

# Florence Chamber of Commerce Fourth of July line-up of events

"It is with great pleasure the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce presents its annual Independence Day celebration. Come Thursday, July 4, for a day of old-fashioned family fun and games, pie- and watermelon-eating contests, food, music and one of the best fireworks shows on the coast," Chamber director

Bettina Hannigan said. The pyrotechnic extravaganza will launch from Port of Siuslaw property at the east end of Historic Old Town Florence. This makes it possible for the most people possible to see the show and gives the display extra depth and drama by reflecting off the river. Another returning tradi-

tion is the annual pie- and watermelon-eating contests along the boardwalk at the east end of Old Town. This year, these events are sponsored by Habitat for Humanity. Sign-ups begin at noon with the contest starting at 1 p.m. The contests are free and open to several age groups. Coast Radio KCST 106.9 FM will broadcast patriotic music to accompany the fireworks show. The fireworks begin at 10 p.m.

For the past several years, contributions from local businesses and individuals have enabled the Chamber to present its outstanding fireworks show that draws thousands of spectators to Florence. Key sponsors this year include: Aero Legends Bi-

plane Rides, the City of Florence, Florence Antiques & Coast Jewelers, The River House Inn, The Old Town Inn, Friends of the Florence Events Center and Three Rivers Casino Resort. The Chamber is still hoping to raise an additional \$4,000 to underwrite the full cost of the show. Local businesses and the general public can learn how to make financial contributions by contacting the Chamber at 541-997-3128 or by visiting FlorenceChamber.com and clicking the Events tab.

"The 4th of July is a special day for Americans to celebrate our nation's birthday and honor the patriotism of those who made our independence possible," said Hannigan. "Economic conditions have been difficult for many smaller communities to continue to fund a fireworks display, but our Chamber board is committed to maintaining this long-standing tradition in Florence." There will be other public events all around town as well. Contact the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce for more details at 541-997-3128, info@FlorenceChamber.com or FlorenceChamber.com. Following Thursday's celebration, on Saturday, July 6, is the annual Wings & Wheels classic airplane and car show. The event takes place at the Florence Municipal Airport, 2000 Kingwood St. Now known as The Mike Groshong Memorial Wings and Wheels Show, the event is named for its late found-

er, organizer, and enthusiastic classic car buff. Organizers say this is one of the most entertaining classic car and airplane shows in Oregon. In addition to more than 100 cars, including the Central Oregon Coast British Car Club, there are antique and hot rod airplanes, historic military vehicles and current Coast Guard, police, fire and ambulance displays. Exhibitions, food, live music and more than 20 local and regional groups with displays and activities for the whole family runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. A \$2 donation is requested and parking is free. For more information visit OregonCoastHotRods.com.

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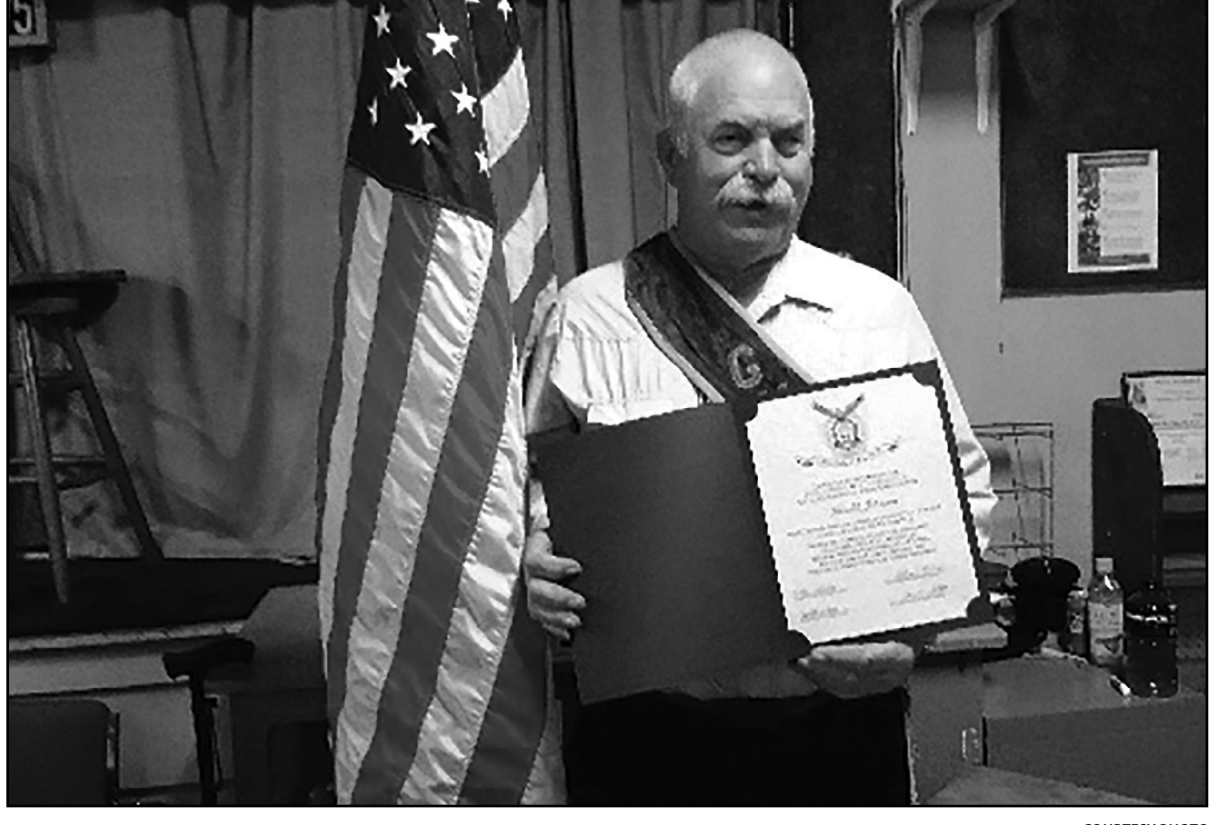
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## ADA Grange honors Harold Johnson



ADA member Harold Johnson was recently presented a Certificate of Honor from Ada Grange #570 (Oregon) and Potomac Grange #1 (Washington D.C.) and all other Granges across America saluting Johnson for Patriotism, Courage and Service to country above self during the time of the Vietnam War. Johnson has been a member since 1998 and was presented the award by Ada Lecturer Heather Elliott.

# ANNUAL FLORENCE FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA!



**Showtime 10-10:30 p.m.**  
**Port of Siuslaw Park and Old Town Area**  
**Nopal & Bay Streets**

This year the fireworks will be fully-synchronized with patriotic music to be broadcast on KCST 106.9FM - Coast Radio throughout the Florence area.

Come early to stake out your viewing spot and enjoy music from 8-10:30 p.m. with Wayne Sharpe of KCST 106.9FM - Coast Radio during their live remote in the Port of Siuslaw marina parking lot.  
**Special thanks to our event sponsors:**

- Aero Legends**
- City of Florence**
- Florence Antiques & Coast Jewelers**
- River House Inn/Old Town Inn**
- Three Rivers Casino**
- Friends of the Florence Events Center**



**Celebration**

