MARKET *from page 1A*

Roussett was also glad that some of the small issues that had come up during season one had worked themselves out.

"People have gotten used to where we are and there is less confusion about us and the Boardwalk Market. People have also gotten used to the grassy area. Plus, we've doubled and tripled our volunteer staff and we have more volunteers showing up every week," she said.

One difference that customers may see next year is a possible change in the market's operating hours. There have been some requests that the market open earlier in the day but there is a reason for the current opening time of 3 p.m.

"We may consider starting earlier, but the reason the hours are as they are, is so the farmers can have time to pick in the morning and then come with the freshest produce they have," she said.

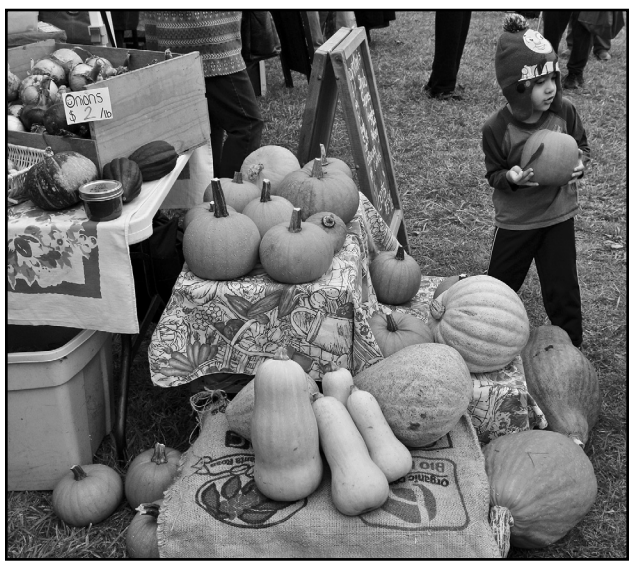
The staff and farmers that participate in the market not only need customers to come and buy food from them, but also they ask members of the community to support them at a fund-raising event that captures the essence of the idea behind the Farmers Market.

The event was held at a local agency that has made getting food to those concerned with food security a priority: Florence Food Share.

"We recently held our Farm to Table Dinner, it was a sold-out event, which was really great," Roussett said. "Anthony from Organic Noodles and the vendors provided the produce and the vegetables, which were wonderful, and we were at Florence Food Share's garden which was a really beautiful site."

Roussett also said there were not any significant recurring problems this season, but there was one overriding sentiment that all of the individuals involved in the market wanted to share with the public.

"We are so grateful to the community for their enthusiasm and to the volunteers that have made this program happen," she said. "We will be back next year with even more healthy, sustainable things to share with people."



PHOTOS BY MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Customers were plentiful, as was the late season produce, at the last Florence Farmers Market of the season. Market staff thanked the public for the strong support and look forward to offering even more options next year.

PORT *from page 1A*

There have also been significant upgrades to the camping and RV facilities the port maintains east of Old Town with the addition this summer of full-service RV sites along the riverfront.

Port of Siuslaw Manager David Huntington and port commissioners had budgeted for the Mo's upgrade and posted the job requirements and associated specifications last year. At the time, they only received one bid to undertake the project.

"The port has made it a priority to upgrade to upgrade our facilities and the Mo's walkway has been a concern for a few years now. We've repaired it a number of times, but it had reached the end of its life expectancy and was becoming a safety issue, so we decided we had to replace the old wooden walkway with a material more suited for this environment," Huntington said.

The single bid received was from Oregon Marine Construction (OMC) which came in at just over $158,000.

Brien Mill is the area coordinator for OMC and recognized the potentially dangerous state of the walkway while working in and around the dock area behind Mo's.

"The walkway had really deteriorated over the years. Most of the support beams are wood and needed serious attention. I saw the condition and talked with the port manager about it," Mill said. "When the job was approved by the commissioners, we bid on it. I was really surprised to hear that we were the only company to bid on it."

The need for maintenance on port-held properties is nearly constant. Much of that work is routine and accomplished by port staff, but some projects, like the replacement of the walkway and the utility trusses that are housed beneath the walkway, needed additional discussion and authorization by the Port of Siuslaw commission.

"We budgeted for it in last year's budgetary cycle and we planned for it to happen this fall, when we usually work on off-season projects," Huntington said.

In addition, there are other problems in and around the marina that arise. Those vary from retrieving a lost boat engine to diving below water lines to repair the pipes and conduits that provide electricity and water to longterm renters of slips at the port and the businesses that are located along the Siuslaw River.

Some of this type of work can be done by the employees, but if the job calls for extended underwater work or metal fabrication for infrastructure, others are called upon to assist.

Mill has been a recurring and important presence on the waterfront for years and has worked on a variety of projects for the port and for many individual boat owners. This familiarity with the water and the effects of the river and the tides on the docks and boat slips in the marina has given Mill a unique and valuable perspective.

Mill has also taken a personal interest in not only the structural integrity of port properties but also the manner in which the work he and the team from OMC integrates modifications into the specific project under consideration.

His metalworking skills and his sense of the history and culture of this area is extensive and informs all of his work. That was definitely the case on this project as Mill realized it was imperative to retain the classic feel of the restaurant while improving the structural integrity of the entrance to the building.

According to Mill, "The walkway needed a lot of work and took about three weeks from start to finish, but it was worth it. It is a lot safer now and I think it looks great too."

The cultural and financial importance of Mo's was one factor in the tight timeline proposed by OMC and Mill is pleased the project went well.

Another aspect of the improved utility truss installed underneath the walkway, which connects the restaurant's fire suppression system to the building, adds a local flavor to the upgrade while helping to hide the utility and water lines running from the street to the restaurant.

Mill decided there was an opportunity to add to the city's public arts focus by contributing his time and the materials necessary to add a unique and interesting touch to the walkway.

"As you may have also noticed, the utility-hanger truss on the bottom was designed and painted to resemble our Siuslaw River drawbridge. There have been several art projects popping up around town, and I wanted to contribute. I had this unique opportunity to use the Mo's walkway as a canvas, so I took advantage of it," Mill said.

FLORENCE FOOD SHARE
Sharing Is Caring

Florence Food Share provides food to those who are hungry in our community. If you have four hours a week available, we are in need of volunteers to staff our Front Desk and also act as Guides as clients walk through the pantry. Please call our volunteer coordinator, Sarah Lovejoy, @ 541-997-9110 (Monday – Friday, before noon) to learn more about volunteering. info@florencefoodshare.org 2190 Spruce Street.

Florence Habitat for Humanity®
ReStore processing volunteer needed to help with donation sorting process.
For more information contact Floyd at 541-997-5834

Assisting those in need in our Community.
Free Hot Meals Mon-Wed-Fri
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
HELPING HANDS COALITION
New Location:Community Baptist Church
4590 Hwy. 101, Florence (Across from Fred Meyer)
Call 541-997-5057 to Volunteer

OREGON COAST Humane Society
relies heavily on volunteers.
There are many opportunities to volunteer and a variety of skills and talents are always in need. Volunteer interest forms may be found online, at the shelter and at our Thrift Shop on Bay Street.
www.oregoncoasthumanesociety.org/volunteer/

Memory Care Respite of Florence
Your Memory Care Respite Center needs you!
Seeking volunteers for our Coffee Club:
Conversation & companionship in a caring setting while providing respite for caregivers.
Contact us at memcarerespite@gmail.com

Volunteer
Get involved
Donate
Do your part and volunteer today to help support these local non-proft organizations in our community!

Join the Peace Harbor Hospital Volunteers.
You will find an area of interest in a caring organization.
Peace Harbor Volunteers
400 9th Street, Florence, OR 97439
541-997-8412 ext. 2218

SENIOR MEALS PROGRAM
Offering Café 60 & Meals On Wheels
Meals on Wheels are available to people over the age of 60 who cannot get out much due to illness or advanced age and who are not eating properly, regardless of income. Cafe 60 is available for those who prefer to make new friends in a dining room setting.
1570 Kingwood • PO Box 2313, Florence
541-997-5673
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Operating Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Us TOO FLORENCE PROSTATE CANCER EDUCATION & SUPPORT
www.ustooflorence.org
Saving men one PSA test at a time.
541-997-6626
maribob@oregonfast.net
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Volunteer
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Do your part and volunteer today to help support these local non-proft organizations in our community!

To include your organization in this directory, please call us @ 541-997-3441

FLORENCE REGIONAL ARTS ALLIANCE
FRAA ART CENTER
120 Maple Street
Phone: 541-997-4435
Hours Open: Wed-Fri 11am-5pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun. 11am-5pm
Closed: Monday, Tuesday

Classes, Workshops & Events

NEW DATE: Annual Members' Meeting
Tuesday, November 19th, 10:00 am.
Come learn about what we have been doing and upcoming events, hear annual survey results, provide suggestions for our future, and vote for new board members.

Winter Arts Festival Applications
We are accepting applications for the Winter Arts Festival until November 1st. The dates are January 25th & 26th, 2020. Applications are available on our website and at FRAA.

Painting with John Leasure
Saturdays 9 am - 12 pm
No painting experience required. Contact: jnleasure@hotmail.com or 541-991-2754 for details and fees.

Next Art Change-Out Day
Monday, November 11, 2019, 9-11 am
Please pick up your artwork and bring something new to help keep the art at FRAA fresh to our visitors.

NEW! The Big Wave Spooky Word Contest 2019
Friday, October 25th, 7 pm at FRAA
Admission free. Poets, songwriters, storytellers all welcome. Must be your original work. Limited to 4 minutes. Registration at 6:30 pm. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places as well as best costume!

Big Wave Poetry 1st Tuesday Open Mic
Tuesday, November 5, 2019 at 7:00 pm
Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

Poetry Workshop
Small group meeting of poets to enhance their written word. Last Tuesday of each month, 6:30-8:30 pm. Write fraaoregon@gmail.com if you are interested in joining.

Writers Workshop
Writers discuss their current works and get inputs from other writers.
2nd Tuesday, Monthly, 1-4 pm Write fraaoregon@gmail.com for details

For more information about classes, visit fraaoregon.org. To register for these classes, please call or visit FRAA at our Art Center on Maple Street.