

**Caves** from 1A

Wright also mentioned that another reason for the upgrade is the availability of parts.

"Being built in 1961, it's hard to get parts anymore. They have to be manufactured," he said.

The timing of the repair was another important consideration.

"We always look at the concept of interfering with the sea lions, and we never want to do that," Wright said. "At this time of year the sea lions aren't here."

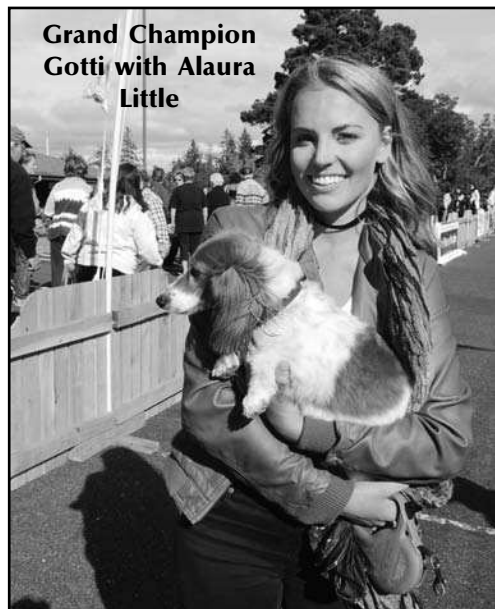
And while the finish date is approximate, Wright is confident in the outcome.

"Hopefully, we will have plenty of time to get this done prior to the sea lions' return in December," he said.

Sea Lion Caves intends to reopen by Thanksgiving.

# Doggone Day

17 Dachshunds race in fourth annual Weiner Dog Races



Grand Champion Gotti with Alaura Little

Florence's famous Wiener Dog Races were a huge success during Oktoberfest on Oct. 1 at the Florence Events Center.

Jeanna Petersen, of Siuslaw News, sponsors the Dachshund derby each year as a fundraiser for American Cancer Society.

This year's Grand Champion was Gotti, owned by Alaura Little of Florence. Gotti was also the youth champion.

In the puppy category, for Dachshunds up to 2 years old, first place went to Alfie, owned by Harry Longenecker of Coos Bay, and second place went to Luna, owned by Becky Gulseth of Myrtle Point.

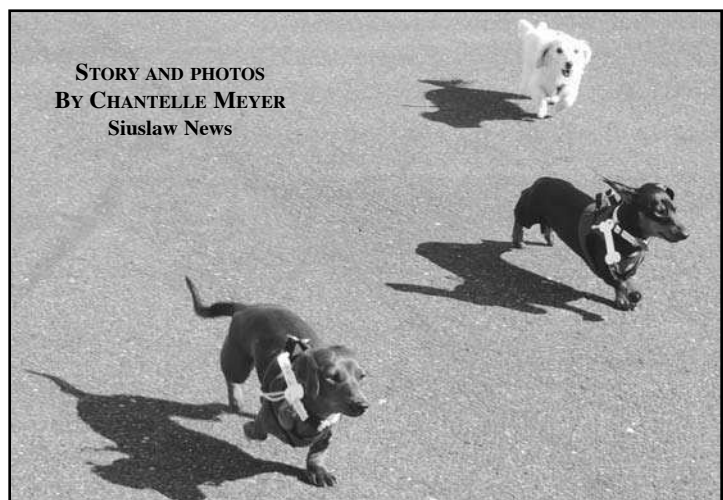
The second-place youth

Dachshund was Ellie, owned by Steve and J a y n e Smolley of Florence.

Ellie was the grand champion for the 2014 Weiner Dog Races.

Adult Dachshunds, older than six years, also had two winners. In first place was Sophie, owned by Sachi Wrigley of Albany, and second place went to Peanut, owned by Becky Gulseth of Myrtle Point. Sachi was the 2015 grand champion.

"Many thanks to all the participants for the smallest dogs' biggest race yet," Petersen said.



STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHANTELE MEYER Siuslaw News



**Chamber** from 1A

The chamber offers memberships from \$125 for associate members to \$2,500 for

distinguished partners, with tiered membership advantages.

When she talked with Korando, he didn't want to pay the smaller amount to be

a distinguished sponsor.

"He knew what he wanted," Hannigan said. "I'm excited to work with someone that has that marketing 'go-get-'em.'"

As an underwriter, Korando Dental Group is now a marketing partner with the chamber. Benefits include maximum advertising and promotion, mentorship, network development and event tickets.

"What these underwriter partners are seeing is the marketing resource that the chamber is. If you want to build your business, then the chamber is really part of that. I'm excited to see people come in and the light goes on. They see how it is worth the investment. They get to build their business, support the community and be part of the chamber. It's a win-win-win," Hannigan said.

She has a saying about business: "If you're coasting, you're going downhill."

"Too many of our businesses think they have enough business, so they stop reaching and growing," Hannigan said.

When the market turns, businesses are left scrambling to recover.

"Dr. Korando really sees that. To be here this long and still be driving business and wanting to grow, I really give him a lot of credit," Hannigan said.

The Korandos have been in practice in the area since 1985.

The biggest way they give back to the community is during the annual "From the Heart Dentistry Day."

Korando, his wife, Wendy, a dental nurse, and sons Ryan, a dentist, and Nolan, a dental anesthesiologist, and the Korando Dental Group staff provide free dental services.

As an underwriter, the Korando Dental Group will be part of the welcome packet that goes out to 300-800 peo-

ple each year who want to move into the area. The packet includes services, features and other important relocation information.

"The chamber is out there to welcome new people and businesses into Florence with a responsible experience of kindness, support and welcoming, genuinely meeting a need when they come," Hannigan said. "We're sending out information to people who want to move here."

That is why Hannigan hopes to bring in a local bank as an underwriter.

"Because what's the first thing people need when they come to town? They need a mortgage. How many mortgages do you need to sell to pay for the underwriter level? Less than one," she said.

"Those people will need retirement, investment, trust services, mortgage and checking accounts."

As an underwriter, a bank would be the first name peo-

ple see when they go to the chamber's website.

"You've got to see the marketing resource, like what Tim Sapp and Dr. Korando saw," Hannigan said. "It's risky, but I have a great admiration for people who go out there and take a risk. That's the true entrepreneur spirit."

The chamber isn't only adding premium level underwriters, either. New members join the chamber each week.

Dirty Dog Grooming, at 1726 Highway 101 at the corner of 18th Street, had a ribbon cutting on Sept. 26.

"To have that all in one week, a very young entrepreneur starting off, and a very seasoned entrepreneur who is still going strong ... It's inspirational to me, to see business never get dull," Hannigan said. "It's always exciting when a business owner, manager or representative comes in and says, 'I want to rock this thing. I want to grow my business and be a part of the community that way.'"

The Florence Area Chamber of Commerce uses membership fees to market the Florence area, encourage partnerships, bring in new business, help with economic development, fund events and more.

"Our position is that we are building a resource in our businesses so that we can support our community. We're not taking away from the community — we're giving back because we are developing the resources that we have," Hannigan said.

For more information on joining the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, go to the Visitor's Center at 290 Highway 101 or go to [florencechamber.com](http://florencechamber.com).

**Premium Burgers**  
grilled to mouthwatering perfection!

Choose from our chef's most popular burger combinations.

**Daily Happy Hour 3-6pm**

Open Daily for Lunch menu offered from 11-6pm  
Happy Hour menu daily from 3-6pm  
Beer, Wine, Cocktails

**THE GRILL & LOUNGE AT SANDPINES**  
1201 35th Street at Kingwood, Florence  
Highway 101 & 35 St. 541-997-4623

**JazzKings**  
The Original Emerald City

**MOOD INDIGO**  
Sat, Oct 15, 2:00 pm  
Florence Events Center  
Tickets: 541.997.1994

Merrill Lynch COLLIS WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP  
The Eye Center John H. Haines, MD Kent A. Karren, MD  
[theshedd.org/JazzKings](http://theshedd.org/JazzKings)

See Jim for your auto sales needs!

**JOHNSTON MOTOR COMPANY**

2150 Hwy. 101 • Florence  
(541) 997-3475 • 1-800-348-3475

Ford Mercury

**Get Results...List With Brian.**

Brian Jagoe  
Principal Broker  
541 999-1314

**TR HUNTER REAL ESTATE**  
541-997-1200

3315 Rhododendron Drive - Enjoy Riverfront living with a low maintenance yard and almost new home. Over 2000 sq ft, open floor plan with 3 bd, 2 ba, built in 2004. Put your feet up and watch the world go by, this home is perfect in every way; all it needs is YOU! \$299,500. #2514-15022134

1749 Highway 101 • 541-997-1200

**WORD ON THE STREET**  
What is your favorite art form?

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL ARTS AND HUMANITIES MONTH

**WOODWORKING**  
"Woodworking. I guess I like to work with my hands, and I like crafts and graphics. My dad did a lot of work in that area."  
—KIP WILBURN, MAPLETON

**MOVIES**  
"Movies, and my favorite movie is 'The Hunger Games.' I like that story. It sends a positive message, which is good."  
—KATHY MEDEIROS, SWISS HOME

**WHISTLING**  
"Whistling. I think it's really fun and I love music."  
—KATIE DEARMAN, MAPLETON

Serving our community for over 15 years.

**WELLS TREE & LANDSCAPE**  
541-999-5083

Tree Removal & Trimming  
Brush Cutting & Maintenance  
Stump Grinding

"Making Friends One Job at a Time."  
licensed, bonded, insured CCB 183908

**Siuslaw News** + **shoppe**  
Keep it local.

[www.shoppelocal.biz](http://www.shoppelocal.biz)