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Candidates answer questions from Siuslaw News

Part One of Two

By TONY REED, EDITOR

With the election now less than one month away, 11 candidates for Florence City Council were given a list of questions, reflective of those I often hear while out in the community. In a nutshell, the most common topics have been housing availability, attracting younger families, and Flock cameras. In the interest of newspaper space, all 11 candidates were asked the same questions, and I thank them for answering in a prompt and succinct way. Candidates were given six questions, the first three of which are answered below. Answers to the remaining three questions will appear next week in the Oct. 14 issue.

The Questions:

1) What's your primary reason for running in this election, and what difference do you hope it will make?

2) What do you think is the greatest challenge facing the city and how can the council address it?

3) With Mayor Rob Ward departing, along with Councilman Robert Carp, the dynamic (which led to a 3/2 vote to keep Flock cameras) may possibly change. For the record, do you support or oppose the use of Flock cameras in Florence and why?

SHANNON WARREN

Mayor candidate

1) I did not move to Florence planning to run for mayor. I became involved because I care about this community and grew increasingly concerned about how our city operates. When I first moved here, I spent six weeks navigating Florence in a wheelchair, gaining first-hand insight into accessibility barriers. I have also become concerned that our community culture allows businesses to operate, and new businesses to open, without consistently meeting ADA standards. I am equally concerned about transparency and representation. The current mayor has excluded residents who apply for city committees without discussion or consultation with other council members, citing his prerogative under a city charter he helped establish in the 1980s. No mayor should be able to exclude volunteers simply because they ask difficult questions or exercise free speech. Florence needs change. Leadership willing to speak out, listen, challenge the status quo, and ensure residents are genuinely heard.



2) Housing, jobs, childcare, accessibility, infrastructure, and public trust are interconnected challenges that require clear priorities, transparency, accountability, better communication, and a willingness to change what isn't working.

3) I strongly oppose Flock cameras. Routinely collecting vehicle-location data raises serious privacy and Fourth Amendment concerns. Public safety and constitutional rights should be protected together.

SALLY WANTZ

Incumbent, Mayor candidate

1) When Rob Ward, Mayor of Florence, told me he would not seek reelection, he asked me to run. He said I would bring a sense of responsibility and respect for the collaborative standards we have worked hard to build – together. He offered his full support and endorsement, and I am grateful for his confidence in me. Yes, I will continue to lead with responsibility, respect, and the collaborative spirit we have worked hard to establish over the past three years. These standards will guide me as I welcome a new City Council to establish a shared understanding of how we will work together.



2) One of our greatest challenges will be earning and maintaining the trust of our community. Residents need to know that their elected officials are responsible stewards of the city's resources. For more than two years, I have made it a priority to meet with community members, listen to their questions, concerns, and ideas, and follow up with them about the actions I have taken. I expect every councilor to do the same. By bringing recurring or shared concerns to our work sessions, we can identify common issues and work together on meaningful solutions.

3) When Council first received information about an Automated License Plate Recognition system, or ALPR, through FLOCK, we generally viewed it as a useful law-enforcement tool. However, reports from communities around the country about data being misused by ICE and other federal agencies to identify undocumented immigrants raised serious concerns for me. I heard the fear in the voices of residents who came before Council. I ultimately made a motion to remove the cameras, but it failed by a vote of 3–2 vote. As Mayor, I will again make a motion to remove those cameras.

DANIEL LOFY

Mayor Candidate

1) My primary reason for running is to give back to the community I have called home for 37 years and to bring practical, accountable leadership to City Hall. As a longtime local business owner and member of local and statewide boards and committees, including the Florence Economic Development Committee, I understand both the opportunities before us



See **CANDIDATES**, Page A6

Community walks for awareness

Submitted by
WESTERN LANE CRISIS RESPONSE

The Suicide Prevention Walk and Health Expo was a beautiful day for our community. About 150 people came through during the event, and 26 community partner

See **WALKS**, Page A7



The Suicide Prevention Walk and Health Expo reminded participants to focus on what matters while walking the path of life. Tony Reed photo.



North Jetty lot awaits paving to reopen

SIUSLAW NEWS STAFF

While no heavy equipment remains at the parking lot of the North jetty Beach Access in Florence, county officials say the final stage is awaiting scheduling. Lane County Parks Superintendent Steve Rafuse said Monday delays occurred early in the permitting process, but the contracted company has other paving projects in the region and will pave the lots as soon as possible.

The gravel underlay, curbs, a parking island, restrooms and more have been installed, and only

See **JETTY**, Page A7

Elementary School Students Launch Milk Carton Recycling Program

FROM SIUSLAW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Siuslaw Elementary School students have introduced a new recycling initiative in their cafeteria this year, transforming how more than 500 milk cartons used daily are managed. Instead of disposing of cartons as garbage, students now empty any remaining milk into a designated receptacle and place the cartons into a dedicated recycling cart provided by the local hauler, County Transfer and Recycling (CTR). The collected cartons are transported to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Eugene for proper recycling and processing.

"This program is designed not only to teach students about the importance of recycling and reducing waste, but also to emphasize the value of empty, well sorted materials for responsible end markets. Knowing how to recycle, so new products can be created, is just as important as knowing what to recycle," said Britte Kirsch, Florence Master Recycler and Chair of the Environmental Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) for the City of Florence. Members of the Master Recyclers and EMAC volunteered on the program's Kick Off Day, Monday, September 28, to help educate students on the new procedures.

See **RECYCLE**, Page A7



Students from Siuslaw Elementary School and Volunteer Laura Smith, EMAC Member and Master Recycler. Photo courtesy of Britte Kirsch.

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Renewal of WLFEA Ambulance District Measure 20-389

By BOB HORNEY

On November 3, 2026, we voters in the Western Lane Ambulance District will vote on the Lane County Ballot Measure 20-389. This is a five-year local option Levy for ambulance operations. This Levy is one of the simplest and most important public safety measures we face. It does not raise the tax rate. Make sure you saw the NOT in that short statement. It simply continues the same tax rate that voters first approved in 2012.

The 2012 Levy passed with strong community support, allowing WLFEA to maintain 24/7 emergency staffing. It was renewed again in 2016 and 2021, without increasing the tax rate. We know that Florence residents recognize how essential stable emergency coverage is and that this operational levy has saved many lives. I can say that personally, because trained responders were available when I needed them the most.

Although the Levy rate has stayed exactly the same, the amount of revenue it generates has increased modestly over the past five years. This is not because WLFEA is asking for more money - it is because assessed property values have risen. One of the simplest checks on that statement is to ask yourself if you can sell your home for a higher price today than in 2021. Taxes increase by about 3% each year. Taxing entities, such as Western Lane Ambulance District, see the same increase in their tax revenue. This meager increase does not cover the rise in operating costs which have ballooned over the last decade. The District's leadership continuously looks for ways to operate as efficiently as possible to keep the cost down to taxpayers.

Just in case you are wondering what the Levy pays for, here is a short list for you: Paramedics, EMTs, and supporting emergency personnel; maintaining 24-hour emergency response coverage; ambulance replacement, maintenance, fuel, and repairs; medical equipment, medications, and disposable supplies; emergency communications and dispatch costs; training; insurance and regulatory fees.

So, what is the service area that the Western Lane Ambulance District covers? It currently provides around-the-clock ambulance coverage for Florence and surrounding communities, including Mapleton, Dunes City, Swisshome, Deadwood and other areas within the district. Their district used to be approximately 564 square miles of western Lane County. However, as of July 1, 2026, the district was increased to 686square miles.

There is a long list of services provided to this region due to the comprehensive and specialized arrangement of these ambulances and the District's deployment model. First, the 24-hour emergency response with Advanced Life Support paramedic care, emergency treatment and transportation, critical-care interfacility transportation and response to cardiac arrests, strokes, traumatic injuries, motor vehicle accidents, breathing emergences, overdoses, rescues, and other medical emergencies.

As you can see, if the patient needs an attendant, oxygen, or anything else that is available only in an ambulance, Western Lane Ambulance District provides the service. To put it simply, there aren't different ambulances or personnel responding to different emergencies; Every ambulance needs to be equipped for all emergencies, and our responders prepared for the same. How could we not support those services being available to everyone within our 686 square mile area.

As a Florence resident who is still here thanks to David and Charlie plus the well-equipped WLFEA ambulance, please join me in supporting Ballot Measure 20-389 on November 3rd. More next week why approval of this ballot measure is absolutely critical!

POLICE LOG

The Florence Police Department responded to the following calls from September 22 to September 28

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.

At 9:18 a.m., a caller reported that two years ago, his ex forged his name on a title. Officers advised him that his issue was considered civil in nature, unless more proof could be provided.

At 9:18 a.m., a caller reported that a bicyclist in the 4900 block of Highway 101 was causing a traffic hazard and flipping off drivers. The subject was gone when officers arrived.

At noon, a caller reported a female subject on a skateboard causing a traffic hazard near the Elks Lodge. Officers contacted the subject and advised her to stay out of traffic.

At 12:40 p.m., officers responded to the 1600 block of Maple for a report that subjects were on a property that didn't belong to them. Officers contacted the subjects and found that one had a warrant from Florence Municipal Court. That subject was taken into custody.

At 1:07 p.m., officers responded to the 1900 block of 25th St. for a report that a subject was yelling and punching a tree. Officers contacted the subject, who said he was just upset. Officers calmed the situation and counseled the subject.

At 2:05 p.m., officers responded to the area of Highway 126 and Highway 101 for a report that a female subject with a skateboard was yelling at people. Officers contacted the subject and advised her to stop. A Business in the area asked that she be told not to return.

At 5:52 p.m., police were informed that a hunter outside the city had located a woman who had been reported missing several days before.

At 9:17 p.m., a caller reported that his daughter had left and was missing. Officers found the daughter and advised the father that she was safe.

At 9:55 p.m., a caller reported that a vehicle swerved and had almost hit the car in the area of 1st Street and Rhododendron Drive before running a stop sign. Officers were unable to locate the described vehicle.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

At 8:22 a.m., a caller reported a subject in Gazebo Park who was on the bench yelling at no one. Officers contacted the subject, who volunteered to leave.

At 11:19 a.m., a caller reported that her vehicle was damaged by another vehicle while parked near the post office. Officers were able to locate

the other vehicle and spoke to the driver, who said they were unaware they had caused any damage. The vehicle owners exchanged insurance information.

At 11:50 a.m., officers responded to a report of two subjects refusing to leave a Florence business. Officers arrived and spoke to the couple, who agreed to leave. Officers responded to another call shortly afterward involving the same two subjects acting in the same manner. While officers were investigating, the subjects fled. Officers caught the male subject nearby, and witnesses directed them to the female's location. Both were arrested for criminal trespassing, littering, providing false information to an officer, and active warrants from Florence Municipal Court and Polk County.

At 1:57 p.m., a caller reported finding bank cards in a local store. Officers were unable to find a phone number for the subjects named on the cards. The items were placed in evidence storage.

At 4:28, officers conducted a death investigation on 16th St. Officers found no reason to suspect foul play and contacted the medical examiner.

At 7:26 p.m., officers investigated a report that a family caregiver was taking unusual sums of money from the family account. The case remains under investigation.

At 10:41 p.m., officers responded to Spruce Street for a report of a dispute occurring. Officers patrolled the area and found the area to be quiet.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

At 12:17 a.m., officers attempted to locate a possible intoxicated driver in the Florence area. Officers located the described vehicle and found the driver was having a diabetic emergency. Medical personnel arrived to treat the driver.

At 11:35 a.m., officers returned a shopping cart that had been left in Miller Park.

At 1:51 a.m., an officer on patrol in the area of Rhododendron Drive and Highway 101 observed a juvenile as he ran out into the street and lit fireworks. Officers contacted and counseled the juvenile before turning him over to his parents.

At 11:50 a.m., officers responded to the 300 block of Kenwood for a report of a dispute between three males. Officers separated and advised the subjects.

At 12:35 p.m., officers responded to the 2200 block of Highway 101 for a reported accident involving a vehicle and an electric scooter. Officers spoke to the involved parties, who had conflicting accounts of what happened. Officers found no visible injuries or damage and documented the call.

At 12:58 p.m., officers responded to the area of Kenwood and Pacific View Drive for a report of a suspiciously parked black vehicle. Officers investigated and found the vehicle belonged to Lane County Sheriff's Office.

At 2:19 p.m., officers responded to the 1500 block of Highway 101 for a report that a female subject had stolen a soda.

At 5:06 p.m., officers responded to the 1600 block of Highway 101 for a report of rocks in the roadway. Officers moved the rocks to one side.

At 10:23 p.m., a caller reported a possible DUI driver in the area of Highway 126 and Highway 101. Officers located the described vehicle, but when they walked up to the driver's window, the driver drove away. After a short pursuit, officers contacted the driver, performed a field sobriety test, and arrested Natalie Clark DeGois for DUII.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

At 12:03 a.m., officers responded to the reported theft in the 1800 block of Highway 101. While investigating, an officer heard banging nearby and encountered a male subject with a shovel swinging it and hitting the sidewalk, and later, himself. After ordering him to put the shovel down, officers found he had a misdemeanor warrant from LeGrand, Oregon. Officers determined the shovel had been taken from a nearby truck. The subject was taken into custody.

At 12:18 a.m., an officer found a shopping cart in the 1400 block of Highway 101 and returned it to the store.

At 6:30 a.m., officers performed a death investigation in the 1600 block of Rhododendron Drive. Officers found no evidence of foul play, and the medical examiner was contacted.

At 10:27 a.m., officers responded to the 4300 block of Highway 101 for a report that a subject was trying to start a fire in the parking lot of a business. Officers and fire personnel arrived to find the fire was out and were unable to locate the described subject.

At 11:27 a.m., officers responded to the 3900 block of Highway 101 for a report of an abandoned vehicle. A tow notice was placed on the vehicle.

At 1:44 p.m., a caller reported a woman with a skateboard in the area of Highway 126 and Highway 101. Officers were familiar with the subject, but were unable to locate her when they arrived.

At 2:30 p.m., a school bus driver reported that a motorcyclist had passed the bus in the 2400 block of Kingwood. It was not reported whether the bus's stop sign and lights were displayed.

At 2:36 p.m., an officer on patrol observed an abandoned trailer on school property near the high school football field. The officer determined it had been dumped at the location, but was able to locate the subject who left it there. After it was determined that the trailer had been stolen, the subject was arrested for theft one and trespassing.

At 3:40 p.m., a caller reported that someone had destroyed the solar panels on a city bus stop.

See **POLICE**, Page A6



GOOD BOY CHEVY



Chevy was a local surrender who was loved deeply in his previous home. He's 68 pounds and 2 years old. Thanks to our team and volunteers, Chevy is learning leash skills and will make an excellent adventure buddy. Stop by the shelter if you'd like to adopt Chevy or any of our PAWSOME pets!

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www.oregoncoasthumanesociety.org
OCHS
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1193 Bay Street
10am - 5pm
seven days a week
Shelter hours are
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seven days a week



Michael W. Hill

March 27, 1948 - September 23, 2026

Michael W. Hill was born March 27, 1948, in Redwood Falls, MN and he passed away peacefully September 23, 2026, with his wife of 46 years, Nancy by his side

At Mike's request, there will be no services. Inurnment will be at Park City Cemetery in Park City, Montana at a later date. Our deepest gratitude to Peace

Harbor Hospice for their care and love during his short time with them. They eased Mike's final journey greatly, and they are greatly appreciated.

OBITUARY POLICY

1. **DEATH NOTICE:** This option includes basic information such as the deceased's name, age, town of residency, and details about any funeral services. There is no charge for this service. If you wish to add a photo, there is a $35 fee.
2. **SERVICE NOTICE:** A Death Notice that includes a link to a free obituary will be charged $75 dollars.
3. **STANDARD OBITUARY:** For $100, you can submit an obituary with up to 200 words. Each additional 200 words cost $75. A small photo can be included at no extra charge. If you'd like to add more photos, each additional one costs $35.
4. **50% OFF PICK-UP OPTION:** If you choose to republish an obituary within one month of its original publication date without making any changes, you'll receive a 50% discount.
5. **ONLINE:** All obituaries are placed online at no additional charge

Obituaries need to be submitted and paid for by 4 p.m. on Wednesday the week prior to publication. Need further assistance? Call 503-842-7535 Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. or email snofficemanager@countrymedi.net

LETTERS

DEAR EDITOR,

I have lived in Dunes City for ten years and this is the first time I've seen a competitive race for the Mayor and City Council positions. Thank you so much to the brave people who have declared their candidacy.

I am voting for Chris John for Mayor.

Chris and his wife, Linda, have been property owners in Dunes City since 1999. Chris, who is now retired, worked primarily in broadcast engineering, as an engineer, an instructor, a consultant, and a manager. His professional life taught him "how to deal with complicated problems, adapt when circumstances change, listen carefully, prepare thoroughly, and work with people who don't always see things the same way".

Since moving to Dunes City, Chris and Linda have volunteered on the Water Quality, Road, Budget, and Planning Committees.

I know Chris because we are both Board members of the Woahink Lake Association. I've seen him step up as a leader. He's articulate, balanced, a great listener, and passionate about the health of our lakes. His priorities are the protection of our water quality and our neighborhoods. He has been active in testing the water quality of our lakes since 2008 and after Dunes City discontinued that water testing several years ago, he and a few other volunteers have continued to do monthly testing on their own.

Chris wants to give Dunes City back to its residents, bring accountability to City Hall, and protect the character and liveability of Dunes City.

Please join me in voting for Chris John for Mayor of Dunes City.

Pat Briggs
Florence

DEAR EDITOR,

I'm proud to support Sally Wantz for Mayor. At a time when it can be hard to know what – or who – to believe, Sally stands out because she's authentic. In the time I've known her, I've found her to be approachable and always open to hearing new ideas.

Sally regularly holds public listening sessions because she genuinely wants to hear from the people she represents. She doesn't just listen – she pays attention to what people have to say and takes those perspectives seriously. She works hard to bring input from her constituents to the table and is skilled at facilitating consensus building.

With more than five years on the City Council, Sally has the experience and knowledge that we need in our mayor. She has served on the Florence Urban Renewal Agency, the Housing and Transportation Implementation Committee, and the Budget Committee, to name a few. She understands how our City government works.

If you're looking for a mayor who will show up, listen, and follow through, I believe Sally Wantz is the right choice.

Dolly Brock
Florence

DEAR EDITOR,

I've known Chris John for over a dozen years and know he would make an excellent Dunes City mayor. Living on Woahink Lake, Chris has an intimate understanding of the value of both Siltcoos and Woahink and their resources to Dunes City residents. As an active member of the Woahink Lake Association, Chris volunteers monthly monitoring of the lake.

Whether it be water quality, disaster preparedness, land use, fiscal accountability, or any Dunes City issues you can count on Chris to bring citizen concerns to the council. Whatever the topic, Chris is circumspect formulating ideas, opinions and willing to listen to all sides. Being a volunteer mayor is a thankless job; thankfully he is willing to step up.

Having said that, you will find Chris focused, willing to listen, open minded in exploring multiple solutions to Dunes City issues. I see Chris as a facilitator in bringing his time and effort to the office. We need a mayor who can work to galvanize all factions for the benefit of Dunes City. A vote for Chris will bring fresh ideas, an unwavering dedication and cooperation to the office. Vote for Chris John; you'll be glad you did.

G.A. Cook
Dunes City

DEAR EDITOR,

The midterm elections are incredibly important to the Citizens of Florence! I am given to understand that the entire City Council including the office of Mayor are up for election. I'm aware that typically midterm elections are thinly voted. However, this election may be one of the most important in the recent history of Florence. I enthusiastically support Renee Lopilato as a Florence City Councilor! Renee and I worked together for a number of years on the Florence City Planning Commission. I've been involved with City Councils, Commissions, numerous Agency's and Committees in my 23 years as a resident of the Oregon Central Coast. Renee Lopolotto stands head and shoulders above other involved citizens on these various groups. Renee has been an extremely successful administrator and educator her entire career. On the Florence Planning Commission, Renee always asked the applicants inciteful questions and was able to get down to the issues and possible repercussions should the application be approved. Unlike some of the other Commissioners, I served with Renee LoPilato, had no personal agenda other than being extremely fair and open minded. I don't think that many Florence voters are aware that given the current state of the political maelstrom of national politics in this country, how important voting locally is where we can make effective changes. We need a City Council that stands for honesty and integrity! Renee Lopilato has the integrity to stand up for what's right and fair for all the citizens of Florence. Vote for Renee Lopilato, like your future depends on it because it does!

Eric D. Hauptman
Florence

DEAR EDITOR,

I was ambivalent about VRBOs, but that changed when they started popping up on my street.

Fifteen years after we built our retirement home, everything changed in our neighborhood.

We started to have more vacationers than full-time residents on a regular basis. This means that more people than actually live in all the houses on the street were here to vacation and party, with a new set arriving every three to four days. Trespassing and late-night parties became common and led to confrontations. Property managers did nothing, and the City was behind the curve in responding.

When the owners proved dismissive, we turned to the only avenue available: the current ordinance governing Airbnb and VRBO short-term rentals. The ordinance did not require that any action be taken by the property managers—they only had to answer the phone—and it did not protect our right to the peaceful use of our properties. This proved to be the catalyst for neighborhood action.

Neighbors became the de facto VRBO police because that is what the ordinance required. It required a senior community to be on guard, document with images, initiate complaints, and provide proof of violations. The ordinance puts the burden of policing on neighbors instead of where it belongs… with the property owners.

We do have a code enforcement officer, but this is a reactive approach that results in the problem persisting until they have the ability to deal with it.

Clearly, this is about maximizing profit at the expense of our neighborhood. We would welcome month-to-month or long-term rentals.

It is important to respect everyone's rights. Do not give up your right to the peaceful use of your home… Vote YES on 20-386.

Chris John
Dunes City

DEAR EDITOR,

Think "Service" When Voting

When someone becomes president of the United States, the man is no longer that man because he becomes the representative of an eternal office. In turn, the president has to sacrifice his personal desires and even making money to the role of president that he now signifies. This is "not" what's happening with the president today in America where grift is everywhere?

I understand this "sacrifice" to duty, honor, country" after putting on an Air Force uniform for 24 years of active-duty service.

In the military you're giving up your personal life and accepting a certain manner of life in service to America.

Think of this "service" for country when voting in November.

Dave Masko
Florence

TO THE EDITOR,

As the retired Fire and EMS Chief of the Western Lane Fire & EMS Authority (WLFEA), I am writing to express my strong endorsement of Mike Webb for the Florence City Council.

Having spent many years focusing on the safety, health, and well-being of the Florence community, I know what it takes to lead with integrity, stability, and a collaborative spirit. Mike Webb embodies those exact qualities. During his time on the City Council Mike has proven to be a deeply committed and level-headed leader.

Mike's dedication to public safety is unparalleled. He understands that a vibrant community requires reliable essential infrastructure and first responders who are fully supported. He has consistently looked out for the interests of our local families, advocating for balanced growth, workforce housing, and economic opportunities that keep Florence a place where people can thrive. His deep roots and extensive local involvement—including over two decades on the Western Lane Ambulance District board—demonstrate that his devotion to our town is a lifelong commitment.

We need steady leadership that brings people together to tackle our local challenges. Mike Webb does just that. He listens, works hard, and makes common-sense decisions for the good of all residents.

Please join me in voting to keep Mike Webb on the Florence City Council this November.

Michael Schick
Florence

DEAR EDITOR,

A reliable source revealed this morning that campaign spending on this year's midterms hit $1.5 billion. Now that is indeed a lot of money! It is, I think, important to put that in perspective

See **LETTERS**, Page A4

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
OCT. 7	OCT. 8	OCT. 9	OCT. 10	OCT. 11	OCT. 12	OCT. 13
Mostly Sunny 52°/72°	*Partly Cloudy* 52°/69°	*Partly Cloudy* 51°/68°	*Mostly Sunny* 51°/67°	*Mostly Sunny* 51°/68°	*Partly Cloudy* 51°/64°	*Partly Cloudy* 51°/64°

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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.

TO SUBMIT TO THE *SIUSLAW NEWS*:

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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Washington, D.C. 20500
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Switchboard: 202-456-1414
TTY/TDD: 202-456-6213
www.whitehouse.gov

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U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden
202-224-5244 | 541-431-0229
www.wyden.senate.gov

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202-224-3753 | 541-465-6750
www.merkley.senate.gov

U.S. Rep. Val Hoyle (4th Dist.)
202-225-6416
www.hoyle.house.gov

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Email: Ryan.Ceniga@co.lane.or.us

Florence City Council
Mayor Rob Ward & Councilors Mike Webb, Sally Wantz, Robert Carp & Jo Beaudreaux
Florence City Hall, 250 Highway 101, Florence, 97439
541-997-3437
ci.florence.or.us

Dunes City Council
Mayor Ed McGuire & Councilors Duke Wells, Melissa Stinson, Susan Snow, Rich Olson, Chris Clemons, and Larry Farnsworth
Dunes City Hall, 82877 Spruce St., Westlake, OR 97493
541-997-3338
dunescity.gov

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The City Club of Florence presents: The 2026 City Council Candidates Forum on Oct. 8

Please join City Club for an informative live conversation with all the candidates who have qualified to participate in the November midterm elections and are seeking a position on the Florence Oregon City Council. Including mayoral candidates and others seeking general City Council positions.

This not debate but rather a moderated an informative exchange of ideas, opinions and experiences. Moderated by Ned Hickson, former editor of the Siuslaw News.

Candidates who the City Club has invited include:

- Mayor (2- Year Term): Vote for One
- Shannon Warren
- Sally Wantz
- Daniel Lofy
- Councilor (2 Year Term): Vote for Two
- Renee Lo Pilato
- Mike Webb
- Elijah Yager
- Haylee Cole
- Councilor (4 Year Term): Vote for Two Justin Ludwig
- Jo Beaudreau
- Terry Duman
- Ryan Eichelberger

All but one candidate running for a council seat have accepted the City Clubs invitation. We are hopeful that on the day of the event we will have 100%. participation at the forum.

Don't forget, that this will the last live candidates forum of the 2026 elections season. A chance to see and speak to each candidate directly, before ballots begin to arrive in your mail box about 18 days before the November 3rd midterm election.

Florence Oregon City Council Candidates Forum for October, will be held on October 8th in the Siuslaw Middle School Auditorium. 2525 Oak St. Florence, Oregon - Doors open at 4:30pm.

Streamed live on the City Club Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/CityClubofFlorence

It will be rebroadcasted on the KXCR 90.7 FM, Grab Bag Show at a later date.

The City Club of Florence is a not for profit, nonpartisan group, who on a monthly basis, brings presentations of relevance to the citizens of Florence Oregon.

Upcoming City Club Presentations include The McKenzie River Trust in November and Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaboration in December.

Retro Trailers return



Visitors enjoyed perfect weather at Heceta RV Park as they walked around and checked out classic and vintage RV trailers on September 26. While most trailers were restored or detailed in ways that hearkened back to the 60s and 70s, others featured more modern amenities. Most of the trailers were towed to the site with retro vehicles, including a VW bus, Chevy Nova II and even an Orange C10 Chevy Truck. The Rhody Cruisers Car Club also showed up with several classic and vintage vehicles and were joined by members of other car clubs in the region. The annual show is known to bring trailers and vehicles from several western states. Tony Reed photo.

LETTERS

From Page A3

by considering how Americans spend $3.4 billion each year on chewing gum, and $8.8 billion on potato chips.

Just saying.

Jimmie Zinn
Florence

DEAR EDITOR,

We support Chris John for Dunes City Mayor. Our reasons are twofold. One, Chris has a disciplined work ethic. Two, he has a civic-minded and kind character.

His work ethic is on display as he has volunteered for water, road, and planning committees for Dunes City. He has shown he has expertise in problem solving, with his background in project management and electronics.

His civic-minded and kind character is a trait we have experienced personally. A freak storm in Dunes City left us stranded in our home, as a large spruce tree fell across the length of our property. Chris called to check on us and came to our rescue, chainsaw in hand. It's just what civic-minded, kind neighbors do in Dunes City.

We support Chris John for Dunes City Mayor.

Diane and Denny Sydow
Florence

DEAR EDITOR,

I am so excited to see that long time Florence residents are committed to city politics. We have several graduates from Siuslaw as well as people who have raised their children and now grandchildren here. These candidates know and love Florence, they have been a part of what has been created while it was being created. So when you go to the polls, always support long time locals, the true stewards of Florence: Daniel Lofy, Haylee Cole, Terry Duman, Ryan Eichelberger, and Mike Webb.

David Twombly
Florence

DEAR EDITOR,

For the last four years, I have served with Sally Wantz as a member of the Florence City Council. During that time, I have always found Sally to see Florence Citizens as a whole and not as democrats or republicans. Sally understands the importance of representing all the Citizens of Florence.

Four years ago, the City Council adopted what we call our Council Norms. These Norms define how our Council will interact with each other. As a result of our of implementing these Norms, our City Council has developed a successful working relationship with each other, not always in agreement but always treating each other with respect.

Sally understands and respects the role that the City Council has here in Florence. She clearly understands the boundaries that our City Council operates within. I truly believe that Sally wants the very best for Florence and she will work hard to maintain and improve upon what makes Florence one of the best Communities here on the Oregon Coast.

With four years as a City Councilor in Florence, Sally has developed Her leadership skills including the ability to listen in a manner that will serve our community well as the next Mayor of Florence. I fully support Sally and encourage you to vote for Sally Wantz as the next Mayor of Florence.

Rob Ward
Mayor of Florence

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BIG SAVINGS EVENT!

2011 NISSAN VERSA — AUTOMATIC, FRONT WHEEL DNVE, WELL EQUIPPED, 6U74 — $5,995
2007 FORD FREESTYLE — SEL, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, 3RD ROW SEATING, 6U27A — $6,995
2011 FORD FOCUS — SE, LOW MILES, CRUISE CONTROL, WELL EQUIPPED, 5U85B — $9,995
2009 DODGE JOURNEY — SXT, FRONT WHEEL DRIVE, WELL EQUIPPED, 6U18 — $9,995
2009 PONTIAC VIBE — LOW MILES, POWER MOONROOF, AUTOMATIC, 6U46 — $9,995
2016 FORD FUSION — ENERGI HYBRID, SE LUXURY, HEATED SEATS, LEATHER, 6U33 — $10,995
2009 NISSAN CUBE — 6U11, LOW MILES, ROOF RACK, WELL EQUIPPED — $10,995
2011 KIA SOUL+ — FWD, AUTOMATIC, WELL EQUIPPED, 5U41 — $11,995
SOLD — 2015 FORD EDGE — SEL, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, HEATED SEATS, POWER LIFTGATE, 5S28B — $14,995
SOLD — 2018 SUBARU IMPREZA — SPORT, ALL WHEEL DNVE, HEATED SEATS, 5T24B — $12,995
2011 HONDA CRV — SPECIAL EDITION, LOW MILES, 4WD, 6U70 — $16,995
2020 FORD ESCAPE — S, AWD, L.SL, REAR VIEW CAMERA, 5U14 — $17,795
2016 JEEP RENEGADE — TRAILHAWK, 4X4, LOW MILES, REMOVABLE ROOF, 6T05B — $17,995
2012 INFINITY G37XS — AUTOMATIC, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, LEATHER, 6U61 — $14,995
2019 COLEMAN 1605FB — ONE SLIDE OUT, AWNING, FULL BATH, LIGHT LX SERIES, 20U48 — $18,995
2017 JEEP RENEGADE — TRAILHAWK, 4X4, LOW MILES, WELL EQUIPPED, 6U43 — $19,995
2018 FORD F150 — XLT, 4X2, 2.7L, TRAILER TOW, BEDLINER, 6U73 — $19,995
SOLD — 2017 FORD MUSTANG — PREMIUM COUPE, AUTOMATIC, 2.3L, SHAKER PRO AUDIO, 5U70Z — $20,495
2016 HONDA HRV — EX, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, LOW MILES, MOONROOF, 6U40 — $23,995
2018 FORD F150 — STONE GREY, 4X4, ECOBOOST, WELL EQUIPPED, 6T18A — $23,995
2016 FORD F150 — XLT, 4X2, V6, REAR VIEW CAMERA, TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, 6U45 — $24,995
2024 FORD EDGE — SEL, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, HEATED SEATS, WELL EQUIPPED, 6U64 — $24,995
2018 ARCTIC FOX 22G — AWNING, FULL BATH, FOUR SEASONS UNIT, 6U58 — $25,995
2020 FORD EXPLORER — 6U01A, LIMITED, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, LOW MILES, LEATHER — $25,995
2025 NISSAN ROGUE — SV, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, POWER LIFTGATE, 6U49 — $26,995
2025 HYUNDAI TUCSON — SEL, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, HEATED SEATS, POWER LIFTGATE, 6U29 — $26,995
2025 JEEP COMPASS — TRAILHAWK, 4X4, WELL EQUIPPED, 6U55 — $27,495
SOLD — 2017 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR — RESERVE 4X2, LOADED, THX AUDIO, POWER LIFTGATE & MORE, 6U22 — $27,495
SOLD — 2019 TOYOTA TACOMA — AUTOMATIC, V6, SRS, 4X2, BED LINED, 5T24A — $27,995
2021 MAZDA CX5 — LOW MIIES, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, LEATHER, MOONROOF, 6U41 — $27,995
2016 FORD MUSTANG — GT, 5.0L VS, LOW MILES, AUTOMATIC, 5S37A — $28,995
2021 FORD F150 — XL, V6, 4X4, POWER EQUIPMENT GROUP, BEDLINED, 6U63 — $29,995
2019 FORD F150 — LOW MILES, FX4, ECOBOOST, CANOPY, WELL EQUIPPED, 6U60 — $36,995
2020 RAM 1500 — BIGHORN, MATCHING CANOPY, VS HEMI, 4X4, 6U34 — $37,995
2022 TOYOTA RAV4 — XLE, HYBRID, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, LEATHER, MOONROOF, 6U48 — $37,595
2020 TOYOTA 4RUNNER — LIMITED, 4X4, SR5, V6, TOW PACKAGE, ROOF RACK, 6U10A — $39,495
SOLD — NEW FORD BRONCO — GREY, BASE, 2 DOOR, 5S33 — $40,035
2023 JEEP WRANGLER — HIGH ALTITUDE, LIKE NEW, 4X4, HEATED SEATS, 6S01A — $40,995
2022 GMC 1500 — ELEVATION X31 OFFROAD PACKAGE, ONLY 5,500 MILES, 6U51 — $45,995
2024 FORD F150 — XLT, 5.0L V8, 4X4, AFTERMARKET WHEEL/TIRE PACKAGE, 6U69 — $52,995
2020 GMC 2500 — DURAMAX DIESEL, 4X4, DENALI HD, LOADED, 6U66 — $56,995
NEW 2022 FORD LIGHTNING — PLATINUM, ALL ELECTRIC 22T46 — $73,874
SALE PRICE ENDS SEPT. 30, 2026 — NEW FORD SUPER DUTY — RED, LARIAT, 6.7 DIESEL, F250, 6T02 — $78,705

Special Non-Working Members Show & Reception at Backstreet Gallery

Backstreet Gallery showcases the art of nine Non-working Members, each contributing unique art that enhances Backstreet Gallery's quality and ambiance. They will be honored at a reception on October 10, 3 - 5 p.m. Jeff Lovejoy's easy-listening voice and keyboard will entertain, while you enjoy art, wine, and snacks.

These artists either live beyond the Gallery's mileage limits or have issues that prevent them from participating in the business of the cooperative Gallery, as Working Members do.



Alcohol Ink paintings by Susanna Bemetz demonstrate how vibrant colored inks react with alcohol. It's chaotic nature hints at abstraction. Doug Byrd's vivid, colorful oil paintings draw your attention with his detailed Northwest scenes, florals, and subjects that simply pop from the canvas.

Segmented woodturning is a method of creating pieces from different-colored woods glued together, turned, polished, and perfected by Dave Carlson.

Kyla Corbett's mini oils and her soft, felted wool subjects, appearing as if painted, will capture your heart with warmth. You haven't appreciated books until you view Tracy Gulacy's distinctive open, altered books, which she layers for depth and interest.

Internationally known Plein air and studio painter Tara Kemp's subtle oils draw you quietly into her evocative, atmospheric scenes through light and shadow. You'll appreciate the beadwork, feathers, paint, and images, inside and out, that adorn Colleen Ryan's gourd art.

Exquisite jewelry by Kathy Moon takes an outfit from ordinary to extraordinary. And Sandi Bonn is a master printmaker with a talent for uniquely capturing her subjects in colorfully precision prints.

There you have it! Nine talented artists, the Non-working Members!

Meet them and the Working Members and enjoy an afternoon with wine, treats, and live music, while you view great art from ALL the artists at Backstreet Gallery, 1421 Bay Street, open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Coast Radio Candidate Forum Returns October 7

Community members will have an opportunity to hear directly from candidates seeking local and state office during the Coast Radio Candidate Forum, hosted by the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, on Wednesday, October 7, at the Florence Events Center. The Candidate's Forum is part of Coast Radio's monthly public affairs program Our Town.

The forum will feature candidates for Florence Mayor, Florence City Council, and Oregon State Representative, providing voters with an opportunity to learn more about the issues, priorities, and perspectives of those seeking elected office ahead of Election Day.

The event will be moderated by Coast Radio's George Henry and will include questions designed to address topics important to Florence residents and the surrounding region.

The forum will be broadcast live on KCST Radio beginning at 4 p.m. for listeners unable to attend in person. A rebroadcast will air Thursday morning on KCFM, giving residents an additional opportunity to hear from the candidates before casting their ballots. The broadcast will also be streamed on Coast Radio's Facebook page.

"The Candidate Forum is an important part of the democratic process, providing voters with direct access to the candidates and their positions on issues affecting our community," organizers said. "The Florence Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to partner with Coast Radio to help keep our community informed and engaged."

The public is encouraged to attend this nonpartisan community event. Admission is free.









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Living on Shaky Ground

Sponsored by West Lane Emergency Operations Group.

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FLORENCE, OREGON

Preparing for a tsunami can be intimidating, but if you are out of the inundation zone you are far more likely to survive the disaster than to be swept away in it. Surviving in its wake is up to you and how you prepare.

7 steps for earthquake and tsunami safety:

1. Identify/address potential hazards in your spaces.
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.

Siuslaw News

STREETS INSURANCE
1234 Rhododendron Dr. Florence 541-997-8574

POLICE

From Page A2

The case remains under investigation.

At 4:56 p.m., officers responded to the 700 block of Highway 101 for a report that an elderly driver had hit a curb and almost hit a pedestrian. Officers located the vehicle and spoke with the driver, who said she had been struggling to park it.

At 5:04 p.m., a caller reported a vehicle northbound on Highway 101 heading into Florence that was driving erratically. An officer waited at the city limits and observed a vehicle possibly matching the description, but had no probable cause to conduct a traffic stop.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

At 1:15 a.m., officers and medical personnel responded to the 900 block of Highway 101 for a reported possible overdose. Medics determined it was not the case, but that the subject was heavily intoxicated.

At 2:23 a.m., officers responded to the 900 block of Nopal for a reported dispute occurring. Officers were told that a family member had been drinking and punched another family member. The subject was arrested for assault 4 and physical harassment.

At 7:01 a.m., officers responded to the 700 block of Highway 101 for a report of a male and female yelling at each other inside a car. Officers later contacted the couple, who said everything was fine.

At 8:41 a.m., officers responded to the area of Highway 101 and 21st St. for a reported accident involving a vehicle and a bicycle. Officers found the writer was uninjured, and no citations were issued.

At 11:35 a.m., officers conducted a death investigation in the 1700 block of 8th Street. Officers found no evidence of foul play, and the medical examiner was contacted.

At 2:16 p.m., dispatch received a crash notification from an iPhone. Personnel responded to the coordinates and found the phone on the ground with no one around it. The phone was returned to its owner.

At 7:08 p.m., a caller reported that they had adopted a dog from the animal shelter which seemed fine at the time. However, they said after the dog would eat, it would get "the zoomies." Dispatch noted the call, but no action was taken.

At 7:13 p.m., officers responded to the 4700 block of Highway 101 for a report of a subject waving a gun and yelling. Officers contacted a subject who did have a gun on his person, but denied waving it at anyone. After an investigation, the subject was arrested for carrying a concealed weapon, disorderly conduct, and unlawful possession of a firearm. After the gun was found to have been reported stolen, a charge of theft 1 was added.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

At about 9:30 a.m., dispatch received calls that mailboxes had been left open in the area of 28th St. and Highway 101.

At 2:46 p.m., a caller reported a juvenile on a bicycle riding in an unsafe manner and swerving into traffic. Officers contacted the juvenile and advised them not to continue doing so.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

At 2:32 a.m., dispatch received a call from a woman who was covertly disclosing that she did not feel safe. Officers responded to the address and were told that a verbal dispute had occurred. Officers helped her to leave the situation.

At 5:06 a.m., a caller reported possible sexual abuse. The case was forwarded to a detective and remains under investigation.

At 4:04 p.m., officers responded to the 1500 block of 9th Street for a report of a subject yelling and screaming in the area. Officers arrived to find the subject still arguing with people. The subject was arrested for two warrants from Eugene Municipal Court.

CANDIDATES

From Page A1

and the real-world consequences of City decisions. I want to help Florence expand attainable housing, strengthen year-round economic opportunity, maintain reliable infrastructure and public safety, and make City government more responsive. I hope my service will produce measurable progress while rebuilding trust through careful budgeting, open communication, and decisions focused on Florence's long-term interests.

2) The greatest challenge facing Florence is keeping the community livable and economically sustainable for the people who work here. Housing, family-wage jobs, childcare, infrastructure, and public safety are connected: when workers cannot find a home or childcare, employers cannot recruit and retain them; when infrastructure lags, responsible growth becomes harder. The Council should address these issues with a coordinated plan, clear priorities, measurable goals, and strong partnerships with employers, schools, nonprofits, housing providers, and regional agencies. We should streamline unnecessary barriers, pursue grants and outside funding, phase projects responsibly, and report progress publicly so residents can see what is working and where more effort is needed.

3) I support the use of Flock cameras only with strict safeguards, clear public oversight, and demonstrated value to public safety. Any program should have narrowly defined purposes; firm limits on data collection, access, sharing, and retention; regular audits; transparent public reporting; and meaningful consequences for misuse. The city should also review the program periodically to determine whether it is producing measurable safety benefits and whether those benefits justify the cost and privacy concerns. Because this issue involves both public safety and civil liberties, I would like the ultimate decision on continued use to be placed before the people of Florence for a public vote after residents receive clear, factual information about the technology, safeguards, costs, and results.

RYAN EICHELBERGER

City Council candidate

1) My reason for running is simple: I love Florence and want it to remain a community where families can build a life, businesses can succeed, and our kids have opportunities to stay when they grow up.



Florence has been part of my life for decades, and now my wife and I are raising our four boys here. I hope to bring a practical, family-focused perspective to the Council, listen to residents, and help keep Florence affordable, welcoming, and full of opportunity.

2) I believe our greatest challenge is housing affordability. When families, seniors, young people, and workers cannot afford to live here, it impacts our schools, businesses, and community.

The City should examine permitting timelines, fees, zoning, and infrastructure requirements that increase housing costs while pursuing state and federal funding for roads, utilities, and other infrastructure. There is no single solution, but we can create an environment where more housing can be built responsibly.

3) I support continued use of Flock cameras as a public-safety tool, provided strong safeguards protect residents' privacy. Their use should be limited to legitimate law-enforcement purposes with clear policies governing data access, retention, and sharing. The Council should regularly review those policies and the program's effectiveness. I believe we can support public safety while protecting individual privacy.

MIKE WEBB

Incumbent candidate

1. I am running for a two-year term to complete the term I was appointed to in March of 2025. I feel my work experience, including my understanding of business and financing, can help our community. I also feel my experience within city and local government gives me perspective others can't offer. I have a history of working on boards to manage policies and finances, working to make decisions even when not everyone agrees. I understand the city, history, and our culture. I do my homework and I listen. I feel I can make a positive difference for our community.



2. The greatest challenge we face is that our ability to continue to provide essential services like water, sewer, roads, public safety, is becoming increasingly difficult as the cost of providing those services continues to outpace revenues. Finding ways to efficiently provide services that our community demand with limited resources is our biggest challenge.

3. I am open to revisiting the Flock Camera issue. I voted to keep the ALPR cameras in early 2026 and just six days after that vote our Florence Flock Cameras helped locate and save a suicidal person just as they were texting their final goodbyes. They have been an efficient way to help solve local and regional crimes. However, the Flock system, with its nationwide database, has still been prone to misuse. There continue to be privacy issues that have not been resolved despite State legislation aiming to do just that.

JUSTIN LUDWIG

City Council candidate

1) After reading the news over the past two years, I've become very concerned for our democracy under the Trump administration. I can't simply do nothing. So after getting involved in several local community groups and nonprofits, I decided to run for local office.



I hope to join a council that will focus on making Florence more affordable while maintaining its welcoming charm for all people. I'd like to see more affordable housing, childcare and public transportation. I also support a clean environment and the idea of a year-round homeless shelter.

2) Attracting and retaining more working families and professionals is easily the greatest challenge facing our city. We need more doctors, nurses and teachers. Building a new high school would have really helped, but unfortunately voters failed to pass the school bond measure.

We need to elect a city council that will lead with a reasonable approach; one that doesn't alienate working families or discourage them from moving here. We're living through a very difficult economy right now, and we need to be welcoming to all people. An extreme right-wing city council doesn't do that, especially not for our artist community.

3) I oppose the use of Flock's AI-powered surveillance system. This has been deployed on the national level with numerous reports of errors and abuse connected to it, sometimes leading to lawsuits against cities. It's been used to arrest women seeking an abortion, and by federal officials for immigration enforcement in other Oregon cities.

Our police are capable of doing their jobs without this system. More cameras and weaker privacy rights aren't the answer to better public safety.

JO BEAUDREAU

incumbent candidate

1) I deeply love Florence and remain inspired by the devotion, kindness and "get things done" spirit of local people. One of the best things about living here is that when you participate, you can see the difference your work makes. The connections built among residents, businesses, nonprofits and community organizations are powerful.



I am running to continue this work. Florence deserves transparent, responsive leadership that listens, communicates clearly and follows through. I want to help our city grow responsibly without losing what makes it special, strengthen public trust and make practical, forward-looking decisions that improve life for everyone. I remain energized by this work and honored to represent our community.

2) Our greatest challenge is balancing the budget while providing essential services, making civic improvements and maintaining a high-quality living environment. This requires balancing growth, diverse housing opportunities, affordability, and infrastructure with limited resources. Council must plan beyond the next budget cycle, prioritize essential investments, and work with residents, businesses and regional partners. Careful, responsible decisions will help Florence remain livable and welcoming for people of different ages and backgrounds.

3) Public safety is essential but not at the expense of everyone's 4th Amendment rights. I encourage residents to review City meeting materials on this subject. I've demonstrated when new information comes to light, policies need to change. I've always been willing to take in input. I am committed to conversations around topics like these that are controversial.

HAYLEE COLE

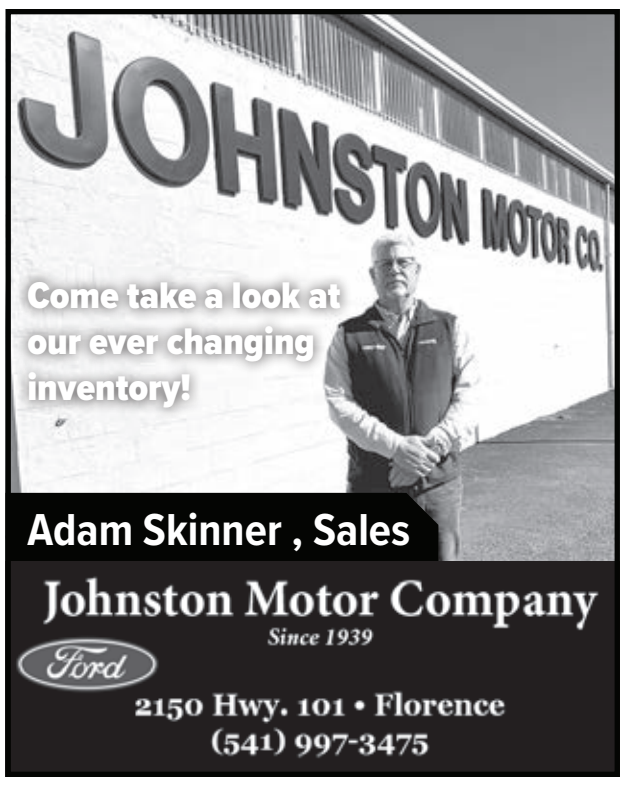
City Council candidate

1. I am running for City Council because I want the younger generation and families to have a voice in Florence's future. I have lived here most of my life, built my career here, bought my first home here, and have been involved in many parts of our community. I want to bring that perspective to the City Council and

See CANDIDATES, Page A6











CANDIDATES

From Page A6



Haylee Cole

focus on practical issues like communication, housing, economic opportunities, responsible growth, the permit process and costs. My goal is to help make Florence a place where people can not only retire, but also grow up, start a career, raise a family, and build their lives,

2. I think one of our biggest challenges is making sure Florence remains a community where people can afford to live and work. That connects directly to housing, family wage jobs, business growth and the ability to attract and retain younger families. The Council can help by working with local businesses and regional partners, improving the permitting process, supporting housing options that fit different income levels, looking at fees and regulations.

3. I support the concept of using technology that can help with public safety and our law enforcement, but I understand the concerns people have about Flock. While Flock is working to improve its security, it can be difficult to rebuild trust after developing a bad reputation. I would like the City to look at other companies that offer similar technology and compare their security, privacy protections, costs and track record. If there is another option that can provide the same public safety benefits while giving our community greater confidence in how its information is protected, I think it is worth considering. If we cannot find an alternative option that addresses those concerns, I think the best option is to put the cameras to a public vote so the Florence residents have a direct say on if the camera's should stay or if they should be removed.

Terry Duman

City Council Candidate

1) Serving on the council is a civic responsibility and an opportunity to give back to the community that has meant so much to me. Florence is where I was raised, built my career, raised my family, and I now watch my grandchildren grow up. I want to bring practical solutions and common sense to the table. I hope to use my experience to strengthen our community, support local families and businesses, and keep Florence a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

2) I think one of Florence's greatest challenges is providing enough housing for the people who live and work here. We need practical ways to increase housing options for working families. Housing is connected to jobs, childcare, and small businesses, so addressing it can help support the people and businesses that make our community work. The council should create clear and practical processes that help address the issue without making unnecessary barriers.

3) I support Flock cameras in Florence, with appropriate oversight and standards. Years ago, my motorcycle was stolen and only recovered after it was crashed near Mapleton. I often wonder if a Flock camera could have helped locate it sooner. Public safety is a very important city responsibility, and Flock can be a useful tool. It needs to be used responsibly, with safeguards, accountability, and regular review.

ELIJAH YAGER

City Council Candidate

1) I am running for city council because I want to give back to a place I am proud to call my home, and because I want to be a voice for a younger generation in Florence. I hope by doing so I can add a unique perspective that will compliment my fellow councilors.



Elijah Yager

2) I think the greatest challenge facing the city of Florence is affordable housing for families, working professionals, and retirees on fixed incomes. I believe the council can address the issue through public/private partnerships to create housing projects and by seeking new partnerships and additional grant funding for city programs to keep fees and taxes low.

3) I am opposed to the use of Flock cameras in Florence because I believe strongly in personal freedoms regarding data and digital privacy. Flock Safety has repeatedly shown itself to be untruthful in its statements regarding use of data and brokers the information it collects with little to no transparency.

RENEE LOPILATO

City Council Candidate

1) My primary reason for running for a City Council 2-year term is that the results of this historic election will shape the city in many ways and I want to participate in these future efforts because I love this city and believe its challenges are solvable. As the city tackles budget, staffing and resource decisions the new council will need those of us with skills, experience, knowledge of the local community, direct experience attending city council meetings and a clear understanding of how the council and city staff work together. I have those skills and experiences. Recently I completed a term on the City of Florence Planning Commission, so I am familiar with the zoning, permit and development issues facing our businesses and citizens. I am ready to hit the ground running on day one solving our challenges.



Renee LoPilato

2) Of all the challenges, analyzing/ stabilizing the budget, staffing ratios and setting fewer priorities for the city would be the central starting point. The new city council and new mayor can tackle a revised 2027 Work Plan with fewer priorities and focus more on what we can afford with fewer budget resources. I would urge an annual "State of the City Town Hall", held at the Florence Events Center; this would be a two-way dialogue to hear directly from diverse community members about what is working and what needs improvement. The council could incorporate these comments and suggestions into the new 2027 work plan.

3) I attended the Flock Camera meetings and personally submitted written comments along with dozens of others, objecting to continuing these cameras. Since that time, hundreds of cities both in Oregon and across the nation have cancelled their contracts. I stated then and still believe that the disadvantages far outweigh the advantages and having the six of them here causes fear, anxiety, distrust of law enforcement and deepens the distrust that the federal government will find a way to obtain our private data stored on these cameras. Locally we are fortunate to have a fully staffed police department with an effective police chief and officers, and I believe that they are more than capable of investigating all the typical criminal activities here without the use of these contested cameras. If elected, I would urge the new Mayor to bring this item back for discussion.

WALK

From Page A1

agencies joined us with tables. It was wonderful to see so many people come out to walk, connect with local resources, and support one another.

Claire Lynn's morning speech about lived experience was one of the most powerful moments of the day. It helped set the tone for why we walk. Suicide prevention starts with being willing to talk about it, listen without judgment, and remind people that support is available. The walk gave people space to honor loved ones, reflect on their own experiences, and take those steps alongside others. We want anyone facing a difficult time to know they are not alone.

"Seeing people show up for one another is exactly why we hold this walk. Every conversation and every lap was a reminder that no one has to face a hard moment alone," said Melissa House, Program Manager of Western Lane Crisis Response. "If this event helps even one person feel more comfortable starting a conversation or reaching out for help, that matters."

People expressed a great deal of appreciation for how thoughtfully the event came together. Others commented on the beautiful flowers and decorations, which offered places to pause, take photos, and make lasting memories. Many also enjoyed being interviewed by George Henry and having the chance to share their thoughts on the radio. The kids loved the games, the First Responder Therapy Dogs were a huge hit, the Elks served delicious hot dogs, and BJ's Ice Cream was popular as always.

There are so many people to thank for making the day possible, from the volunteers who helped set up and run the event to the sponsors, donors, community partners, and everyone who participated. Western Lane Crisis Association hosted the walk, and all proceeds go directly toward sustaining Western Lane Crisis Response and the support it provides to our community.

"The walk was beautifully put together," said one community member. "The flowers and decorations made space to remember the people we've lost, while being surrounded by so many caring people reminded me that none of us has to go through hard times alone."

JETTY

From Page A1

the paving remains.

According to the Lane County website, it's estimated that paving the smaller lot will take a day, and the larger lot will take 2 to 3 days, followed by a week of striping and signage.

Rafuse added that the county is holding the bidding off for the restroom installation at Heceta Beach, so that at least one ocean access remains open north of the Siuslaw River.

RECYCLE

From Page A1

In preparation for the launch, several student groups created signage and produced an informational video that was shared with students, staff, and families the week prior. The school also continues to operate a "No Thank You" bin, allowing students to reduce food waste by sharing unopened or unwanted items from their lunch trays.

"The students are already amazed by the number of milk cartons used each day," said Principal Amy Flora. "Seeing the volume collected in the recycling cart really shows the impact we can make together. We plan to continue building education around recycling, reducing, and reusing throughout the school year."

Since 2025, Oregon's Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act (RMA) has reshaped how packaging, paper products, and food service ware are managed in recycling programs statewide. The inclusion of milk and juice cartons in the recycling stream has created new opportunities for schools to develop programs like this one. More information about the RMA is available at: https://stage.oregon.gov/deq/recycling/Pages/Modernizing-Oregons-Recycling-System.aspx

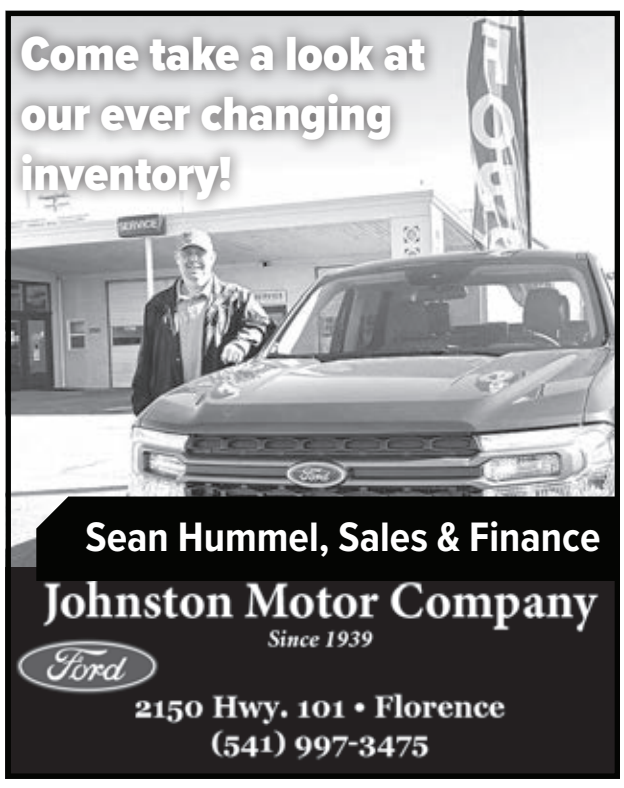
About the Partners

The Siuslaw Elementary School is part of the Siuslaw School District. The Master Recyclers Program is a volunteer program of Lane County Waste Management. EMAC is a volunteer advisory committee of the City of Florence that supports the development of programs and actions promoting healthy, environmentally responsible practices in the community.

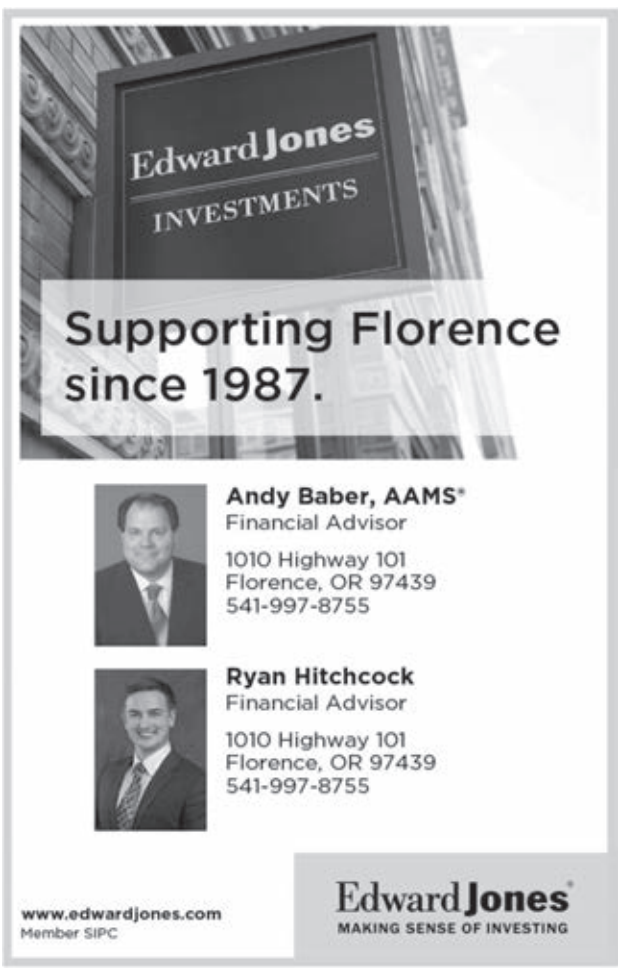
More information about milk carton recycling in schools can be found at: https://recyclecartons.com/schools/













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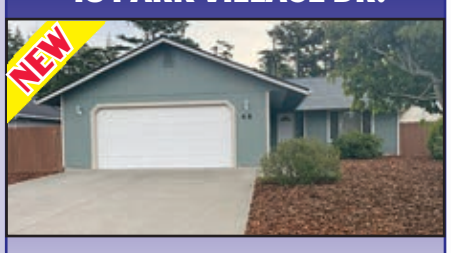
3520 OCEAN VIEW DR.



Treetop views. Vaulted ceilings and lg windows. Energy efficient heat pump water heater. 2 Bed/2 Bath, 1509 SF

$469,000

48 PARK VILLAGE DR.



Completely remodeled and extensively updated. Landscaped yard and oversized garage. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 1414 SF.

$464,900

34 BONNETT WAY



Open-concept great room, cozy gas fireplace, custom built-ins and upgraded shutters, and a chef's kitchen. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 2302 SF.

$949,500

3619 OCEAN VIEW DR.



Amazing hilltop setting with ocean views. Low maintenance exterior. 3 Bed/2.5 Bath, 1892 SF

$615,000

15 SEA WATCH CT.



Waterfront living on the Siuslaw River. Floor to ceiling windows. Propane generator. 4 Bed/3.5 Bath, 3399 SF.

$1,329,000

307 MANZANITA DR.



Spacious comfortable home in Florentine Estates. Large living room and a flexible den. 2 Bed/2 Bath, 1992 SF.

$425,000

83413 OSPREY WAY



1.17 lush, beautifully landscaped acres. Huge RV garage/shop w/bath. 3 Bed/2.5 Bath, 3183 SF.

$769,000

87925 WOOD LAKE WAY S.



Quality craftsmanship and custom features throughout. Designed & built by Brian Lacouture. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 2442 SF.

$825,000

88082 LEEWARD DR.



Craftsman woodwork, classic arched doorways and many high end touches. 3 Bed/2.5 Bath. 1904 SF.

$735,000

179 OUTER DR.



Comfortable living areas, plenty of natural light. Plenty of storage. Coast Village amenities. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 1100 SF.

$285,900

84226 CLEAR LAKE RD.



Well loved custom home. Vintage homey feel. Only 1 mile to Woahink Lake and Dunes. 3 Bed/2.5 Bath. 2491 SF. RV garage

$829,000

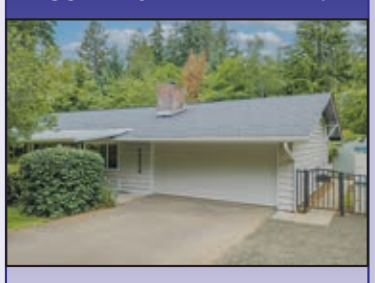
5096 WOOD LAKE WAY



Wooded & private Heceta South home w/add'l lot available. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 1822 SF.

$599,500

83224 CLEAR LAKE RD.



Best of country living on 1.35 acres in the south lakes area. Spacious and comfortable home. 3 Bed/3 Bath, 2129 SF.

$549,000

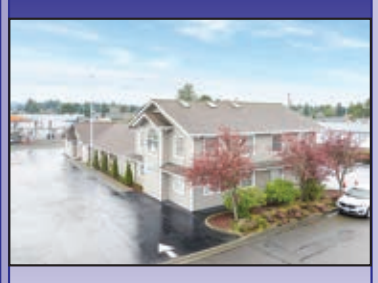
88060 LAKE POINT DR.



Stunning lake views. Quality finishes and thoughtful touches adorn this home in The Reserve. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 2464 SF.

$859,900

1875 HWY 101



Commercial building on .48 acre. 23 offices, conf room & more. Extremely well maintained and priced to sell. 4756 SF.

$985,000

1277 BAY STREET



Rare offering. Quaint Bay St. building currently rented. Prime location on "Restaurant Row". Shown by appt. only.

$392,500

2217 HWY 101



Building for sale. 120 FT of Highway frontage & ample off street parking.

$600,000

1576 12TH ST.



Spacious and versatile commercial property in prime central location. Former SOS building.

$565,000

35TH & HWY 101



.71 acre corner parcel. Allows for commercial, retail, office, drive –thru uses.

$399,000

85049 HWY. 101



Rare dual commerical and residential zoning. 1.21 acre with two storage sheds. Mature orchard. 2 Bed/2 Bath, 1134 SF.

$349,999

1021 PRESTWICK CT.



Spacious cape-cod style cottage in gated Golf Course community. Upstairs bonus suite. 3 Bed/2.5 Bath, 2367 SF.

$699,000

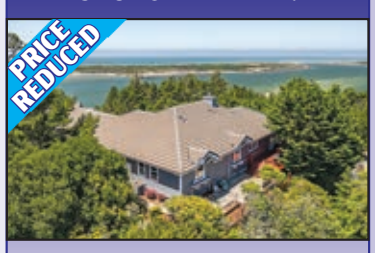
5198 GRAND AVE.



Close to beaches and Old Town. Plenty of flat space for parking. 2 Bed/2 Bath, 1440 SF.

$375,000

51 SHORELINE DR.



Breathtaking Ocean & River Views in Gated Shelter Cove. Private, beautifully landscaped. Expansive wrap around deck. 3 Bed/3.5 Bath, 2396 SF.

$979,500

88416 1ST AVE. #401

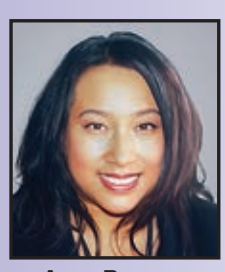


Oceanfront condo. Amazing views from the highest floor. Resort has pool, hot tub, restaurant. 1 Bed/1 Bath, 497 SF

$204,500



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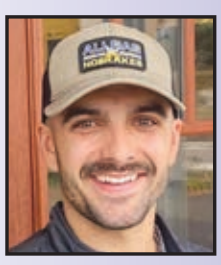
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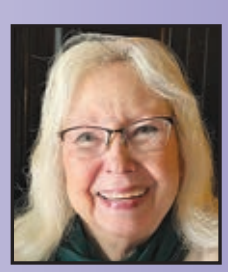
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Tide Table

Siuslaw River Entrance saltwatertides.com

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7
Low ..... 4:23 a.m. 0.0
High ..... 10:57 a.m. 6.8
Low ..... 4:54 p.m. 1.5
High ..... 10:50 p.m. 6.8

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8
Low ..... 5:08 a.m. 0.2
High ..... 11:32 a.m. 7.2
Low ..... 5:43 p.m. 0.7
High ..... 11:44 p.m. 6.8

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9
Low ..... 5:48 a.m. 0.5
High ..... 12:04 p.m. 7.5
Low ..... 6:27 p.m. 0.1

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
High ..... 12:33 a.m. 6.7
Low ..... 6:26 a.m. 1.0
High ..... 12:35 p.m. 7.7
Low ..... 7:07 p.m. ..... -0.3

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
High ..... 1:20 a.m. 6.6
Low ..... 7:02 a.m. 1.5
High ..... 1:05 p.m. 7.7
Low ..... 7:46 p.m. ..... -0.5

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12
High ..... 2:05 a.m. 6.5
Low ..... 7:38 a.m. 2.1
High ..... 1:34 p.m. 7.6
Low ..... 8:23 p.m. ..... -0.5

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13
High ..... 2:51 a.m. 6.3
Low ..... 8:13 a.m. 2.6
High ..... 2:05 p.m. 7.4
Low ..... 9:02 p.m. ..... -0.3

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14
High ..... 3:37 a.m. 6.1
Low ..... 8:47 a.m. 3.1
High ..... 2:38 p.m. 7.2
Low ..... 9:43 p.m. 0.0

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15
High ..... 4:27 a.m. 5.8
Low ..... 9:24 a.m. 3.5
High ..... 3:14 p.m. 6.9
Low ..... 10:28 p.m. 0.4

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16
High ..... 5:21 a.m. 5.5
Low ..... 10:04 a.m. 3.8
High ..... 3:57 p.m. 6.6
Low ..... 11:21 p.m. 0.8

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17
High ..... 6:22 a.m. 5.3
Low ..... 10:57 a.m. 4.0
High ..... 4:51 p.m. 6.3

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18
Low ..... 12:22 a.m. 1.0
High ..... 7:29 a.m. 5.2
Low ..... 12:12 p.m. 4.1
High ..... 5:59 p.m. 6.0

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19
Low ..... 1:26 a.m. 1.2
High ..... 8:31 a.m. 5.3
Low ..... 1:39 p.m. 3.8
High ..... 7:18 p.m. 5.8

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20
Low ..... 2:24 a.m. 1.2
High ..... 9:19 a.m. 5.6
Low ..... 2:51 p.m. 3.3
High ..... 8:33 p.m. 5.8

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21
Low ..... 3:14 a.m. 1.1
High ..... 9:55 a.m. 6.0
Low ..... 3:48 p.m. 2.5
High ..... 9:38 p.m. 5.9

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22
Low ..... 3:57 a.m. 1.2
High ..... 10:26 a.m. 6.4
Low ..... 4:35 p.m. 1.7
High ..... 10:34 p.m. 6.2

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23
Low ..... 4:37 a.m. 1.3
High ..... 10:56 a.m. 6.9
Low ..... 5:18 p.m. 0.8
High ..... 11:25 p.m. 6.4





Jericho Lake scans far downfield for a receiver and finds Leighton Wieboldt, who picked it out of the air over two defenders. Tony Reed photos.

Siuslaw football finish preseason with a win

Will LOHRE
Siuslaw News

Creswell was no match for the Vikings on the football field as the teams finished up their preseason schedule on the grass at Hans Petersen Field.

The Vikings hosted Creswell under the lights on Sept. 25, and Siuslaw blew away the Bulldogs, 66-18. They didn't waste any time building a big lead, either.

Despite the large margin on the scoreboard, Creswell posted the first points, scoring a touchdown on their first drive just two minutes into the game. But Siuslaw quickly responded, and the next four trips to the end zone were by the blue and gold.

Skip Lacouture was the first to skip into the end zone for Siuslaw, scoring a run from seven yards out, and adding a two-point conversion for good measure. Dylan Gray was next, powering it in from the one-yard line, and Lacouture added another pair of

See **FOOTBALL**, Page B2

Viking Volleyball fighting valiantly

Will LOHRE
Siuslaw News

Wins have been hard to come by for Vikings volleyball, but the team keeps battling on the court and has fought to the bitter end in each recent match.

The Vikings wrapped up a brutal road spell with an "absolute heartbreaker" against Sutherlin in a five-set match that went the distance. Siuslaw lost 2-3, with the scores standing at 20-25, 25-20, 19-25, 25-14, 13-15.

Head Coach McKenzie Perry said it was a back-and-forth match, and that the team kept its energy high and played super hard.

"In this match, Maren Hughes and Stella Duman were very dominant in the front row, putting up great blocks and finding holes in their defense by alternating aggressive attacks and precise placement," Perry said. "Their team definitely picked on Stella defensively to try and reduce the amount of hitting she was able to do, but it didn't faze her. She ended the match with a team-high 25 digs."

Duman and Hughes were lethal offensively, racking up 13 and 10 kills, respectively. Defensively, several Vikings had stand-out nights in addition to Duman, as Paige Bottensek, Kinley Krieger, and Chloe Clark each had more than 12 digs apiece, keeping possession after possession alive.



Though the Vikings Volleyball team came out swinging hard, it wasn't enough to overcome Glide on Sept. 29. Tony Reed photo.

"The team played super scrappy defense and did a fantastic job picking up some tough balls and chasing down others," Perry said.

In the service department, the Vikings were clinical, serving 85% as a team. Charley Johnson maintained her 100% serving streak, and Krieger was impossible to pin down, serving six aces over the five-set battle.

Despite being on the road, the Vikings endeared themselves to the away crowd with their spirit.

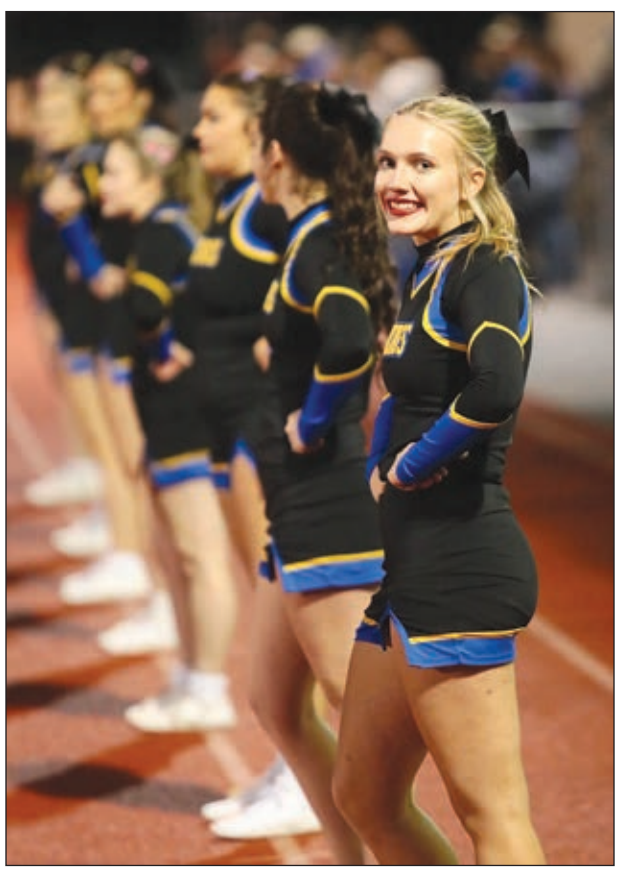
"On our way out after

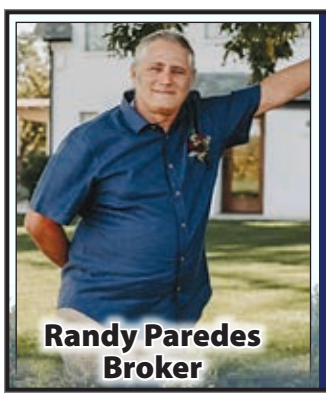
See **VIKING**, Page B2



Three Cheers for the Cheer Team

Vikings Cheerleaders had an easy job keeping the crowd happy Sept. 25 as the Vikings were mowing the field with the Creswell Bulldogs on Sept. 25. The cheer team has been there to support the sports teams, while also supporting and encouraging middle and elementary school cheer activities. Tony Reed photos.







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5-7 p.m. - Ichiban Chinese/Japanese Restaurant
• Urologist Dr. Bryan Mehlhaff attends.
• Tuesday Lunch Group (3rd Tuesday)
12 noon – 1:00 p.m. – Ichiban Chinese/Japanese Restaurant
• Urologist Dr. Roger McKimmy attends.
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47maribob38@gmail.com

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Sunday 11:00
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Community Briefs

Miniature Homes Exhibit

The Central Coast Miniatures Club is pleased to announce the 25th Annual Miniature Homes Exhibit at the Florence Siuslaw Library in the Bromley Room on Saturday, October 24th from 10am to 6pm and on Sunday, October 25th from 1pm to 5pm. Admission is FREE. You'll find many fascinating expressions of real life as well as fantasy in miniature to explore. Fun for the whole family! Be sure to enter the drawing for a miniature home of your own. Winner will be announced at 3pm on Sunday. The Central Coast Miniatures Club meets at the library on the first Thursday of every month at 4pm. Guests are always welcome.

Voter Pizza Night

Florence Organizes will sponsor a Rock the Vote Free Pizza Night Friday, October 9th at Abby's Pizza. 5pm-7pm. It's a family-friendly, non partisan event!

Register to vote and get information for issues on the ballot. Come connect with our Lane County League of Women Voters Representatives.

There will be activities for children including art and face painting. The balloon artist clown will be on hand and Singer/Songwriter Sandman will play lively music.

Come join the fun while building community and civic engagement !

Free Pizza Provides. Donations welcome

Football

From Page B1

points. Jericho Lake's only touchdown pass of the night went to Trenton Harer, a 28-yard score through the air that gave Siuslaw a 22-6 lead.

The final Siuslaw score of the quarter was their first of two defensive touchdowns, as Michael Fitzsimmons collected a fumble for the scoop-and-score, and Gray punctuated it with another two points.

Though Creswell added another touchdown to end the quarter, the score stood 30-12 after one, and the Vikings didn't let up in the second. Siuslaw added three more touchdowns and didn't surrender a point in the frame. Lacouture added another touchdown to start the quarter, and Jericho Lake and Leighton Wieboldt each ran in touchdowns; by halftime, Siuslaw was firmly in control, 52-12.

The third quarter was quiet for the home team, and only Creswell added to the scoreboard, scoring



another touchdown on an 85-yard run to make it 52-18. In the fourth, the Vikings sealed the win with two more touchdowns. Nick Sprague had the Vikings' longest offensive scoring play, rushing the ball to the end zone from 30 yards out. The final score came on a pick-6 by Torelan DeSantis, who returned a 32-yard interception to bring the score to 66-18.

Siuslaw ended their non-league schedule with a 4-1 record, and Special District 4 football was next up on the docket. Douglas and Sutherlin also entered league play with 4-1 records, and it looks like it will be a battle to see who earns the district playoff spots.

Siuslaw played Douglas on Oct. 2, but the result is unavailable at the time of press. Next up, the Vikings will play Sutherlin at home on Oct. 16 in a game that will assuredly have playoff qualification implications.

Vikings

From Page B1

the match, many of their fans complimented the team on their energy and camaraderie, and commented on how fun the match was to watch," Perry said. "We had a great student section of our JV players and boys soccer players in the stands, and the energy they gave us helped the team play hard!"

After the game, Perry said the team was ready to host a series of home games as they reached the end of a long stretch that saw the Vikings travel for a tournament and three road trips in the last two weeks.

In the first of the two home games between Sept. 29 and Oct. 1, the Vikings welcomed Glide to Florence. Glide has been putting together a great season, entering the night 4-2 in the Far West, and Perry said their go-to hitter had a really great night despite the hard work of Siuslaw's blockers and defense.

Glide ended the night with a 3-0 win on Glenn Butler Court, and the Vikings gave Glide a run for their money in the first set, losing 26-24. The final sets ended 25-14, 25-17.

Stella Duman continued her excellent season, scoring 15 of our team total 31 offensive points with 11 kills, 3 blocks, and hit with a 0.321 hitting efficiency.

As has become the standard, the team served incredibly well, rounded up to 95% which is the team's goal and worth celebrating in Perry's view. The team several players serve without error, including McKenzie Ulrich, Duman, Bottensek, Clark, and Johnson.

Despite the defeat, Perry came away from the match with a positive attidue, with plenty of silver linings despite the tough defeat.

"The team also did a great job of playing aggressively, especially right away in the first set," Perry said. "I continue to see glimmers of hope, and lots of great things to build on."

The loss saw Siuslaw's record fall to 1-6 in league play, and 2-10 overall. While a few more



wins would be nice, the team has continued to show togetherness and competitive spirit, and they'll hope to add a few more victories before the season is done.

Siuslaw played Coquille at home on Oct. 1, and Douglas away on Oct. 6, but results are unavailable at the time of press. You can next see the Vikings in action in a home game against Illinois Valley on Oct. 8.

Friendship - Fellowship – Fun
FAITH DIRECTORY
To include your organization in this directory, please call us @ 541-997-3441

BAHA'I FAITH OF FLORENCE
"What is Baha'i, and Why?" 2nd Monday 7:00 PM
Interfaith Devotions 4th Monday 7:00 PM
"Reflections on the Life of the Spirit" study group
Info and meeting location: 541-590-0779
Zoom link on Facebook: Florence Baha'i Community

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
4590 Hwy. 101 N, across from Fred Meyer-
541 997-7418
SUNDAY SERVICES - Adult Bible Study
9:30 AM; Worship 10:45 AM;
High School Youth 7- 9 PM
MID-WEEK- Women's Bible Study-Tuesday
10:00-Noon and Thursday
7:00-8:00PM; Men's Bible Study Thursday
8:00-9:30 AM; Middle
School Youth Wed. 7-9 PM.
Sunday Worship streams live at Community Baptist Church Facebook Page

CROSS ROAD ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Corner of 10th & Maple- 541-997-3533
Sunday Services 9am
1st Service in person
Sunday Services 11am
2nd Service in person & livestreamed
Wednesday kids/youth night is at 6:30
NOT livestreamed.
https://www.florencecrossroadag.org/church-online
Other platforms update after the service.
florencecrossroadag.org
office@florencecrossroadag.org

FLORENCE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
87738 Hwy 101 at Heceta Beach Road
RUAUU? Come explore the answer with us.
Sunday Worship Services ~ 10:00am
www.florenceuuf.com

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2nd & Kingwood • (541) 997-6025
Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School for adults is at Monday, 10:30 a.m.
Taizé Prayer Services - 2nd Sunday at 4 p.m.
Online services at
www.florenceoregonumc.org
or find us on Facebook.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH
1624 Highway 101 (next to A&W) –- 997-6337
Pastor George Pagel – Something for the entire family.
Sunday Service 10:00 am
Wednesday Bible Study returns this Fall.
Website: florence4square.com

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN E.L.C.A.
NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.
"Serving Christ by serving others."
21st & Spruce Streets—(541) 997-8113
Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m.
Online services available on our FaceBook, YouTube, and website: www.florencenewlifelutheran.org

PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
3996 N Hwy 101 541-997-7136
Internet and in person Sunday Services at 10:30am,
Adult Sunday School is at 9:30am.
Call the church for details.
All Welcome. Come as you are.

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Noon light lunch
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St. Vinnie's shopping center

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH, L.C.M.S.
Worship Services 10 am • Bible Study 9:00 am
Pastor Steve Waterman
85294 Hwy. 101 S. – 997-8038
Facebook.com/ResurrectionLutheranChurchFlorence
www.puppro.wixite.com/rlcflorence

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Adoration & Confession Fri 9:30-10:30 AM
Saturday 5:30 PM and Sunday 11:00 AM
FR Cit Welcomes All to Attend

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Local author releases medieval, sci-fi fantasy book

In his sweeping medieval debut novel 1381: An Epic, local author Carl Hulan is hoping to follow in the footsteps of other Siuslaw Valley wordsmiths Frank Herbert and Ken Kesey. Inspired by his fascination with the Medieval era, as well as the scale of Herbert's groundbreaking Dune, Hulan weaves factual events with alternate history in his tale of a crusade to capture Jerusalem in the late 1300s.

"I have always been intrigued by the Medieval era, from playing Dungeons and Dragons in my childhood to traveling to Europe and spending all day exploring crusader castles. These experiences have been the source of inspiration for my novel," says Hulan, an award-winning screenwriter now delving into the world of novel writing.



In Hulan's first book of his new series, young warrior Simborg finds himself an unwilling pawn in a Christian-Muslim war. The harder he tries to escape his servitude as a soldier to Lord Hrothgar, the more Simborg must depend on his will to survive as he is drawn deeper into the ever-increasing violence of a long campaign to claim Jerusalem. Hulan combines elements of fantasy with a dash of science fiction — as well as themes of love, betrayal and sacrifice — to create a unique 14th-century storytelling narrative that follows Simborg as he navigates a constantly shifting landscape in his search to find a life of peace in a world of war.

"I like all the characters in the novel because they make decisions based upon their worldview and personality flaws, much like we behave in today's modern world. I even like the bad characters, " Hulan laughs.

In addition to 1381 An Epic now available from Amazon Books, Hulan will be hosting a special book signing event on Oct. 16 at the Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) Creative Center, from 4-7 p.m. Hulan will have copies available and will talk a bit about his book, offer a short reading, and answer questions.

The FRAA Creative Center is located at 1458 First Street in Old Town (behind LoveJoy's). The event is free and open to the public.

Kids enjoying sunshine, soccer

Kids enjoying a spot of sunshine, playing soccer at Miller Park. The kids are part of Florence's youth soccer program, run by the Siuslaw Youth Soccer Association (SYSA).

SYSA is a nonprofit organization that provides youth in the community the opportunity to learn the game of soccer in a healthy, safe environment. There are teams for youth between 6 and 14 years old, and more information can be found at https://www.siuslawsoccer.com.



Doing Good. Giving Back.

Do you part and volunteer today to help support these organizations in our community.

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

Peace Harbor Volunteers

DOING GOOD . GIVING BACK
VOLUNTEER AT PEACEHEALTH PEACE HARBOR MEDICAL CENTER
Do you have a desire to serve your community? Peace Harbor Medical Center may be the place for you. At Peace Harbor, we strive to provide compassionate, high quality, accessible health care and to promote a healthy community. We value having community volunteers in various aspects throughout the healthcare system.
For more information and to obtain an application visit the Gift Shop or Front Lobby Desk at Peace Harbor Medical Center at 400 9th Street, Florence, Oregon.

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the spotlight

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kids' corner

Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	3	5	28
9			21
	1	0	7
35	14	7	

Solution

0	1	6
2	10	9
5	3	20

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

OCT 6

1683: Immigrant families found Germantown, Pennsylvania, in the first major immigration of German people to America.

1903: The High Court of Australia sits for the first time.

1979: Pope John Paul II becomes the first pontiff to visit the White House.

Money FACT:

The bill for repair work on a car or truck will be broken down into these main categories.

Answer: Parts and labor

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

RSATT HET RCA

Answer: Start the car

NEW WORD

TRANSMISSION

the mechanism that takes power from the engine and sends it to the wheels of a car

"How they say that in..."

English: Engine
Spanish: Motor
Italian: Motore
French: Moteur
German: Motor

Did You KNOW?

Automotive experts say cars should be serviced every 12 months or every 10,000-12,000 miles, whichever comes first.



Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Dashboard gauges

CONTACTS CARE WORD SEARCH

F	D	B	D	O	H	U	A	E	C	P	S	C	C	H	M	I	L	C	U
I	X	A	A	C	E	F	G	G	W	M	A	I	C	U	R	V	E	S	R
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G	A	N	H	Y	P	L	N	E	V	O	L	R	T	S	E	W	O	N	D
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X	U	B	N	B	C	M	T	M	W	T	F	S	A	B	V	G	B	R	C
A	L	N	U	A	D	L	T	E	D	N	D	I	W	X	P	M	L	D	O
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V	I	I	M	B	A	F	F	C	Y	N	Y	T	N	P	O	L	L	G	F
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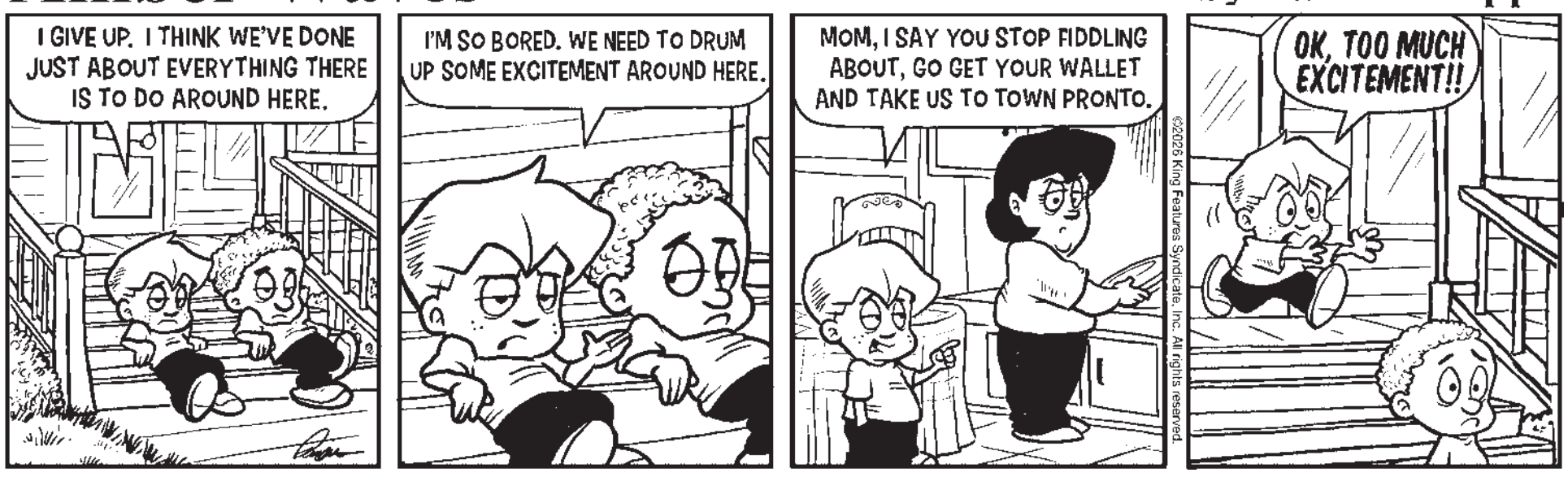
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

ASTIGMATISM
AXIS
CASE
CORNEA
CURVE
CYLINDER
DAILY
DIAMETER
DIOPTER
DISINFECTANT
DRYNESS
EXTENDED
HYDRATION
HYDROGEL
HYPOXIA
MULTIFOCAL
PERMEABILITY
PRESBYOPIA
RIGID
SALINE
SCLERAL
SOLUTION
TORIC
WETTABILITY

Amber Waves

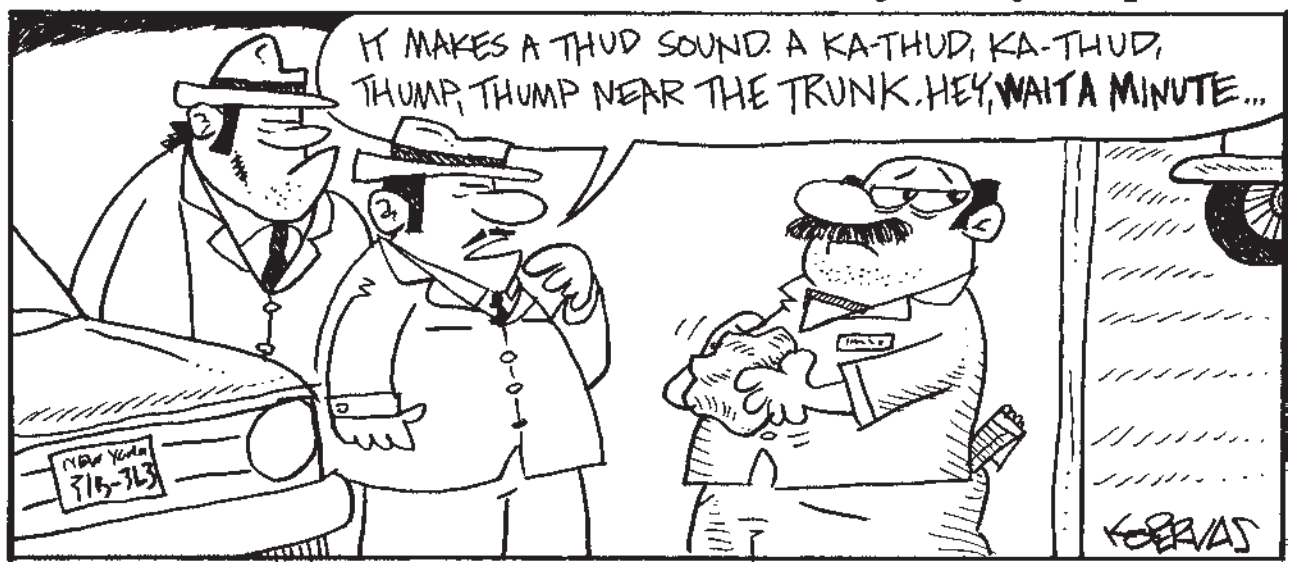
by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

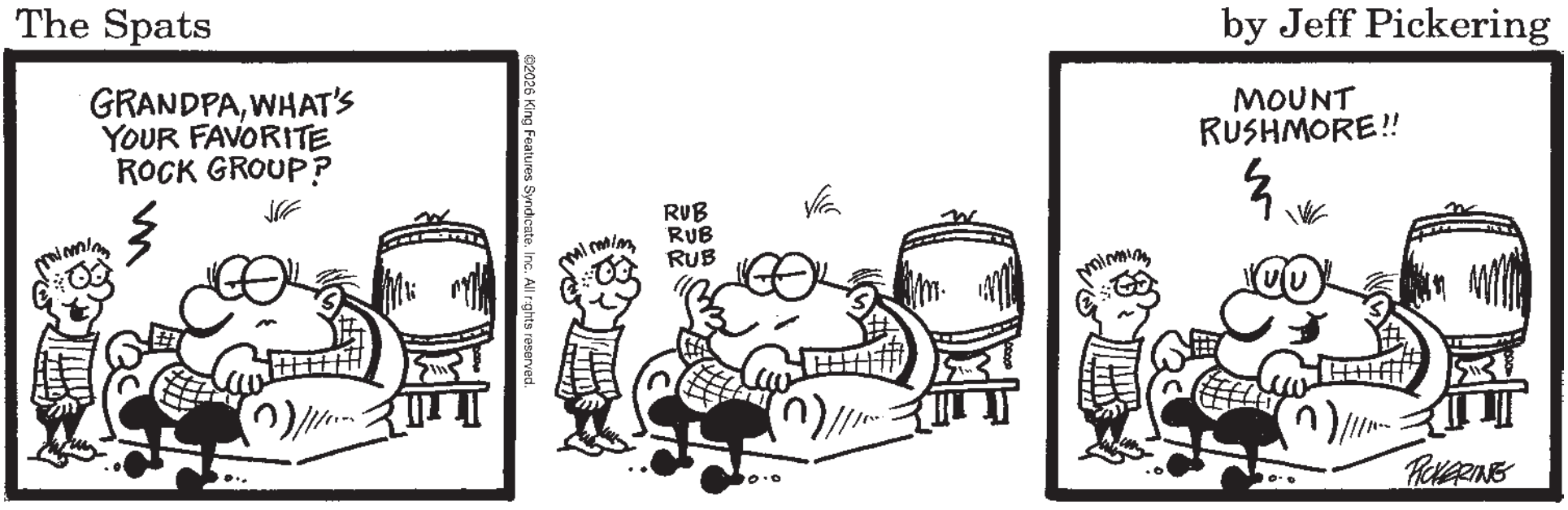
by Gary Kopervas

BIG MIKE THE MOB GUY TAKES HIS CAR IN FOR REPAIRS



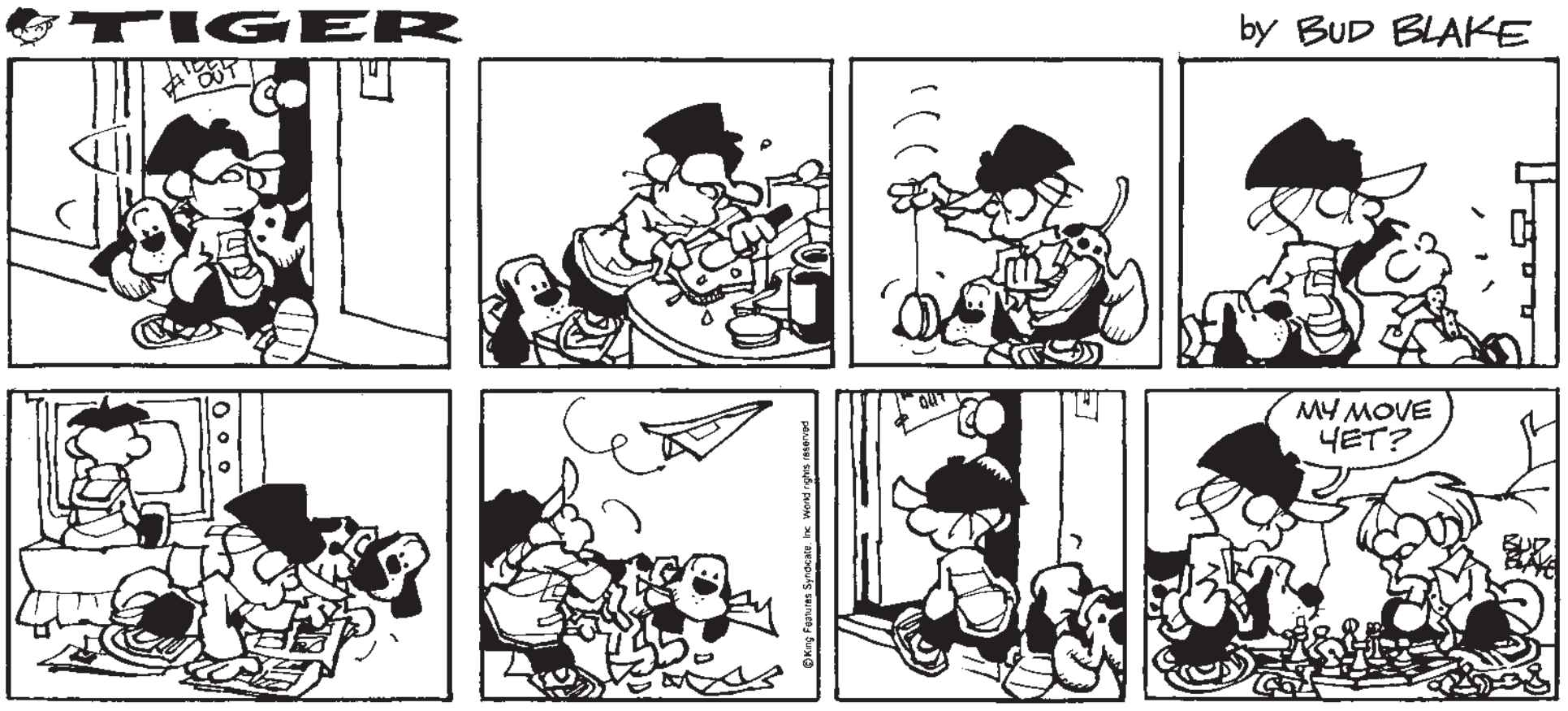
The Spats

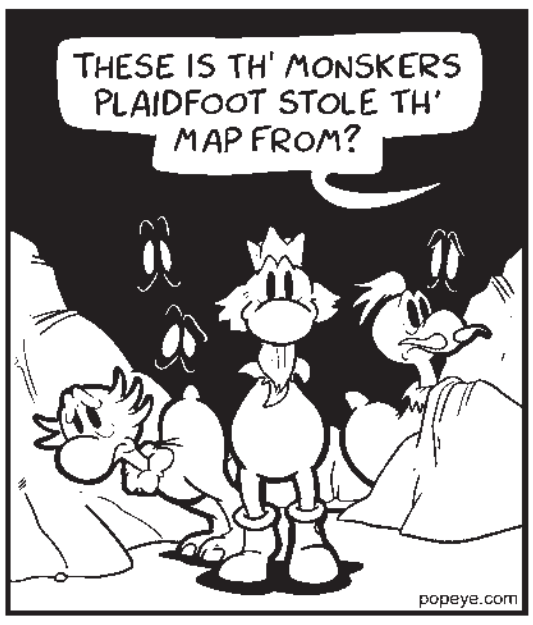
by Jeff Pickering

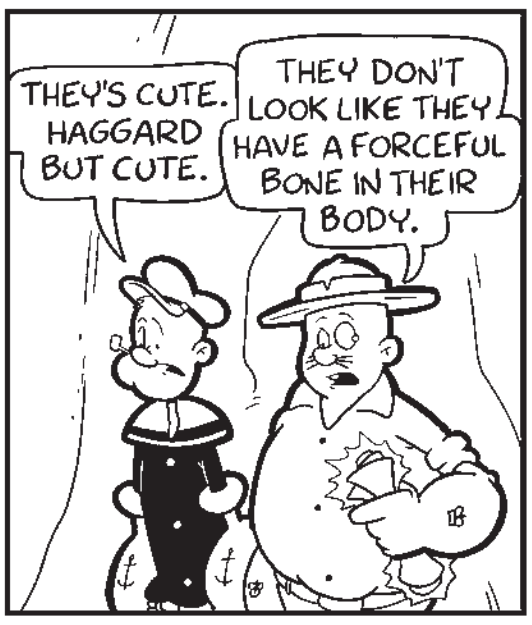


TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



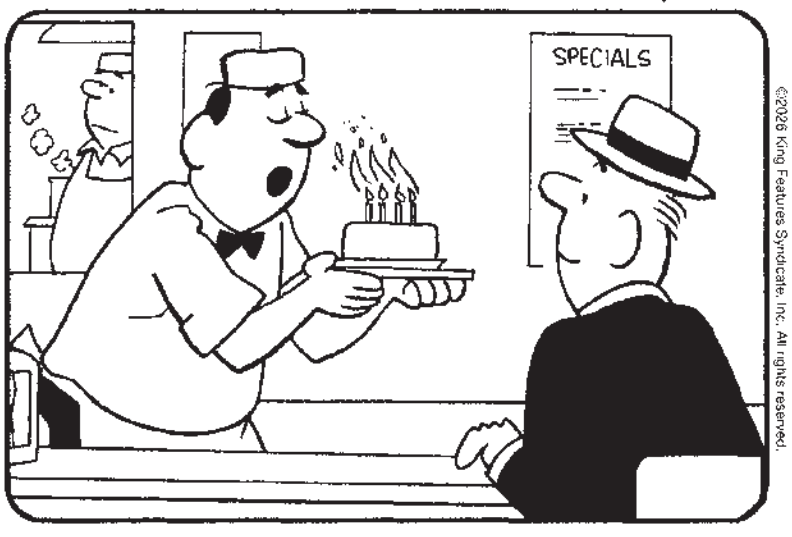




HOCUS-FOCUS

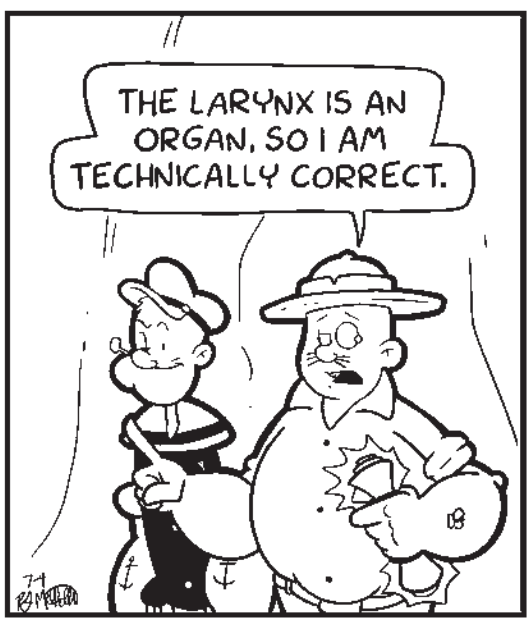
BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Word is different. 2. Glasses are missing. 3. Sleeve is different. 4. Hat is larger. 5. Back of stool is added. 6. Mouth is different.





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Case No. : 26PB07711 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate 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, Scott T. Bailey, Attorney at Law, P.C. at P.O. Box B, Florence, Oregon 97439. Dated and first published October 07, 2026. Julie A. Cowan Personal Representative 10/07/26

TSN26-183 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:
Florence Mini Storage intends to sell at public auction storage contents to enforce a lien imposed according to the provisions of the Oregon Self-Storage Facility Act (ORS 87-685 to 87-695 inclusive). The contents of the storage units below will be sold to the highest bidder unless payment is made in full before day of auction. The live public auction will be held at Florence Mini Storage, 4099 Hwy 101, Florence OR 97439 at 12 pm on Friday, October 23, 2026. The storage units are Unit #F-139, 5x5 (Neil Barfoot), and Unit #E-33, 10x20 (Christopher Smith). Publication dates: October 7, 2026 & October 14, 2026.

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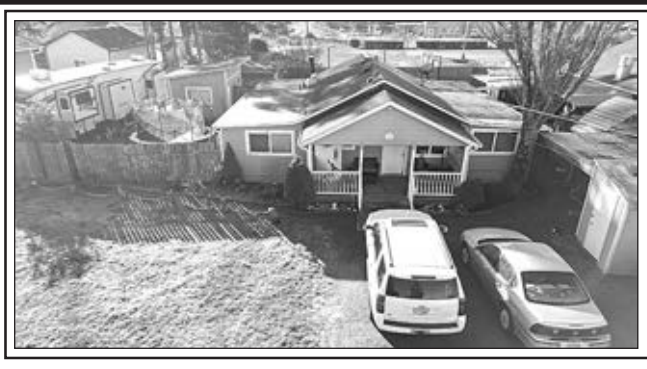
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Inviting 2 bdrm, 2 bath home with 1971 sq. ft. of living space with attached 2-car garage. Covered front porch, spacious living room with faulted ceilings & fireplace. Versatile den/office space. **$599,500 List #1403/309989518**


.29 Acre lot in a private and peaceful Munsel Acres neighborhood. This lot is level and has peek-a-boo views of Munsel Lake. Community has shared natural space & dock. **$289,000 List #1325/728106937**

The Mermaid Pearl of Falcon Street available fully furnished. You can own this spectacularly & playfully curated home out at the beach. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 2205 sq. ft. of living space. 1-car garage. **$659,000 List #1366/521242950**



In-town 3 bdrm, 2 bath home on a spacious .21 acre lot located towards the end of the street. 1576 sq. ft. of living space with a large family room & covered patio/deck space. Detached garage & shop. **$420,000 List #1416/630242799**



13+ acre parcel with zoning for Mobile Home Park and platted for 102 spaces. Property has two paved access points from North Spruce Street. **$999,000 List #1339/146354341**


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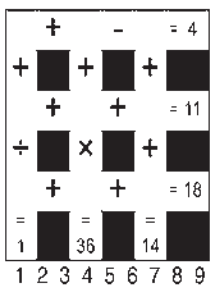
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GO FIGURE!

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.



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: T equals M

VYEJ TZSYJ OQA EUUATG ZU JYG REXQKZJG NYQNQBEJG NEICO QR NEXG-CVGBBZIS CVEKRU? JQQJUZG JKQBBU.

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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.

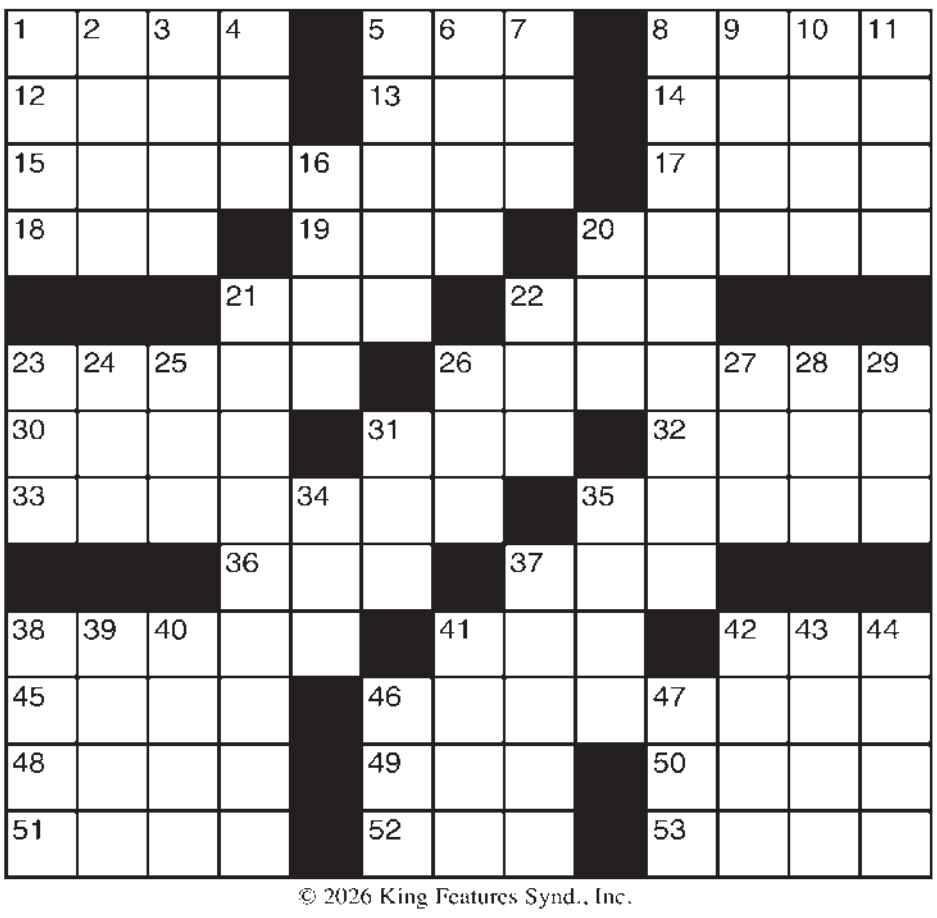
1. Recluse	H	Sesame Street frog	K
2. Translucent	. . . . R	Luster	. N
3. Detonate	_ L _ _ _	Monster	_ E _ _ _
4. Wisconsin's animal	_ _ D _ _ _	Grocery store worker	_ _ G _ _ _
5. Bullwinkle	_ _ O _ _	Rat's smaller cousin	_ _ U _ _
6. Georgia's fruit	A	Roost	R
7. Thirsty fabric	F	Linger	A
8. Slapstick, e.g.	D	Attractive	L
9. Closet accessory	_ A _ _ _ _	Appetite	_ U _ _ _ _
10. Ditch	T _ _ _ _ _	Parisian language	F _ _ _ _ _

REDUCE
REUSE
RECYCLE

King Crossword

ACROSS
1 Use a squeegee
5 ACLU concerns
8 Oodles
12 Valhalla VIP
13 — Jima
14 Slightly
15 Reveals by accident
17 California valley
18 LAX and JFK overseer
19 Bad spell
20 Playful sea critter
21 Young bloke
22 Used to be
23 Skewered Thai recipe
26 Beach robes
30 Four Corners st.
31 Gearwheel tooth
32 Barrett or Jaffe
33 Pond floater
35 Unclothed
36 Long lunch?
37 Tier
38 Teapot feature
41 Binge
42 Hiatus
45 Galley gear
46 Legendary gossip columnist
48 Vicinity
49 Soul, to Sartre
50 Eager
51 Drudge
52 PX patrons
53 Trawler gear

DOWN
1 Wild canine
2 Concept
3 Pocket bread
4 Em halves
5 Ticked off
6 Candy sold in twos
7 Soak (up)
8 Breaking point
9 Final notice
10 Clock reading
11 Swizzle
16 Horse-drawn carriage
20 Klutz
21 Revolving tray
22 Witty one
23 Bando of baseball
24 "Exodus" hero
25 Up to
26 Massachusetts cape
27 Fine, to NASA
28 Compass dir.
29 Blue
31 Taxi
34 Impose
35 Eggy drinks
37 Demolishes
38 Daytime drama
39 Rid of rind
40 Sweet sandwich
41 Rock's Hendrix
42 Donate
43 Bickering
44 Profs' degrees
46 Trail the pack
47 "Sheesh!"



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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LITERATURE: Who wrote the novel "The Invisible Man"?
2. GEOGRAPHY: In which country is the Topkapi Palace located?
3. ASTRONOMY: How long is a year on the planet Mars?
4. MOVIES: What is the name of the sea witch in the animated film "The Little Mermaid"?
5. ANATOMY: What is the average lifespan of a red blood cell?
6. MATH: What is the Arabic equivalent of the Roman numerals MMI?
7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What are the three secondary colors in traditional color theory?
8. TELEVISION: Which TV sitcom features the Bluth family?
9. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of jellyfish commonly called?
10. GAMES: How many squares are on a checkerboard?

Trivia answers

1. H.G. Wells.
2. Istanbul, Turkey.
3. 687 Earth days.
4. Ursula.
5. 120 days.
6. 2,001.
7. Orange, green and purple.
8. "Arrested Development."
9. A smack.
10. 64.

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SCRAMBLERS
Solution
1. Ponder; 2. Polish
3. Pierce; 4. Salami
Today's Word
ASPIRINS

Weekly SUDOKU

	1	9			8		7	
4		8		5	1	9		6
	6	2	9	4			3	
6		4		1	2	3		
		1	4		5			8
			8					2
			5		6	2	8	
8	2	6		7		5		4
		5		8				

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Even Exchange answers

1. Hermit, Kermit
2. Sheer, Sheen
3. Blast, Beast
4. Badger, Bagger
5. Moose, Mouse
6. Peach, Perch
7. Terry, Tarry
8. Comedy, Comely
9. Hanger, Hunger
10. Trench, French

Go Figure! answers

2	+	8	-	6	=	4		
+		+		+				
7	+	1	+	3	=	11		
÷		×		+				
9	+	4	+	5	=	18		
=		=		=				
1		36		14				

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

3	1	9	6	2	8	4	7	5
4	7	8	3	5	1	9	2	6
5	6	2	9	4	7	8	3	1
2	9	1	4	3	5	7	6	8
7	5	3	8	6	9	1	4	2
8	2	6	7	1	9	5	9	4
1	4	7	5	9	6	2	8	3
9	3	5	1	7	3	5	9	4
6	8	4	2	8	4	3	1	7

SCRAMBLERS answers

ENDROP — PRONTO
SHIPLO — SHOPLIFT
CREEPI — PRECIPICE
MAILAS — MISSAL

"For gosh sakes, don't forget to bring back some PRONTO!"

CryptoQuip answer

What might you assume is the favorite chocolate candy of cave-dwelling dwarfs? Tootsie Trolls.

Five Spot answer

T	R	O	P	A	E
P	R	O	S	E	
O	R	O	P	S	
S	C	R	A	P	
A	S	P	I	C	
B	A	S	I	C	Solution

Five Spot™ — A cliche

B	A	S	I	C	Cable subscription option
					Gelatin
					Dog's portion?
					Agricultural output
					Everyday writing
					Narrative device

Solve each row by replacing one letter from the answer above or below and scrambling to make a new word. When complete, the top and bottom words will have no letters in common.

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See more at www.fivespotpuzzle.com 02663

King Crossword Answers
Solution time: 23 mins.

W	I	P	E	■	R	T	S	■	L	O	T	S
O	D	I	N	■	I	W	O	■	A	B	I	T
L	E	T	S	S	L	I	P	■	S	I	M	I
F	A	A	■	H	E	X	■	O	T	T	E	R
■	■	■	L	A	D	■	W	A	S	■	■	■
S	A	T	A	Y	■	C	A	F	T	A	N	S
A	R	I	Z	■	C	O	G	■	R	O	N	A
L	I	L	Y	P	A	D	■	N	A	K	E	D
■	■	■	S	U	B	■	R	O	W	■	■	■
S	P	O	U	T	■	J	A	G	■	G	A	P
O	A	R	S	■	L	I	Z	S	M	I	T	H
A	R	E	A	■	A	M	E	■	A	V	I	D
P	O	E	N	■	G	I	S	■	N	E	T	S

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Price Reduced

5490 Little Woahink Dr. - $325,000
1.13 acre lot. Residential zoned buildable lot on Woahink Lake with dock, RV parking, and private retreat. #3779-298070170



Price Reduced

88380 2nd Ave. - $435,000
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2372 S 22nd Ct. - $499,000
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5404 Buckskin Bob Rd. - $1,249,000
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Price Reduced

89510 Hwy 101 #16 - $67,000
1 Bdrm, 1 Bath, 412 SqFt. Cute, lake view home in Buck Lake Park with sunny front deck and backyard garden. #3754-208663674



1699 27th St. #5 - $74,900
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290 Harbor St. - $1,450,000
5 Bdrms, 3 Baths, 2201 SqFt. Restored 1894 Old Town cottage with new garage, ADU, luxury upgrades, modern comfort throughout. #3724-327759244



11445 E Mapleton Rd. - $699,000
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1070 Bay St #22 - $397,500
2 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 984 SqFt. Bay Bridge condo with river and dune views, pellet stove, patio, storage shed. #3743-159787344



1600-245 Rhododendron Dr. - $249,000
3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1782 SqFt. Beautifully renovated Greentrees home with vaulted ceilings, RV parking, garage, and community amenities. #3775-261569229



89215 Sutton Lake Dr. - $895,000
3 Bdrms, 2.5 Baths, 1982 SqFt. Lakefront home on 3.69 acres. Solid wood doors, hardwood floors, high ceilings, and fireplace. #3780-422372104



88416 1st Ave #209 & #211 - $275,000
2 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 780 SqFt. Oceanfront resort condo with Pacific views, beach access, amenities, and investment potential. #3791-504912477



87540 Rhodowood Dr. - $455,000
3 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1404 SqFt. Private .41-acre property with oversized garage, RV parking, new roof, and extensive updates. #3840-440929811



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4895 Seapine Dr. - $565,000
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88192 Leeward Dr. - $550,000
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131 Shoreline Dr. - $725,000
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