



## Rhodies in bloom focus of society's Flower Show

The annual Rhododendron Festival Flower Show and Plant Sale is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, May 19 and 20, at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

The truss must come from a plant that the owner has grown for at least six months. Ribbons will be awarded.

The sale runs from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Sponsored by the Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society, the flower show opens to the public free of charge.

Community members are

welcome to bring flower trusses on Saturday from 7 to 9 a.m. to be judged by rhododendron experts.

The truss must come from a plant that the owner has grown for at least six months. Ribbons will be awarded.

It's a great time to ask questions, find books and information and enjoy the beautiful colors of the season.

Plant sales will take place outside the south side of the events center.

## Honoring Florence's first First Citizen

This year's Rhododendron Festival Grand Floral Parade grand marshal is Dr. Al Brauer, named Florence's first-ever First Citizen in 1967. Brauer was instrumental in establishing Peace Harbor Hospital, Lane



Community College and its Florence campus, the Florence Rotary Club, the Alice Brauer Christian Preschool, New Life Lutheran Church and Oregon Pacific Bank, where he served as board chairman for 28 years.

He moved to Florence after serving in the Marines in World War II, earning his medical degree, and serving as a medical missionary in Kenya. He established his family medical practice in 1958.

Brauer said, "It was a shocker, but I'm deeply honored" about his

selection.

Current First Citizen Rachel Pearson nominated Brauer and said his contributions to the region cannot be overestimated.

"His bold vision, incredible hard work, and determination

over the last six decades have helped form the City of Florence that we know and love today. The many institutions he helped establish positively touch the lives of residents and visitors every day," said Pearson. "In a way, Dr. Brauer is our own George Bailey from 'It's a Wonderful Life.' Without his efforts, Western Lane County would be the worse for his absence."

As the festival's theme is "Rhody Rendezvous," people will get the chance to meet Brauer to remember his legacy and continuing impact.

### Florence, Oregon

### Us TOO Florence

Prostate Cancer Education/Support  
on the Oregon Coast

[www.ustooflorence.org](http://www.ustooflorence.org)

**BOB HORNEY,**

**CHAPTER LEADER/FACILITATOR**

Us TOO Florence has two monthly meetings for your convenience:

• **Tuesday Evening Group (2nd Tuesday)**

5-7 p.m. - Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw  
Urologist Dr. Bryan Mehlhaff, M.D. attends.

• **Tuesday Lunch Bunch (3rd Tuesday)**

12 noon - 1:00 p.m. - Ichiban  
Urologist Dr. Roger McKimmy, M.D. attends.

Contact Bob for more information:

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- Check out our Personal Prostate Cancer Journeys, slideshows and other information on our website.
- A prostate cancer diagnosis is not needed to attend.
- Spouses/family members are encouraged to attend.
- Bring questions/records - get answers
- Someone to talk to - who understands.

[www.ustooflorence.org](http://www.ustooflorence.org)



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