

Victorian Christmas Open House



Heceta Head Lightstation is celebrating 24 years of the annual Victorian Christmas Open House on the weekends of Dec. 7 and 8 and Dec. 14 and 15, from 4 to 7 p.m. each day.

The Queen Anne style Keeper's House will be decorated inside and out with festive Victorian holiday decorations. Even Santa will be visiting!

Guests are encouraged to take a night time walk to the lighthouse, which provides an opportunity to watch the lighthouse beams rotate

overhead. Guests are encouraged to bring a flashlight.

Entry to the Keeper's House is free, but donations are gladly accepted. Parking is available at the Heceta Head Lighthouse State Scenic View Point, just below the Keeper's House, for \$5 per vehicle. A free shuttle bus offered will take visitors from the park right to the front door.

For more info, contact the Heceta Lighthouse B&B at 866-547-3696 or email keepers@hecetalighthouse.com.

Siuslaw Band & Choir Concert

On Monday, Dec. 9, come ring in the holidays with the Siuslaw High School Jazz and Symphonic bands, along with the Concert and Chamber choirs. This is a **FREE** concert open to the community. Come to the Florence Events Center at 7 p.m.

Deadline nears for 2020 Rhododendron Festival Court

Applications for the 113th Rhododendron Court are due before Monday, Dec. 6, at 5 p.m.

The Senior Court is open to high school senior girls and boys who exhibit exceptional character and are Siuslaw region residents. The Junior Court is one girl for each elementary school grade.

Queen Rhododendra, King of the Coast and the Rhody Court will reign over the 2020 Rhododendron Festival, act as the

goodwill ambassadors for this event and make many promotional appearances between the start of the year and the annual Rhody Festival, May 15 to 17 in Florence.

The Rhododendron Court will benefit from experiences with public speaking and media relations. Queen Rhododendra and the King of the Coast, along with their Senior Court, will be awarded scholarships on the night of the coronation.

Applications for the Rhododendron Court are available through Siuslaw and Mapleton schools, the Florence Visitor's Center and the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce website at florencechamber.com. Call 541-997-3128 with questions.

For information about the festival, parade participation, vendor registration or volunteer opportunities, visit florencechamber.com or call 541-997-3128.



FEC Centerstage December 2019 November 30, 2019

6 • Center Stage • Florence Arts & Entertainment • December 2019

Florence Chamber adds sea lions to holiday events

The Florence Area Chamber of Commerce and its members welcome the community to multiple holiday events in the area throughout December.

Launched at the end of November is the Sea Lion on A Shelf trail, sponsored by Sea Lion Caves. If found, these sea lions on shelves could be worth up to \$100.

"From Nov. 30 through Dec. 20, we will have more than 30 Chamber members with a plush little Sami the Sea Lion hidden within the business for customers to find," said Chamber Executive Director Bettina Hannigan said.

Searchers of the fuzzy elf-capped pinniped can pick up a passport and map at the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Center. After their adventure, they can return it. Winners will be drawn to receive \$100, \$50 and \$25 gift certificates redeemable at the host locations.

Florence's winter festivities continue all weekend.

On Saturday, Dec. 7, a week later than usual, from 3:30 to 7 p.m., the community is invited to Historic Old Town Florence for the annual Florence Holiday Festival to enjoy live entertainment, warm beverages, Santa's arrival by firetruck, great holiday sea-



Florence Area Chamber of Commerce is getting ready for the holidays in Old Town and everywhere in Florence.



son sales, hayrides, caroling and the Mayor's Tree Lighting Celebration at 5:30 p.m.

The event also features the annual Light Up Your Boat float at the Port of Siuslaw Marina. The public is invited to bring and decorate a boat.

All floatables, from kayaks to superyachts, are welcome.

For more information,

visit FlorenceChamber.com or call 541-997-3128.

Florence Events Center has it all to host events

An executive retreat for your company? A convention or tradeshow for your organization? An affordable performance hall for your arts or music group? The perfect site for a wedding reception? We're that place — the Florence Events Center!

There's "Always Something Happening" at the Florence Events Center, and it could be your special event.

With 21,000 square feet of space, a 450-seat state-of-the-art performance hall, on-site catering, and a staff that works extra hard to make your event perfect, you'll be glad you chose the Florence Events Center. From international caliber entertainment to intimate family gatherings. From regional conferences to local groups and fundraising banquets. In short, we can help you create a memorable event for five to 500 people.

For more info, contact the FEC's helpful, friendly staff now at 997-1994, info@FlorenceEventsCenter.org or online at EventCenter.org.

When people plan a big family party at their home, or maybe an open house at their place of business, they know it's going to be great — as long as all the right ingredients are there.

Whether you need regular tables and chairs, bistro tables, chair covers and table cloths, punch bowls, place settings, flatware, room dividers, PA and sound systems, podiums or more, you can get it all in Florence right here at the FEC.

You know there's always something happening at the Florence Events Center, but when it's happening at your place, we can help there too.

We even offer catering services for whatever kind of food you and your group desire. For all the party equipment you need for an amazing event at your place or ours, contact us now at 997-1994, info@FlorenceEventsCenter.org or online at EventCenter.org.

Tickets go on sale Dec. 10 for annual Crab Crack in February

Tickets will be available for the ninth annual Florence Crab Crack beginning Dec. 10 at Florence Food Share, 2190 Spruce St.

Enjoy great food and company while aiding the less fortunate in this area during this annual fund-raiser to benefit Florence Food Share. Oregon coast Dungeness crab, along with pas-

ta, coleslaw, garlic bread, sodas, coffee and dessert will be served by volunteers. A no-host bar will also be available.

While enjoying the wonderful crab and side dishes, attendees will also have the opportunity to purchase special auction items.

All proceeds benefit Florence Food Share, a local food pantry

that provides resources to those facing hunger in West Lane County.

Florence Crab Crack will be held at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., on Saturday, Feb. 1, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Ticket price is \$45, with only 400 available. There will be no ticket sales at the door.

New this year are 50 "To Go"

boxes, which include one whole crab, pasta, coleslaw, garlic bread and dessert, which will be pre-sold beginning Dec. 10 and available for pick-up on Feb. 1 from 2 to 3 p.m. for \$25 each.

Group seating or more information is available at florencefoodshare.org or by calling 541-997-9110.