

# WATER WORLDS

SPORTS — B



# COAST CENTRAL

A&E — INSIDE



# Siuslaw News

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

## CRIME

### Multiple guns stolen at True Value

*Police offer reward for details related to Thursday's burglary*

By RYAN CRONK AND CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

An AK-47 rifle and several other guns were stolen Thursday morning during a burglary at True Value Hardware store in Florence.

According to the Florence Police Department, officers responded to a report of a broken window in the front of the hardware store at 1750 Highway 126 at about 6 a.m. on June 30.

Upon their arrival, police discovered that the business had been burglarized and an AK-47 rifle, a short-barreled shotgun and several Glock handguns were missing.

The investigation is ongoing, police said. There was an alarm system and video surveillance.

Lt. John Pitcher said that no other businesses in the area reported burglaries.

Florence police are offering a \$500 reward for information



CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

**A window is boarded up near the entrance of True Value Hardware, where some of the store's firearm merchandise, including an AK-47 rifle and shotgun, were reported stolen Thursday.**

leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect or suspects involved. Anyone with information is asked to call 541-997-3515.

"At home, I definitely recommend locking up firearms in a safe, one that can't be picked up and removed," Pitcher said. "Keep them secure and make

sure you have an alarm."

True Value is located in the Dunes Village Shopping Center near the intersection of Highways 101 and 126.

## Fireworks & FESTIVITIES

*Car shows, fireworks, parades and more fill 4th of July weekend events in Florence area*

By CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

As America gears up to celebrate the 240th anniversary of its independence on Monday, July 4, events in the Florence area provide a great way to celebrate locally.

Check out these events to find the best place to watch fireworks, compete in an eating competition and enter a raffle for a flight in a vintage plane.

**Saturday, July 2**

### WINGS & WHEELS FLY-IN & CAR SHOW

The annual Wings and Wheels, featuring vintage vehicles, planes and demonstrations, will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Florence Municipal Airport, 2001 Airport Way.

Food will be provided by Ada Grange and Florence-Siuslaw Lions Club.

There will be a raffle for a ride in Erickson Air Museum's visiting World War II warbird, a P-51 Mustang — which landed Friday in Florence (pictured below) — as well as rides provided by the Oregon Central Coast Military Vehicle Group.



PEGGY MCHALE/SIUSLAW NEWS

### OREGON COAST MILITARY MUSEUM

Florence's newest museum, the Oregon Coast Military Museum, 2145 Kingwood St., is celebrating its first anniversary and will feature food by Pop's Smokehouse of Mapleton, from noon to 3 p.m.

### NEED A RIDE? FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE

Rhody Express will offer a free shuttle service from Siuslaw Middle School, 2525 Oak St., to the airport and museum, starting at 9:45 a.m. until noon and from 12:30 to 3:15 p.m.

See **EVENTS 6A**

### Plans for Mapleton preschool in the works

*Dinner and auction fundraiser July 9 to launch district preschool initiative*

By JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

A lasagna dinner and auction fundraiser will begin at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, July 9, at the Mapleton Elementary School cafeteria to raise seed money to bring a preschool to the district for the 2017-18 school year.

Kelsie Allen with help from Mapleton School Board member Mizu Burruss put the preschool fundraising event together.

The cost for the meat or vegetarian lasagna dinner, including garlic bread, green salad and soda or water is \$10 for adults and \$7 for children 11 and under. Dinner will be served

from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Dinner tickets are available at the Mapleton and Florence Banner Bank locations, Mapleton Food and Fuel and Deadwood Market. Diners are asked to purchase tickets in advance to allow for an accurate head count.

In addition to the dinner, a silent auction will be held from 4:30 to 6 p.m. and a live auction with auctioneer Chris Sain will begin at 6 p.m. Credit cards will be accepted for live and silent auction items.

"We have some antique items that have been catching a lot of people's eyes," Allen said. "We also have handmade wooden items

like a pair of bookends that look like a hand saw, a toddler's chair, a new tool chest, gift baskets and gift certificates from several area businesses and restaurants, a day spa certificate and more. We have had a lot of support from people in the community."

According to Allen, the bulk of the cost for the preschool funding will come from grants.

"We are going to be applying for grants to help cover the cost of the preschool," she said. "A lot of these grants are not available until next December, so we will be applying for the 2017-18 school year."

See **SCHOOL 6A**



CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

**Owners David and Rosemary Lauria (left) at Class Act Theatre, 509 Kingwood St., invite all to its grand-opening ceremony and variety show on July 9.**



COURTESY PHOTO

# CAT'S MEOW

*Class Act Theatre sets grand opening, variety show next weekend to open first season*

According to Paula Burnette, "big stuff" is happening at Class Act Theatre (CAT), 509 Kingwood St., Florence's newest gathering place and performing arts center.

Burnette and CAT owners David and Rosemary Lauria are working together to make the theater's first year an exciting season of versatile shows and experiences.

"It's going to be a grand opening on July 9," Burnette said.

Mayor Joe Henry and world-class bagpiper Ron Wallace will be present for the 2 p.m. ribbon cutting, officially welcoming in CAT's first season.

The Laurias will then give tours of the space. At 6 p.m., CAT will reopen its doors for a free variety show at 7 p.m., with con-

cessions available for sale in the newly refurbished lobby.

"It will show the capabilities of the theater," David said. "We will have Debra Young play piano with members of the Siuslaw school choir, Jason Wood and Maree Beers as singers, Angela Palmer's bellydancers, a dramatic piece by me, a humorous piece from 'Greater Tuna' and Mat Korso will do a bit from 'Santaland Diaries' as a preview of what's coming later in the year."

Wallace will also talk about bagpipes during the performance.

By CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

See **THEATER 6A**

INSIDE	Classifieds . . . . .	B7	Opinion . . . . .	A4
	Coastal Events . . . . .	A8	Religion . . . . .	A5
	Courts . . . . .	A2	Sports . . . . .	B
	Obituaries . . . . .	A7	Word on the Street . . . . .	A7



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