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# BRONCOS ROUND UP

SPORTS — B



# Siuslaw News

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FLORENCE, OREGON



PHOTOS BY MARK BRENNAN AND CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

## Taking it to the streets

City of Florence's 125th anniversary closes Bay Street for Block Party



BY CHANTELE MEYER  
SIUSLAW NEWS

**F**lorence celebrated its 125th year as an incorporated city last Friday with a block party on Bay Street. More than 1,500 people attended the event, set in front of the Siuslaw River Bridge, to hear live music, take their picture, enjoy activities and eat free BJ's ice cream.

"Hello, everyone, and welcome to the City of Florence celebrating 125 years," said City Manager Erin Reynolds. "Let's give a round of applause to the city, and thank you all for everything we've done." She told attendees about many of the events going on between Laurel Street and the bridge on Bay Street, primarily centered around a stage set in front of the Siuslaw River Bridge Interpretive

Center. These included booths from Florence Public Works, Florence Police Department, Florence Community PTA, the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, Siuslaw Vision 2025 and the Siuslaw Public Library. Pressure Point Band, based in Portland, Ore., provided a mix of classic rock, favorite oldies and new pop favorites for the crowd, which frequently broke into

spontaneous dancing. On the rest of the block, area first responders brought vehicles for youth and other attendees to explore. Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue's ladder track displayed the American flag high above the other activities, including an ambulance from Western Lane Ambulance, a patrol car from Florence Police Department and 29-foot small response life boat

from U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River. Oregon Coast Military Museum also had one if its military Jeeps on display. "There are quite a few activities around the block," Reynolds said. "There's a photo booth, and it is staged with the bridge right behind you in the view." See BLOCK PARTY page 9A

## Sounds from our history



STORY & PHOTOS  
BY MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

Area residents have the opportunity to spend some time with visitors from Florence's past as they share songs and stories from yesterdays long gone on Thursday, Aug. 2, at City Lights Cinemas.

The Heritage Players, a group of actors affiliated with the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum, and the New Folksters, a musical ensemble that reinterprets traditional and folk music, will be performing together in a benefit performance for local community radio station KXCR.

See HERITAGE page 7A

## A PASSION FOR ART

Artists at Spruce Point connect art with memory

STORY & PHOTO  
BY JARED ANDERSON  
SIUSLAW NEWS

"When I was in grade school, it was my teachers who provided us the opportunity to have an art class as a major curriculum, and that was something I just really liked," Christine Moss said. "With math, there's a right and wrong answer. Two plus two equals four, it doesn't equal sixteen. Math is solid, but art is fluid. It doesn't bind you or chain you. It doesn't restrict your mind."

At that point, Moss threw up her hands and started singing lyrics from En Vogue's early 1990's pop hit, "Free Your Mind." "Free your mind, and the rest will follow." That's art," she said. "It gives you an opportunity to be free from restrictions and what is old. It gives you an opportunity to be you, fresh and new every day."

Moss, along with other residents of Spruce Point Assisted Living and Memory Care in Flor-



Spruce Point artists, such as photographer Brigitt Lyon (above), will display their work in a new exhibit on Wednesday, Aug. 8.

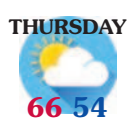
ence, will be showing off her artwork in the facility's first-ever "Art of Our Lives" art showcase on Wednesday, Aug. 8.

Some of the artists and the event's organizers talked about why art is important to the residents of Spruce Point, how it recaptures important memories and what art means to them.

See ART page 8A

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Broker/Owner

Jim Hoberg is a Florence native, and has been working in Real Estate since 1989. He has served as a Principal Broker for 29 years. He has obtained several designations that require continuing education, which keeps him on the cutting edge of the industry and he is constantly looking for ways to expand his areas of expertise. Jim enjoys helping people find solutions to their real estate needs and discovering why Florence is such a great place to live.



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