

TERNYIK NAMED PARADE GRAND MARSHAL

Former Florence Mayor Wilbur Ternyik has been named grand marshal for this year's 109th Rhododendron Festival. He will lead the Grand Floral Parade on Sunday, May 22, as it heads down Highway 101 towards Old Town.

Ternyik was instrumental in shaping laws affecting the City of Florence, the Port of Siuslaw and the surrounding areas. The former Florence mayor, port commissioner and founder of the Oregon Coastal Conservation and Development Commission served 16 years on the city council and 29 years on the Port of Siuslaw board.

Ternyik, 90, was raised by his grandparents in Clatsop County. He was a direct descendent of Chief Coboway, who greeted



SIUSLAW NEWS FILE PHOTOS

Wilbur Ternyik now, and as a young man in 1961

Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery. He felt close ties with nature and worked to preserve the Oregon coast and its denizens.

Ternyik and his wife Joyce cared for wounded and orphaned animals, such as seals, baby bears and a raccoon named Patty. They



also gardened and maintained the landscaping along the intersection of Highways 126 and 101.

Last year, Ternyik assisted the 2015 Rhody Court with a community service project with Kiwanis Club of Florence.

In 2006, Ternyik was honored with a bronze bust depicting himself wearing his iconic Cree jacket

and carrying a tomahawk, which he used as a gavel as chairman of the coastal commission and as mayor.

"No single person ever accomplished anything by himself. It's impossible," Ternyik said.

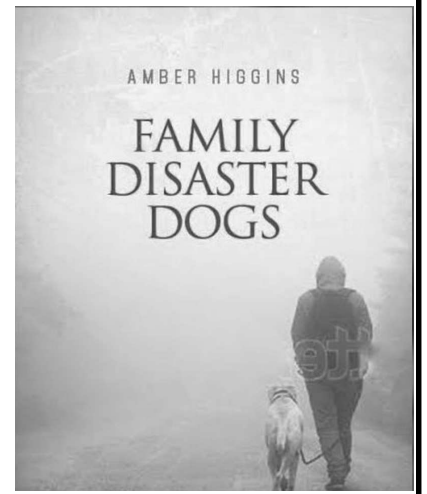
His wife, Joyce, said, "He's quite a guy. I'm very proud of him."

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Together, we're catching the wave in Florence.



We're pleased to be a part of the second-oldest flower festival in Oregon and look forward to a fun filled weekend.

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