

## Learn how to make fairy garden at herbalist meeting

On Thursday, May 19, at the meeting of the Florence Herb Enthusiasts, meet Kermit Houghtaling, a local horticulturist and Laurel Bay Gardens employee. He will be showing how fun and easy it can be to make a fairy garden.

Houghtaling has been a horticulturist for 27 years and has worked for and managed several nurseries in Oregon and California, including Gray's in Springfield.

He now lives in what he calls the postcard perfect landscape of Swiss Home.

Plants are not only his area of expertise, they are truly his passion.

"All the staff at Laurel Bay Gardens share that same passion, and that's why it's such a great place to work and shop," said Houghtaling, who plans to build an herb-based fairy garden during the meeting.

He will also be bringing some supplies attendees can purchase, along with a wealth of ideas and information.

This will be an open discussion and interactive presentation on a popular topic. At the end of the meeting, there will be a raffle for the fairy garden.

The Florence Herb Enthusiasts meet each third Thursday of the month at the First Lutheran Church, 2100 Spruce St. (behind Grocery Outlet). The meeting begins at 11 a.m. and includes refreshments and tea.

Visitors are welcome to attend their first meeting free; annual dues for membership are \$10.

Through monthly meetings and special events, the Florence Herb Enthusiasts explore, experience and learn about culinary, craft, folklore, and medicinal use of herbs.

## Local Coast Guard begins 'Life Jacket' campaign

The local U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River announced its campaign of "Wear Your Life Jacket to Work Day" set for on Friday, May 20.

The USCG and Auxiliary, the Port of Siuslaw and Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue join boating professionals and boating enthusiasts to heighten awareness of different life jacket types that are available, including inflatable life jackets, and demonstrate their comfort and versatility by wearing them to work.

The annual event, hosted by the National Safe Boating Council (NSBC), serves as a fun educational element just prior to National Safe Boating Week, May 21-27, the official launch of the 2016 North American Safe Boating Campaign.

Educating the boating public about the safety and comfort of life jackets has been a main focus of the NSBC.

U.S. Coast Guard statistics show that drowning was the reported cause of death in approximately 78 percent of recreational boating fatalities in 2014, and approximately 84 percent of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets.

Operator inattention, improper lookout, operator inexperience, excessive speed, and alcohol use rank as the top five primary contributing factors in accidents.



PHOTO BY DEBORAH HELDT CORDONE

### Members of the local Coast Guard demonstrate the ease of wearing life jackets.

Station Siuslaw River Senior Chief Tregoning said, "Time and time again, the wearing of life jackets proves to significantly increase chance of survival and detection when the unthinkable happens. With the many variables that can affect the outcome of a voyage, life jackets are cheap insurance to help mariners return to their loved ones after a day on the water."

The U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River encourages others including members of the boating public,

community leaders, and those interested in showing the wearability of life jackets to participate in "Wear Your Life Jacket to Work" on May 20.

Station Siuslaw River is asking all participants to take a picture of themselves in their life jacket while at work and post it to station's Facebook page at facebook.com/USCoastGuardStaSiuslaw River, or email a photo to webdeb1@hotmail.com and the Coast Guard will post it for you.

Stay tuned for information

on other events and campaigns occurring in May for National Safe Boating Week, including Life Jacket World Record Day on May 21 and the City of Florence proclamation for Safe Boating Week.

To receive an event poster for your workplace or to have your photo taken at work wearing a life jacket, contact Deborah Heldt Cordone, USCG Auxiliary Public Affairs Officer, at 541-991-9300.

—Submitted by Deborah Heldt Cordone

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## Volunteers spend Mother's Day cleaning up the past

Mother's Day saw a group of volunteers coordinated by Jamie Gorder take the first step in a major cleanup of the Haring Pioneer Cemetery up the North Fork Road.

The cemetery, owned by the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum, had become overgrown and filled with windblown branches, blackberries and other noxious weeds. Armed with chain saws,



COURTESY PHOTO

### Volunteers performed a major clean up of historic Haring Cemetery on Mother's Day.

weed eaters, rakes, pruners and other tools, the group went to work cleaning up the historic spot. The project is the first phase of what is envisioned to get the cemetery in good shape.

The Haring Pioneer Cemetery was established on the Amos Haring Farm in 1890.

Previously, two of the Herrings' young children, Benny, who died in 1890 at age 7, and Rachel, who died in 1883 at age 19 months, had been buried in bottomland that frequently flooded.

Amos then moved the children's remains to the newly sited cemetery.

For more information on the pioneer museum, the cemetery or to volunteer, stop in at the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum, 278 Maple St., between noon and 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, or call 541-997-7884

—Submitted by Nancy Sobotka, Siuslaw Pioneer Museum board member

## From Baby to Graduate

(it seemed like just a few short years)

8th Grade, High School or College

~ Grad's Name ~

	School: _____	
	Birth Date: _____	
	Parents: _____	
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Coming Saturday, June 4th

"Baby to Graduate Review"  
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Now is the time to reserve your graduates a spot in this special section just for them.

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and mail to  
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Siuslaw News  
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Florence, OR 97439

Or stop by our office at  
148 Maple St.  
in Old Town Florence

Grad's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents: \_\_\_\_\_

Grandparents: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Net proceeds from this year's raffle and sale will be used to provide scholarships to deserving local students. We also like to give special thanks to KCST RADIO and Roby's Furniture for their generous donations to Florence Garden Club,

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**