

Hecktic Week to play at Three Rivers this weekend

Every weekend in December, Three Rivers Casino Resort invites the community to Blue Bills Sports Bar and Tap Room, featuring live shows performed by top local artists. Stop in at Blue Bills on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 21 and 22, from 7 to 11 p.m., to hear Hecktic Week. This is an energy packed duo with powerful vocals and beat driven grooves. Their sound is a blues influenced infusion of nostalgic country, folk and rock. Gypsy (Jennifer Week-

ly) grooves on her bass guitar while filling the atmosphere with a powerhouse voice reminiscent of Janis Joplin. Heck (Michael Hecker) is a “one-man band,” playing guitar, harmonica and drums. Together, they bring the sound of a big band in a small package. As a reminder, there is no cover charge, but patrons must be 21 or older to attend. For more information, visit www.threeriverscasino.com/events.



COURTESY PHOTO
Jennifer Weekly and Michael Hecker, aka, Gypsy and Heck of the band Hecktic Week, who will perform this weekend.

Siuslaw Vision seeks community input on education survey

The Siuslaw Vision and a group of community volunteers have been studying evaluation techniques this year through a series of training sessions with Portland-based consultant Dialogues in Action. As part of this “Evaluating Impact” training, the group is doing a study of education and learning in the Siuslaw Region and is soliciting community input through a questionnaire. “We’re hoping to hear from those with different education and learning experiences — from those learning and teach-

ing in our schools to those who attend workshops and lectures in the community, to those who learn at home through YouTube videos, books or hands-on experiences,” said Stephanie Sarles, Siuslaw Vision coordinator. The survey, which takes 10 to 20 minutes to complete, is available at www.rivercal.org/education. Printed copies may be picked up at the Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth St. in Florence. Those who complete the survey and provide their contact

information will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 Visa gift card. Names will not be linked to survey responses. The Vision will share the results of the education impact study in early 2019 through RiverCal.org and community events. For more information, please call 541-590-2425 or email SiuslawVision@gmail.com. Siuslaw Vision is a grassroots effort to improve quality of life for residents living in the western Lane County area, including Deadwood, Swisshome, Mapleton, Florence and Dunes City. The Vision was created following two years of input from over 1,200 local residents. It focuses on six inclusive elements, all centered on the people of the Siuslaw region: Working People (jobs and the economy), Happy People (health and human services), Educated People (lifelong learners), Connected People (infrastructure and public services), Creative People (arts and culture), and Active People (recreation and the outdoors). For more information, visit www.SiuslawVision.org.

Pre-sale of new ‘Drive With Smokey’ Oregon license plate begins

On Dec. 17, Keep Oregon Green, in partnership with the USDA Forest Service and the Oregon Department of Forestry, launched the sale of a new Oregon license plate design. The plate will feature the iconic image of Smokey Bear set against a green forested backdrop and the words “Keep Oregon Green,” as a reminder of the need to protect Oregon’s scenic landscapes from careless human-caused wildfires. The release of the plate design and voucher sale coincides with a year-long, nationwide celebration of Smokey Bear’s 75th Anniversary in 2019. Keep Oregon Green will promote the license plate on social media



using the hashtag “#DriveWithSmokey” each week until they sell 3,000 vouchers. The Keep Oregon Green Association will also partner with other firefighting and emergency response organizations to help spread the message. “Each year, approximately two-thirds of Oregon’s wildfires are human-caused and they are all completely preventable,” says Keep Oregon Green’s CEO,

Kristin Babbs. “Keep Oregon Green’ has been a household slogan since its inception in 1941, and this message is more important now than ever before. Wildfire awareness opportunities like this will help ingrain it in Oregonians’ DNA.” In 2018, the number of human-caused fires represented 79 percent of all ignitions. The leading culprits behind a number of these fires included illegal burning, driving poorly-maintained vehicles that spark fires and failing to extinguish campfires properly. Other fire causes include power lines, mowing dry grass, fireworks and smoking. Keep Oregon Green runs an-

nual campaigns aimed at reducing the number of these types of wildfires. The phrase “Keep Oregon Green” is prominently shown on road signs on major highways, television, radio and in print advertisements each year, with a strong message emphasis during the summer fire season. To purchase a \$40 voucher and contribute to Keep Oregon Green’s fire prevention message, visit drivewithsmokey.com. The Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will begin producing the license plates when 3,000 vouchers have been sold. For more on wildfire prevention information and the Keep Oregon Green Association, visit www.keeporegongreen.org.

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