

Horse from 1A

According to Swahili's website, "These recycled art sculptures are welded outside of Nairobi by metal artists using oil drums and scrap metal. Each (sculpture) is handcrafted from the ground up and exhibits its own unique characteristics. ... At this time, Swahili Modern is the only company in the U.S. who has the privilege of selling these recycled art sculptures made from oil drums and scrap metal."

The horse has made a long journey, Springer said, from Kenya to the bark at the front of Florence Senior Center. It also had to go through the same selection process that all public art in Florence requires.

"We have certain criteria for creativity and artistic awareness. Mostly though, at the end of the day, we look for the 'Wow Factor,'" Springer said. "When you walk up to something, do you go, 'Wow! Look at that?'" This certainly qualifies."

The Public Art Committee then



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Florence Senior Center's new sculpture gets a warm welcome.

worked with the board of the Florence Senior Center.

"This is a great piece of public art and I certainly hope all of you to spread the word about public art in Florence," Green said. "Let's get more of it on display, make it part of our culture and community that makes people want to come here, live here and spend money here."

The Public Art Committee seeks to improve the quality of life and the livability of Florence.

"It's gratifying that Sam and Ron did this for us. It indicates their confidence in public art and the city, as well as their willingness to take a step forward to improving our community. We thank you immensely for this," Springer said.

Transition from 1A

Hannigan wants to accomplish that as soon as possible.

"We are currently working with the Nonprofit Association of Oregon to find an interim executive officer to assist the board in navigating through the challenges ahead. We are also looking to fill the shelter manager position along with other staff positions," he said.

The turmoil over the past year at OCHS has impacted many longtime volunteers and supporters, causing some to reconsider their participation level and whether to commit their time and financial resources to the organization.

Hannigan wants to reassure

those people still involved with OCHS that their time and money are needed and greatly appreciated.

He also discussed the steps OCHS is taking to directly address member concerns.

"At the board meeting on April 25, the board repealed the current bylaws and adopted the 2006 bylaws, which bring the organization back to a membership organization," Hannigan said. "We plan to keep the members fully informed on our progress and informed on the financial condition by releasing financial reports and annual audits."

The board is ordering an annual audit and plans to continue to meet with necessary people to change over control

of the accounts.

"Currently, it looks like the humane society is in a good, strong financial condition," Hannigan said.

There has been little contact or communication between the previous board and the current board, with one notable exception — the OCHS Thrift Store on Bay Street.

"The Thrift Shop is currently being operated by an all-volunteer crew, with former board Vice President Ed Gervais remaining in a volunteer position, to assist the board in making sure the store continues running smoothly," Hannigan said.

He said the board is evaluating the need for a manager for the successful store, which

continues to generate income for the organization.

One of the main goals the new board has set for itself is to maintain open, clear and two-way conversations between the organization and the public.

To that end, OCHS will be meeting with members on a regular basis, as well as share plans and information received from audits and policy reviews with those interested.

"We plan on holding open board meetings approximately quarterly for members and the press. Monthly newsletters will be sent to all members," Hannigan said. "I want to assure everyone that we are up to this challenge and look forward to a very bright future for the Oregon Coast Humane Society."

For more information on OCHS, call 541-997-4277, stop by the facility at 2840 Rhododendron Drive or visit oregoncoasthumane.org.

Realtors offers scholarships through Friday, May 4

Each year the Central Oregon Coast Board of Realtors (COCBR) gives out three scholarships of \$1,000 each to those continuing their education.

One scholarship goes to a student graduating from Siuslaw High School, one to a student graduating from Mapleton High School and one to a Florence resident who is attending Lane Community College.

Criteria to meet the application requirements include an essay and information on the family income, work history of the student and a completed application submitted to our office by the deadline of May 4.

The COCBR Scholarship Committee looks over the submissions and chooses the candidate and the board sends a check to the college of choice the recipient has been accepted to attend.

The COCBR website has all the details at www.cocbr.net. Click on the "Resources" tab, drop down to the COCBR Scholarship page — the application can be mailed to COCBR, PO Box 414, Florence, 97439, or dropped off at the office at 1234 Rhododendron Dr #8, in Florence.

Applications can also be emailed to office@cocbr.net.

'Big Wave' will host First Tuesday Open Mic Night May 1

Florence Big Wave First Tuesday Open Mic will be hosted May 1 by the Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA), 120 Maple St., beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Come ride the wave to this Florence Big Wave Poetry sponsored event with your favorite poems, stories and prose.

Everyone is welcome to this free event.

There is a 5-minute performance time limit request.

For more information email bigwavepoetry@gmail.com.

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Online Worship Service@ www.florencecaz.com

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1318 Rhododendron Dr. - 997-2523 - Worship at 11:00 AM
-- Sunday School at 9:30 AM -
Variety of Sunday evening activities - 5 PM
Wed. Bible & Children classes at 6:00 PM
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FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) - 997-3951
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To be included in this directory contact the Siuslaw News at 997-3441, or drop off information at 148 Maple St., Old Town, Florence.