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Siuslaw News

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Florence, Oregon

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

Number 1 • 136 years

City responds to local activist

By TONY REED

The Siuslaw News

After years of asking the Florence City Council to take action on issues related to climate change, local climate activist Mike Allen finally received official correspondence from the City asserting that City staff and council will not be meeting with him on issues related to climate change.

The letter reads in part, "Over the past several years, you have brought forward proposals to the City Council, EMAC (Environmental Management Advisory

Committee), and other public forums, including requests to declare a climate emergency, form a climate task force, develop a climate action plan, and establish a youth climate committee. While we acknowledge your persistence, we must be clear the City Council has not provided direction to form a climate action committee. The City Council has not provided direction to declare a climate emergency. The City Council has not provided direction to allocate staff time or resources to the specific topic of climate."

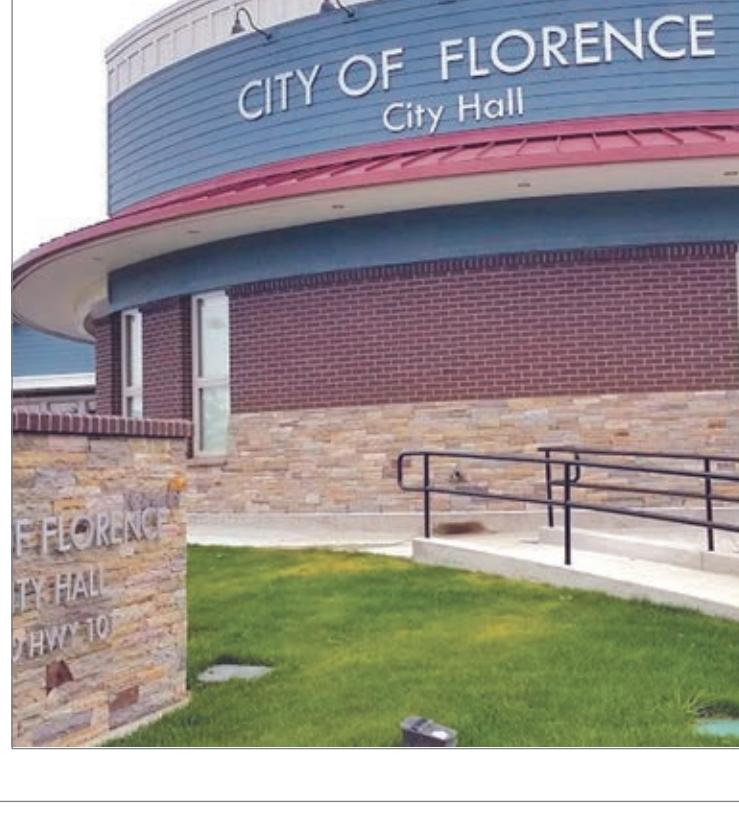
The letter goes on to say that the City's work plan and

budget decisions are made by the City Council." Will you believe our actions and inactions, now including this letter, have provided adequate response. Therefore, City staff, including the City manager, will not be meeting with you on this special interest topic."

It said that while the City encourages Allen to continue his education and efforts independently, there will not be a City-lead, City-supported, or City-funded initiative to that regard.

"While you may not agree with the City's position, that

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In case you missed it: New laws for 2026 address hidden costs, consumer protections, health care access, and personal safety

FROM THE OREGON SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

New state laws rolling out Jan. 1 safeguard Oregonians' rights as consumers and tenants, improve access to health care, and protect personal safety. Oregon House and Senate Democrats made these issues priorities in 2025, defending workers and families here, while

at the national level the Trump administration has shredded health care programs, rewarded huge corporations, and brought violence to innocent communities.

"We began the legislative session in January as Donald Trump returned to the Oval Office, a moment that only strengthened our commitment to defend Oregon

values," said Senate Majority Leader Kayse Jama (D – E Portland, Boring & Damascus). "The laws taking effect in 2026 show Oregon leaders stepping up for working families by protecting consumers, widening access to health care, and keeping people safe, even as the federal government prioritizes tax breaks for huge corporations and

grows more hostile to everyday people."

"Oregon families are being squeezed by rising costs, and these new laws will help people afford everything from rent to concert tickets to medical care," said House Majority Leader Ben Bowman (D – Tigard, Metzger & South Beaverton). "Oregonians shouldn't get stuck

paying hidden costs just to live their lives."

THESE ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS AMONG BILLS BECOMING LAW JAN. 1:

Protecting Consumers and Household Stability

House Bill 3167, the Fan Fairness and Transparency Act, bans the use of software "bots" to get around a ticket

seller's limits and bans the resale of tickets obtained using those bots. It also prohibits look-alike websites that confuse buyers trying to purchase tickets directly from an entertainment venue's website.

Senate Bill 430 prohibits extra costs like "convenience charges" or "service fees" from

See LAWS, Page A4

First Day Hikes set for New year's Day 2026

Whether you prefer a moderate hike through a desert landscape or a paved wooded trail inside city limits, Oregon State Parks has a First Day Hike for you on New Year's Day, Thursday Jan. 1.

Rangers and volunteers will lead guided First Day Hikes at 25 parks around the state with distances ranging from a quarter-mile stroll to a 5-mile trek. Hikes are free, but a day-use parking permit is required at some parks. Permits cost \$10 per day for Oregon Residents or \$12 for non-residents; annual permits are also sold online or at park offices.

America's State Parks sponsors the First Day Hikes program nationwide to encourage everyone to start the year outside and connect with nature. The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) has participated since 2012.

"Across Oregon, First Day Hikes have grown into a beloved New Year's tradition for visitors and staff alike. On January 1st, park rangers and volunteers share stories of park history, geology, wildlife, and plants, as families and friends



First Day Hike at Shore Acres State Park. (Courtesy photo)

kick off the year together with an engaging outdoor adventure," Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Director Lisa Sumption said.

Visit the Oregon First Day Hikes web page to see the

list of parks hosting hikes. Additional hike information such as hike times, meet-up locations and trail terrain are available via the park links on the web page. A few hikes require registration including

Deschutes River, Elijah Bristow, Emigrant Springs, LaPine, Lukiamute, Oswald West, Sitka Sedge, and Smith Rock.

See HIKES, Page A2

Motorcyclist dies in crash

FROM FLORENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

On Dec. 28 at 6 p.m., Florence Police Dept received a report of a motorcycle accident on Rhododendron Dr near Treewood Dr. Upon arrival it was discovered that the motorcycle had gone off the roadway and crashed.

The operator, Marnie Vasquez, was severely injured and transported to Peace Harbor Hospital Emergency Room by WLFEA, where she was pronounced deceased.

Vasquez was traveling with three other individuals who were riding their motorcycles north bound on Rhododendron Dr. On a slight curve near Treewood Dr, Vasquez's motorcycle left the roadway and crashed.

The Florence Police is working with the Lane County Medical Examiner's Office and this case is still under investigation. If anyone has information regarding this crash, please call Sgt. Brandon Bailey at 541-997-3515.

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The early days of Stagecoach service to Florence

FROM SIUSLAW PIONEER MUSEUM

Travel arrangements today are most often based on convenience, comfort, and 'how quickly we can get there.' For early settlers however, walking, horseback, or sometimes by boat were the only options. It's no surprise, the stagecoach became a welcomed alternative.

Stagecoach service to Florence, Oregon, began in 1896. It provided a vital link for mail, freight, and passengers to reach what was then a

mining community. The early routes often took days to complete. There were stops along the way for horse changes at stage stations. Typical routes from Eugene included Eugene to Mapleton by wagon, then by boat to Florence. This travel era ended in 1916 with the introduction of the railroad.

Fred Riggins and James Lytle started a stagecoach line in 1896, aiming for twice-weekly trips to deliver mail, freight, and passengers between Grangeville, Idaho and Florence. The route was

difficult, with trips taking up to 14 hours in summer and much longer in winter. Forest Fires also frequently disrupted service. Along the route stage stations existed to provide fresh horses and rest for passengers every 20-30 miles.

On display at the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum are exhibits of pioneer life and stagecoach travel, including items transported by these lines. The Museum's Kyle Research Library annex maintains historical information about people, places, things, and events in the



Siuslaw Valley.

Volunteer opportunities

are available in the

Museum and Museum

library. The Museum

reopens Feb. 1.

POLICE LOG

Florence Police Department responded to the following calls from December 24th to December 29th

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

At 9:31 a.m. a caller reported a skateboarder riding in the turn lane on Highway 101 near 35th Street. The subject was gone when officers arrived.

At 10:21 a.m., officers responded to the 1600

block of 12th Street for a report of a subject yelling. Officers recognized the subject, who was yelling at them when they arrived. Upon checking, officers found he had two warrants for his arrest from Florence Municipal Court. The subject was taken into custody for the

warrants.

At 11:28 a.m., officers responded to the 100 block of Nopal for a report that an elderly subject had walked away from home. As they were responding, it was reported that the subject returned home safely.

At 12:47 p.m., officers responded to the area of 35th and Pine for a report of a subject screaming and yelling. Officers went to the residence but no one responded.

At 3:45 p.m., officers

responded to the 1800 block of 37th Street for a report of disorderly conduct. Officers arrived to find one subject intoxicated and yelling. The subject was cited for disorderly conduct two and booked into detox until he could sober up.

At 9:01 p.m., officers in the 4800 block of Highway 101 stopped to assist a broken down vehicle. The owner of the vehicle was able to get it going and safely leave the area.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

At 3:13 a.m., a caller reported hearing possible gunshots in the area of 10th and nopal. Officers arrived but could not determine the source of the noise. No other reports of loud noises were made and no further action was taken.

At 4:51 a.m., a caller reported subjects possibly doing drugs in the \$5,000 block of Highway 126. Officers arrived to speak to subjects who said they were only doing dabs. One subject was taken into custody on a warrant from Douglas County.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

At 2:48 a.m., officers conducted a traffic stop south of the Siuslaw River Bridge. Officers reported that upon speaking to occupants of the vehicle, the passenger was attempting to hide their face. One officer recognized the passenger, who had a warrant from Oregon State Parole. The subject was taken into

custody.

At 6:41 a.m. officers responded to the 2000 block of Highway 101 for a report that a juvenile had walked away from home. While officers were responding, it was reported that the juvenile had been located.

At 11:47 a.m., a caller reported that a subject was walking down 9th Street with his pants down. Officers found the subject who said he was en route to the emergency room.

At 1:40 p.m., officers responded to the area of 35th Street and Highway 101 for a report of a traffic hazard. Officers arrived but found nothing in the area.

At 4:21 p.m. a caller reported a smash and grab burglary from a vehicle in the 2200 block of Highway 101. Officers were able to find some items taken from the vehicle and the case remains under investigation.

At 5:43 p.m., an officer observed a subject known to have warrants in the 2500 block of Highway 101. The officer confirmed the warrants and the subject was taken into custody.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

At 1:00 a.m., a caller reported being harassed and threatened by a group of juveniles in the 2300 block of Highway 101. Officers located a group of juveniles and counseled them about yelling at people and curfew.

At 9:38 a.m., officers responded to the 3700 block of Highway 101 for a report of a dispute and possible arson. A small fire was extinguished. Case remains under investigation.

At 9:51 p.m., officers responded to the 1000 block of Outer Drive for a report of a dog bleeding. Officers found the dog was injured and advised subjects to call a

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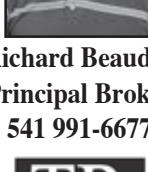
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See POLICE, Page A3

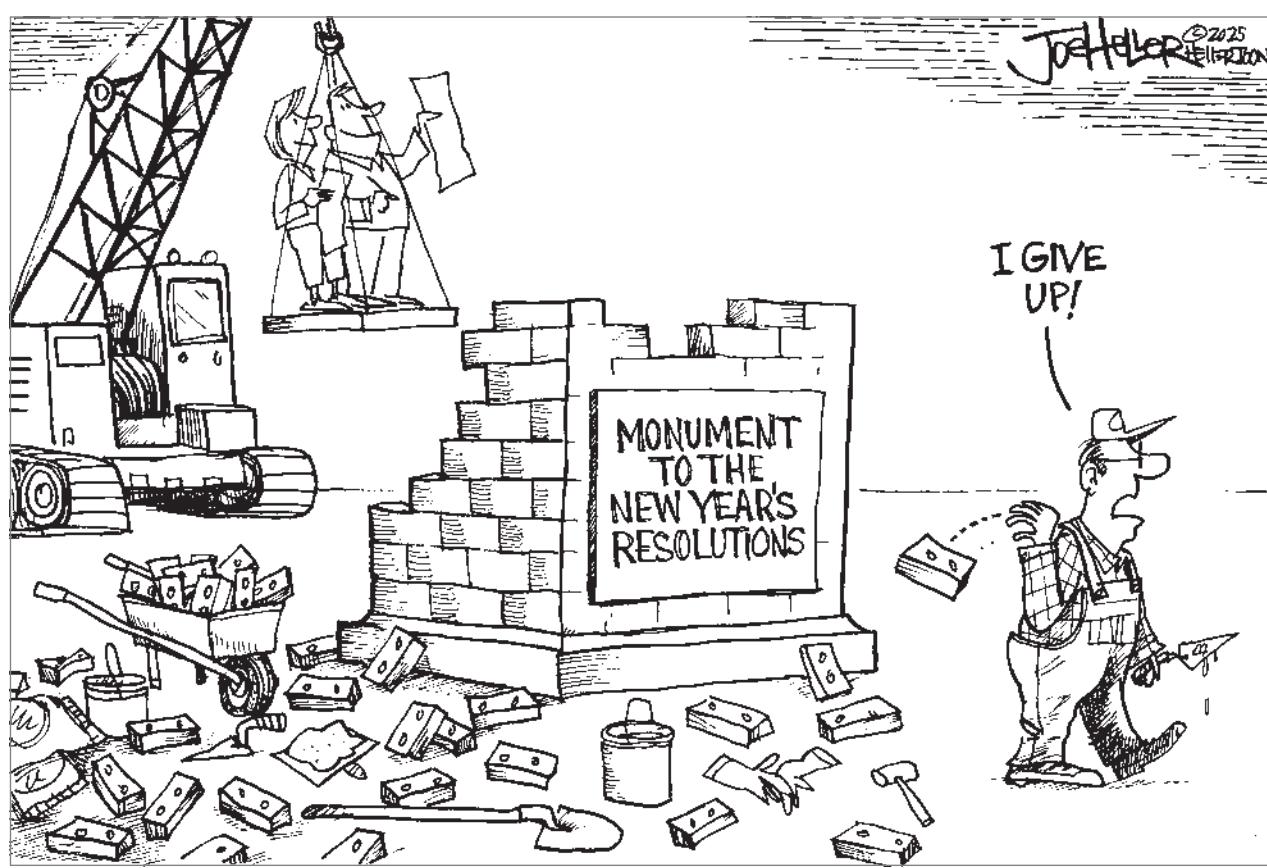
HIKES

From Page A1

For any questions about accessibility or to request reasonable accommodations needed to participate in a hike, please see the contact information on each hike's webpage.

Remember to plan for winter weather, dress in layers, wear sturdy shoes, bring water and carry binoculars for viewing wildlife.

Share photos of First Day Hikes via X and Instagram by using the hashtag #ORfirstdayhikes or tagging "Oregon State Parks" on Facebook.



LETTERS

WHEN WILL IT END?

Every day some new event or statement comes forth from the Trump White House which causes great anxiety among our citizens. These events and statements are causing a shaking of our moral foundation resulting in the erosion of integrity upon which we have prided ourselves. Some recent examples are the cover-up of the Epstein files, the renaming of the Kennedy Center, the bombing of Venezuelan fishing boats in the Caribbean, and the deplorable verbal rampage about the cause of the deaths of Rob and Michelle Reiner. These, coupled with the lies that continue to be issued from the president and his staff, makes us doubt our worth, both as a nation and as a people, in the eyes of the world.

It cannot go on! But when will it end? It will end when Donald Trump and his like are removed from office. And we are the ones – we and those we choose to lead us – are the ones to do the removing. As eminent historian and biographer Walter Isaacson points out in his little book *The Greatest Sentence Ever Written*, “We... is the first word in our Constitution... ‘We the people...’” It is we who must come together and choose the way in which Donald Trump can be defeated and to choose the

direction toward which to turn.

It is not too soon to think about our choice for leader and for candidates who will stand against him and his successors. This will be one of the subjects of discussion at the next meeting – the fourth – of The Citizens in Support of Democracy, on Saturday, January 10th from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Bromley Room at the Siuslaw Library. (This is not a library-sponsored event.)

We will also discuss the question of flock cameras in Florence, the presence of ICE agents in the surrounding area, and participation in the upcoming Martin Luther King celebration and parade. We shall also begin the choices of our leaders.

All persons – Democrats, Republicans, Independents, or those with no political affiliation – are welcome.

George Durant
Florence

WHETHER OR NOT TO STOP THE FLOCK

After this week's city council session, the city may decide to meet in a work session Jan. 8th to consider its options regarding the Flock Safety contract and its ALPR cameras. It's unknown at the time of this writing whether that will happen, but residents can always contact the city on any

number of local issues.

The mayor invited the public to provide comment at the Florence Event Center, Jan. 5th, after local residents, including this writer, brought forward concerns. This came after communities in Eugene and Springfield objected to Flock in their cities, and their police departments cancelled their contracts Dec. 5th.

Reasons for the cancellations were myriad, but among them included the fact that Flock's network audits showed federal officials accessed Flock data in sanctuary states, including Oregon, with specific reasons that included “ICE” and “immigration”, contrary to our state law. A study published by The University of Washington in October showed this to be the case, and researcher Phil Neff helped identify the impact to Eugene. The audit also showed Eugene was included in a nationwide Flock search from Texas for a woman who “had an abortion.” Texas law does not supersede Oregon law in our state.

Eugene Police Chief Chris Skinner noted a “vulnerability” with Flock during his Dec. 9th press conference, which he said changed his opinion of the company. “We were under the impression the cameras were off and we had a camera that inadvertently was turned on,” he said. His announcement of the contract cancellation

was quickly followed by the Lane County Sheriff's Department on Dec. 10th. The Oregon Legislature is expected to provide guidance to law enforcement next year.

Does the community trust Flock Safety? Residents may each have their own personal opinions. One possibility would be to cancel the contract and look for another ALPR vendor.

Justin Ludwig
Florence, Oregon

DEAR EDITOR,

Today I heard the wildest great idea I've heard in a long time.

Someone proposed using LCC Florence Campus, largely abandoned at this point for unknown reasons, as the new High School.

It already has infrastructure (parking, classrooms, bathrooms, grounds, etc.) and immediately we imagined collaborative opportunities with the community college system including LCC and maybe other community colleges in the region.

No need to rush the rebuild if we did something like this...the new HS could be thoughtfully planned and created over time, if needed. What does the community think of this? Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ivy Medow
Florence

POLICE

From Page A2

veterinarian.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

At 12:25 a.m., officers on patrol observed a vehicle unable to maintain its lane. The vehicle pulled into a business near Highway 101 and 126. Officers reported having probable cause for DUI, but the driver was unwilling to take a field sobriety test. Officers arrested Jared Clark for DUII.

At 10:19 a.m., officers responded to the 3200 block of Highway 101 for a report of illegal camping. Upon contacting a subject, they found he had a warrant from Deschutes County. The subject was taken into custody.

At 12:13 p.m., a caller reported that someone had opened a credit card in her name, but that she immediately canceled the card and reported it to the card company.

At 1:05 p.m., a caller reported a suspicious subject in the 4300 block

of Highway 101 carrying a gas can. Officers made contact with the subject who had a felony warrant from Douglas County. The subject was taken into custody.

At 2:37 p.m., a caller reported a vehicle passing over double yellow lines and driving at unsafe speeds in the area of mile marker 192 on Highway 101.

At 6 p.m., officers responded to a motorcycle crash in the area of Rhododendron and Treewood Drive. Officers remained in the area with fire and medical personnel for some time.

At 10:30 p.m., officers responded to a report of an intoxicated subject in the 1000 block of Highway 101. The subject was taken into custody for some time.

At 10:30 p.m., officers responded to a report of an intoxicated subject in the 1000 block of Highway 101. The subject was taken into custody for some time.

At 2:28 p.m., officers

disorderly conduct.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

At 9:42 a.m., a business in the 4300 block of Highway 101 reported that someone had cut containers outside the business.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

At 11:42 a.m., officers responded to the area of 37th Street and Oak Street or a report that a vehicle had gone over a curb and hit plants. Officers were given a vehicle description and plate, but the owner of the property did not wish to press charges.

The owner of the vehicle was contacted and told not to return to the property.

At 2:28 p.m., officers

responded to the 4300 block of Highway 101 for a report of a subject screaming. Upon arriving, officers could hear the subject screaming that he wanted to go home. Officers provided a courtesy ride home for the subject.

ALL CALLS FROM 2025

Since January 1, 2025, FPD officers responded to reports of:

97- Domestic Disputes

49 - Suicidal Subjects

27 - Burglaries

53 - Assaults

217- Illegal Camping/

Sheltering

Number of arrests by

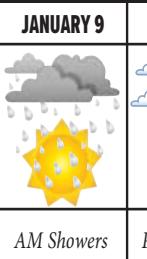
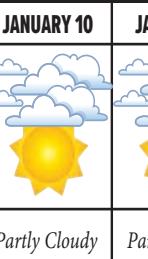
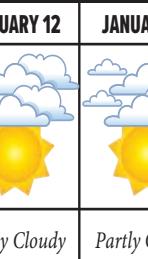
crime were:

DUII - 60

Warrants - 193

Domestic Violence - 6

Burglary - 3

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
JANUARY 7	JANUARY 8	JANUARY 9	JANUARY 10	JANUARY 11	JANUARY 12	JANUARY 13
						
Showers 50° 42°	Showers 49° 39°	AM Showers 50° 38°	Partly Cloudy 51° 38°	Partly Cloudy 51° 38°	Partly Cloudy 52° 39°	Partly Cloudy 52° 39°



Siuslaw News

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The *Siuslaw News* welcomes Letters to the Editor and Guest Viewpoints as part of a community discussion of issues on the local, state and national level. Letters are subject to editing for length, grammar and clarity. Publication of any letter is not guaranteed and depends on space available and the volume of letters received.

Email letters to treed@countrymedia.net

TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION:

Letters must address pertinent or timely issues of interest to our readers at-large. In addition:

• Letters reflect the opinion of the writer. The *Siuslaw News* cannot verify the accuracy of all statements made in letters. Authors should ensure any information is accurate, fair and not from second-hand knowledge or hearsay, and include sources where possible.

• Letters have a suggested 300-word limit and may be edited for grammar and clarity. Occasionally letters will be longer.

• Authors must sign their full name and include their street address (only city will be printed), as well as a daytime phone number and/or email address for verification. The person who signs the letter must be the actual author. *Siuslaw News* does not accept anonymous Letters to the Editor.

• *Siuslaw News* will not print form letters, libelous letters, business promotions or personal disputes, poetry, open letters, letters espousing religious views without reference to a current issue, or letters considered in poor taste. Letters also may not be part of letter-writing campaigns.

• Writers are limited to one published letter every two weeks.

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Emailed submissions are preferred. All letters need to include full name, address and phone number; only name and city will be printed. Handwritten or typed letters must be signed.

The newspaper, at the sole discretion of the publisher and editor, reserves the right to reject any letter that doesn't follow the above criteria.

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Comments: 202-456-1111
Switchboard: 202-456-1414
TTY/TDD: 202-456-6213
www.whitehouse.gov

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Florence, OR 97439
503-986-1409 | 541-361-6042
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[Email: Ryan.Ceniga@co.lane.or.us](mailto:Ryan.Ceniga@co.lane.or.us)

Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek

900 Court St., Suite 254
Salem, Ore. 97301-4047
503-378-4582
<a href="http://www.oregon.gov/g

LAWS

From Page A1

being tacked on to online purchases without warning. Under this new law, anyone selling goods or services online to Oregonians must include required fees and charges in the price they advertise or display on a website.

Taxes or actual costs to ship a product do not have to be included in the price figure, but the seller still must declare those costs to the purchaser.

Senate Bill 688 ties utility profits to performance metrics, allowing the public utility commission to require that investor-owned power companies meet certain performance targets if they want to raise rates. Those targets can include reducing costs, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and ensuring low-income Oregonians aren't cut off from power.

House Bill 3865,

the Telemarketing Modernization Act, expands the definition of "telephone solicitation" to include texting; prohibits solicitations after 8 p.m., and limits allowable solicitations to three times per day.*

Senate Bill 426 holds developers and contractors accountable when construction workers serve on a project but don't get paid. This new law allows workers to sue project owners and direct contractors for unpaid wages, whether the workers are direct employees or subcontractors. It allows civil action to recover wages, benefits, and penalties, while requiring subcontractors to provide payroll and worker information upon request. The provisions will help prevent wage theft and improve transparency in Oregon's construction industry.

House Bill 3521 gives prospective tenants more protections for getting back a deposit they put in before signing a rental

agreement. Beginning Jan. 1, landlords have to return the deposit if the potential tenant finds serious problems that make the home not habitable. Those could be things like a leaky roof or window, inadequate heat, unsafe drinking water, accumulated trash, or nonworking locks.

House Bill 3378 requires landlords to give tenants options for safely locking and unlocking a rental home's doors without relying solely on an app on the tenant's own mobile phone. Beginning Jan. 1, landlords will have to offer alternatives like an access code, fob, key card, or another physical key.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

Senate Bill 605 stops medical debt from going on your credit report.

Beginning Jan. 1, medical service providers—like hospitals and clinics—are prohibited from notifying consumer reporting agencies that you owe money

for your care or how much. The reporting agencies also are banned from including in your report any amounts they know or should know are medical debts.

House Bill 3064 requires health plans regulated by the state to cover treatment of perimenopause, menopause, and postmenopause. The health plans include individual and family plans, small business plans, and plans overseen by the Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB) and the Public Employees' Benefit Board (PEBB). Beginning Jan. 1, such plans must pay for services like hormone therapies, osteoporosis prevention and treatment, and hormone therapies.

Senate Bill 1137 requires health insurance plans to cover breast reconstruction surgery that uses a patient's own tissue for reconstruction, instead of implants. The plans must pay for this form of breast reconstruction

under the same or better terms and conditions they have for reconstruction procedures with implants.

PROTECTING PERSONAL SAFETY

House Bill 2299 strengthens Oregon's laws against non-consensual intimate image distribution. Beginning Jan.

1, the definition of such images expands to include AI-generated deepfakes. The bill creates first- and second-degree offenses, elevating the crime to a felony for repeated violations and extending protections to all victims of intimate-image abuse.

Senate Bill 548 raises the state's legal minimum age for marriage from 17 to 18 years old. Until now, 17-year-olds could officially marry in Oregon when they had one parent or guardian's permission, and the young person's own consent was not required. The previous policy had allowed more than 2,900 adult men

to get Oregon marriage licenses with teenage girls

between 2000 and 2021. Prior to Senate Bill 548, an adult's sexual contact with a minor who is three or more years younger is a crime, but not if the two were married. Raising the minimum marriage age strengthens legal protections against sexual exploitation.

Senate Bill 170 toughens penalties on people who commit workplace violence repeatedly. SB 170 makes assault in the fourth degree a more serious crime when the victim is assaulted while performing their job duties and the defendant has assaulted others while at work or because of a victim's occupation. Aimed at deterring repeat violence against workers across professions, this law reinforces protections for employees in vulnerable roles and promotes safer working environments throughout Oregon.

A comprehensive list of legislation passed in 2025 is available at bit.

ly/2025-wins.

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7 steps for earthquake and tsunami safety:

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2. Create a disaster preparedness plan.
3. Prepare a disaster kit and go bags.
4. Identify/address weaknesses in your spaces.
5. Protect yourself during the earthquake.
6. Evacuate if necessary.
7. Follow personal and local preparedness plans.

Distant Earthquakes – typically far enough offshore to not be felt on land, though they may cause dangerous wave activity and damage.

Local Earthquakes – the most dangerous of OR's potential earthquakes, these are caused by the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ). Resulting tsunamis are commonly known as "The Big One." They occur irregularly every 200-800 years, most recently occurring in the year 1700.

TIP – The CSZ earthquake and resulting tsunami will take minutes to arrive on the Oregon Coast, which may not be enough time to trigger onshore alert systems. Your biggest warning will be the shaking. Get to higher ground if you feel any shaking while near a body of water. Tsunami warning signs: Strong ground shaking, an unusually loud ocean roar, and/or a rapidly receding and exceptionally low tide that exposes ocean floor.

What to do during an earthquake:

- If you are indoors, drop, take cover, and hold onto sturdy furniture. Stay clear of items that could fall on you. Stay put until shaking stops.
- If you are outside, move away from any body of water to higher ground. Be aware of unstable slopes, falling rocks, and trees.
- If you are driving, remove your car from the normal traffic pattern safely. Stay away from structures/objects that could fall. Stay in your car unless unsafe to do so.

For more information visit www.oregon.gov/oem, www.ready.gov, and www.wleog.org.

SN Siuslaw News

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CITY

From Page A1

does not mean we have failed to respond," the letter states. "We respectfully request that you accept this as our final answer."

WRITING THE LETTER

City Manager Erin Reynolds and Mayor Rob Ward were asked to comment on the letter but said the best explanation came at the end of a City Council Work Session

December 11.

The letter was originally written to be signed by Mayor Ward, but the full council discussed and revised the letter.

At the Dec. 11 meeting, Ward opened by suggesting Allen's insistence and demands for action have become burdensome for City Hall, to the point he felt a final response from the City was necessary.

Councilor Jo Beaudreau said Allen is a caring person who is passionate about the community.

"I understand that the City taking a certain

stance on what climate change or climate emergency conveys some other things and creates some other obstacles that the City would have to adhere to in order to actually follow what he's prescribing," she said, "so I think it's more burdensome to try to take on the, that blanket action that he's asking, but I appreciate his passion."

Councilor Robert Carp said the City needed to give Allen the message that he is badgering staff and obstructing their work.

"Something to take into consideration is that he has burdened the staff and the council for eight years that he's been coming to us," Carp said. "We have by not, by not answering or, or just saying 'no' has been an answer, but he is badgering the City staff on an excessive level. Our City staff is primarily working on our budget and on our two year plan, and this is not part of it. So, in order for us to be as efficient as we'd like to be able to move forward with all the projects and

all the things are doing, we have to give him some direction."

When Councilor Mike Webb asked if the letter was responding to actions outside of the public comment given by Allen at City Council meetings, Carp and Ward said yes, adding that he demands action at City Hall every Friday.

Councilor Sally Wantz said she wasn't initially in favor of the letter but recognized Allen's passion on the climate topic.

"The part that bothers me is the badgering, the things I see on Facebook that he is speaking ill of our City staff, including our City manager," Wantz said. "I cannot condone that behavior, and I think that, like we've done with anybody who serves on a committee, if they act inappropriately, we respond to the behavior- not necessarily what they're asking for, but the behavior."

She said Allen had emailed her three times

See CITY, Page A5

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CITY

From Page A4

asking for a meeting and was told it could happen when she had time. She added that Allen had previously asked that City Council update its interpersonal and behavioral norms, the first of which are "We assume good intentions," and "When we disagree, we will do so without being disagreeable." Wantz said Allen's behavior has gone against those norms.

After some discussion about wording and which issues to address more concisely, Councilor Carp suggested the County of Lane might be a more appropriate venue.

"Mr. Allen is not a City resident, he's a county resident," Carp said, "and he has the avenue to go to Lane County. That's his governmental body if he wants to get involved politically. He can obviously get involved with our City, but he has no standing as a voting citizen. So we're addressing his behavior and his disruption to the City staff, to City Hall, that happens on a weekly basis for eight years. I think this is a very clear statement, a very clear letter that says enough is enough. That doesn't prevent him from coming to our council meeting, doing whatever he wants to say, whatever. We're not interrupting his First Amendment rights, his ability to be in the City, to be in City Hall or anything, just the behavior and the constant badgering of our staff and disruption."

Councilor Wantz later replied, saying, "While I appreciate what you said, I know that there are many citizens of the community who are not voters in Florence, but they're still community members... You can't put down somebody's love of what they're trying to do just because they don't live two blocks south."

Councilor Beaudreau later suggested the letter could be "weaponized" against the City in the

future. Wantz predicted it would be weaponized, later saying that by being more concise, the letter could eliminate the opportunity for further debate.

Assistant City Manager Megan Messmer said the goal was to answer the questions Allen asks of City staff several times a week.

"I think it's important to remember that this is a letter to Mr. Allen, not to the community. I am sure he will share it, but it is a letter to answer his question," she said. "He wants to know why the City manager is not meeting with him, which is because she hasn't been directed to. He wants to know why he has not received an answer, even though he knows no answer is an answer because he will repeat that back to us. So those are the two things you're trying to address with this letter."

She later said the letter could serve as written direction to City Hall counter personnel, should they be approached after the letter is sent.

IN RESPONSE

Contacted after he'd received the letter, Allen said he'd shared it with others, which resulted in two letters to this newspaper. He said the one-page City Council letter was sent solely to him.

Allen believed the impetus for the letter was that he had tried to set up a meeting with Reynolds to talk about what the City will do with the petition of 2,500 signatures he'd submitted.

He said the answer from the scheduler denied his request, saying, "Because she was never asked to meet with me."

He said he then posted on Facebook that "it was nonsense to say she wasn't told to speak with me, therefore, she can't."

"I published that on various Facebook pages and they must have picked it up, Erin and others," he said, adding that a

meeting was called to draft a response to him.

"This is the first time I have asked Erin, or any staff member, to meet with me," he said. "I ask them questions about the status of this but I've never, ever asked them to meet with me."

Allen watched the Dec. 11 and spoke of it, saying, "It sounded to me like they were trying to discredit my behaviors with staff in such that they needed to put this letter out."

Allen called it a surprise that Wantz said he had sent several emails asking for meetings.

He called it "a stretch of the imagination," saying he'd already met with Webb, Beaudreau and Ward.

"Sally was kind of resistant, so I waited several weeks and sent her another reminder," he said. "Her position was that 'sure', I can meet with you, but only when I have time. Our request was to have her, like the others, meet with us right after our strike, because that's when most of our people are assembled. With the mayor, we had 15 people go in and speak with him."

However, Allen later noted that Wantz had agreed to meet with him after this interview.

Allen said while the letter did not assault his character or mention the 2,500-signature petition, it stated that the City has not taken certain actions on climate.

"Despite the fact that we asked them to, myself and my good friend Jim Henry," he said. "We sat in on that whole work planning process and asked that they put it into the work plan, but they said, 'no, we've never put it in and it's never in the budget,' so in the end they said... they will not allow staff to meet with me on the subject of climate."

Allen said while the letter did not constitute

a ban on public input or speaking, the letter was "a backdoor way of saying, stop, this isn't going to go any further."

Allen said the letter never touched on the fact that the Climate Emergency Campaign has been the effort of a group, but was instead directed solely at him.

"It's a strange response, but when I've asked for a response, I've always asked for a positive response- one where they would do something, but in reality, what I'm asking is for them to act on climate change." He said one request was to work with county, State and federal officials to recognize that there is a climate crisis and to come up with a climate action plan. He said other communities have done so by forming an ad hoc task force.

"That's the ask, and they're essentially saying you're wasting your time, blah blah blah, with this letter," he said.

Allen added that the City's EMAC committee follows a list of "routine and ongoing tasks" for the biennium that includes "work with the City and community members to build upon climate resiliency initiatives."

"How does that smack with the letter I just got?" he said. "It doesn't. It's contradictory, so that's where it stands."

Allen said Councilor Carp actually signed his climate change petition and later,

an opposing petition from a group asking that the council refrain from working on climate change. He said Wantz and Beaudreau also signed his petition.

"It's an interesting dilemma that when people are running for office will promise you the world, but when the time comes to be courageous enough to fight for it, they don't," he said. "That's the frustration we all have here."

Allen added that while 12 to 15 people attend each climate strike, and hundreds more have signed a petition, they will refrain from showing up in large numbers at City Council meetings to make the same demands. On another hand, he said that folks will show up at council meetings to ask for a homeless warming shelter, stand against Flock cameras and protest presidential actions, but few want to act on climate, which envelops all other issues.

"It didn't attack me in the sense of how they did in the work session, but it is making it sound like they have declared they're not going to support anything to do with climate issues, and that's a big tell."

It should be stressed that Allen is not barred from speaking at City Council meetings under public comment, writing letters to the City, petitioning or peacefully demonstrating with others on public sidewalks.

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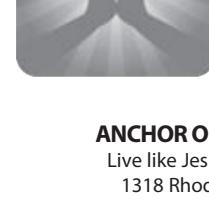
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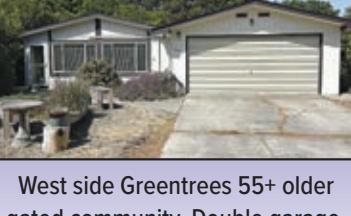


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WEDNESDAY, January 7, 2026

SECTION B



Tide Table

Siuslaw River Entrance saltwatertides.com

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

High.....3:22 a.m.....7.7
Low9:04 a.m.....2.6
High.....2:46 p.m.....7.3
Low9:14 p.m.....0.1

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

High.....3:58 a.m.....7.7
Low9:58 a.m.....2.5
High.....3:37 p.m.....6.5
Low9:50 p.m.....1.0

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

High.....4:34 a.m.....7.7
Low10:56 a.m.....2.3
High.....4:35 p.m.....5.8
Low10:26 p.m.....1.9

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

High.....5:11 a.m.....7.6
Low11:59 a.m.....2.1
High.....5:44 p.m.....5.2
Low11:04 p.m.....2.9

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

High.....5:50 a.m.....7.4
Low1:06 p.m.....1.9
High.....7:13 p.m.....4.9
Low11:50 p.m.....3.7

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

High.....6:35 a.m.....7.3
Low2:12 p.m.....1.6
High.....9:00 p.m.....5.0

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Low12:54 a.m.....4.4
High.....7:29 a.m.....7.3
Low3:13 p.m.....1.2
High.....10:24 p.m.....5.4

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Low2:13 a.m.....4.7
High.....8:26 a.m.....7.4
Low4:05 p.m.....0.8
High.....11:14 p.m.....5.8

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

Low3:24 a.m.....4.7
High.....9:21 a.m.....7.6
Low4:49 p.m.....0.4
High.....11:50 p.m.....6.1

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Low4:20 a.m.....4.6
High.....10:09 a.m.....7.8
Low5:28 p.m.....0.1

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

High.....12:21 a.m.....6.4
Low5:07 a.m.....4.3
High.....10:52 a.m.....8.0
Low6:03 p.m.....0.2

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

High.....12:51 a.m.....6.6
Low5:48 a.m.....3.9
High.....11:31 a.m.....8.2
Low6:35 p.m.....0.5

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

High.....1:19 a.m.....6.8
Low6:27 a.m.....3.6
High.....12:09 p.m.....8.2
Low7:06 p.m.....0.6

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

High.....1:47 a.m.....7.0
Low7:06 a.m.....3.2
High.....12:47 p.m.....8.0
Low7:36 p.m.....0.5

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21

High.....2:14 a.m.....7.3
Low7:45 a.m.....2.8
High.....1:27 p.m.....7.7
Low8:05 p.m.....0.3

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

High.....2:42 a.m.....7.5
Low8:28 a.m.....2.4
High.....2:10 p.m.....7.3
Low8:36 p.m.....0.2

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

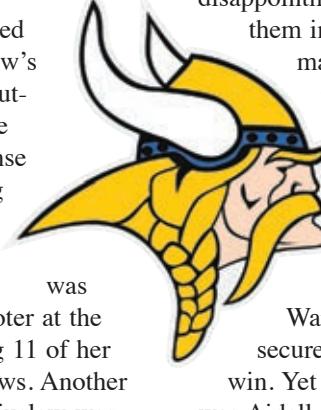
High.....3:10 a.m.....7.7
Low9:14 a.m.....2.1
High.....2:58 p.m.....6.8
Low6:08 p.m.....0.0

Vikings girls grab milestone win

Will LOHRE
Country Media, Inc.

After a stinging defeat against North Valley, Siuslaw rebounded for a big win against Oakridge, a victory that ensures the Vikings will finish with more wins this season than they have in more than five years. The game against North Valley was a defensive battle, with the Vikings falling 23-33 to the Knights. After being tied 9-9 at halftime, North Valley pulled away in the second half, despite some heroics from Aidell Cadet, who has been one of Siuslaw's X-factors

this season. Cadet notched 13 of Siuslaw's 23 points, putting pressure on the defense and drawing plenty of fouls. Cadet was a sharp shooter at the line, making 11 of her 14 free throws. Another leader for Siuslaw was captain Mia Snider, who was everywhere in the hustle department for the Vikings, and she recorded nine rebounds in the game. Though it was a game the Vikings would have loved to win, they didn't allow the



disappointment to affect them in their next match against Oakridge a couple of days later. Siuslaw went on the road to face the Warriors and secured a 48-19 win. Yet again, it was Aidell Cadet who scored the most points for Siuslaw, notching 14 points. The Vikings' second leading scorer was freshman Pearl Jensen with 11. Jensen did most of her damage from the outside, hitting each of Siuslaw's

three three-pointers in the game. Against the Warriors, Siuslaw was keeping the glass cleaned all night long, snapping up 28 rebounds. Sophia Stymans paced the team with nine boards. It was a wire-to-wire affair for the Vikings, and they kept control of the lead for the entire game. One of the keys to Siuslaw's success was its willingness to share the ball. Of the 22 baskets they scored, 12 of them were assisted. The balanced offensive approach is also apparent on the stat sheet as nine of Siuslaw's players scored at least a point in the Dec. 27

win. In addition to being an authoritative victory, the win also marked Siuslaw's fourth of the year, surpassing their total from 2024. It also marked the first time since 2018-2019 that the Vikings have registered more than three wins in a season. After the Oakridge game, Siuslaw traveled to Bandon High School for the Bandon Dunes Holiday Invitational Jan. 1-3. On the first day, Siuslaw played Umpqua Valley Christian and was beaten 10-52. The results of Siuslaw's games on Jan. 1-Jan. 6 are unknown at the time of press.

Holiday hoops for Siuslaw's boys

Will LOHRE
Country Media, Inc.

Siuslaw split its two festive boys basketball games, winning against North Valley on Dec. 27 before falling just short to North Bend just a couple of days later on Dec. 29. The results brought the Vikings to 5-5, staying in line with the even record they've maintained through December. Just two days after Christmas, the game against North Valley was an authoritative home victory, with the Vikings outscoring

their opponent by the second-biggest margin this season. Head Coach Dylan Perry was psyched with his team's output across the board in the win. "Great team victory tonight," Perry said after the game. "Our best all-around game of the season." Siuslaw won 70-43, in part powered by a 24-point third quarter. The Vikings had a balanced effort on offense, with nine players scoring at least a point. Four Vikings notched double-digit point totals. Jericho Lake led the way for Siuslaw with

15 points, while Micah Blankenship and Tom Morgan each added 10 points. Bryce Franzoni was the team's leading three-point shooter and knocked down three triples, finishing the game with 11 points. The result was a 27-point win and one of Siuslaw's best performances of the season. "Everyone who played contributed a lot of value to the win," Perry said. For the next matchup, Siuslaw hit the road. Perry and the Vikings played away at North Bend, pushing the Bulldogs to

the brink, and losing a tight 58-56 ball game. "We battled hard but came up short," Perry said. "Had a three-point shot at the end to win it, but just missed." The Vikings made it tough on the Bulldogs, and the game was back and forth in the fourth quarter. Trailing by five with six minutes left, Siuslaw battled back, trading baskets with North Bend, and closing the gap. With 1:50 on the clock, Jericho Lake nailed a three to tie the contest at 54-54, his fourth three-pointer of the game.

Lake led the Vikings in points during the game, amassing 18 on seven made baskets. Morgan scored the second-most points for Siuslaw, notching 10 points. In the end, it was North Bend who was able to muscle out the win, grinding out a 58-56 win, and surviving a Siuslaw three-point attempt at the buzzer. The Vikings next played at the Bandon Dunes Tournament at Harbor Lights Middle School. Siuslaw played three games Dec. 1-3, but the results are not known at the time of press.



Students had fun auditioning for parts in last years production. Photo submitted by CROW

Dr. Seuss presents Seussical The Musical Auditions

In April of 2026, C.R.O.W. will proudly present the beloved classic, Seussical The Musical, based on the works of Dr. Seuss. The show will be presented for six public performances over two weekends, April 17-26, at the Florence Events Center.

Seussical celebrates individuality, listening to your heart, friendship, and integrity, among other key themes.

Open auditions will be held at the C.R.O.W. Center for the Performing Arts (3120 Hwy 101 in

Florence) on January 12 or 13 at 6:30 p.m. (attendance on only one day is required). Invited callbacks will take place on January 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Roles are available for youth and young adults ages 4-22+, and no experience is required. Children ages 4-7 will be considered for "Telegrams" and should arrive promptly at 6:30 p.m. and be prepared to sing a short song. Regular auditionees (ages 7+) should prepare 16-32 bars (or about one minute) of a

song, and bring either sheet music or a music track on a device with no background vocals. A headshot and résumé are encouraged. If needed, children may sing "Happy Birthday" or "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star," though other song selections are preferred.

Auditionees will sing first, and then will be taught a short dance combination. The dance combination will be posted in advance on C.R.O.W.'s website and Facebook page. For student and staff safety,

auditions are closed to observers, except when special permission is granted (such as for very young children).

Rehearsals begin January 26 and run Monday-Thursday, 6:30-8:45 p.m. A full character breakdown and detailed audition information are available on C.R.O.W.'s website.

There is no cost to participate in C.R.O.W.'s mainstage musical, which differentiates C.R.O.W. from nearly every other similar organization in the nation.

Director Melanie Heard encourages participants to visit the C.R.O.W. website and read C.R.O.W.'s FAQ's and Audition Tips. Heard says, "We're thrilled to produce this whimsical, colorful, magical show and hope that even if you're nervous, you'll come give it a try!"

C.R.O.W. is a private 501(c)(3) organization, founded in 2011. Their mission, vision, and diversity statements are available on their

See **SEUSS**, Page B3

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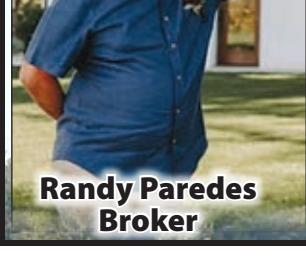
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Community Briefs

Moon Magic in 2026 Guest Workshop at Serene Abundance Studio



Serene Abundance Studio Space in Old Town Florence will host a magical creative journaling workshop with Eugene author and astrologer, Elizabeth Russell, on Saturday, January 17th from 11am-1pm. Participants will use storytelling, guided imagery and creative exercises to personalize their journals and set intentions for the new year. Early bird discount available through Dec 31st. Learn more and register at 541-590-3877, or online at sassflo.com/events

Special Meeting of the Siuslaw Public Library District Board of Directors

A special meeting of the Siuslaw Public Library District Board of Directors will be held at 11:00 a.m. PST on Wednesday, January 7, 2026. The Library Board is holding this special meeting to select a strategic planning consultant. The public is welcome to attend in person, and virtual attendance and written comment submission options are also available. A complete agenda and additional information is available online at siuslawlibrary.org or by calling 541-997-3132.

Sleep wellness seminar

Finding your rhythm and understanding your bio rhythms for better sleep. This seminar explores factors which may contribute to the development of sleep disorders. Discover how to regain vitality by synthesizing your natural bio rhythms to improve sleep and overall well-being.

Speaker Michael Stout RPSGT, CCSH, well who is the event at the Siuslaw Public Library's Bromley Room, Jan. 12 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Coffee conversations

Florence organizes presents coffee conversations. Come join them on first and third Fridays from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. At the Bridgeport market, 75 Harbor St., at the east end of old town by the boat ramp. Meet and connect with your Florence community. Find out what's happening and ways to create positive change. Florence organizes is a non-partisan group committed to strengthening our community and raising public awareness.

Call for Vendors for Siuslaw High School Student Career Fair

Siuslaw High School is hosting a Student Career Fair for ninth through twelfth-grade students on Friday, March 20th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Student participants will have the opportunity to visit booths from vendors, submit an application and/or a resume, and interview for part-time jobs, seasonal work, and other youth apprenticeships. This event will allow students to present themselves professionally, participate in on-spot interviews and gain feedback from our area employers, while

assisting with our seasonal recruitment needs.

If you are a local business looking to recruit and train for the upcoming season, or would just like to meet potential youth who will be exploring career opportunities, you are invited to participate in this FREE event. Tables will be provided for vendors, along with an open audience of candidates who will circulate throughout the event.

For more information, or to sign up to participate, contact Pam at 541-997-5470.

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Community Generosity Brightens the Holidays for Siuslaw Students

The holiday season was made significantly brighter for Siuslaw School District students this year thanks to an outpouring of generosity from local neighbors, churches, and businesses who came together to support students and families in need.

Mo's played a key role in supporting elementary schools by fulfilling numerous teacher classroom wish lists with much-needed school supplies. In addition, Mo's provided vouchers for free chowder and bread to families impacted by the temporary suspension of

the SNAP program during the government shutdown, helping ensure students felt nourished and supported during a challenging time.

Support for middle and high school students came through Giving Trees hosted by Habitat ReStore, Florence Dental Clinic, and Big Dog Donuts. The Florence community responded enthusiastically, purchasing essential items ranging from new shoes and winter clothing to bedding and kitchen utensils—items that help students feel comfortable, confident, and ready to

learn.

The collective effort was further strengthened by generous contributions from The Odd Fellows, Florence Christian Church, Crossroads Church, the Knights of Columbus, and many caring individuals who donated money, gift cards, snacks, and clothing. Their support ensured that students who might otherwise go without were able to head into the holiday break with dignity, warmth, and a strong sense of community care.

"We are deeply moved by the kindness of

our community," said Ella Glowacki, Special Programs Assistant and McKinney Vento Liaison. "These generous gifts provide our students with much more than just supplies—they provide a sense of belonging and care."

Siuslaw School District is deeply grateful for the compassion and generosity shown throughout the season. We are proud to be part of such a caring and supportive community that continually steps up to ensure every student has what they need to succeed.

The Power of Practice & the Hidden Possibilities in Resistance

What does it take to truly transform a situation—whether within ourselves, our communities, or the world around us? Throughout history, powerful answers have emerged. Thoreau pointed to civil disobedience as a moral response to injustice. Gandhi embodied satyagraha, the disciplined practice of truth and nonviolence. Einstein reminded us that no problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it. Each approach reveals a different dimension of change, and together they suggest that transformation is both an inner and outer practice.

Join us on Jan. 11 as Rev. Dr. Ruth Miller explores how these ideas intersect with modern

neuropsychology and cultural dynamics, offering insight into why certain forms of resistance and practice are effective—and why others fall short. By looking at how the brain, belief systems, and social patterns interact, this talk invites us to reconsider resistance not as opposition alone, but as a conscious, practiced pathway to deeper possibility, healing, and lasting change.

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PFLAG to show award-winning documentary

PFLAG Florence invites the public to view "Heightened Scrutiny," a Sundance award-winning documentary on January 12, at 6 p.m. at Florence United Methodist Church. The film follows an American Civil Liberties Union attorney as he represents trans youth, their families and a doctor who filed suit against the Tennessee law that prohibits certain medical care for minors—chiefly puberty blockers and hormone therapy—arguing that the restrictions are discriminatory on the basis of sex and transgender status. The attorney became the first openly trans person to argue in front of the Supreme Court during oral arguments last December in U.S. v.

Skrmetti. The film's director is Sam Feder, whose award-winning documentary "Disclosure," which evaluated how trans people are depicted in film and television, was shown by PFLAG Florence in 2022.

The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be available.

PFLAG Florence is one of more than 400 chapters in the largest national organization serving the LGBTQ+ community and those who love them.

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There will be two Guest Speakers: Erin Linton R.D. presenting Women's

Nutrition and Dr. Heather McArthur D.O. presenting Women's Health.

There will be a Hat Design Station: Large Sunhats - \$20 if you pre-register / \$25 at the door and Fascinators - \$15

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SEUSS

From Page B1

website, as well as opportunities for those who may wish to sponsor Seussical or donate to one of the non-profit's charitable categories, including their Technical Theatre fund, Youth scholarship fund, Endowment fund through Western Lane Community Foundation, or Flexible fund.

For those auditionees who are feeling nervous, C.R.O.W. is also offering a FREE audition workshop on January 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Questions may be emailed to artistic-director@crowkids.com. Complete details are available at www.crowkids.com/auditions



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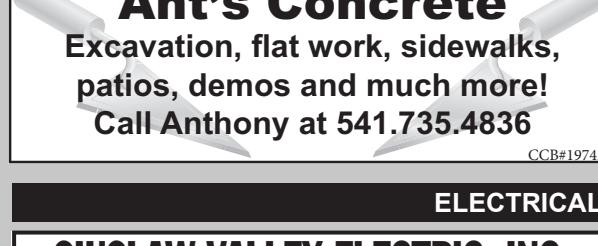
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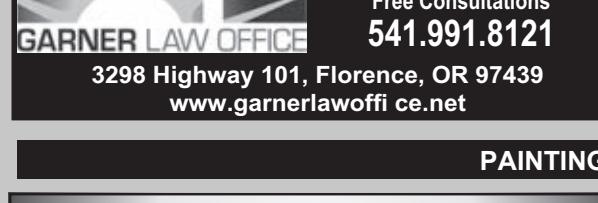
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the use of their property. Generic legal language is mandatory for all mailings under Measure 56 law. The below sentence, "The City of Dunes City has determined that proposed land use changes may change the value of your property" is mandatory language that the City must include, however; the City of Dunes City does not know how these amendments might affect the value of your property, if at all. Phone (541) 997-3338 • PO Box 97, Westlake, OR 97493 82877 Spruce St • www.dunescity.gov

TSN26-101 IN THE
CIRCUIT COURT
FOR THE STATE OF
OREGON

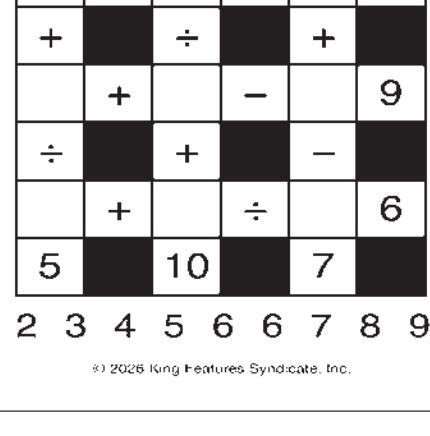
COUNTY OF LANE In the matter of the estate of, GEORGE JOHN BLAKE, DECEASED Case No.: 25PB10737 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the undersigned personal representative at P.O. Box B, Florence, Oregon, 97439, within four months after the date of publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative, or the attorney, Scott T. Bailey, Attorney at Law, P.C. at P.O. Box B, Florence, Oregon 97439. Dated and first published January 07, 2026.

GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!



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Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Hand warmer	— — — V —	Circular map	— — — B —
2. More lethargic	S — — — —	Tulip or gladiola	F — — — —
3. Weeping tree	— I — — —	Flounder	— A — — —
4. Modify	— — — E —	Church table	— — — A —
5. Park seat	E — — — —	Cluster of grapes	— U — — —
6. Wander aimlessly	— — I — —	Gentle wind	— — A — —
7. Perimeter	— — — — G	Hemingway's fish	— L — — —
8. Hedge plant	H — — — —	Use steel wool	— C — — —
9. Prying bar	— — — — R	Even	— — — — L
10. Football takedown	A — — — —	Touch with a feather	— I — — —

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Fun Fact

The 24 "Solar Terms" are an ancient calendar system based on celestial movements and the position of the sun. It is an essential part of Chinese heritage that farmers rely on. Each solar term carries unique meaning, with titles such as Beginning of Spring, Rain Water, Awakening of Insects, Spring Equinox, Clear and Bright, Grain Rain, Grain Full, End of Heat and Frost's Descent.

Source: www.thechinajourney.com/the-twenty-four-solar-terms/

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STREAMING
SOURCE

Here's what to watch and where to watch it for the week of Jan. 12, 2026.

ON NOW: "Industry" (Season 4) — HBO Max

ON NOW: "Tehran" (Season 3) — AppleTV

13-Jan: "Tell Me Lies" (Season 3) — Hulu

14-Jan: "Veronica Mars" (Seasons 1-3) — Netflix

15-Jan: "The Upshaws" (Part 7) — Netflix

15-Jan: "Star Trek: Starfleet Academy" (Season 1) — Paramount+

15-Jan: "Ponies" (Season 1) — Peacock

15-Jan: "The James Bond Movie Collection" (1962-2021) — Netflix

16-Jan: "The Rip" (R) — Netflix

18-Jan: "A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms" (Season 1) — HBO Max

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1. Globe, Petman
2. Shower, Flower
3. Willow, Wallow
4. Alter, Alter
5. Bench, Bench
6. Drift, Drift
7. Margin, Marlin
8. Shrub, Scrub
9. Lever, Lever
10. Tackie, Tickle

to
Your
good
health

WITH
Dr. Keith
Roach

Using and Strengthening
the Immune System
To Prevent Cancer

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have read about using the immune system's response as a mechanism to battle cancer (such as brain and pancreatic) and to reduce the devastating impact that cancer and its treatment has on humans. I understand current drug trials show promising results. How do doctors and scientists use the immune system to treat cancer? — J.W.

ANSWER: The concept of using the immune system to treat cancer is old, but the ability to do so has dramatically improved in the past few years. There are a few specific types of treatments that I'd like to highlight:

Immune checkpoint inhibitors are treatments that release inhibitions on the immune system. (These "strengthen" the immune system, which has beneficial but also potentially toxic effects.) For melanoma, the most dangerous form of skin cancer, these treatments have revolutionized treatment and led to dramatically improved outcomes in people whose melanoma has spread. Response rates are up to 60% in a disease where the prognosis used to be dismal.

The unleashed immune system can destroy cancer very effectively, but it also can attack healthy organs, with many people (between 10% to 60% depending on drugs and doses) developing damage to the skin, lungs, liver, thyroid, colon and heart. These toxicities range from mild to life-threatening.

The body's own immune cells can be genetically engineered to kill cancer cells. Chimeric antigen receptor T cells (CAR T cells) can be specifically changed to recognize cancer cells. This can lead to complete remission with some cancers, especially some leuke-

mias and lymphomas. Unfortunately, they can also attack the body, leading to neurological damage that can be very serious.

Developing cancer vaccines is a highly promising strategy for personalizing the immune system to attack a person's own cancer. Although the United States has recently made dramatic cuts to its support of this research, researchers in other countries continue to study this. It can be used in combination with other traditional or immune-based treatments.

The immune system can be used to help treat cancer effectively, but there is still the potential for serious side effects.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 89 years old and doing reasonably well, but I have noticed some loss of energy and a bit of my balance. I try to walk, do some exercises, and then hit the hot tub every day to help relax my joints. I recall reading an article about a study, which concluded that 15 minutes in a hot tub equated, cardio-wise, to a 15-minute jog. I would really appreciate your opinion on this proposition. — J.D.

ANSWER: I read the study that I think you are referencing from Coventry, England, and the headline writers overstated the more cautious conclusions of the actual study. Being in a hot tub or sauna does increase the heart rate and the ability of the heart to exert itself when done daily for four weeks in people with heart failure.

Other studies have found that healthy volunteers also get small but significant improvements in their cardiac reserve, similar to (but not quite as much as) what would be expected with exercise.

The benefits of exercise are well-known and large and go beyond the effects of the heart, while the benefits of regular hot-tub or sauna bathing appear to give some but not all the benefits of regular exercise. At age 89, there is a risk of heat-related injuries, including light-headedness and falling, so I would urge caution for new users not to use too high of a heat or stay in for too long, especially when first starting.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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238 Horseshoe Bend - \$199,750

1 Bdrm, 1 Bath, 500 SqFt. Nice corner lot with RV hookups. Home is well cared for with bonus room and garden. #3690-524301067



4838 Lake Blvd. - \$925,000

3 Bdrms, 3.5 Baths, 1884 SqFt. Large turnkey home with Siltcoos Lake views, boathouse/dock and RV Parking. #3700-717794144

87830 Terrace View Dr. - \$435,000

2 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1482 SqFt. Shop/Garage, RV Garage with 30 AMP, private covered deck, enclosed sunroom/greenhouse. #3702-456128863

1600-113 Rhododendron Dr. - \$158,000

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83763 Hwy 101 #10 - \$115,000

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3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1512 SqFt. Updated home in 55+ Greentrees Village with vaulted ceilings, skylights, covered porch, and ample parking. #3665-689410988

88416 1st Avenue #222 & #224 - \$309,500

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3890 Spruce St. - \$420,000

3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1478 SqFt. Oversized garage, RV parking, beautiful fir trees, in-town! #3671-699141635

3932 Spruce St. - \$539,000

3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1472 SqFt. Enclosed sunroom, RV parking with hookups, outdoor hobby room and tool shed with gardens. #3717-687208935



87511 Tiernan Rd. - \$425,000

2 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1866 SqFt. Secluded property with mature fruit trees, custom kitchen, bonus room, shop, and river access. #3714-272688773

1600-29 Rhododendron Dr. - \$254,000

3 Bdrms, 1 Bath, 1308 SqFt. Inviting 55+ retreat featuring pellet stove, efficient heating, new appliances, covered deck, workshop. #3698-344579839

5170 Grand Ave #19 - \$129,000

2 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1052 SqFt. Nice, clean, completely upgraded manufactured home in Big Spruce MHP is a must see! #3685-571961488

179 Outer Dr. - \$299,000

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