

Rotarians say 'Sky's the Limit' for items available at annual auction



Anyone who's craving a round-the-world trip need go no farther than the Florence Events Center on Saturday, March 12.

The annual Florence Rotary Auction is headed for some exotic destinations. Start in Belgium or Germany. Then stop off in the Principality of Monaco. Isn't there a casino there? Perhaps a layover in Shanghai or Australia would be nice, or even a little sunbathing in the South Pacific. If tropical retreats are your thing, try Cuba, Cabo or Kona for a little "R and R."

Closer to home, there's a chance to

visit Times Square (they have painted ladies there), listen to some New Orleans jazz, or hang out in Key West, Palm Springs or Disneyland. If that still seems like a bit much, try taking in the wonders of Veneta or the Principality of Mercer Lake.

While the destinations may be exotic, the food will be Homegrown — literally. The dinner will be catered by the chefs from Homegrown Public House and will feature many locally sourced ingredients. The wines are homegrown as well, coming from Umpqua Valley's Reustle Prayer Rock Vineyards.

And of course there will be the always-exciting dessert auction: 25 exquisite cakes and pies donated by the club's past presidents and created by various local chefs and bakeries. And the wine wall will feature 60 different wines from around the world and close to home. \$20 buys a bottle, which could range in value from \$20 to more than \$100.

All this glitz and glamour comes together for a reason: raising money for scholarships to send local students to college, as well as supporting the Siuslaw High School Interact Club and other youth-oriented projects in the community.



The Sneddons — Bob, Blair and Gerry — will once again take to the stage to auction everything from exotic trips to upscale furniture, sports packages and more. The evening begins with a silent auction that displays the work of local artists and craftspeople, along

with entertainment packages, gourmet food baskets, sports equipment and gift certificates to local restaurants and entertainment venues.

For information about tickets or donations to the auction, call Craig Sanders at 541-999-1713.

What's the difference between a cavy and a Guinea pig? Find out March 19

The Florence Events Center will be alive with the happy squeal of Cavies (Guinea Pigs) and their enthusiasts when the Oregon Cavy Breeders Society hosts its winter Cavy Show March 19.

Local owners and breeders will be bringing their favorite cavies to be judged and assessed for their quality. Top winners will be awarded prizes. In addition there will be a youth cavy show open to the public. "Our youth have some beautiful examples of cavies," said Manetta

Deggelman, organizer of last August's summer show at the FEC. "Everyone is invited to see why we love our animals, and why we have so much fun."

Though there are 13 breeds of Guinea pig, only a few breeds are commonly found off the show table as pets. The short-hair, Abyssinian, Peruvian and Sheltie (aka Silkie) breeds are those most frequently seen as pets.

Here's a quick look at how to determine the difference:

Short Haired:

The short coated cavy — often called the American, Self, or English — has consistently short, glossy hair without a part.

Abyssinian:

Known for its short, rough coat that has cowlicked rosettes of hair.

Peruvian: The Peruvian is the progenitor of all modern



long-haired breeds, being a Guinea pig with hair that grows long continuously all over its body,— sometimes to an excess of 20 inches.

Silkie or Sheltie: A Silkie has long hair that flows back over its body and never forward over the face (as in the Peruvian).

Texel: Like a Silkie, but with curls.

"We welcome questions about our little friends at this show or any of our many shows around the state," said Deggelman.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

