

Santa to visit Justice Center Saturday

The Florence Police Auxiliary will host its annual Meet Santa at the Florence Justice Center, located at Ninth and Greenwood streets, on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. Children will be able to select a toy and have their picture taken with Santa. The auxiliary is asking for community toy donations, unwrapped, for all ages. Gifts can be dropped off between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Justice Center before Dec. 14.

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Florence Chamber reveals 2019 Rhody Festival logo

The Florence Area Chamber of Commerce announced its selection of “Coastal Canvas,” submitted by Marsha Horner of Florence, as the theme for the 112th Rhododendron Festival. To help promote the annual event, the Chamber’s board of directors held a logo design contest, requesting a design that incorporates the event’s name, dates and theme, as well as elements of the area’s natural and man-made beauty. The winning design was submitted by Chantelle Meyer of Florence. She combined the images of rhododendrons, water and the Heceta Head Lighthouse on an artist’s palette. Included are the words “112th annual Rhododendron Festival, Coastal Canvas, Florence, Oregon” and the festival’s dates of May 17 to 19, 2019. “There’s really been a resurgence and interest in public art in Florence,” says Meyer. “It’s

The logo design chosen to represent the theme 'Coastal Canvas' was created by Florence resident Chantelle Meyer.

been part of the driving force with the Florence Urban Renewal Agency and the City of Florence’s public art committee. As soon as I heard about the theme I asked myself, ‘What do

artists use?’ A palette immediately came to mind. I thought that would make a fun element to start with.” “With ‘Coastal Canvas’ as the theme for the 2019 Rhododendron Festival, it highlights our arts community and opens the door to showing off the area’s natural beauty and the beauty crafted by local artists,” says Chamber Executive Director Bettina Hannigan. “We live in an open canvas and we can use what is around us to build upon to thrive as a community. We have outstanding visual arts, culinary arts, theater/performing arts, and more here in the Siuslaw Region. Celebrating the arts with our neighbors and guests to our area will showcase this area’s creativity,” says Chamber member Jo Beaudreau, owner of BeauxArts Fine Art Materials and Gallery and member of the Florence Public Arts Committee.

This year’s logo will soon start appearing in print, broadcast and online materials to promote the event and draw visitors to Florence. The logo will be printed on commemorative pins, banners, advertisements and print guides. The Rhododendron Court will sell pins featuring the logo, the proceeds from which will go toward scholarships for Queen Rhododendra, the King of the Coast and members of the Rhody Court. “We are delighted with both Marsha’s idea for the theme and Chantelle’s design for its vibrancy and how it conveys the natural and man-made artistry of our area,” adds Hannigan. For more information on the 2019 Rhododendron Festival, including applications for the Rhododendron Court, contact the chamber at events@FlorenceChamber.com or 541-997-3128.

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