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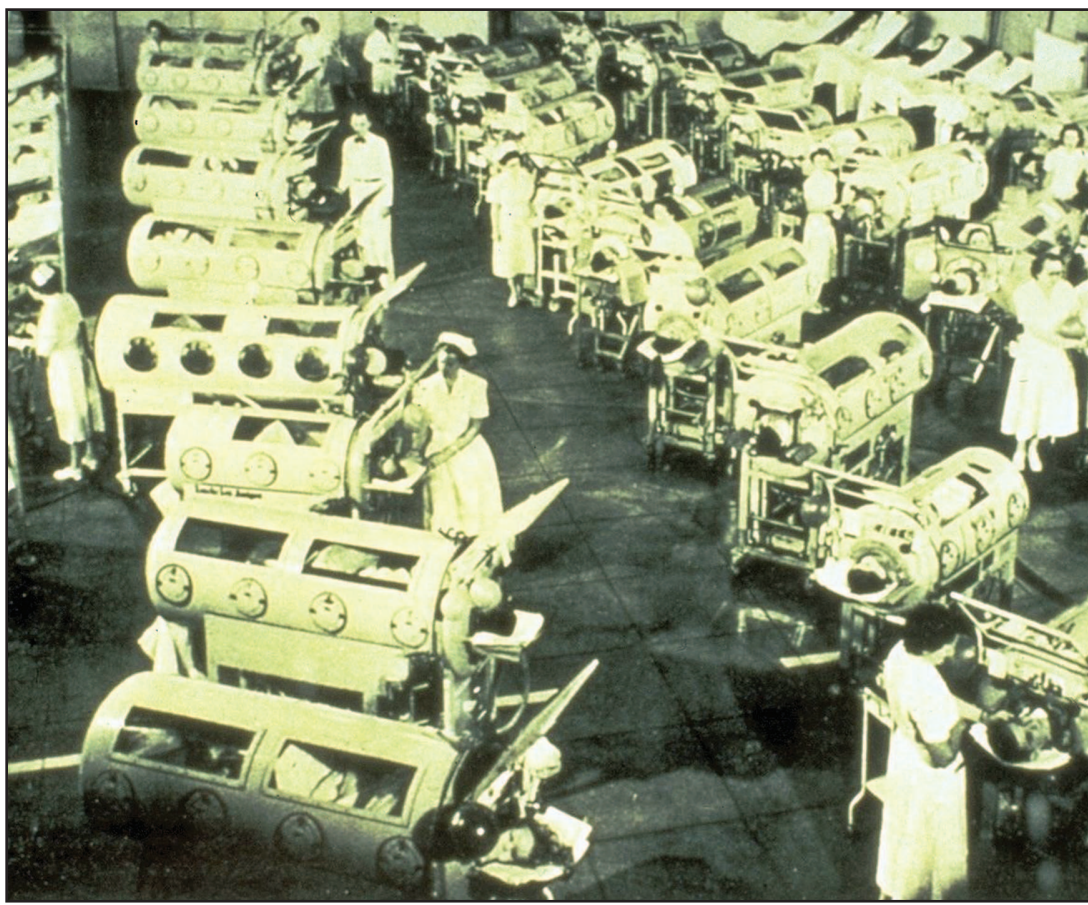
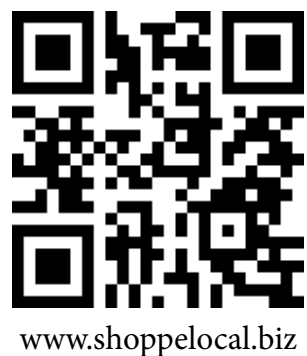
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WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION PHOTO

Hospital wards were full of iron lungs that helped polio victims breathe during the epidemic of the 1950s.

Rotary from 1B

a month, experiencing considerable pain, but thanks to his mother's quick thinking he escaped the paralysis and breathing issues that plagued most polio victims. That was 1952. Jonas Salk first tested his vaccine that year, and mass immunizations began and spread across the country three years later. By 1957, the number of polio cases in the United States dropped from 58,000 to

just 5,600. Polio has not been seen in this country since 1979. Thanks to a global partnership between the World Health Organization, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and Rotary International, only 40 cases of polio were reported in the world last year. The virus currently exists in only three countries: Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. So on Saturday, Aug. 5, when 136 players tee off at Ocean Dunes for the Rotary Club of Florence's eighth annual Cool at the Coast golf

tournament, they are not just playing golf — They are participating in a worldwide initiative that could eliminate polio from the planet by 2018. Cool at the Coast is hosted by Three Rivers Casino Resort and Ocean Dunes Golf Links. Premier sponsors include Coldwell Banker Coast Real Estate, Oregon Pacific Bank, PeaceHealth, Shervin Automotive, and Banner Bank. For registration and information, call 541-997-3232 or visit www.coolatthecoast.com.

Little from 1B

same pitchers at different fields. When you hear an official has "rabbit ears," it means their calls may be influenced by your actions. So, your negative behavior at sporting events can influence the outcome of a game with an unfavorable result. I worked as a basketball official in college. My responsibilities included officiating games at all levels, from middle school to college. I also officiated city league games. Those were actually the most difficult because, often-times, players were trying to regain their past athletic glory or trying to mimic the NBA stars of their day. One team out of Beaverton lost a game by 50 points. When the game ended, I was confronted by an angry member of the losing team who felt my officiating led to their loss. I had only one answer for this irate player: I told him it was unfortunate that his team had been placed in the "A" league and should consider talking to the organizer next time to change into an easier league. He huffed, puffed and stormed out of the gym. I drove home and slept soundly. Sometimes home officials will try to "neutralize" the advantage of a home team by giving the opponent more favorable calls. One instance of this occurred during a 7th-

grade basketball game I coached. The officials were teachers in our district, and also were my friends. As call after call went against us, I quietly mentioned this discrepancy to them. When at last a call was made against our opponents, I noticed a 19-to-1 ratio. I jumped up and exclaimed, "That's one!" Fortunately, their players were inaccurate freethrow shooters and we got the win in spite of their disproportionate trips to the foul line. In the end, the majority of officials are hard-working,

honest people with integrity. They try to make the correct call, knowing there will often be opposing opinions on the calls they make. So when you support your team, root positively for the plays and athletes in the game. Accept that the officials are doing their best to be fair and impartial — and don't unwittingly give the other team an unintended advantage. *Lloyd Little is a retired teacher, coach, athlete and sporting official. Contact him at sports@thesiuslawnews.com.*

Department of Forestry declares wildfire season open

It's already dry and additional heat is on its way, prompting the Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF) Western Lane and South Cascade districts to declare wildfire season. Public regulated use closures are now into effect. In addition, new rules related to regulated use will loosen the restrictions somewhat to allow public activities to be more aligned with industrial rules, depending on the fire danger level. "While the past several months have brought us out of the drought we experienced for the previous three years, increases in temperature and a return to summer-like conditions are setting up for increased fire danger," said

Dave Kjosness, ODF Western Lane Public Information Officer. "Coupled with an increase in undergrowth due to the rains, we could see another busy fire year. We ask the public to be aware of potential fire hazards in their outdoor activities and to understand the rules required in preventing the outbreak of fire." A declaration of fire season imposes certain restrictions on recreational and work activities in the forest. All industrial operations are required to have firefighting equipment on site. Since restrictions may vary, it is advisable to check with the nearest ODF office for rules specific to the local area.

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