

FEC from 1A

Staff members Jennifer Connor, marketing specialist and event coordinator; Sandi Anderson, office coordinator; Matthew Holdahl, maintenance technician; and Kim Gomez, box office and clerical assistant, decorated the flat floor of the FEC with packages, goat garden decor from Laurel Bay Gardens and large alpine posters most often seen at the annual Oktoberfest.

"It always amazes me how many different hats everyone

wears," Rhodes said. The General Manager's Award was given to Dusty and Trish Rhodes for their 20 years of assistance at the FEC.

Bob and Bonnie MacDuffee earned the Volunteers of the Year Award for the second year in a row for the endless number of hours they have contributed to the Friends of the FEC and various events held throughout the year.

Continuing with the Sound of Music theme, Margaret McDiarmid was honored with the Mother Superior Award for the time she contributes to

lighting and backstage duties. McDiarmid is the current president of the Friends of the FEC.

Additional volunteers were honored with awards:

- The Hills are Alive Award to Ron Hildenbrand for his eagerness to climb mountains as a volunteer.
- "FRAA-Line" Award to Claudia Ignatieff and Claudia Brown, also known as Team Claudia, for their work with the art gallery committee and the Florence Region Arts Alliance (FRAA).
- Raindrops on Roses Award to Mary Lou Brown for attention to detail and excellent customer service in the office.
- Von Trapp Door Award to Clare Marks, a new volunteer who walked in the FEC door this year and became part of the team.
- Edelweiss Award to John Leasure for his art instruction at Wallflowers and Wine workshops.

- Whiskers on Kittens Award to Ken Janowski for his quiet assistance with marketing.
- Bright Copper Kettles Award to Pat Olmstead for willingness to volunteer with theater events.
- Warm Woolen Mittens to Lita Edwards for giving all of our customers a warm welcome.
- Drop of Golden Sun Award to Maire Testa for her sunny disposition as secretary for the Friends of the FEC.
- Climb Every Mountain Award to Pat Mitchell for always volunteering for children's events.
- Sixteen Going on Seventy Award to Don Chapin for his youthful, adventurous attitude.

Almost every person who attended the luncheon received an item from the raffle, including prizes from Grocery Outlet, Sea Lion Caves, KCST Radio, Teresa's Sunshine Espresso and Friends of the FEC.

Fall Driver's Education course begins Thursday

Beginning next week, Rob's Driver Ed LLC (RDE) is running a driver's education course that meets at Siuslaw High School.

RDE is both DMV certified and ODOT approved to teach driver's education.

This program, designed for teens ages 15 to 17, teaches them to be low-risk drivers in the high-risk driving environment. Students who pass the program receive an ODOT Completion card.

DMV waives the drive test for students who present a completion card.

Class size is limited to 10 to 12 students.

Students must have their instructional permit before the course begins with the orientation on Sept. 8.

This extensive program involves 30 hours of interactive classroom training, 12 hours of in-car training and five hours of specified home practice.

The course begins with a required orientation for students and parents on Thursday, Sept. 8, at 6:15 p.m., at the high school.

Several breaks in the classroom schedule in October and November will cause the class to run through Nov. 17.

Classes are Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6:15 to 8:30 p.m., at the high school.

In-car lessons will likely finish up mid-December, depending on a student's progress.

To get an application or find out more information, contact Rob Griffes at 541-999-9179.



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Caucus from 1A

as well as U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, Ninth Circuit Court Judge Alex Kozinski, Secretary of State Jeanne Atkins and Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum.

"Coastal Caucus members were able to remain committed to their primary goal of nurturing the collaborations necessary to help build a strong coastal and rural economy," Roblan said.

The summit featured a keynote presentation from Wyden and panel discussions on the work done by members

of the Coastal Caucus, an update on the challenges and potentialities of coastal and rural economies, women in government, the gap between rural healthcare policy and politics, valuing marine ecosystems, higher education, climate change policies, statewide planning goals, economic innovation and collaboration and craft breweries.

The mayor said, "We did get some notoriety for our city."

He introduced the panel, "Small Town, Big Ideas: The Role of Eco Tourism, Innovation and Entrepreneurship."

"The panel talked about

Florence — and our small communities on the coast — and some of the small successes that we've had with economic development and tourism," Henry said.

The panel included Travel Oregon, Business Oregon and Caroline Cummings, a venture catalyst with Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (RAIN) who has partnered with the city and the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce to increase entrepreneurship and the traded business sector.

"I actually had the opportunity to speak about our successes and how Florence has stepped up to be the first rural coastal community to implement a formal entrepreneurial partnership with RAIN," Cummings said. "We have been pleased with the turn out we get at our Florence events."

The Florence delegation was able to meet with state planning officials and learn about policies and programs to help with a number of issues the city has foreseen.

Reynolds said the contacts she made are already working. After a brief meeting in a hallway in between sessions, one official was able to come up with a solution for a problem that normally takes years to

take through the necessary regulations and departments.

They asked her, "What can I do for you? What do you need from us? What are the roadblocks you're running into?"

"I didn't expect that," Reynolds said, "and it brought good news."

Henry said, "We're on the verge of having some exciting things happen. The new things will help the community bring more than just individual housing."

The city will soon hold an open house for developers and builders, as well as information on taking advantage of programs designed to aid the development process.

"We're in the business of providing a chance for businesses to thrive and grow here," Reynolds said. "We're here and committed to having a great street infrastructure system, providing a good quality of life for our people and being where people want to live and work."

"More importantly to economic development, we are committed to being a place you want to have your business. Whether it grows, stays or adds employees, we hope it brings new money into our community and increases the quality of life for everyone."

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EVALUATE YOUR CANDIDATES

As you read candidate materials you collect, try to figure out what you make of your prospective vote-getter on both a personal and political level. What can you draw about the candidates' stance on specific issues?

To help keep your notes and opinions straight, you can make your own candidate report card to help match up your personal feelings on how he or she matches up with items that are important to you.

CONSIDER OTHERS

Seek the opinions of others in your community who have vested

stakes in political campaigns. The League of Women Voters recommends that you interview three people (not family members) such as shopkeeper, neighbor, or politically active volunteer, to find out which candidate they support and why. Learn what has shaped their political

opinions. It may be a certain policy that has helped them grow their business or organization. It could be a long-standing loyalty to a certain party. Whatever it is, use the information as yet another source that could help you in understanding key issues around you.



School from 1A

After architectural design work, permits and other related costs, O'Mara said the construction budget is approximately \$5.7 million.

According to O'Mara, the next step will be the actual design and implementation of the major upgrades to Mapleton's elementary and

high school buildings. She said the district is working with PIVOT Architecture from Eugene on the design details.

"At our Sept. 28 board meeting, we will be discussing a construction manager general contractor," O'Mara said. "This is a way for us to have a contract manager and an owner's representative to help us with the process."

...need a friend?

Meet Chyna

Hello! My name is Chyna! I currently live at the shelter here with my sisters Cheeta and Chit Chat. It might be hard for you to tell us apart if you are looking at our faces but if you look at our fur pattern you'll see that mine is very marbled and exotic, just like my name! I use to be quite shy but I am becoming much more forward now! I might still feel a bit timid upon first meeting someone, but after a bit of petting I'll be your new best friend! I remember my friends when they come to visit me too! When I like someone I am very talkative and flirty. I enjoy a good pet and a good play session as well. I know I would make a great addition to any loving home!



If you would like to meet Chyna or any of her friends, please visit us at:

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