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Siuslaw News

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON



JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

Mayor Joe Henry moderated the town hall meeting for PeaceHealth Peace Harbor and the Florence community.

PeaceHealth holds town hall

Hundreds gather to hear local and corporate officials answer questions, explain doctor recruitment process

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Almost 300 local residents attended a town hall meeting jointly sponsored by PeaceHealth Medical Group, Peace Harbor Medical Center and the City of Florence at the Florence Events Center Thursday to talk about the current primary care physician

shortage at Peace Harbor, affecting approximately 6,000 patients.

Dr. Mark Adams, senior vice president and chief medical officer for PeaceHealth Medical Group, addressed the audience, offering an apology for the problems the physicians' short-

age has caused the Florence community.

"I'm really sorry that we are in this situation. But I want to assure you that we will do everything we can to make it right," he said.

Florence Mayor Joe Henry moderated the meeting that also

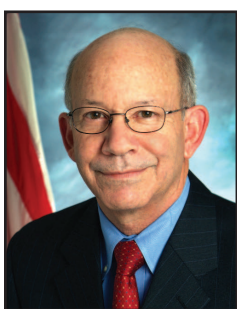
was attended by city councilors George Lyddon, Ron Preisler and Susy Lacer. West Lane County Commissioner Jay Bozievich, State Sen. Arnie Roblan, a representative for U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio and

See HEALTH 7A

DeFazio talks on national, local issues

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Rep. Peter DeFazio visited Florence on Wednesday as he held one of 16 town halls in Oregon. More than 70 people filled Siuslaw Public Library's Bromley Room to hear DeFazio speak on trade partnerships and the inefficiencies of the current congress. He answered questions about rural health care, the timber industry, disaster preparation and more.



Rep. Peter DeFazio

The congressman opened the meeting with a review of current bills and trends on the House floor.

"This is one of the least productive Congresses I've ever worked in," DeFazio said. "There will be a short fall session and, unfortunately, there will be a lame duck session. Nothing much good ever comes out of a lame duck session."

He said he has been working with transportation and infrastructure to improve the safety of roads and bridges, on a bill to maintain jetties and harbors and to keep Americans employed.

"We heard last week for certain that President Obama is going to push for the Trans-Pacific Partnership. This would be the last and the worst trade deal ever entered into in the United States."

See ISSUES 7A

Hooked

2nd Star Festival reels in attendance with mermaids, magic, music and more

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News



Costumed mermaids, steampunk enthusiasts, pirates and more enjoyed the Second Star Festival at the Florence Events Center last weekend. The annual "magical" event brings a whole new attitude to the area.

Organizers Matt and Kesha Hawk brought the Second Star Festival for its second year at Florence Events Center Aug. 13 and 14. The event, featuring steampunk art styles, multiple stages, costumes, puppets and more, drew hundreds from the local community and the Pacific Northwest.

"We are feeling so good at the end of our second year," Kesha said. "People saw that we were having the festival and came by to check it out. We saw a lot more traffic just from having the areas outside and the visuals. People are out there having fun, and that's a huge draw."

This year, Second Star Festival moved outside with the Mermaid Lagoon, a Wish Wagon, a secondary stage and vendor booths in the Tesla Field. Una the Mermaid brought the Traveling Fanta-Sea Cove from the Portland area.

The Goblin Market transformed the interior of the Florence Events Center with lamps, drapes and



signs, creating alleys and spaces for vendors selling steampunk accessories, fairy wings, clothing pieces, fine art, handmade soaps, carvings, books and more. One booth even sold Feisty Fudge — "fudge with attitude."

Second Star Festival's motto is "Always create, always encourage, never land!" It is a place where the real and the magical intersect, where fairy themed ideas meet up with steampunk and science fiction.

Magician Matt Van Zee demonstrated real life magic tricks while a mysterious man wandered by on stilts, people in masks sipped Wildcraft Cider and cosplayers — costumes based on pop culture — posed as Deadpool, Star Lord, Wonder Woman and more.

"Everything was really high energy and a lot of fun," Matt said. "We wanted to bring more activities to encourage more people to be creative. The guest artists brought a lot to that this weekend."

The Hawks worked with Buck Potter, a sound and logistics technician in Florence, to bring prominent steampunk artists Charles Mason,



PHOTOS BY CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS



Tayliss Forge and J.W. Kinsey from "Steampunk'd" to Florence. "Steampunk'd" is a 2015 reality TV show about crafters and designers in the steampunk genre.

"The festival evolved first as a community," Potter said. "Over time it just built. Over the years we kept adding people, parts and pieces."

Potter also was instrumental in bringing headliners The Nathaniel Johnstone Band to the Second Star Festival.

See FESTIVAL 9A

Dunes City Expo today

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Dunes City will hold its second annual free Dunes City Expo today from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Dunes City Hall, 82877 Spruce St., Dunes City.

The event will feature live demonstrations and seminars from 17 vendors and emergency services personnel on a variety of topics, including emergency preparedness, septic care and drinking water quality. There will be a free lunch and prizes for those attending.

State Rep. Caddy McKeown has been invited to speak and answer questions. People can also talk with city administration and council members.

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