**  
*Chili Cook-off, Dessert Auction, live music, cash bar, and more!*  
**2016 Relay Theme: Lights! Camera! Action!**  
**Florence Elks Lodge**  
**Sat., Jan. 30th, 4:00- 7:00 pm**





- **LIVE music!**
- **Chili tasting (donations accepted) and bowls of chili for sale \$3**
- **Dessert Silent Auction~ Desserts welcome!**
- **Bring your family and friends for a fun evening!**
- **Learn more about Relay and register a FREE team at:**

**www.RelayForLife.org/FlorenceOR**

**For more information or to enter a chili or bring a dessert, please contact:**  
**Bonnie Ell, #971.219.9949, bonnie.ell@cancer.org**