

Vikings pin state medals

SPORTS — B



COAST CENTRAL

A&E — INSIDE



Siuslaw News

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

20TH ANNIVERSARY

Home and Garden Show turns 20

See special section in today's paper for details about March 4-6 event

BY CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

The 20th annual Florence Home and Garden Show returns to the Florence Events Center (FEC), 715 Quince St., this Friday to Sunday. This year will be a celebration of the 20th show and its relationship to the community of Florence.

Jon Thompson, owner of Coast Radio and founder of the Home and Garden Show, said, "I wanted to do a home and garden show prior to the event center being built. That's when the

seed was first planted — in the planning of the FEC. We've been doing it every year since it has been open."

This year's Home and Garden Show, presented by Coast Radio and the Siuslaw News, is sponsored by Three Rivers Casino Resort, Bi-Mart and Central Lincoln PUD.

Lisa Walter-Sedlacek, co-owner of Laurel Bay Gardens, has been a vendor at the Home and Garden Show since the event opened in 1997.

"When the home show started, the events center was brand new. It was a true celebration of our community that so many people came



SPECIAL SECTION — C

out that first year. The place was just packed," Walter-Sedlacek said.

More than 3,500 people attended the first show, and Thompson said an average of 3,000 people continue to attend.

"When I look back at attendance over the

past 20 years, our attendance has held pretty steady," Thompson said. "A third of the community turns out for each year for the home show. That's a pretty significant part of the community."

The Home and Garden Show focuses on local vendors and products while bringing in

goods and services that may not yet be available locally.

"We try to bring a fresh look and lineup to the show every year," Thompson said. "We bring back some of the favorites, and then bring in a lot of new stuff and fresh vendors with good products."

Some vendors keep returning year after year. Both Kitchen Craft and Laurel Bay Gardens have exhibited since the beginning.

"Laurel Bay Gardens has always been our signature vendor. Lisa has been a wonderful partner all 20 years. She has taken a lead role and invested a lot of time, effort and staff into making the show happen," Thompson said.

Kitchen Craft's participation, he said, was a sign of the event's success early on.

See **H&G SHOW 6A**

FRAUDVILLE KEEPS ON ROLLIN'



High Voltage: Unplugged — sponsored by Hal's Electric

PHOTOS BY CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Annual Boys and Girls Club fundraiser brings in record \$25K



Siuslaw Silhouettes — sponsored by Siuslaw School District

High Voltage: Unplugged, sponsored by Hal's Electric of Florence, won the sixth annual Fraudville lip-sync contest with its rendition of Ike and Tina Turner's "Proud Mary." Seven teams, sponsors, games, auctions and the "Buy a Vote" contest raised \$25,857 for the Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County at Three Rivers Casino Resort Saturday night. "We broke every record we've had for donations and attendance," said club director Chuck Trent. "We had an amazing night with the performances and everyone there. We're so thankful."

Highway 101 reopens after landslide

No one injured, but travel was suspended for a day

BY CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) announced Sunday that a landslide north of Florence at Heceta Head on Highway 101 blocked both lanes of travel. The slide was cleared by Monday night.

The landslide occurred at milepost 178 around noon on Feb. 28 near Heceta Head Lighthouse State Park, north of Sea Lion Caves and 11 miles north of Florence.

According to ODOT, part of the cliff gave way, which sent boulders, trees and debris onto the highway. Travelers were urged to take alternate routes to get to their destinations.

See **LANDSLIDE 6A**

POLICE

Former police sergeant dies in Eugene

BY CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Eugene Police Department confirmed that a man found dead in a storage unit on Sunday in Eugene was former Florence Police Sgt. Shawn Morgan, 48, of Florence.

According to a Eugene Police spokesman, Morgan took his own life around noon Feb. 28 in a storage unit in the 4000 block of West 11th Avenue. Police and first responders arrived at the scene shortly after a report of a gunshot wound came in at 12:20 p.m. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

In a statement released to the media on Monday, Florence Police Chief Tom Turner said the City of Florence was saddened to learn of Morgan's death.

See **POLICE 6A**

INSIDE	Classifieds	B6	Opinion	A4
	Home & Garden Show	C	Police	A2
	Library Tidings	A5	Sports	B
	Obituaries	A7	Weather Data	A2

THIS WEEK'S WEATHER Full Forecast, A3

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
57 51	58 51	57 50	58 49

SIUSLAW NEWS
3 SECTIONS | 30 PAGES
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