"I was on the way to Dev-

graph an elopement when

we pulled up right after the

crane had fallen over the

cliff," said Colton. "The car

in front of us had witnessed

the accident; we had just

According to Colton, the

occupants in the car ahead

of hers began running to the

line of cars that had become

cue effort.

missed it."

RESCUE from page 1A

said Schick who, at the time ils Churn Friday to photoof the incident, said he didn't know how the operator got from the bottom of the cliff back up to the highway.

The rescue was the result of some quick thinking from bystanders who had been driving along the winding stretch of the highway when the collapse occurred.

Gabrielle Colton, a Florence-area photographer, was passing the accident and joined in the impromptu res-

along with and City Eco-

nomic Development Co-

who gave an overview of

the responsibilities of TAC

members and the upcom-

ing timeline for meetings

As she is doing for oth-

er city committees, Weese

presented slides covering

the "do's and don'ts" that

are associated with being a

member of TAC, the goal of

the group and some of its

The upcoming work for

the committee includes an

update to its workplan sug-

gestions for the Florence

City Council, the creation

or continuation of TAC

subcommittees, and the de-

velopment of the Florence

that are interested in differ-

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Transportation

TAC from page 1A

ordinator Kelli

this year.

limitations.

backed up in order to get others to help pull the operator to safety from below.

tation for our community," said Weese.

She also emphasized the distinction between speaking as a community member — where personal opinions can be shared and as a member of TAC, where it should not.

Besides Tomeny, Steele and Napoles, the current make-up of TAC includes Joseph Cullivan, Vicki Dunaway, Larry Farnsworth, Susan Jones, Gary Plunkett, Stephen Raley and Gary Trevisan. Ex-officio members include City Councilor Woody Woodbury, Josh Haring representing River Cities Taxi, David Hope representing Coos County Area Transit, John Ahlen representing Lane Transit District and Kelly Clarke from the Lane Council of Governments.

Trevisan is a new mem-"We try to have a good ber of TAC who was added representation of people during the January vetting process at the suggestion of ent sectors of the transpor- City Councilor Sally Wantz.

We are doing everything

we can to safely serve our community. We are open:

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and crawled out of the machine that had landed on the rocks just above the ocean," said Colton. "We got out and helped unravel a very tangled rope to let it down so that he could tie it around himself."

From there, the rescuers

"It took about 12 people to

fully bring the operator back ence. up to safety after about 20 minutes. It was shortly after that

emergency responders ar-"When the man finally

made it to the road, he was smiling and looked thrilled to be alive and was thankful for our efforts," Colton said. Today's road closure,

which will begin at 8 a.m., will be on Highway 101 between Sea Lion Caves and Cooks Chasm, south of Yachats and north of Flor-

Local traffic will have access beyond the closures on either side of the project, but there will be no through traffic at any time.

Seydel, Public Information Officer for ODOT, "Travelers should expect closures or extended delays in the area for the next few weeks as crews build a new retaining wall to hold the road in place."

After work is completed, there will be access through

volunteer at the airport,

said he is pleased with the

recent higher profile of the

the project area on a single lane with flaggers controlling traffic — but travelers should expect extended delays for an additional week.

Once the repair project is According to Angela Beers complete, the road will again be closed for several days for the drill rig to be recovered from the rocks below using a 200-ton crane, which will block the entire road.

For more information on the status of the impacted area on Highway 101, check TripCheck.com or call 5-1-1 for the current road status.

second Thursday of the month, with the next meet-

ing planned for March 11, beginning at 2:30 p.m. For more information, visit ci.florence.or.us.



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"He miraculously survived

were able to pull him up.

pull him up from the side of the cliff. There was no [cell] service, and it took a while for someone to call 911," said Colton who, along with the group, was able to success-

"My goal is to lend the handicapped vision transportation," Trevisan explained. "I am handicapped. I am still able to walk fairly well but I do use a wheelchair, so I am trying to give an idea of what the transportation system could be like for someone who is handicapped. I know when I was able bodied, I never gave it much thought. Now that I am not, it is right in my face."

The portfolio for TAC includes most aspects of transportation in the Florence area. Over the past three years, the committee has overseen the addition

of public transportation options to Yachats, Coos Bay and Eugene from Florence. In addition to public

transportation, TAC deals with parking issues, including the looming debate over parking in Historic Old Town Florence, bicycle paths and regulations, and other traffic-related issues. The group has also been

central to the reinvigoration of the Florence Municipal Airport, working with Florence Public Works to obtain grant funding to improve the lighting systems and the runway surfaces, which has led to an increase in air traffic to and from the

Tomeny, a pilot and a

committee and people who have joined the group. "I am very happy that we got some more volunteers. I'm sorry that we lost some folks that had been on the committee, but I think the backgrounds of people are fantastic and I think that will bring a lot to the com-

He tasked the committee members with considering subcommittees to serve on.

mittee," he said.



ARTS

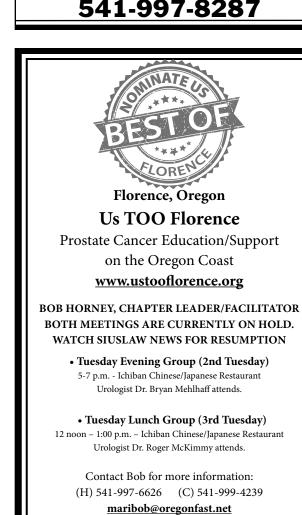
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