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“One of the biggest questions we’ve had is the timeline; when are we going to be pouring beer from the taps? We are hoping that will be by Jan. 1,” Elaine said. “It takes time to get all the ducks in a row, but little by little we have been able to accomplish quite a bit in a short period of time. I feel pretty confident that we will be able to launch in January and, if it happens sooner, I am sure you guys will all know about it.”

The McMillans are not working alone on the brewery project. They have employed Dustin Basurto to oversee the actual making of beer for Homegrown.

Basurto said he is looking forward to creating some basic styles of beers that will hopefully reflect local preferences.

“Initially, we are going to be brewing one barrel at a time, which is about a 31-gallon yield,” he explained. “Our plan is to introduce four styles to begin with, with some seasonals mixed in later.”

“We are lucky here, we know what our sales have been on certain styles and we have only Oregon beers, so we are trying to be as local as possible.”



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Local beer aficionados gather at Homegrown Public House to learn about Florence’s latest brewing plans.

Basurto has previous experience as a brewer having worked at one of the world’s most successful and widely recognized craft breweries.

“I got my professional experience at the Rogue Brewery. I trained with John Meyer, who is one of the most knowledgeable and hardest-working men I’ve ever seen,” he said. “I was there for about two years and I was doing production brewing and John was pretty much dialed in, so I was able to learn a lot from him.”

The specifics of the process that is required

to legally brew beer takes some time, but Basurto believes the state agencies involved in the approval and certification process are working towards finalizing the paperwork submitted by Homegrown.

“We have submitted the application to TTB (Federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau) and we have started working with the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, so we are basically going to vertically integrate beer into our business plan and have a beer kitchen or a nano-brew-

ery on site,” Basurto explained. “McMenamins is our model. We just want to brew in-house and sell it in-house. We are not looking at distributing, at least not at this time — we are just going to make some good local beer.”

There are a number of ways that interested individuals can support Homegrown’s brewing efforts as well as opportunities to learn more about brewing.

For a list of the different levels of support, visit the Homegrown Public House website at www.homegrownpublichouse.com.

Wiener Dog Races return to FEC Oct. 12

Saturday, Oct. 12, from noon to 3 p.m., sees the return of the festive Oktober-Fur-Fest celebration at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St. The event features German-style food and drink, games, and prizes — and the hilariously exciting Wiener Dog Races from 1 to 3 p.m. This event is sponsored by the Siuslaw News and Florence Events Center.




SIUSLAW NEWS FILE PHOTO

Florence Mayor Joe Henry will ceremonially tap the first keg when the doors open at noon. Adult beverages will only be served to those 21 and

over. Admission is \$3. Limited front row VIP tickets for the races are \$10 at the FEC box office. Proceeds from the dachshund derby

will benefit the Florence Van Fans Cancer Van. To register your dog for the races, contact Jeanna Petersen at 541-999-6077.

More information is available at www.Event-Center.org or by calling the Florence Events Center at 541-997-1994.



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