

Celebrate our 'Coastal Canvas' — plan to attend 2019 Rhody Fest

The 112th annual Florence Rhododendron Festival is coming May 17 to 19, 2019.

The Davis Shows Carnival opens on Wednesday afternoon in Historic Old Town Florence and the Rhododendron Court coronation of Queen Rhododendra and The King of the Coast takes place Thursday evening at the Florence Events Center. Saturday features the annual 5K Rhody Run and Walk, the junior parade and kids' activities, the annual Rhody Classic Car Show 'n' Shine, and the Coast Radio Classic Car Cruise through Old Town. Sunday brings the Grand Floral Parade down Highway 101 at noon.

Throughout the event, there will be a vendor's fair in Old Town, a spectacular rhododendron show along with live music, art and other festivities at the Florence Events

Center, and many other exhibits and activities all over town

Rhododendron Court members, made up of the Senior Princess and Prince Courts and the Junior Princess Court, sell the event's lapel pins for \$3, featuring the 2019 festival logo. Pins will be available at the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Center and around town. Proceeds go toward scholarships for members of the court.

"With 'Coastal Canvas' as the theme for the 2019 Rhododendron Festival,



Davis Shows NW Carnival returns to Florence for Rhody Days in Historic Old Town every year. This year's theme is Coastal Canvas.

it highlights our arts community and opens the door showing off the area's natural beauty and the beauty crafted by local artists," said Chamber Executive Director Bettina Hannigan. This year's theme was

submitted by Marsha Horner of Florence. It is portrayed in the event's logo design submitted by Chantelle Meyer, who combined the images of rhododendrons, water and the Heceta Head Lighthouse on an artist's palette.

"There's really been a resurgence and interest

in public art in Florence," says Meyer. "It's 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, a palette immediately came to mind. I thought that

materials and Gallery and member of the Florence Public Arts Committee, said, "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."

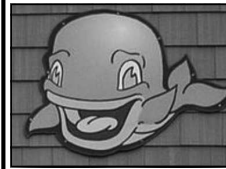
For more information on the 2019 Rhododendron Festival, including applications for vendor spaces and parade entries, contact the chamber at events@FlorenceChamber.com or 541-997-3128. Go to www.FlorenceChamber.com for other local events and resources.

would make a fun element to start with as we emphasize our area's natural beauty and the artists who create gorgeous local art."

Chamber member Jo Beaudreau, owner of BeauxArts Fine Art Ma-

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FRAUDVILLE FROLICKERS FASCINATE

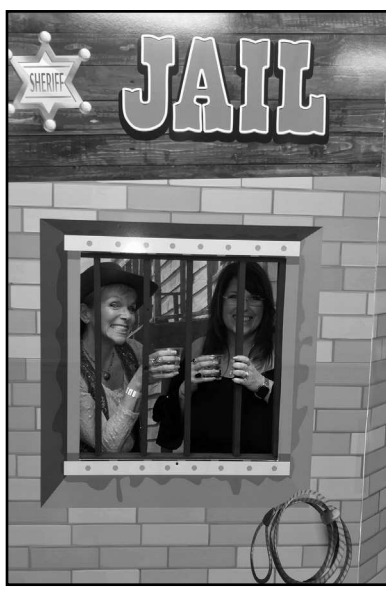


2019 Fraudville winners — Coastal Cuties of Coastal Fitness

On Feb. 9, 230 guests enjoyed a fast-paced and fun-filled evening as the ninth annual Fraudville hit the Florence Event Center.

Five local lip-sync bands vied for the travelling trophy sponsored by Tony's Garage. The Coastal Cuties of Coastal Fitness took home the winning honors with a dance medley to "Where the Boys Are" and "Heartbreaker," performed with a senior-citizen flair on walkers and canes.

Other returning bands were sponsored by last year's winner. These included The Premiums by Coast Insurance Services, multi-year winner Oregon Pacific Bank and Harklerode's Disney Di-



Hunter Real Estate with a steamy rendition of Madonna's "Vogue."

"All of the bands were just terrific," said Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County Executive Director Check Trent.

Fraudville's theme of "Old West" rounded out the night, complete with a roping contest at the corral and other western fun, even a sheriff taking people to jail.

All the activities raised funds in support of Boys and Girls Club. The evening was sponsored by BigFoot Beverages, Oregon Pacific Bank, Zolezzi Insurance Agency and Banner Bank. The live auction was carried by the energetic Baker Auction of Boise, who performed their own surprise lip-sync.

COURTESY PHOTOS

Rhododendron Society invites submissions to May Flower Show

The Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society, celebrating 49 years in Florence, is hosting a free Rhododendron Flower Show at the Florence Events Center May 18 and 19.

The show is open for

all to exhibit. People are asked to bring their trusses between 7 and 9 a.m. on Saturday to the events center, 715 Quince St.

It will be open for the public after the judging is finished, around 1 p.m. and will be open until 5

p.m. The plant sale will be from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. on both days.

For more information, check out Siuslawars.org or contact Rhody Bones at 541-997-3082 or rhodies@charter.net.

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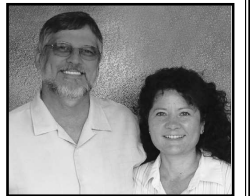
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- Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Family Connections
- Sunday Worship 9:00am and 10:45am

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