



Siuslaw News

News & views that define our community

\$2.00 thesiuslawnews.com

Florence, Oregon

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

Number 50 • 135 years

Tree Lighting was a true community affair



Mayor Rob Ward counted down and flipped the giant switch to light the **Christmas Tree. Tony Reed photos.**

BY TONY REED The Siuslaw News

Rain cleared and warm weather greeted hundreds

of people who came out to Old Town Dec. 6 for the official lighting of the City's Christmas Tree in the Siuslaw Bridge

Interpretive Center. Sidewalks were crowded at times with folks

See TREE, Page A6



If you missed the tree lighting, you can still see it at the Siuslaw Bridge Interpretive Center through the holidays.

Sheriff and Eugene PD end Flock contracts

Florence keeps its cameras on

SIUSLAW NEWS STAFF

Two law enforcement agencies in Lane County have ended contracts with Flock Safety for automatic license plate recognition (ALPR) cameras but Florence's cameras remain active.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office recently announced it suspended its contract even though it had not yet installed cameras anywhere in Lane County.

According to an LCSO release, "LCSO's contract with Flock Safety was initiated after the Eugene Police Department and Springfield Police Department began work to install their systems."

LCSO's contract with Flock Safety occurred after the Eugene Police Department and Springfield Police Department started work to install their systems.

"For an ALPR system to be most effective in preventing crime and holding offenders accountable, coordination between local agencies is paramount," the release stated. "Without other

See FLOCK, Page A7

Follies inspires performers

By TONY REED The Siuslaw News

Hundreds came out for the 2025 Holly Jolly Follies at Florence Events Center, put on by Children's Repertoire of Oregon Workshops

Interrupted while napping a couple days after the final performance, CROW Director Melanie Heard said the turnout was great with the final day's attendance at 75 percent capacity.

"We got some great feedback from people

afterward," she said. "They loved the show and they loved the message behind it all, so it was a great experience."

Asked for any feedback she received from the performers, Heard said, "They're already asking me what next year show is going to be about, which is really sweet. I don't know yet I have a couple ideas percolating, but they had a blast." Heard said Brian Smart, who performed

See **FOLLIES**, Page A6



At times, almost the entire stage floor was covered by performers.

Empty bowls help fill the Food Share

The 29th annual Empty Bowls Fundraiser took place at the Florence Events Center last weekend to raise money for the Florence Food Share. The entire east side of the conference room was filled with locally-provided works that were seen by hundreds. Local artisans created and donated bowls, art and other pottery items that are sold by Florence Food Share to raise money to keep the operations doors open. The fundraiser has been going on for 29 years now and has become as much as part of the holidays as the other events happening the same day at FEC. Tony Reed photo

Arts Festival showcases local talent



Florence Regional Arts Alliance celebrated its 14th Anniversary with the Holiday Arts Festival last weekend at the Florence Events Center. Over 20 local craftsmen and artisans brought a wide variety of handmade art pieces, that were for sale and viewing. Participating artisans donated 10% of their sales to support the FRAA Art Center and its mission. Tony Reed photo

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All good things come to an end- Darn

By BOB HORNEY

Us TOO Florence Prostate Cancer Leaders

This information is totally understandable, but it is still so unfortunate for all of us on the Oregon Coast and our nearby communities. The word is: Tuesday, December 9 was Urologist Dr. Bryan Mehlhaff's final monthly visit to the Oregon Urology Institute's Florence Clinic to see patients. What that simply means is that we who are his patients will be travelling to Springfield to see him starting in January 2026.

Yes, many of us have seen that happen with specialists who come from Eugene/Springfield and elsewhere to serve our community, so this is nothing new. What I want to highlight about Dr. Mehlhaff is his giving

to the community over and beyond his service to his patients. Knowing he has traversed Highway 126 for over 26 years, I absolutely support his decision to turn the trip to the coast over to the next young and energetic urologist with OUI. I will also add that NO ONE ELSE AT OUI could have made the impact that he has made during those 26 years. I can safely say that for a number of reasons: First, his arrival on the coast brought us a urologist whose central urological

specialty was Prostate

With that being his specialty, we men were in Urological Heaven - if only we would wake up and listen. Second, he was100 percent tuned into getting the word out that early detection saves lives. Third, that early detection involved two

screening exams: PSA blood tests and Digital Rectal Exams. To perform a complete screening exam, a man

needed both exams. And a fourth, since early treatable prostate cancer rarely announces itself, we had to go looking for

In addition to those two screening exams, he would want to know a man's level of risk. In determining level of risk, for instance, he would want to know if other family members had been diagnosed with prostate cancer. If so, he would want to know their age at diagnosis along with other information.

Also, to our benefit, with prostate cancer being his specialty, he was keeping other urologists at OUI up with the latest information he was finding. His information wasn't coming from the

internet. He was involved in prostate cancer research, being a sitting board member on nationwide professional prostate cancer associations, etc. In simple terms, he was doing everything possible to stay current with everything occurring with his specialty and making sure the other urologists at OUI and his patients received that same information.

Now we turn to a coincidental lucky turn of events. With Marianne and me moving to Florence in the fall of 2001 and my diagnosis in December of 2001, the 2 coincidental pieces of the puzzle became active in Florence. Marianne and I attended our first prostate cancer support group meeting before my surgery on January 30, 2002. We returned to it in February 2002.

attendance.

The group had been formed by the American Cancer Society. The current leader of the group at that time developed another cancer and had to leave the group. No one else stepped forward so this newest member (me) who had a career as an elementary teacher and principal volunteered to do it. I started my tenure in April 2002.

Then I heard from a member of the group that Dr. Mehlhaff would like to attend our group's meetings. WOW! Boy, did I jump on that in a hurry! Once he started attending our meetings and we got that information out by word of mouth and the Siuslaw News, we rapidly outgrew the conference room at the hospital and moved our meetings to the Presbyterian Church Annex with lots of room and a kitchen, too.

Dr. Mehlhaff was filling a void that was very obviously lacking both up and down the coast. Just how obvious was it? One of our meetings filled the Annex with over 50 men and women in attendance.

Our group's final meeting place was Ichiban - closer for Dr. Mehlhaff to get to following his clinic hours and just a couple minutes to get on Hwy 126 and head home following our meetings. Plus, we could order off the menu.

Then along came COVID-19 and shut us down. We haven't restarted mainly because of my health, being diagnosed as immuno-compromised in 2016. It was an unfortunate situation, but as my allergist recommended, a necessary response to COVID-19.

More on that "coincidental lucky turn of events" next week...

POLICE LOG

Florence Police Department responded to the following calls from December 5 to December 9.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 3

At 9:05 a.m., a caller reported finding a Galaxy

phone in Miller Park. At 4:49 p.m., officers responded to a bus stop in Florence for a report of a disorderly subject there. Officers contacted a male subject in a wheelchair who said he had been

flipping off and yelling at cars. Subject was advised to stop doing that.

At 6:32 PM, officers responded to the 1100 block of Laurel Court for a report that a neighbor had been blocking a driveway with their vehicle. Officers found long-standing civil issues over property lines. Involved parties

were counseled and no further action was taken.

THURSDAY. **DECEMBER 4**

At 10:20 a.m., a subject came into the police department and began yelling at dispatchers, saying they had stayed at a local motel and staff there had stolen their debit card. Officers determined incident was not as it had been reported.

At 1:34 p.m., officers responded to the 1700 block of Highway 126 for a report that a subject had stolen a vape pen. Officers viewed video and were able to identify the subject, who remains outstanding.

At 7:55 p.m., officers responded to the 400 block of 9th Street for a report of a vehicle versus a bicyclist. Officers found

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only minor injuries had occurred and no charges were sought.

There were 5 or 6 men in

FRIDAY, **DECEMBER 5**

At 9:46 a.m. caller reported receiving a call from the IRS they felt was a scam. Caller told officers they had given out some of their information but did not send or transfer any money. Officers advised the caller about ways to protect themselves and someone attempts to use their information.

At 2:45 p.m., a caller reported hearing to possible gunshots in the 700 block Wecoma Loop. Officers investigated but heard no further noise and received no other calls about it.

At 2:55 p.m., officers responded to the 1800

block of Highway 101 for a reported assault against a gas station attendant. Officers were told that a dispute escalated between the attendant and a driver who reportedly grabbed the attendant. Attendant was not hurt, but wanted officers to tell the subject not to return. Officers were able to contact the subject and relayed the information.

At 8:05 p.m., officers responded to the 3700 block of Highway 101 for a report of a juvenile female who had left the residence. Female juvenile was later located and all parties made contact with each other.

At 8:17 p.m., a caller reported hearing a loud noise in the 200 block of Laurel Street.

SATURDAY, **DECEMBER 6**

At 8:06 a.m., officers responded to the area of Highway 101 and Rhododendron Drive for a report a traffic hazard. Officers found an unoccupied vehicle and were able to determine that a tow truck was on the way

At 8:39 a.m., officers responded to the 2100 block of 16th St. for a reported conflict between husband and wife. Officers learned the husband had been drinking and parties agreed to separate for some time to resolve their issue.

At 10:41 a.m., an officer was in route to another call when he observed a subject in the 1700 block of 8th Street

known to have a warrant for his arrest. Officer confirmed that the subject had a warrant from Florence Municipal Court and took him into custody.

SUNDAY, DEC.7

At 1:44 a.m., an officer observed a person in the area of Highway 126 and Highway 101 being sought for probable cause related to disorderly conduct incident. Officer confirmed the subjects identity and arrested him for the probable cause.

At 8:26 a.m., a caller reported that a construction cone had been knocked into the middle of the travel lane the area of 35th St. and Kingwood.

At 5:55 p.m., officers responded to the 3900 block of Highway 101 for a report a juvenile problem. Mother told officers the daughter had been asked to do some work, causing her to act out. Officers spoke to both the mother and the daughter to de-escalate the tension.

At 5:59 p.m., an officer stopped at E bike in the area of 12th St. and found the rider had a warrant from Springfield Municipal Court. While taking the subject into custody, officers found controlled substances on his person. Subject was taken into custody but recommended for the diversion program.

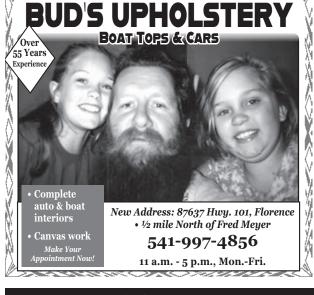
MONDAY, **DECEMBER 8**

At 5:23 a.m., officers contacted and arrested a subject in the 1600 block of Rhododendron Drive

for active warrants. At 2:06 p.m., officers responded to the 400 block of Hemlock Street for a report of a two vehicle crash with injuries. Officers found a moving vehicle had hit a parked vehicle causing damage to both. Driver was taken to the hospital and was cited for driving while talking on the phone.

At 3:44 p.m., officers responded to the 1300 block of Xylo Street to assist fire personnel who were attempting life-saving measures on a subject. Efforts were unsuccessful. Officers found no reason to suspect foul play and forwarded the case to the medical examiner.

At 4:48 p.m., a caller reported having left their wallet in a vehicle,



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Rebecca Ragan (68) of

Becki worked for Ore-Ida Foods in Boise and was transferred to headquarters in Pittsburgh for 2 years. She returned to Boise in 1997 to assist in the care for her aging mother in conjunction with her sister Rachael. After David retired in 2004, they moved to Florence, Oregon to eventually provide in-house care for David's mother. During this period Becki worked for Peace Health Internal Medicine and Family Practice as the clinics manager. Becki then retired and enjoyed leisure activities

including Tai Chi and working out at the

and loving woman is planned for the appreciated. Burns's Riverside Chapel Florence Funeral Home is in charge of all arrangements.

Rebecca E. Hopper Ragan

1957 - 2025

Florence, Oregon died at Riverbend Hospital in Springfield on December 2, 2025 due to complications chemotherapy treatments for breast cancer. She was born in Boise, Idaho on June 12, 1957 and was adopted by loving

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parents James Hopper and Catherine Duncan Hopper. Her beloved sister, Rachael, joined the family 5 years later. She attended local schools in Boise and Greenleaf,

Idaho. Throughout school, she followed the musical legacy of the family by playing the violin and became the concert mistress of the Boise Youth Symphony Orchestra.

She met her husband, David Ragan, in 1976 and they married in October 1978. During the ensuing 20 years, they traveled extensively to all 50 states, 6 Canadian Provinces and 29 foreign countries.

gym with her many friends. A memorial service to honor this gracious Spring. In lieu of flowers, donations to any charity benefiting wildlife would be greatly

See **POLICE**, Page A5



LETTERS

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

The Oregon Coast Military Heritage Museum would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our wonderful community. The success of our annual Festival of Trees would not have been possible without the incredible generosity, dedication,

and kindness shown by our sponsors, local businesses, and individual donors. Your continued support plays a vital role in helping us honor the sacrifices of our veterans and preserve their inspiring stories. Together, we are building a lasting legacy of remembrance-one that educates, uplifts, and ensures that future generations understand the price of freedom.

We are deeply grateful for the outstanding contributions given by the community and by the many friends and family members who generously offered their time, resources, and holiday spirit.

From all of us at the museum, Thank You for making this year's Festival of Trees a shining success. We wish you and your loved ones a joyful, peaceful, and memorable holiday season.

Warm Regards, Oregon Coast Military Heritage Museum Board of Director's

16th Annual New Year's Day Peace Hike in Yachats

View the Future is proud to announce the 2026 16th Annual Peace Hike, an honored community tradition that brings residents, visitors, Tribal members, and partners together in reflection, unity, and hope for the year ahead.

Held each January starting at the Yachats Commons, the Peace Hike commemorates the cultural history and enduring resilience of the Tribal peoples who once lived in the lands

we now call home. This year's event continues that legacy, honoring stories of remembrance while celebrating the strength of community stewardship.

Participants are invited to join the hike, learn from cultural speakers, and stand together in honor of the past, present, and future. Community members, families, and visitors are all welcome. It's asked that no photos, audio or video be recorded during the ceremonies

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ON JAN. 1

The day will be filled with ceremonies, reflections, and guided trail walks designed to honor the past and bring community together:

8:30 - 9 a.m. - Doors Open at the Commons-Welcome - Yellow Bear (Yachats /community Drum)

9:00 a.m. - Mayor's welcome Greeting -Origin of Hike - Physical Safety - Emotional Support Instructions. 9:30 a.m. - Opening Prayer - Story Telling - Amanda Story.

10:30 a.m. - Ceremonial cedar distributed - a fire will be lit at the Commons Park - the longer 2.2-mile Amanda Trail hike commences.



10:45 a.m. - Shorter trail walk commences, followed by the offering of cedar to the fire. 12:00 p.m. - Fire closing at the Commons Park.

12:00 p.m. – Amanda Gathering Area ceremony begins with a second fire, and cedar offering, prayers, songs, and stories from Tribal members.

ONLINE POLL

LAST WEEK, WE ASKED: WHERE DO YOU SHOP DURING THE HOLIDAYS? RESULTS WERE

I shop local, for the most part30%	
Eugene, Coos Bay, Newport15%	
Almost exclusively online	
I same money by not shopping15%	

THIS WEEK WE'RE ASKING: WHY DO YOU READ THE POLICE LOG IN THIS PAPER?

- I like to see if anything is happening in my neighborhood
- I like to know what our local police deal with I enjoy the odd and funny calls
- All of the above

Go to our main page at thesiuslawnews.com to vote and see poll results

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
DECEMBER 17	DECEMBER 18	DECEMBER 19	DECEMBER 20	DECEMBER 21	DECEMBER 22	DECEMBER 23
Showers 52° 47°	Showers/Wind 56° 49°	Showers 54° 47°	Showers 52° 45°	Showers 51° 44°	Showers 52° 43°	Showers 49° 42°

DON'T FORGET TO RECYCLE



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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

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

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About 30 people gathered in the rain for the ground-breaking. Right, Mayor Rob Ward, City Manager Erin Reynolds and Councilor Mike Webb spoke to the crowd. Dirt was turned where an 86-room hotel is expected to be open by Spring 2027. See more photos at thesiuslawnews.com **Tony Reed photos**

Long-awaited hotel breaks ground

By TONY REED The Siuslaw News

Members of the Florence City Council, Planning Commission, Florence Police Department, Public Works, Todd Construction and Florence Urban Renewal Agency (FURA) gathered across from the Florence Events Center Dec. 9 to officially break ground for construction of a four-story, 86-room Wyndham Microtelbranded hotel.

City Manager and FURA Executive Director Erin Reynolds acknowledged the many agencies and participating individuals present.

"It would be a long list to say all your names," she said, also acknowledging past and present city and planning staff who worked to bring the hotel project to life.

The concept of putting a hotel on the site of the former middle school goes back to the time the events center was being built.

"We built that building 30 years ago over there,' Mayor Rob Ward said,

pointing at the events center, "with the anticipation of having a hotel over here and well, it finally got here."

Ward saying he's known of Todd Construction since the 1970 when they were in Roseburg, Ward said he was pleased they got the contracting job.

Ward acknowledged that former mayor Joe Henry was in attendance, along with recently retired public works director Mike Miller.

"We're grateful for FURA putting this together," he said. "We've been waiting 3 years and it's going to be a great asset for that place over there (FEC) because we always hear that when we put a pitch for a convention, they say 'well, where is the hotel?' I guess if it's not across the street, it's not within walking distance, according to convention and conference planners, but we're ready for them now."

Noting that the middle school use to sit on the site, he spoke of a time when his wife worked there and was watching sheets of plywood blow off the roof during a windstorm.

"The location has easy access to Old Town and that's going to be a boost, for all of our businesses in the Old Town area," he said, "so on behalf of the City of Florence and (FURA) we'd like to welcome Braun Hospitality and all of your partners to our community. We're glad you are here."

City Councilor and FURA Chair Mike Webb said FURA bought the property in 2018, after concepts of timeshares and condos fell through.

"Being able to take control of the property

Crystell Wise

Principal Broker,

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allowed us to determine site to begin construction. what was going to be built "We are all excited to here," he said over the watch the process as the construction proceeds," he sound of rain and flapping rain jackets. "Our intensaid. "We can't wait for tion was to have a hotel the grand opening." constructed on his prop-Braun Hospitality erty that was to be what the city wanted." He said FURA was also instru-

mental in developing the

estuary trail which runs

around the property con-

necting Quince Street to

Highway 126. He said that

in the one month since the

property deal was final-

ized, Braun construction

was able to mobilize and

bring equipment to the

12300 Hwy 126 - \$499,000

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Whimsical gingerbread-style restaurant on

3+ acres with creek frontage, RV access, and

IB MIS

founder Matt Braun set it has been over four years since he was first in Florence, during which time the prime rate has increased repeatedly, making things very expensive. He said the public/private partnership and other legal and financing aspects were challenging.

"I think that this is really a testament to public/private partnerships," he said. "I want to be on the record saying that this is a really important part of private industry and public agencies coming together to do things for towns to drive business, drive investments, drive opportunities. There's already money being spent in this town, from surveying to the breakfast I had down the street, the hotel rooms that are standing by the folks coming to visit and there will be more coming in the future."

After a long list of thank-yous starting with his wife, Braun said city and planning staff were helpful and patient.

"We had five extensions to get this pulled together," he said, "for the financing and the permitting ... They consistently came together, heard the story, looked at the evidence and said, 'We believe that this is going to happen." Braun acknowledged his professional partners who helped with plans, budgeting and scheduling so the project can be on track to be operational by Spring Break 2027.

According to a FURA release, the property transaction with Braun Hospitality for the Quince Street Hotel Project closed on Monday, Nov. 17 and construction started in December. At the fencedoff site, a large area has

already been excavated. The groundbreaking then turned into a photo session with various groups taking turns symbolically turning the first dirt with a shovel.







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- Water filter or purification tablets
- Nonperishable foods (incl. pet food) and utensils
- Flashlight and batteries
- Battery powered or hand crank radio - 106.9 FM KCST for emergency broadcasts
- A change of clothes First aid kit Sleeping bags, blankets, towels
- Tool kit with utility knife
- Essential medications and
- backup eyewear
- Waterproofed map of the area
- Personal hygiene items Plastic bags and trash bags
- Manual can opener
- Money sealed in a waterproof container
- List of important addresses/phone numbers
- Knee-high rubber boots and work gloves
- Whistle
- Dust mask
- Duct tape
- Copies of essential documents

To view other supply lists, visit FEMA's www.ready.gov For a 12-week guide to building your emergency kit, visit www.lanecounty.org/prepare.

This message is brought to you by the West Lane Emergency Operations Group.

Public urged to avoid contact with sick or dead birds

People across Oregon are being urged to avoid contact with sick or dead birds as highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) continues to impact wild and domestic bird populations across the state, according to a release from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

There is currently no effective treatment for wild and domestic birds, and the virus can spread rapidly among bird populations and potentially to other wildlife.

ODFW is currently receiving reports of HPAI-related bird deaths across Oregon, with most cases occurring in the Willamette Valley among migrating cackling geese and some raptors.

Additional detections have been reported in eastern Oregon, where early-season duck and raptor mortalities and snow goose deaths have occurred. Sporadic reports along the Oregon Coast also include cases in gulls

Since 2022, Oregon has experienced widespread outbreaks of HPAI in wild birds and domestic poultry. This virus has been detected in nearly every Oregon county. It has caused the deaths of more than 15,000 wild birds and the euthanasia



Since 2022, Oregon has experienced widespread outbreaks of HPAI in wild birds and domestic poultry. This virus has been detected in nearly every Oregon county. (Courtesy photo)

of more than 183 million domestic poultry in North America.

Other non-avian wildlife confirmed with HPAI in Oregon include raccoons, skunks, foxes, marten and bobcats. However, nearly any mammalian species that feed on affected animals or is in a heavily contaminated environment may be susceptible to

Nationwide, affected wildlife also includes covotes, wild cats, and bears that have likely fed on infected birds. Marine mammals have also been impacted in North and include poultry, waterfowl, cattle, pigs, goats,

RISK TO HUMANS

The risk to people

from this strain of avian influenza is low. Since 2024, there have been 71 human cases of avian influenza in the United States, including two deaths. Most of these cases were exposed to infected dairy herds or domestic poultry farms. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides updated information on human cases of

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ENCOUNTER

Report groups of sick Wildlife Health lab at ing and tracking continued mortalities. Samples may be collected in cases involving large numbers of dead birds or multiple species. Single dead bird reports are useful for tracking suspicious cases; however, due to limited staff, and resources ODFW will not be able to respond to all such reports.

Do not handle wildlife that is sick or found dead. If it is necessary to dispose of a carcass, use a shovel or wear impermeable gloves, wash hands with soap and water, and change clothwith domestic poultry or

are no known cases of sick birds. But hunters should not feed dogs

conducting traffic around

the scene until a tow truck

At 10:54 p.m., officers

investigated reports of pro-

hibited sheltering under-

Siuslaw River Bridge.

neath the south end of the

could arrive.

any raw meat, organs, or other tissues from harvested waterfowl, and they should not allow retrieving dogs to interact with sick or dead birds.

Typical symptoms in wild waterfowl include lethargy, inability to fly, erratic behavior, loss of coordination, cloudy eyes, swimming in circles, and head shaking. However, some dabbling ducks may carry the virus without symptoms, spreading it through their feces to other birds and wetlands. Infected wild mammals may appear sick or neurologically abnormal, or be found dead after consuming infected birds, and should also be reported.

Birds typically die within 72 hours of

showing clinical signs. Currently, rehabilitators in Oregon are advised not to accept waterfowl with bird flu symptoms due to the risk of the disease spreading to other birds in their facilities.

Learn more from ODFW.

HOW TO REPORT ILLNESS IN DOMESTIC ANIMALS

Death or illness among domestic birds (chickens, turkeys, Guinea fowl) should be reported immediately to ODA. Please report by calling 503-986-4711 (alt. phone 1-800-347-7028). Find more information on avian influenza in domestic birds and tips on protecting backyard flocks from ODA.

and other waterbirds. **GROUPS OF SICK OR** ing before having contact **DEAD WILD BIRDS** South America. Domestic pet birds. animals affected by HPAI Keep dogs away from or dead wild birds to the sick or dead birds. There 866-968-2600 or wildlife. alpacas, and cats. domestic dogs becoming health@odfw.oregon.gov. Huge price reduction!! Welcome to Yachats, the Gem of the Oregon Coast! One sickened by contact with ODFW staff are monitor-

house back from the ocean this stunning 3-story beauty has magnificent white water views. Starting on the lower level are two ensuite bedrooms with a large primary with two closets and large bathroom including two sinks, soaker tub and separate shower. Head to the main floor on easy stairs to awe inspiring

FEATURED PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

views from the multiple windows of the main living area. Large kitchen with a nice pantry, propane, pass-thru fireplace and an expansive living/dining area. Head to the next level with a spiral staircase to more views. This area has a full bath and many built-ins and office/computer space, a sitting area and overlooks the living area. There's an attached two car garage and lots of storage behind the garage. Towards the ocean there is the great 804 walking trail with benches to enjoy the ocean up close. Please make an appointment to see, you won't be disappointed. \$995,000. #12886/129004311



From Page A2

possibly with the window down. Caller said the wallet was missing, but they were unsure if it had been taken from the vehicle.

At 8:45 p.m., officers responded to the 88,200 Block of Rhododendron Drive for a report that a subjects card has been declined at a business and that the subject was attempting to get other patrons to pay. Officers arrived to find that the other patrons helped the subject, therefore, no laws been were broken. Officers provided a courtesy transport to the woman's residence.

TUESDAY, **DECEMBER 9**

At 9:05 a.m., a caller reported a suspicious person in the 4400 block of Highway 101. Officers contacted the subject who had a felony warrant from Lincoln County for second-degree manslaughter (causing death while driving intoxicated). Subject was taken into custody for the warrant.

At 9:47 a.m., officers responded to the 3,300 Block of Oak Street to assist personnel at a care facility having issues with a patient.

At 9:19 p.m., officers responded to the Siuslaw River Bridge for a report of a single vehicle accident. Officers arrived to find a vehicle partially on the sidewalk blocking one

lane of traffic. Officers

Saturday, Dec. 13 • 2 to 3 p.m. Florence Events Center 715 Quince Street, Florence

Remember loved ones at our Light Up a Life annual celebration. This remembrance will provide a time of solace and quiet reflection. Our community is invited to submit names to be read aloud at this event.

To participate, share your loved one's name by Dec. 1. CHarkness1@peacehealth.org or call 541-997-3418.

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

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Peace Harbor Volunteers

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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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CROW kids sung their little hearts out.

FOLLIES

From Page A1

his song, "Christmas Cookies," said he was amazed to find out about CROW and the follies, adding that he wants to be more involved next year. "I'm just excited that

we were able to get back up on stage and hopefully bring some holiday cheer to everybody," she said.

Asked for the number of people involved in the production, Heard estimated that 80 performers, 15 crew members and Event Center Staff all coordinated to bring the performance to the stage.

"Believe it or not, we put the show together in about a month," she said. "We closed the haunted maze on October 31 and our first rehearsal for the follies was November 4." The show featured

performances by Mike Jacobson, the Flight dance team, Sydney Crapser, Brain Smart, the Walls Family Trio the Tip Top Tappers, John Stone, Youth Tap, and many other CROW performers.

The show was not taped this year, but CROW will be posting many photos for various photographers soon.

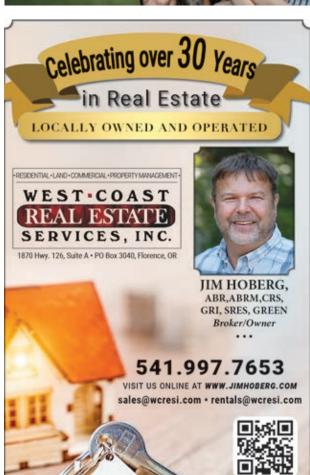
Auditions for Seussical the Musical will start Jan. 12 ands 13, and the deadline to enroll in spring dance classes is Dec. 19.

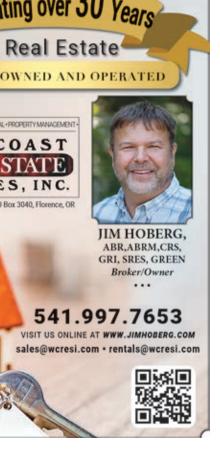
See more photos at thesiuslawnews.com



Dancers flew over the stage like little angels during the Holly Jolly Follies at FEC. Tony Reed photos









and Public Works personnel who arranged and

the City Council, Ward

wished everyone "the merriest of Christmases"

and flipped the giant switch to light up the tree

and surrounding area.

People of all

fun.

ages appeared to be having

connected the lights in the weeks prior. On behalf of



OREGON COAST HUMANE SOCIETY

Harley spent the day with Santa Paws and Mrs.

Claws, and his biggest wish is on Santa's GOOD

list: a home of his very own.

Thank you for supporting the animals of OCHS all year long!

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From Page A1

local networks to integrate with, LCSO is looking for ways to best utilize the resources that we have available to keep our residents safe."

"We are still examining this type of technology and others in an effort to improve community and deputy safety," said Sheriff Carl Wilkerson. "ALPRs have proven their benefit to our residents with the capture of multiple murderers over the past year."

According to LCSO, Oregon legislature is expected to examine the use of ALPR technology by law enforcement agencies in the next legislative session which will likely impact local systems and policies.

IN EUGENE

Eugene Police Department also ended its contract with Flock Safety, saying it had identified vulnerabilities and limitations that raise concerns about the system's ability to meet EPD's operational needs, data security requirements, and community expectations.

"Eugene Police's ALPR system experience has demonstrated the value of leveraging ALPR technology to aid investigations, apprehend felony suspects, and recover stolen vehicles more quickly," a EPD release stated. "However, the department must ensure that any vendors meet the highest standards for safeguards surrounding privacy, data handling, data security, and system reliability."

IN FLORENCE

Florence has had flock cameras since April, 2024 and Florence Police Department still has a contract with Flock Safety. Florence Police Chief John Pitcher has repeatedly cited the cameras as a useful tool for local law enforcement to quickly find stolen vehicles and vehicles related to crimes in progress. Pitcher has repeated that the system cannot be used by Immigration authorities and only FPD can share data from Florence-based cameras.

"I have talked to LCSO, Eugene PD and Springfield PD," he said by email Dec. 11. "None of their reasons for suspending their contracts had anything to do with misuse or anything that contradicts Oregon law."

IN OREGON

Flock has come under scrutiny at the state level and in November, Senator Ron Wyden, called for an investigation of Flock Safety and its data handling protocols. According to a release from House.gov Wyden and Illinois Senator Raja Krishnamoorth called for a federal investigation, saying dozens of accounts of Flock customers had been stolen. An investigation by Hudson Rock said 35 accounts have reportedly been stolen by hackers.

Hudson Rock's investigation data is available to view at https://www. hudsonrock.com/search/



domain/flocksafety.com

Flock's website is located at https://www. flocksafety.com

Eugene Police Department released the following information about their use of Flock cameras

Eugene Police Department is continually researching and evaluating technology to protect our community and has installed Automated License Plate Reader technology to help EPD address crime. As part of this effort, to make it easier for the public to track how many times it is used and for what reasons, there is an easily accessible transparency portal that contains information about what kind of things are detected with the cameras, acceptable use policies, prohibited uses, data retention, number of cameras, the numbers of unique vehicles detected in the last 30 days, searches in the last 30 days, hot list hits in the last 30 days, external organizations with access, and a 'public audit' to information about how the system is being utilized. The public audit shows numbers at the left-hand side, which are anonymized for confidentiality. What is shown is the amount of time the cameras are used, and for which search reasons. Note: UUV is a common reason in the data points. UUV means Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle (stolen

LPR GENERAL **INFORMATION AND BACKGROUND**

vehicle).

Automated License Plate Readers (LPRs) are not new to Eugene and have already been in use by local businesses, financial institutions, and agencies. Seven in 10 crimes are committed with a vehicle, according to the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Eugene Police's license plate readers were paid for through a \$391,264.00 grant from Oregon CJC Organized Retail Theft Grant. This money was designated for and used to purchase the LPR service. Eugene's ALPR system may only be used for law enforcement purposes, for which there is a valid

reason to do a search. And, EPD will only share with Oregon law enforcement agencies to maintain adherence to Oregon laws, including prohibition on aiding immigration. Law enforcement purposes where the system is used include Amber Alerts, Missing Persons, criminal investigations, stolen vehicles, and other serious crimes. EPD's cameras have been installed to avoid residential areas and focus on covering main streets (arterials) of travel in the city and points of ingress and egress to the city. Also, there has been consideration of locations to support retailers or businesses affected by organized retail theft.

WHAT LPR **TECHNOLOGY CAPTURES**

LPR technology is designed to have cameras capture rear license plates and vehicle characteristics.

LPR technology is not designed to capture people or faces. There is no facial recognition.

LPRs will provide realtime alerts to law enforcement when a license plate associated with certain types of crimes is detected.

Note: Other cameras at the intersections do not record and simply detect the presence of a vehicle for traffic signal operation. They are for traffic engineering.

TYPES OF CRIMES ALPR IS USED FOR

LPR is used for addressing organized retail theft, stolen vehicles, or other serious crimes.

The cameras may also assist in detecting vehicles associated with missing people, or an Amber alert.

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The LPR system will help EPD investigate crimes by providing the objective evidence needed to clear cases.

Note: Other cameras at the intersections are for traffic engineering and do not record but simply detect the presence of a vehicle for traffic signal operation.

4TH AMENDMENT AND IMMIGRATION CONSIDERATIONS

4th Amendment - The cameras are placed in public spaces where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy. LPR technology is already in use by businesses, financial institutions, and other law enforcement agencies in the region. Data associated with license plates is already accessible in existing systems such as the DMV, LEDS, and NCIC.

Immigration: EPD does not share data for the purposes of immigration enforcement. In addition, EPD made the decision to only share with Oregon law enforcement agencies to avoid use for immigration purposes. Eugene City Protection for Individuals Ordinance Number 20579 prevents the use of City resources (money, equipment or personnel, including from Eugene Police) to detect or apprehend individuals whose only violation of the law is that they are present in the United States in violation of federal immigration laws. This Eugene City Ordinance is not dependent on state law, but Oregon's law also generally prohibits inquiry or collection of an someone's immigration or citizenship status,

Aileen Sapp

Broker, SRS,

SRES

541 999-5396

or country of birth, with few specific exceptions (Oregon Revised Statute 181A.823.) The Eugene Police Department has had and will continue to have prohibition on using its resources, whether personnel or other, for immigration and customs enforcement efforts. EPD does not engage in immigration enforcement and remains committed to ensuring that our services are accessible, impartial, and grounded in the rights and safety of all members of our community.

DATA CAPTURING, STORAGE, AND USE

Data Storage: The data is cloud-based and stored for 30 days through Flock. All data belongs exclusively to the EPD and is retained solely by us. The company EPD is working with does not own the data and is contractually prohibited from selling or distributing it.

Data Access & Retention: Searches or alerts in the system shall be for law enforcement purposes only. Officers can download relevant

data for evidentiary purposes. Once downloaded, the data is stored in EPD's digital evidence management system and is retained according to our policies, which align with state and legal retention requirements based on the type of crime, adjudication, and related factors. Each search of the system requires justification, and the data is never sold or shared outside of law enforcement

Custom Data Entry: EPD can input its own data into the system, such as stolen vehicle hot lists or vehicle information related to missing persons. This data is also owned by EPD and cannot be sold or shared without authorization.

Data Sharing: EPD does not share this data with any entities outside of law enforcement and only shares with Oregon law enforcement, which follow the same state laws. Additionally, any law enforcement data sharing is strictly controlled and only occurs with Eugene Police's explicit permission.



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Classes, Workshops & Events

Creative Journal Writing for the Soul with Kay Loraine

4 class series, Tuesdays, Jan 6, 13, 20 & 27, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Cost \$75 per series for FRAA members, \$85 per series for non-FRAA members.

Indigo & Magenta -Watercolor with Peggy Ross

Wednesday, January 7, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Cost \$75 for FRAA members, \$85 for non-FRAA members, \$10 material fee.

Beginning Frame Loom Weaving with Peggy Ross

6 class series, Thursdays, Jan 15, 22 & 29, and Feb 5,19 & 26, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Cost \$195 per series for FRAA members, \$235 per series for non-FRAA members, \$45 material fee.

Beginning Watercolor with Peggy

6 class series, Wednesdays, Jan 21 & 28, Feb 4, 18, 24 and March 4 10:00 am -12:00 pm. Cost \$195 per series for FRAA members, \$235 per series for non-FRAA members, \$15 material fee.

FRAA Matching Ornament Sales

FRAA will match all artists' ornament sales donating the money for art supplies to the Wellness from the Cascades to the Coast, an afterschool program providing supper and classes for our Siuslaw Elementary and Middle Schools

Big Wave Poetry 1st Tuesday Open

Tuesday, January 6, 7 pm in person and

Zoom at FRAA! Doors open at 6:30 pm. Z.I.A. Zentangle Inspired Art with

Susan Smith Monday, January 12, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Cost \$45 for FRAA members, \$55 for non-FRAA members,

Art School Basics with Kat Cunningham

4 class series - Mondays and Fridays Jan 12, 16, 19 and 23, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm. Cost \$150 per series for FRAA members, \$190 per series for non-FRAA members, or an individual class for \$40 for FRAA members or \$50 for non-FRAA members. \$10 material fee.

Transparent Watercolor - Save the White with ELee Hadley

4 class series - Mondays, Jan 19, Feb 2 & 16, March 2, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Cost \$140 for per series for FRAA members. \$170 per series for non-FRAA members.

Oil Painting with John Leasure Saturdays 9 am - 12 pm No painting

experience required. Contact: 541-991-2754 or inleasure@hotmail.com for details/fees.

FRAA Art Center will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

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





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NEW PROPERTIES AND UPDATES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 2025

87987 WOODLANDS DR.



Near scenic North Jetty. Open layout fills home with natural light. .56 acre offers large yard and privacy. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 1248 SF

\$349.500

1960 LINCOLN. NORTH BEND



Well loved and cozy home! Custom kitchen, spacious bonus room, covered deck space. Thoughtful touches throughout. 3 Bed/1.5 Bath, 1200 SF

\$419.997

514 LEMWICK LANE. YACHATS



3 story home w/ magnificent blue water views. Expansive living area. Close to the 804 walking trail. 2 Bed/3.5 Bath. 3152 SF

\$995,000

507 ROBIN LANE



Great opportunity in Florentine Estates. Double garage. 2 Bed/2 Bath. 1620 SF

\$385,000

2014 ROYAL ST. GEORGES DR.



Charming townhome w/hdwd floors and fireplace. In sought after golf course community. 1 Bed/1 Bath, 921 SF \$399,500

2131 WILLOW LOOP



Impeccably maintained Willow Dunes home. Fully fenced w/ low maintenance landscaping. 3 Bed/2.5 Bath, 2199 SF \$739,500

852 MUNSEL CREEK LOOP



Expansive floor plan, weather protected patio, 50' deep RV garage. One of the finest homes in Florentine Estates. 2 Bed/2 Bath. 2360 SF

\$599,950

87803 SANDRIFT ST.



Cozy Idylewood cottage on a corner lot. Dead end street w/ private backyard. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 1084 SF. 3 car garage.

\$399,999

83591 SAUTER DRIVE



Like new home in private Woahink Lake neighborhood. Shared community dock. Sold fully furnished. 3 Bed/2 Bath. 2008 SF \$799,000

5270 NOPAL ST.



Brand new offering former model homenever lived in. Quiet neighborhood. 3 Bed/2 Bath. 1404 SF \$398,000

3636 OCEAN VIEW DR.



Eye catching custom built home in Rhodo View Dunes, Wrap around porch 3 Bed/3 Bath, 2482 SF. \$649,900

TL 5700 FAWN VIEW LANE



Construction beginning soon on this Fawn Ridge East home! Floor plan can be customized.

\$767,000

4837 SEAPINE DR.



Meticulously maintained and updated on 2/3 acre. Extra lot & shop incl. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 1802 SF \$520,000

3315 RHODODENDRON



Breathtaking river and dune views from almost every room. Covered patio & hot tub. 3 Bed/2.5 Bath, 2094 SF. \$635,000

1080 BAY ST. #19



Bay Bridge Condo with River views. Covered porch. Dedicated parking space and storage unit. 2 Bed/2 Bath. 1048 SF \$439,000

289 HARBOR ST.



Charming home in Old Town with upstairs apt. One block from the marina. 2 Bed/2.5 Bath, 1752 SF. \$495,000



28' Travel trailer and two tiered decks. Charming lot nestled in serene gated community. \$149,500

248 HORSESHOE BEND 1150 HEMLOCK ST. #D-14



Conveniently located townhouse. Low maintenance yard and move-in ready. 2 Bed /1.5 Bath, 1004 SF \$269,997

4948 OCEANA DR.



Surrounded by lush vegetation for privacy. Hardwood floors throughout. 3 Bed/2 Bath, 1568 SF \$469,900

15TH & SPRUCE



.35 acre lot adjacent to Munsel Creek bike path. All city services available. \$135,000

TL5600 LEVAGE DRIVE



.26 acre. Lake access is walking distance. Very little traffic. \$19,500

200 11TH ST.

Bare land in an already developed and established neighborhood .18 acre. \$109,000

O SUN LAKE RD. LAKESIDE



4.2 acres of open space by the lake. Year-round creek borders the property \$200,000

TL3900 ELK MOUNTAIN RD.



Ocean view lot w/city services available. .44 acre. Yachats. \$75,000

83394 HIGHWAY 101



TL 400 & 600. Plenty of flat land on one parcel, and your own private dunes on other. 1.17 acre \$99,000



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ALVA BRACEY Broker



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DANI FLESCHER Broker



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Tide Table Siuslaw River Entrance saltwatertides.com

SERVICES, INC.

DAY, DECEM	BER 17
3:54 a.m	4.2
9:50 a.m	7.7
5:07 p.m	0.2
. 11:58 p.m	6.2
	3:54 a.m 9:50 a.m . 5:07 p.m

THUR	SDAY, DECEMBE	R 18
Low	4:42 a.m	4.3
High	10:28 a.m	7.8
Low	5:45 p.m	0.1
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19		

1 1/11	MI, DECEMBER	17
High	12:37 a.m	6.4
_0W	5:25 a.m	4.3
High	11:07 a.m	7.9
_0W	6:21 p.m	0.2

<u>Saturi</u>	<u>DAY, DECEMBE</u>	R 20
High	1:13 a.m	6.5
Low	6:05 a.m	4.2
High	11:44 a.m	8.0
Low	6:57 p.m	0.3

<u>SUND</u>	AY, DECEMBER	21
High	1:48 a.m	6.6
Low	6:43 a.m	4.1
High	12:21 p.m	8.0
Low	7:31 p.m	0.4

MOND	AY, DECEMBE	R 22
High	2:22 a.m	6.7
Low	7:21 a.m	3.9
High	. 12:59 p.m	7.9
Low	8:05 p.m	0.4

High	2:56	a.m	.6.8
Low	8:02	a.m	.3.8
High	1:38	p.m	.7.6
Low	8:38	p.m	-0.3

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

		•	
WEDNES	DAY, C	ECEMBER	24
		a.m	
Low	.8:46	a.m	.3.6
High	2:20	p.m	.7.3
Low	9:12	p.m	.0.0

THURS	DAY, DECEMBE	R 25
High	4:02 a.m	7.0
Low	9:37 a.m	3
High	3:09 p.m	6.8
Low	9:48 p.m	0.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26
High4:36 a.m7.
Low10:35 a.m2.
High 4:07 p.m6.
low 10:28 p.m 1.

<u>Saturd</u>	<u>DAY, DECEME</u>	BER 27
High	5:14 a.m	7.5
Low	.11:41 a.m	2.4
High	. 5:18 p.m	5.7
Low	11:12 p.m	1.9

SUN	DAY, DECEMBER	28
High	5:55 a.m	7.8
Low	12:51 p.m	1.7
High	6:44 p.m	5.4
MON	DAY, DECEMBE	R 29

Low	12:05 a.m	2.7
High	6:43 a.m	8.1
Low	1:59 p.m	0.9
	8:19 p.m	
TUESI	AY, DECEMBE	R 30

TUESD/	Y, DE	CEMBER :	<u> 30</u>
Low	.1:09	a.m	3.5
High	.7:37	a.m	8.4
Low	3:04	p.m	0.1
High	9:45	p.m	5.8
WEDNES	DAY, D	ECEMBE	R 31
Low	.2:19	a.m	4.0
High	.8:34	a.m	8.7
Low	4:03	p.m	0.6

	54 p.m6.3
THURSDAY	/, JANUARY 1
Low3:3	31 a.m4.2
High9:3	33 a.m9.0
Low 4:5	57 p.m1.2
High 11:	50 p.m6.7

<u>FRIDAY, JANUARY 2</u>
Low4:37 a.m4.1
High9.2
Low1.5

Siuslaw basketball grab early wins



Will LOHRE Country Media, Inc.

It was a familiar start to the Siuslaw boys basketball season, as for the second year in a row, the Vikings opened their season with a 2-2 record.

Not so much a coincidence, but another parallel to last season is that two of the results have mirrored last season as well. Just as Siuslaw lost to Taft in the season

opener in 2024, so it was in 2025. On top of that, just like how the Vikings bested Reedsport in their fourth game last season, they replicated that result this season, beating The Brave 53-45 on Dec. 9.

It was a comeback win for Siuslaw after Reedsport grabbed a nine-point lead early in the game. The Vikings scrapped to get back in

See **BOYS**, Page B2



Vikings girls honing skills on the court





Will LOHRE Country Media, Inc.

Siuslaw's girls basketball team has been preparing for the basketball season since June, and the vision first-year Head Coach Amanda Richards has remained the same through the fall: "getting better every single day."

Before the first game of the season against Taft on Dec. 3, Richards' team had already undergone a grueling summer workout program, attended out-of-season scrimmages, and held open gyms. Though the first game against the Tigers ended in a 70-29 defeat, the aspiration to improve remains at the forefront of Siuslaw's focus right now.

See **GIRLS**, Page B2

Siuslaw opens wrestling season

Will LOHRECountry Media, Inc.

The mats have sprung to life with activity to start December, and both the boys and girls wrestling teams hit the road for their first tournaments of the season, each notching a fair bit of success in their respective competitions.

Head Coach Neil Wartnik and his staff enter the season with the usual preseason anticipation, in no small part due to the program's crop of wrestlers this season.

"This is a special

group. They are fun to work with. The coaching staff enjoys them both as people and competitors," Wartnik said. "They are becoming an excellent team. The leadership of Jacob Mann and Danin Lacouture has been catalytic in the best way possible."

Mann and Lacouture are the pacesetters of this Vikings program, with each having qualified for the state championships in their first three wrestling seasons. Both showed why at the first tournaments of the season.

The girls team traveled to Harrisburg for the Devin Dawson Invitational on Dec. 5 to open the ledger on their season. Lacouture made her prowess observable throughout the competition, winning a "thrilling" finals matchup with Elgin's Bailey Hasbell to claim the 145-pound weight class title.

Wartnik recounted the breathless title bout.

"The match was scoreless until the final period, when Hasbell was penalized for clasping Lacouture's singlet. Down 1-0, Hasbell

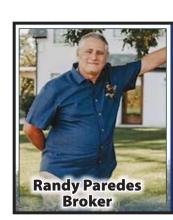
attempted a leg attack takedown only to be countered by Lacouture. Using excellent positioning and pressure, Lacouture was able to take Hasbell down and put her on her back in a 'Cow Catcher,'" Wartnik said. "Moments before the match ended, Lacouture pinned Hasbell."

In addition to
Lacouture's first-place
finish, Siuslaw had plenty
of other wrestlers earn
placement in Harrisburg.
Emma Ford and Hannah
Richard added second-place finishes, Molly

Mills and Mia Goss added third-place finishes, and Hailey Taylor and Abigail Hummel garnered fourth-place finishes. The Vikings Girls placed 2nd out of the 16

teams in attendance.
For the boys, it was a trip to the Perry
Burlison Invitational at
Cascade High School
on Dec. 6 that opened
their season. It was a
crowded and competitive field in Turner,
and with the Vikings
sporting a young squad,
12 of Siuslaw's sixteen

See **WRESTLING**, Page B2





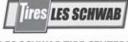
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in person & Online Corner of 10th & Maple 541-997-3533

GIRLS

From Page B1

"We have a set of 'Phase 1' goals - small, attainable targets that help us build the habits and foundation we'll need once league begins," Richards said. "Those goals are what we're really locked in on."

In the second game, Siuslaw faced Toledo at the Coquille Winter Lakes Classic on Dec. 5. Richards said it was a "gritty, hard-nosed defensive effort from start to finish." Toledo jumped out to an early lead with a big run in the first half, but the Vikings never showed the white flag. In the

fourth quarter, the Vikings showed their mettle and brought the game back into balance. In a 33-43 defeat, the Vikings showed their ferocity.

"The fourth quarter especially showed the kind of heart this group plays with, as the girls battled back, won the quarter, and kept the pressure on until the final buzzer," Richards Junior Aidell Cadet led

the team offensively with a strong night in the scoring column. Freshman Pearl Jensen's on-ball pressure set the tone defensively creating turnovers and giving the Vikings chances to get out in transition. Claire McNeill and Sophia Stymans also stepped up

with key plays on both ends and were part of a team effort to gobble up rebounds and contest shots.

"While the score didn't reflect the intensity our girls brought, the growth, fight, and defensive toughness were easy to see. Proud of the effort and the direction we're heading," Richards said after the

Siuslaw's next game was a 16-40 loss to Junction City on Dec. 6, but the Vikings were hungry to get that first win of the season, and it didn't wait long to grab it. The next game came against Reedsport on Dec. 9 at home.

In front of the Florence faithful, the Vikings put on a show, grabbing the

first victory in style, 50-10. Freshman Ryleigh Panschow had a tremendous game for Siuslaw, piling up 14 points to go with six rebounds, including five on the offensive glass. Richards said Panschow set the tone for an "aggressive night on both ends of the floor."

The Vikings played inspired and stingy defense against Reedsport, creating 25 turnovers and cashing in their chances with a balanced scoring effort. Richards said that 10 of Siuslaw's 13 rostered players scored at least one point, and the performance demonstrated the team's improved depth and chemistry. Though there's still plenty of room for growth, Richards said the victory was a "glimpse of the hard work beginning to pay off."

With so many young players on the team, a few losses are to be expected as they gain experience. The more games they play, the more the Vikings will hope to improve, and they can turn more of those losses into wins.

"What I'm most excited about is watching this team grow. We're a young group, with only one senior, but our underclassmen have already stepped up in a big way during our first week of play,' Richards said. "The future of the girls' basketball program is looking brighter every day."

WRESTLING

From Page B1

wrestlers competed in the junior varsity tournament, while four wrestled in the varsity division.

Of the four varsity wrestlers, two placed: Gage Mills, who placed 4th in the 215-pound division, and Jacob Mann, who placed 2nd in the 285pound division.

Wartnik said that Mann's

finals match against Lowell's David Finch was potentially the most exciting bout of the 14 finals, and it came down to the very end. Finch is the returning 1A/2A state runner-up, a good matchup for Mann, who also earned a silver medal at last season's state championships.

Though Mann fell behind 8-3 and almost got pinned in the first round, he "fought back relentlessly" till he trailed by only a single point with 36



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seconds left in the match.

"In an attempt to win the match, he released Finch (putting himself at a 14-12 deficit), thinking he could score a three-point takedown to take the lead," Wartnik said. "Though he came very close to scoring that takedown, ultimately he was thwarted and lost 14-12."

The JV Boys placed 10th out of 22 teams, and were led by Yair Brito Xilot and Gabby Sweet, who placed 2nd in their respective weight

Wartnik said the coaching staff was extremely pleased with the effort and growth shown by the entire squad. With the group he has, Wartnik said his hopes for the program are the same as they always are.

"Our goals remain the same: Keep growing in character, savvy, and skill. We are preparing our students for life, not just wrestling. We believe that success is a by-product of preparation," Wartnik said.

In the interest of fostering and encouraging that improvement, nine of Siuslaw's wrestlers (Jacob Mann, Ali Ijaz, Martin Zhen, Gage Mills, Aris Lade, Waylon Griffiths, Molly Mills, Hailey Taylor, and Hannah Richard) attended Purler Wrestling Academy in Missouri this summer.

Wartnik described the training as a "substantial investment," and he and his coaches have begun implementing Purler training methods in their program over the last couple of seasons.

"We are infusing the system more and more in our practices. Assistant coaches Devin White and

Shawn Mann have been instrumental in studying and incorporating the methods in our practices," Wartnik said. "This training has yielded wonderful results. We plan to integrate it more and more as we advance."

It isn't just about training the physical skills either. Wartnik said he wants to work on the mental and executive function skills of Siuslaw's athletes

"Wrestling is won in the mind and heart as much as in the body. We are constantly mentoring our students, customizing our instruction to their individual needs," Wartnik said.

With plenty of competition still to come, there's no telling how much the Vikings will improve throughout the season as they chase becoming their best selves.

Boys

From Page B1

the game and snatch a one-point halftime lead, up 27-26 at the break. The game stayed tight in the third and was even at 36 apiece headed into the fourth. In the final frame, the Vikings got some breathing room and ended up taking the W 53-45.

Preceding that win, Siuslaw attended the Coquille Winter Lakes Classic on Dec. 5-6. They ended up going 1-1 in their two tournament games, beating Toledo in the Vikings' first game 56-41 on Friday afternoon. The next day, Siulsaw was defeated by 4A Junction City, 48-58.

The Coquille Winter Classic offered the

Vikings an opportunity to play against programs they won't see in their league phase as part of what is essentially preseason. The Vikings played Elmira on Dec. 12 at Mac Court on the University of Oregon's campus, and they played Waldport on Dec. 15 at home. The results of those games are unknown at the time of press.

The next matchup for Siuslaw will be against Riddle at the Gold Beach Tourney hosted by Gold Beach High School on Dec. 19-20.

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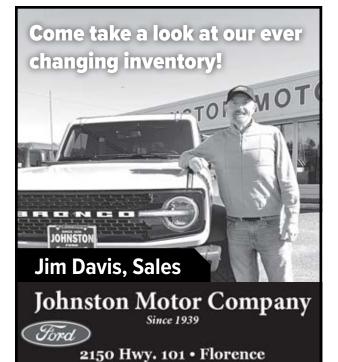


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Oregon Coast Humane Society buys land from County

The Oregon Coast Humane Society (OCHS) is pleased to announce the purchase of 8.66 acres from Lane County for \$500, following a unanimous vote of approval by the Lane County Board of Commissioners on December 2. The approval came after OCHS Executive Director Elizabeth Thompson delivered a compelling presentation outlining the organization's longstanding services, its critical space

limitations, and the importance of securing the property. OCHS has leased the land from Lane County for the past 30 years and built its current shelter-located at 2840 Rhododendron Drive—on the site during that time.

During her presentation, Thompson explained that OCHS outgrew its shelter more than two decades ago and that lack of space has become their biggest barrier to helping more animals. She said that staff currently have a dog living in her office and kittens in the breakroom, imagery that clearly illustrated the urgency of the situation. Commissioner Trieger noted that "kittens in the breakroom" seemed like a fitting metaphor for the many needs and opportunities facing OCHS.

The purchase of the property marks the organization's first major step toward expanding its capacity to serve the community. Thompson

shared that OCHS plans to raise funds for a modern, updated facility designed to meet current animal-care standards, including species-specific HVAC systems and dedicated quarantine areas for sick animals. She also emphasized the importance of developing a road through the property as part of strengthened disaster-preparedness planning.

OCHS continues to grow its impact through programs that support

local pets and the people who care for them. The organization currently feeds 550 pets each month through its Community Pet Food Bank and provides emergency medical vouchers to help pet guardians keep their animals during crises. Its veterinary services—including spay/ neuter surgeries and wellness care—have already served 900 community animals in 2025. Earlier this year, OCHS purchased Oceanside Veterinary

Hospital, allowing the organization to expand veterinary access and significantly increase the number of animals served.

Community members who wish to support the Oregon Coast Humane Society's expansion, or who have experience in fundraising, grant writing, capital campaigns, or animal-shelter construction, are encouraged to contact Executive Director Elizabeth Thompson directly to get involved.

First Citizen nominations are open!!

The First Citizen Committee is asking for nominations for the 2025 Florence First Citizen. Deadline is Jan. 30, 2026.

First Citizen nominees are people who place service above self, donating their time, expertise, and

make our community a wonderful place to live. The award is presented to a Florence area resident who has modeled exemplary citizenship over the years through actions and service to the community. They are people that

in your organization with ideas and time, or they might be leaders of your group, working tirelessly to bring new ideas and projects to fruition.

The First Citizen Committee is committed to diversity, equity and

Citizen Award, we honor those whose compassion and service uplifts all residents in our area and serves as an inspiration to others. We welcome a diverse pool of qualified nominations.

Please email Tasha

gmail.com for the application.

Please email all applications back to tashametzler@gmail.com no later than January 30, 2026. Hard copies may be mailed to the Florence Rotary First Citizen

Florence Oregon, 97439. The award will be presented March 31ST at a special recognition luncheon at the Florence

Events Center. Now is the time to recognize these remarkable individuals in our





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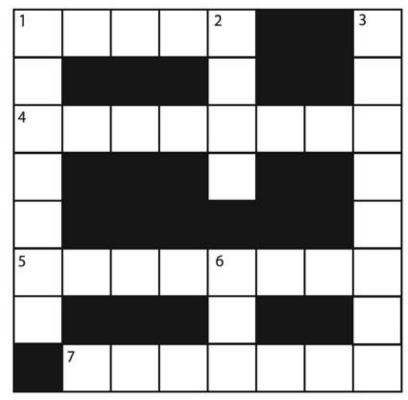




This dessert is made from dough that is either rolled, cut or pressed into shape.

Answer: Cookie

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Chocolate powder
- 4. Fruit growing areas
- 5. Outside of a place
- 7. Eats

DOWN

- 1. Handheld desserts
- 2. Not at home
- 3. Sweet treats
- 6. Fish eggs

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

19

1777: The Continental Army goes into winter quarters at Valley Forge.

1924: The last Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost is sold in London, England.

1941: Adolf Hitler appoints himself as head of the Oberkommando des Heeres.



a small piece of solid chocolate

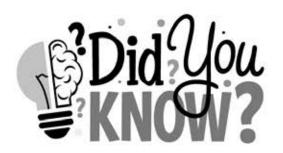
Down

1. Cookies 2. Away 3. Desserts 6. Roe

Across
A. Orchards 5. Exterior 7. Ingests
1. Cocoa 4. Orchards 5. Exterior 7. Ingests



English: Dough Spanish: Masa Italian: Impasto French: Pâte German: Teig



Twisting the cookie cutter when cutting out the cookie dough can prevent the dough from



rising properly and create inconsistent shapes.





Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Rolling pin



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Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

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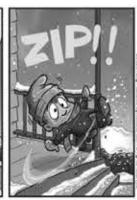
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39

Out on a Limb



MY TAPE STICKS TO EVERYTHING BUTTHE PAPER.



I ONCE USED A WHOLE ROLL OF PAPER TO WRAPA CANDLE.



by Gary Kopervas

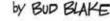








GER



























3. Mouth is open. 4. Roof is smaller. 5. Cap is different. 6. Mitten Differences: I. Mailbox is smaller. 2. Paich on sleeve is higher.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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: U equals G

GH LPO FWXGWTW WTWELFPZL QYP RNLR JYWL'TW HPOVZ N QNJWE-QPEV ENTGVW, G UOWRR LPO'EW UOXXL-FXW.

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Intellect		0		
NABIR	<u>.</u>	 	_	
Guide				
CORSET				

TODAY'S WORD

— King Crossword —

December 15, 2025 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Train alternative
- 4 Tease 7 Former frosh
- 8 Wyoming's -Range
- 10 Valerie Harper sitcom
- 11 Eventually 13 Play dough?
- 16 Observe 17 Concepts
- 18 Sailor
- 19 Peevish fit
- 20 Hardy lass 21 Winner's gesture

33

36

- 23 Seaboard 25 Sneaky
- laughs 26 Mediocre
- 27 Actress
- Gasteyer 28 Flinch, say
- 30 Gratuity
- 33 Work week start, for
- many 36 Some Algonquians
- 37 Smidgens 38 Where the
- action is
- 39 Family
- 40 Chang's brother
- 41 Solo in space 9 City on the
- Loire DOWN

28 29

- Trailblazer Daniel
- 2 High hairstyle 14 Norse god
- 4 Uganda
- neighbor
- 5 Things
- 6 Nitwit
- 7 Loafer, for one
- 8 Apartment
- 10 Apt. divisions 24 African bird
- 3 Giving form to 15 Decade parts
- (Abbr.)
- 19 Serena, to Venus
- 20 Eastern "way" 31 uproar
- Twain sign
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23 Couturier

30 31

- Chanel 12 Breadmaking 25 Scene stealer
 - 26 "The Metamorphosis*
 - protagonist
 - 28 Asian noodles
 - 29 Gawking at 30 Giant
- 21 Snake poison 32 Film ratings 22 "The Woman 34 Challenge
 - in Me" singer 35 The Big Easy acronym

Weekly SUDOKU

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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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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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		N	A	Н			9	N	3			
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Solution time: 24 mins. Answers

1. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first left-handed president?

- 2. GEOGRAPHY: What country is home to the largest cave in the world? 3. MOVIES: Who is the voice of Buzz Lightyear in the "Toy Story" movies?
 4. HISTORY: Who was the first emper-
- or of Rome?
- 5. LITERATURE: In what city is James Joyce's novel "Ulysses" set? 6. TELEVISION: What is the name of Data's cat on "Star Trek: The Next Generation"
- 7. ASTRONOMY: What is an explod-
- ing star called? 8. SCIENCE: What kind of cloud is ssociated with thunderstorms
- U.S. STATES: Which states have no sales tax? 10. ANATOMY: What is the function of the carotid arteries?

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BREAK

Today's Word 3. Brain; 4. Escort 1. Rocket; 2. Devour,

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JOWSUA

- Weekly SUDOKU

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CryptoQuip

the face, neck and brain 10. They supply oxygen-rich blood to nogotO ban onide Delaware, Montana, New Hamp-9. Five states have no sales tax: Alaska, 8. Cumulonimbus 7. A supernova loq2.3 5. Dublin, Ireland

4. Augustus 3. Tim Allen 2. Vietnam L. James Garfield Trivia Answers

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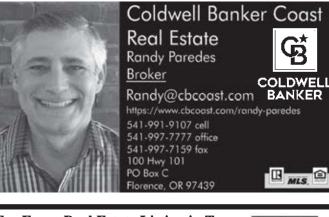
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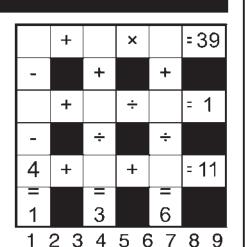
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The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the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

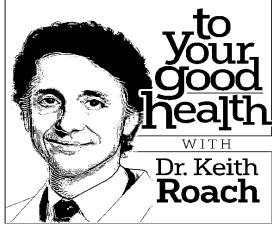
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Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

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. Camelot wizard	м	German capital	В		
2. Parlor game	В	Starr drummer	R		
3. Leisurely walk	T	Manuscript spool	C		
4. Bird community	_ v	Beehive	_ P		
5. Plate metal	W	Аппоу	s		
River beginning	M	Childhood	Y		
Portugal's largest	B	Boxer Sonny			
8. Belt location	_ A	Watch location	_ R		
9. Spaceship		Grandma's chair	R		
10. Holiday song	L	Chocolate alternative	B		
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Discussing Sinus Node Dysfunction and Its Symptoms/Treatment

DEAR DR. ROACH: Last year at age 76, I was diagnosed with sinus node dysfunction after several episodes of what I'd call being "spaced out" (for lack of a better term). I couldn't explain these instances to myself, much less anyone else lest they think I was crazy, until I had one where I passed out. This scared me, and I told my husband, who immediately made a doctor's appointment.

The wise physician assistant sent me to a cardiologist who had me wear a heart monitor for two weeks. During this time, I had another episode that lasted for seven seconds, according to the very alarmed cardiologist. I was immediately scheduled for pacemaker surgery.

Could you please discuss sinus node dysfunction and enlighten me as to what caused it? — G.W.T.

ANSWER: The sinus of your heart has nothing to do with your nose as you might guess; it's a structure in the right atrium where blood flows into the heart from the venae cavae. It contains a structure called the "sinus node" or "sinoatrial node" that serves as the natural pacemaker for the heart.

If the SA node makes an electrical impulse, but it is poorly conducted, this results in an SA block. The sinus node may be too slow (sinus bradycardia), or it may fail to make an impulse for a period of time or even permanently (sinus pauses and sinus arrest). All of these are included in the umbrella term of "sinus node dysfunction" (which used to be called "sick sinus syndrome" since it's accompanied by periods of a too-fast heart rate).

When the sinus node fails to provide an impulse, other pacemakers in the heart will usually provide an "escape" beat,

which prevents the symptom of being "spaced out." Some people describe this as fatigue or lightheadedness. If there is no escape beat, then you will get a sinus pause as you did. When the sinus pause is very long, the person will often faint (which we term "syncope").

One of my fellow residents got a call from the attending cardiologist who was reading the heart monitor of a patient on the inpatient service and had found a sinus pause that lasted for 17 seconds. (I can still recall the cardiologist saying, "Good god, man! Is this patient still alive?" to the utter horror of my fellow resident, who literally ran to the patient's bedside. The patient was alive, fortunately.)

The placement of a permanent pacemaker is the definitive treatment for sinus node dysfunction, but not everyone needs this. It's also important to look for exacerbating factors (especially medicines but also thyroid disease, blockages of the heart arteries, liver disease, and low oxygen, among others) that can affect the sinus node.

These factors can make the disease of the sinus node become symptomatic due to fibrosis of the area around the SA node and its accompanying conduction tissue. Most of the time, no specific cause for sinus node dysfunction can be found, but systemic diseases like amyloidosis, sarcoidosis and hemochromatosis are rare causes of sinus node dysfunction.

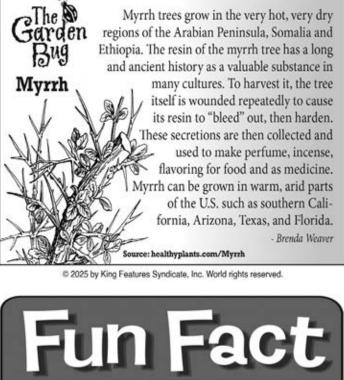
DEAR DR. ROACH: When is a cough considered chronic? — B.B.A.

ANSWER: We do have formal definitions. An acute cough is present for less than three weeks, and infections — both viral (cold, flu, bronchitis) and bacterial (bronchitis, pneumonia) — are the most common causes. A subacute cough is present for three to six weeks. Postinfectious irritability is a common cause, but asthma and chronic rhinitis are also

A chronic cough is present for longer than six weeks. There are many causes, but asthma, reflux disease (GERD), and postnasal drip are the most common. Medications (ACE inhibitors), eosinophilic bronchitis, and certain chronic infections (like pertussis or tuberculosis) should be considered as well.

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

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Here's what to watch and where to watch it for the week of Dec. 22, 2025.

ON NOW: "Him" (R) — Peacock

ON NOW: "Mission: Impossible -The Final Reckoning" (PG-13) Paramount+

22-Dec: "The Closer" (Seasons 1-7)

— Netflix 24-Dec: "Ne Zha 2" (PG-13) -

HBO Max 24-Dec: "Goodbye June" (R) —

Netflix

25-Dec: "Stranger Things" (Season 5, Vol. 2) — Netflix

25-Dec: "The Best You Can" (R) —

Netflix

26-Dec: "The Life of Chuck" (R)

— Hulu

27-Dec: "The Copenhagen Test" (R) — Peacock

29-Dec: "A Royal Residence"

(Docuseries) — Acorn TV © 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

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Waist, Wrist	.8	Stroll, Scroll	3°		
Lisbon, Liston	7	Bingo, Ringo	5.		
Mouth, Youth	.8	Merlin, Berlin	'L		
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Even Exchange



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5262 Nopal St. - \$430,0003 Bdrms, 2 Baths, 1493 SqFt. Coastal charm meets modern living in the desirable Three Mile Prairie neighborhood. #3670-317018212



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