

GENERAL NEWS

Volunteers needed to drive cancer patients to Eugene

The Friends of Florence, a nonprofit organization, is in need of volunteer drivers. The only requirement is a clean driving record and not age 80 or above.

The organization provides transportation Monday thru Friday for cancer patients needing radiation treatment at the Willamette Valley Cancer Institute in Eugene or the

Oregon Urology Center in Springfield.

There is no charge for this service. The van leaves Peace Harbor Hospital at 8 a.m. and is usually back in Florence between noon and 1 p.m.

Drivers usually only drive one day each month.

For more information, contact Bart Mealer, driver supervisor, at 541-997-8663.

WLCF grant given to help prevent substance abuse

Western Lane Community Foundation recently awarded a grant to Siuslaw Area Partnership to Prevent Substance Abuse (SAPPSA).

The award will help SAPPSA with education to prevent alcohol and drug abuse, including information about the mental and physical dam-

age caused by substance abuse.

SAPPSA is a nonprofit organization serving the Siuslaw area with free educational presentations for all ages.

For more information, visit www.sappsa.org.

Viewfinders name club's top photos for 2015



Viewfinders Club "Photos of the Year" by (from left): Curt Peters, Ty Perry and Larry Bacon

February was the Siuslaw Viewfinders Camera Club 12th annual banquet. Along with the usual festivities, food at the Elks Club and the installation of new officers, there were two contests.

The monthly contest was "Anything Goes" or no theme at all and the result was an eclectic variety of photos.

First place was taken by Curt Peters who just got back from Costa Rica. It was a beautiful

closeup shot of a howler monkey he got from the balcony of where he was staying.

Second place went to Larry Bacon with a "solarized" print of a Sailboat "Sailing to Neverland."

Solarization is an unusual technique which can give a print a very surreal effect.

Betty Romero took third place with a photo of a broken bottle with just the boots of people standing around it. The

title was "What Happened."

The second contest was the Photo of the Year contest.

Photographs presented for this annual contest must be fully ready to hang.

Curt Peters again took first with a closeup of an unusual small green and red frog with huge eyes.

Ty Perry captured second place with an exquisite photo of a Cedar Waxwing he captured almost by accident when

he was out photographing eagles; the colors and textures were exceptional.

Third place went to Larry Bacon with "Peaceful Anchorage," a photo of a sailboat in a harbor of the San Juan's taken at sunset.

The next monthly meeting will be Monday, March 7, at 6 p.m., in the Bromley room of the Siuslaw Public Library.

Spoken Word poetry class offered for high schoolers

The Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) is sponsoring an eight-week Spoken Word Poetry Class called "Verbal Escape" for high school students.

Classes begin tomorrow, March 3, from 4 to 5 p.m., at the Boys and Girls Club Teen Center.

Spoken word poetry is a combination of poetry, acting and performing.

If the students are interested, they can enter the Youth Spoken Word Poetry Contest, which will be a part of the Big Wave Poetry Fest taking place May 7 in Florence.

A \$100 prize will be offered

to the winning youth poet.

The class is taught by published poets Noah Schultz and Stephen Fowler, two young men who have transformed their lives through poetry.

Students will learn the art of writing and performing "their stories."

All are welcome to this free

class, which has been funded through a grant from Western Lane Community Foundation, and individual sponsors Ann Lathrop and Judy Ulrich.

For more information, call Bettie Egerton at 503-910-3625.

Plover nesting enclosures erected early to avoid tides

REEDSPORT — The Western snowy plover nesting season doesn't begin until Tuesday, March 15, but beachgoers will be noticing fences and enclosures earlier this year.

Because high tides will prevent the safe installation of fencing next week, Forest Service employees are erecting rope enclosures now through March 4 around designated nesting sites on the Siuslaw National Forest and within the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.

The Western snowy plover is a federally protected shorebird. Seasonal restrictions from March 15 through Sept. 15



COURTESY PHOTO

Look for signs posted along beaches and dunes identifying snowy plover nesting areas.

reduce disturbances while the birds are nesting.

Campfires, pets, bicycles, off-highway vehicles and kites are prohibited within the closure areas as they can frighten nesting adults, causing them to abandon their eggs.

"We appreciate everyone's efforts in helping this species recover on our Oregon beaches," said Cindy Burns, Siuslaw

National Forest wildlife biologist. "By sharing the beach, we can continue to make it an enjoyable place to be for all its inhabitants."

Signs attached to the ropes notify visitors that the closures won't be enforced until March 15.

Nesting areas within the Siuslaw National Forest include:

- Baker/Sutton beaches
- Siltcoos estuary north to within a mile of Sparrow Park Road
- Oregon Dunes Day Use beach
- Tahkenitch Creek estuary
- Ten Mile Creek estuary south to the Coast Guard South OHV Trail

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed Western snowy plovers as a threatened species in 1993. Habitat loss from invasive European beachgrass, as well as human disturbances, including litter and discarded food scraps which attract predators, have contributed to the birds' decline.

Part of the Siuslaw National Forest and its partners' Dunes Restoration strategy is aimed at removing European beachgrass near nesting areas to improve habitat conditions.

Detailed information about nesting restrictions on the Siuslaw National Forest, as well as links to resources from Oregon State Parks, can be found on the Siuslaw Web site at www.fs.usda.gov/siuslaw.

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ARE YOU A THREE RIVERS CASINO RESORT COMMUNITY CASH WINNER?

THIS WEEK'S LUCKY WINNERS:

Tuesday 2/23	Roger Witherite Linda Stevens	Florence Reedsport	Grocery Outlet Price & Pride / Reedsport
Wednesday 2/24	Dolores Hartley Clara Anderson-Kuhn	Florence Florence	MerDog Pet Spa Safeway
Thursday 2/25	Elwin Price Pamela Girard	Florence Florence	Three Rivers Casino Resort Grocery Outlet
Friday 2/26	Robert Strickler Dave Gruesz	Florence Florence	Three Rivers Casino Resort Safeway
Saturday 2/27	David Rood Albert Thenell	Florence Florence	Safeway Morgan's Country Kitchen
Sunday 2/28	Jeff Gray Lonita Dalziel	Florence Florence	Three Rivers casino Resort Safewau
Monday 2/29	Don Saxon Susan Cantrell	Florence Eugene	Safeway Three Rivers Casino Resort

Each winner receives \$50.00 in Community Cash!

Winners have 7 days from the date drawn to claim their prize.

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WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
MARCH 2	MARCH 3	MARCH 4	MARCH 5	MARCH 6	MARCH 7	MARCH 8
57°F 51°F	58°F 51°F	57°F 50°F	58°F 49°F	54°F 46°F	53°F 42°F	52°F 39°F

DID YOU KNOW?

WHEN YOU ARE ON THE ROAD COUNT TO THREE

Leave extra room behind the car in front of you in case a sudden stop is necessary. Using telephone poles as a landmark, start counting once the car in front of you passes a specific pole. If you pass the same pole before you can count to three, you're following too closely.

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