

HAPPY CAMPER

SPORTS — B



'DEFAZIO' TAKES TO THE RAILS

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

Midnight in Florence

New literary salon inspires movement among writers



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

More than 50 people attended a literary salon Aug. 6 set in the tradition of Parisian salons of the 1930s.

BY CHANTELLE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Writers on the River and author Catherine Rourke welcomed more than 50 writers, community members and walk-ins to "Midnight in Florence," a literary salon, at Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) Art Center last Saturday night.

In the tradition of Gertrude Stein's famous Parisian salons of the 1930s, Rourke hopes to encourage area writers to meet together and read work aloud at monthly creative gatherings.

"The salons in Paris were convivial events," Rourke explained. "It was all about soirees and people jumping in cars going from party to party. But amazing literature was born out of the salons of this era."

See **SALON 7A**

HEALTH

Palliative care coming to Florence

Hospital, ambulance district look to help homebound patients

BY JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

The concept of home visits is as old as American medicine, but having a doctor or other care provider actually make house calls is almost unheard of in today's high-tech world of medicine.

PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center and Western Lane Ambulance are actively seeking to bring medical care back into the home or nursing home of patients who are not physically able to make clinic or hospital appointments.

Dr. Stephen Kerner, director of Peace Harbor's Home Health Hospice, is looking to head up the new palliative care program.

By definition, palliative care relieves pain or suffering without dealing with the underlying cause. It is not designed to cure or heal.

According to Kerner, palliative care is similar to hospice, which is covered by Medicare or Medicaid if the patient has a life expectancy of fewer than six months. However, palliative care is not covered by Medicare or Medicaid and has no life-expectancy restrictions.

"People can seek out active treatment while they are in chemotherapy or on dialysis," Kerner said. "They can be seeking treatment and still receive a team-based approach."

He added, "If you have a sickness, you are ill and you are scared. You and your family want people around you who will support you and your family."

The "team" is comprised of doctors, nurses, volunteers and chaplains. Because Peace Harbor receives no Medicare or Medicaid compensation for palliative services, it must be self-funded.

See **CARE 7A**

SPOTTED ON THE SIUSLAW



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Old Town visitors spotted otters swimming in the Siuslaw River on Thursday, catching glimpses from the Siuslaw River Interpretive Center and Gazebo Park on Bay Street. The otters chatted with each other and ate shellfish before disappearing into their burrow. The Siuslaw is also a prime location to watch birds and other wildlife.



COURTESY PHOTO

Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bettina Hannigan and TR Hunter Real Estate owner Tim Sapp

TR Hunter becomes new chamber underwriter

BY CHANTELLE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Florence Area Chamber of Commerce has gained a new corporate underwriter, TR Hunter Real Estate.

Chamber Executive Director Bettina Hannigan said she met with TR Hunter owner Tim Sapp this week to talk about the benefits of being a distinguished sponsor or underwriter.

The chamber offers memberships from \$125 for associate members to \$2,500 for distinguished partners, with tiered membership advantages.

After further discussion with Hannigan, Sapp decided to make the

real estate company an underwriter, paying \$10,000 for the chamber's most exclusive membership package, which includes additional advertising and promotion, mentorship, network development and event tickets.

TR Hunter now joins Three Rivers Casino Resort as the only two corporate underwriters of the chamber. The last time the chamber had a new underwriter was in 2012-13, when Sea Lion Caves joined in honor of its 80th anniversary.

The money goes to support the chamber's general fund for local events and festivals, economic development and more.

See **CHAMBER 7A**

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