

FRAA from 1A

This is in addition to participating in numerous community events such as the recent Wine and Chowder Festivals in Old Town and the upcoming Holiday Art Fest and Winter Music Festival, both held at the Florence Events Center.

Springer sees his organization's participation in local events as part of FRAA's ongoing attempts at fulfilling its mission statement: "dedicated to the unification and support of all the arts and to enrich cultural life and stimulate economic vitality in the Florence area."

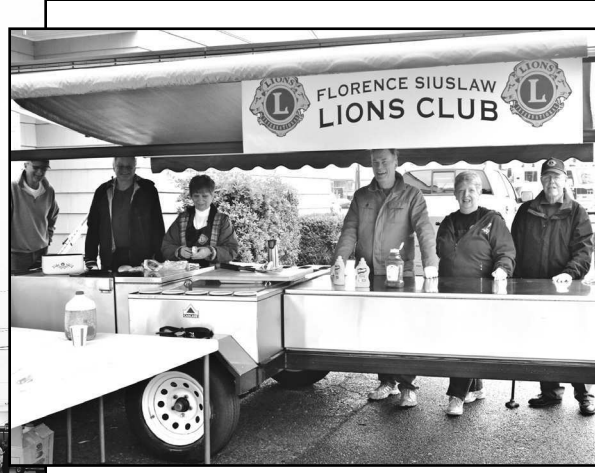
Another important outreach effort headed by the FRAA board is the goal of placing art in public spaces.

"Our board is currently engaged in the acquisition, identification and location of spaces where art can be more easily viewed by the public," Springer said.

The anniversary celebration next Friday will be hosted by Florence Mayor Joe Henry. There will be live music and refreshments will be provided by Le Bouchon.

For more information, contact FRAA at 541-997-4435 or fraaoregon.org or stop by the FRAA Art Center, 120 Maple St.

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Convoy from 1A

the funding for the event.

"We need to be prepared because we are pretty isolated out here," Henry said.

For more information on the

Oregon National Guard, visit www.oregon.gov/OMD.

For more information on local emergency management efforts, visit www.wleog.org or www.ci.florence.or.us/em.

Florence Events Center will also host the Be Ready

Disaster Preparedness Expo on Saturday, Nov. 5. Siuslaw News sponsors the event which includes survivalists, special courses, speakers and a panel of local emergency response teams. There will also be vendors and additional resources.

Forum from 1A

"We now have a panic button in all the administrative offices and a designated individual that is responsible for activating the protocols," Grzeskowski said. "We also have remotes and procedures in place for determining when to go into a lockdown mode."

Another question asked what specific improvements

have been made in the way the staffs prepare for an emergency and the answer was simple — practice.

Turner cited the 15 drills that the district has engaged in over the last two years, pointing out in particular an exercise that involved multiple first responding agencies.

"We had a major exercise in June that was evaluated by Homeland Security," he said. "Our local fire department, tribal police and local emer-

gency responders were all involved in the daylong exercise."

A significant benefit of these training days is often overlooked, however.

Turner said, "One of the most important elements of this training was to establish familiarity between the various first responders. It allows those first responders to become familiar with the buildings and locations where they will be responding."

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