GENERAL NEWS

Youth 'Spoken Word Poetry' contest announced

Alliance (FRAA) is sponsoring a youth Spoken Word Poetry Contest to take place during the Big Wave Poetry Fest on May 7, beginning at 2 p.m., at the Florence Events Center.

Anyone age 18 and under can enter the contest. The poem must be the original work of the person performing it and there is a time limit of 3 minutes.

Cash prizes for the winners are \$100 for first, \$50 for second, and \$25 for third.

Spoken Word Poetry is a mixture of poetry, performance and acting. The poems do not have to rhyme and can be about any subject. Any student who would like special

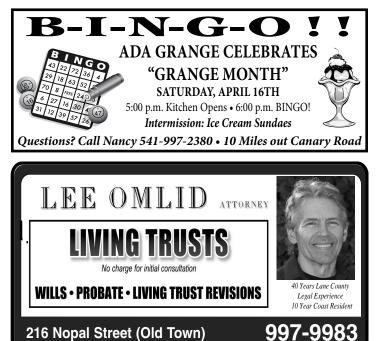
Florence Regional Arts help to perfect their poem and learn how to perform it, can attend the free classes at the Boys and Girls Club on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.

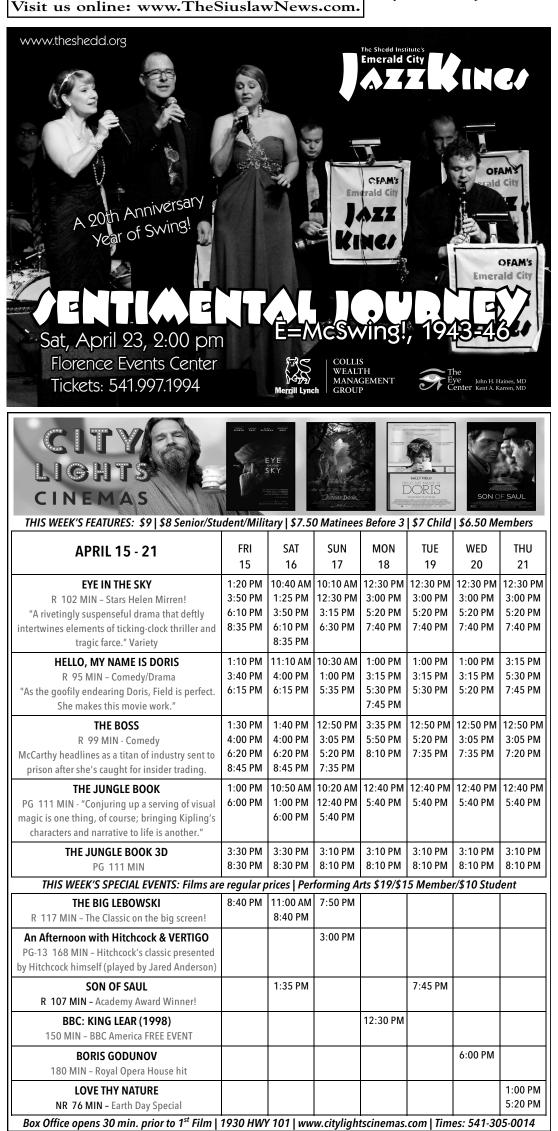
Two young prize-winning Spoken Word Artists, Noah Schultz and Stephen Fowler, will assist young poets become Spoken Word artists.

Applications for the contest can be found at the FRAA Art Center, 120 Maple St., or online at www.fraaoregon.org.

The registration fee of \$5 can be paid at the FEC on the day of the event. Attendance at the Youth Spoken Word Contest is free.

For more information, call Bettie Egerton at 503-910-3625 or email Bettieand kiki@yahoo.com.





Things are looking up for 'Shrek Jr.'

CROW performers visit Siuslaw School District to preview upcoming musical



PHOTOS BY CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Siuslaw Elementary and Middle school students "oohed," "ahhed" and "ew-ed" during Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops' (CROW) preview assemblies of "Shrek the Musical, Jr." last Thursday. CROW actors performed a variety of songs about friendship, love, ambition and flatulence. Catch the whole show April 15 to 17 at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St. For more information, go to eventcenter.org.

Learn about Rhody Drive Shoulder Extension Thursday

The City of Florence is looking to improve safety and access along Rhododendron Drive for cars, pedestrians and cyclists. An open house is scheduled for Thursday, April fall of 2014, Florence City 14, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., for residents to view the finalized design for the Rhododendron Drive Shoulder Extension Project.

Construction of paved shoulders on each side of Rhododendron Drive, between Ninth Street and Wildwinds, begins in June of this year. Funded by the Oregon Department of Transportation and the City of Florence, the construction will be completed by the end of summer 2016.

What started as a proposal for a 10-foot wide separated multi-use path along the east Council selected the two 6-foot wide shoulders option, utilizing permeable pavement, for this section of Rhododendron Drive.

The new design necessitated service contract changes and in March 2015, the new contract and scope of services were approved to complete the preconstruction design engineering. The project went to construction bid this March and will likely be underway by late May.

The new design reduced the impact on properties, trees and shrubs along the road. All of the project is within the public right-of-way, but some trees and vegetation will need to be removed from about 14 properties. The city is contacting and communicating with all of these property owners and residents. Construction will have some impacts to traffic along the road and the city will continue to communicate details of the project. "When it pours, it's porous:" permeable pavement will be used on the 6 foot shoulders of Rhododendron Drive. It looks the same as typical asphalt, but water will flow through it and be absorbed by the sand underneath rather than flow over the surface and into a ditch. It is healthier for plants, cleans storm water and does not carry pollutants into rivers.

Even after twenty years, porous pavements show little if any cracking or pothole problems. The surface wears well. Porous asphalt retains its ability to handle rainwater for many vears.

While slightly coarser than standard asphalt, most people parking or driving on a porous

side of Rhododendron Drive between Ninth and Wildwinds has been changed into two 6foot wide paved shoulders along the Ninth Street to Wildwinds section of Rhododendron Drive. The two 6-foot wide shoulders will use permeable pavement to lessen the impact to the native vegetation.

After four public meetings and one open house during the asphalt surface will not notice (or believe) that it is different. The surface of porous asphalt pavement is smooth enough to meet requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

To receive updates on this project, including construction information, contact Mike Miller, Public Works Director, mike.miller@ci.florence.or.us. 541-997-4106.

| WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| APRIL 13 | APRIL 14 | APRIL 15 | APRIL 16 | APRIL 17 | APRIL 18 | APRIL 19 |
| Cloudy with a Few Showers | Periods of Rain | Intervals of Clouds and Sun | Nice with Variable Clouds | Mild with Perids of Sun | Rain and Drizze Possible | Aftrnoon Showers Possible |
| 57°F 47°F | 55°F 44°F | 58°F 43°F | 65°F 48°F | 70°F 47°F | 63°F 43°F | 63°F 43°F |
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| CARE CENTER CALL 541-997-5049 4515 HWY 101 NORTH | | | | | | |
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