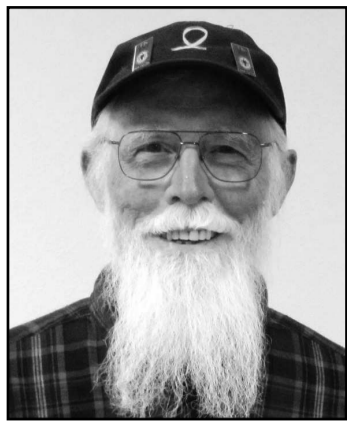


Us TOO Florence Behind the headlines



BY BOB HORNEY
CANCER SURVIVOR
US TOO CHAPTER LEADER

September was National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, reopening an annual remembrance of the dads, husbands, grandfathers, brothers, uncles, friends, neighbors and other loved ones who have been taken from us by this deadly disease.

Even though we are told most prostate cancers will not harm a man during his lifetime, the following words were part of Phil Brubaker's 2007 Mayor's Proclamation of Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Florence:

"Whereas, across the nation, prostate cancer is the most com-

monly diagnosed cancer in men and the second leading cause of cancer death, and whereas about 30 percent of prostate cancer occurs in men under the age of 65, during their prime years at work, and whereas, at any age prostate cancer devastates families, through loss of income, partnership and support, and whereas, prostate cancer leaves too many parents, women, children and other family members without a man they love..."

Here we are nine years later and those statistics have not changed. From the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) we get the following figures, updated to 2016:

Three Most Common Cancers Among Men per 100,000: Prostate cancer (101.6); Lung cancer (69.8); Colorectal cancer (44.2).

Leading Causes of Cancer Death Among Men per 100,000: Lung cancer (53.9); Prostate cancer (19.2) Colorectal cancer (17.3).

Three groups come to mind that find these statistics to be vivid and sad reminders of reality: The families of men who lost their lives to prostate cancer; urologists who didn't get to see the men until it was an incurable disease, and members of Us TOO Florence Prostate Cancer Education and Support Group who became

friends with these men and supported them in every way possible, but to no avail.

In the vast majority of cases, everyone came away with the same feeling... if only... each man had been diagnosed earlier.

Fact: The most treatable and curable prostate cancer is diagnosed before it causes symptoms. In other words, before we even think something might be wrong.

Knowing that means we must go looking for it while relatively young (around 40 years of age). That doesn't register very well with lots of men because at that age they feel great. However, a primary reason more than 2 million men are alive today following a prostate cancer diagnosis is because their cancer was diagnosed before spreading beyond the prostate.

This is most often due to the man, his family and/or his doctor being pro-active about prostate cancer screening.

Here is something for men, and their loved ones, to consider if the USPSTF recommendation that men no longer get PSA tests makes sense to them: Three of the most recent deaths from prostate cancer in our community have been men who were diagnosed and died of the disease much too young:

Diagnosed at 49/died at 62;

diagnosed at 52/died at 56; diagnosed at 47/died at 56.

The first two young men were diagnosed following their very first PSA test. The third was refused a PSA test several times from the age of 40 to the time of his diagnosis at age 47. None of these young men went for a PSA test because of symptoms of the disease. Yet, they were struck down in their prime of life by a supposed "old man's disease."

Had they lived to a reasonable 80 years of age, their families, respectively, would have enjoyed 18, 24 and 24 additional years of their loving companionship.

The deaths of these three young men shall not be in vain as Us TOO Florence, in their honor, recommits its strong support of life-saving PSA baseline screening at age 40!

One's greatest opportunity to get it right with prostate cancer is to find it in its early stages. Thanks to the baseline PSA test and the urologists at Oregon Urology Institute, we have an excellent chance to catch it early... if only... we take the first step and get that one all-important PSA test.

Yes, we're talking about a single PSA test having the potential to make a life-saving difference.

Three Rivers Casino offers weekend lineup

Three Rivers Casino Resort is offering its next round of weekend entertainment this Friday and Saturday, Oct. 14 and 15, at Blue Bills Sports Bar and Tap Room, located inside Three Rivers Casino, 5647 Highway 126 in Florence.

Sandy Saunders Band will perform from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. The band plays rock and blues, "with a southern girl at the wheel."

Culture Mob online quoted that Sandy "has brought the grit and soul of her Augusta, Ga., birthplace to the Pacific Northwest."



COURTESY PHOTO

Sandy Saunders Band

With a unique style all her own, Sandres can blend an old Linda Ronstadt cover with a hard rock and blues Jimi Hendrix tune, adding a handful of original songs in between.

Soroptimists to host 'Bras for a Cause' fundraiser

Soroptimist International of Florence (SOF) is gearing up for an inaugural fundraiser called "Bras For A Cause."

The funds raised at this event will support local scholarships, awards and other education-related programs, such as human trafficking awareness and the "Dream It, Be It" program for teenaged girls.

The auction will be at the Florence Event Center on Saturday, Oct. 15, starting with a no-host bar at 6 p.m.

Dinner will follow at 6:30 p.m.

Silent and dessert auctions are planned as well.

Table sponsorships are available that include dinner tickets, advertising and a torso for a decorated bra that will be part of a live auction.

The deadline for sponsorships is Sept. 16.

At this time, sponsors include Siuslaw News, Hine Investments, Peace Harbor



COURTESY PHOTO

Soroptimist members with a bra sample from "Bras for a Cause."

Medical Center, On Your Feet with a Splash, Cheveux Salon, Coast Radio, Hoberg's Auto

Repair and Harry and Frankie Jorgensen. For more information, call

Cathy Dietz at 541-902-2519 or Nancy Bosket at 541-902-7250.

VFW patriotic essay contest seeks entries

The Veterans of Foreign Wars and its auxiliary are sponsoring two essay contests available to middle schoolers and high school students.

The "Patriot's Pen" contest is open to students grades six through eight and requires a typed 300-400 word essay.

The essay topic is: "The America I Believe In."

The top national winner will receive \$5,000 and an all-expenses paid trip to Washington D.C.

Students in grades nine through 12 can enter the "Voice of Democracy" contest by submitting a written or CD essay on the theme: "My Responsibility to America."

The top national winner will receive a \$30,000 scholarship.

Each state winner will receive an all-expenses paid trip to Washington D.C. and a portion of the \$153,000 in national awards.

The deadline for both contests is Nov. 1.

For more information, visit vfw.org or call Ken Smith, VFW Post 3232, at 626-945-4044 or Tom Benedict at 702-610-9617.

Deadlines for press releases are Mondays and Thursdays by noon. Email them to: PRESSRELEASES@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM.

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Friday 10/7	Robert Byrd Susan Williams	Florence Spokane, WA	A&W/Florence Safeway/Florence
Saturday 10/8	Linda McPhedran Linda Thrall	Florence Florence	Safeway El Guadalajara #2
Sunday 10/9	Toni Howland Bear McDaniel	Florence Westlake	Q Nails On Your Feet
Monday 10/10	Sorry. Winners not available at production time.		

Each winner receives \$50.00 in Community Cash!
Winners have 7 days from the date drawn to claim their prize.

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