

**VIKINGS
IMPROVE TO 7-1**

SPORTS — B



**DACHSHUNDS
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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON



Sea Lion Caves undergoes major upgrade

Caves close for elevator replacement; limited access still open

BY MARK BRENNAN
Siuslaw News

Sea Lion Caves General Manager Boomer Wright stands in front of the path that leads to the caves. Access to the caves will be closed through Thanksgiving while a new elevator is installed.

One of the Oregon coast's most popular tourist destinations, the Sea Lion Caves, is in the initial stage of a major renovation.

General Manager Boomer Wright says an upgrade of the elevator that takes visitors to the caves is now underway.

"The construction began earlier this week, on Oct. 3, and will continue until approximately Nov. 27, about seven weeks," Boomer said.

Access to the sea lion caves will be closed during that time, though the pub-

lic is still welcome to stop in, as walking paths and the gift shop will remain open.

The reason for the renovation is simple, according to Wright: "The elevator was put in in 1961, with some remodels since then. Now we're looking at being, essentially, more green."

Wright added that the new elevator is a completely different design and won't have cables anymore; it will have belts. This change means there won't be any hydraulic fluids, a potential environmental hazard, and it will run much quieter.

See **CAVES 7A**

Chamber adds third corporate underwriter

Korando Dental Group joins TR Hunter, Three Rivers Casino Resort

Florence Area Chamber of Commerce added a third corporate underwriter in September, the second new underwriter in two months.

Charles Korando, DDS, and Korando Dental Group joins the chamber's longtime supporter Three Rivers Casino Resort and TR Hunter Real Estate, who became an underwriter in August.

BY CHANTELLE MEYER
Siuslaw News

"We're pretty excited about it, and I think Dr. Korando is going to be a fabulous partner with the chamber," said Bettina Hannigan, executive director of the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce.

Hannigan said that Korando approached her about being an underwriter after she introduced TR Hunter's Tim Sapp at the September Chamber Noon Forum.

"I was telling members how being an underwriter is a \$10,000 buy-in, but here's what Tim is getting for his business. I dove-tailed it into dentistry," Hannigan said. "Imagine if someone was a marketing partner and the first dentist seen when people came to town."

See **CHAMBER 7A**

Expo features antique appraisals, flu shots

The 2016 Good Life Boomer and Senior Expo is coming to the Florence Events Center on Thursday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year, the expo features speakers on topics ranging from health and wellness to keeping your mind engaged through art.

Attendees are invited to visit 30 vendor booths to learn about senior-related products, services and resources. Bi-Mart will offer a flu shot clinic all day, and Florence Police Auxiliary will accept unused and expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications. However, no needles will be accepted.

There will also be free BJ's ice cream starting at 1 p.m. until the supply runs out.

This year, the Good Life Boomer and Senior Expo is excited to announce the inclusion of a booth designed to offer participants a chance to have their heirlooms, antiques and vintage jewelry evaluated.

Tom Bassett, partner at Florence Antiques, 494 Highway 101, will be available during the entire expo to clean, test and value your gold and silver estate jewelry. Based on his history of selling estate jewelry and antiques, he can provide you with fair retail market valuations.



6th Annual **Oktoberfest**

GERMAN CULTURAL CELEBRATION POURS OUT THE CHEER

Hundreds of people attended Oktoberfest last Saturday at the Florence Events Center. The event, sponsored by local businesses and the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, featured authentic accordion music, bell-ringers and singers, groups of dancers and fun games. Nonprofits served beverages, bratwurst with sauerkraut, three kinds of soup, hot pretzels, pickles on a stick, and a variety of cakes and desserts.

Outside, the Wiener Dog Races brought additional spectators (see page A7).



PHOTOS BY CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS



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THIS WEEK'S WEATHER
Full Forecast, A3

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