

DISASTER PREP

By Dave Robinson
Special to the Siuslaw News

Oroville evacuation

As I'm writing this, Oroville, Calif., is under a mandatory evacuation order. A couple of days ago, the news reported a large breach in the spillway due to erosion, and the decision was made to lower the water level in the reservoir.

Oroville is midway between Redding, Calif., and Sacramento, a few miles east of Interstate 5. Emergency release orders went into effect late Sunday afternoon accompanied by the evacuation order. In excess of 100,000 cubic feet per second is being released to bring down the water level and minimize impact in the event of further structural failure.

Nearly 200,000 people are in the process of evacuation. Freeways are jammed and gas station/convenience stores are doing a booming business. One evacuee who spoke with a TV reporter said his fifth-wheel trailer was full but there was no diesel available for his pickup — and that he would have to take his chances as he headed for Sacramento.

Others interviewed reported they were going to stay with relatives and others had made hotel reservations before they left home.

This is a textbook example of the necessity of being prepared. If your family has a plan in place, a bag prepared and a destination, then an order-

ly evacuation can take place in very little time and you're way ahead of the crowds (And way less stress on the marriage, I might add.)

The public is being assured that downstream water levels are being kept well below flood stage.

On another note, I want to make a comment on an item I'm sure everyone carries in their camping gear, survival kit or go-bag: The space blanket.

They're available everywhere and fairly inexpensive as well. They take up little space in your bag, but give the impression of being life-saving if needed. I received a "Tact Bivy" for Christmas this year. This is, in essence, a sleeping bag made from the same material as a space blanket. Keep in mind there are various grades of space blanket, but most are a metalized mylar-foil product that claim to keep astronauts comfy in outer space.

The Tact Bivy comes packaged in a nice draw-string nylon bag to keep it folded, rolled and ready for use. Since a few other members of my family also received them for Christmas presents, we decided to give them a try. I pulled mine out of the draw-string bag and unrolled it on the floor. I reached my hands inside to expand it out, the same as you would with a paper sack to open it for use. In doing so, I managed to split a seam about 6 inches

along the side. I did manage to slither inside, fully clothed on the carpet of my living room with no further damage to the Tact Bivy.

Space blanket technology isn't designed to insulate, rather it is designed to reflect body heat. So if you're going to depend on your space blanket to keep you alive out in the elements, you may be wise to use it instead as a fire reflector or windbreak rather than trying to snuggle down out of the cold night air.

Inside the Tact Bivy I did feel an elevation in temperature, but then I was fully clothed in my living room. Reports of shredded space blankets on rocks, sticks or other sharp objects are common on the internet.

So if you still insist on making a space blanket a part of your kit, be sure to spend a little extra and get the heavy duty version, but also make sure a wool blanket is tucked away somewhere as well.

Dave Robinson is the postmaster in Bandon, Ore., and author of "Disaster Prep for the Rest of Us." He may be contacted at disasterprep.dave@gmail.com. Visit his website for more disaster preparedness tips, www.disasterprepdave.blogspot.com.

Bridge crews to work 24 hours a day through March 3

Oregon Department of Transportation reports that Hamilton Construction crews will be on site at the Siuslaw River Bridge working 24 hours a day this week through March 3, with high noise-generating activities expected between 4 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Residents and those passing by can expect to see containment structures begin to move south on the bridge as progress is made.

As requested by residents and the City of Florence, a fence is being placed around the staging yard west of Old Town on Bridge Street. Crews expect for most work to move to the south end of the bridge soon, but there will continue to be a staging yard at that loca-

tion. The Siuslaw River Bridge Cathodic Protection Project is repairing damaged concrete, replacing bridge railings, and constructing sidewalk features at the bridge ends.

A major portion of the project is to install cathodic protection that includes a zinc surface coating to protect the structure from corrosion.

Sandblasting the bridge and spraying the zinc coating are noisy operations that must be done separately, in containment structures. The project is scheduled to be completed in March 2019.

More information on the project is available at www.Siuslawbridge.com.



BINGO!

AT ADA GRANGE #570
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH
5:00pm-Kitchen Opens
Baked Potato Bar, Chicken Noodle Soup
and regular bingo menu.
6:00pm- Bingo!

Questions? Call Nancy 541-997-2380 • 10 Miles out Canary Road



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Wellspring, PeaceHealth offering free pain clinic

Wellspring Clinic, in partnership with PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center, are offering "Points of Grace," a community acupuncture program essentially free of charge to the public.

The program, which Patricia Immel, Licensed Acupuncturist of Wellspring Clinic started years ago, is now being offered weekly through a partnership with PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center's Community Benefit program. "These partnerships are a

valuable opportunity to work toward achieving better patient outcomes, improving community health and delivering more efficient, cost-effective care," said Richard Yecny, Chief Administrative Officer of PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center.

"Acupuncture can offer pain relief that can offset the risk of becoming reliant on medication. By partnering and ensuring that the Points of Grace program continues, we're increasing the community's

access to valuable health services while reducing the risk of addiction to pain medication," Yecny said.

"I've seen individuals who have been suffering from chronic pain as the result of injuries or constant headaches who would come in once a week and begin seeing positive results in their long-term health," said Immel. "We're grateful for this partnership, which allows us to continue offering a more integrative, holistic healthcare model to

those we serve."

The Points of Grace clinic is open to anyone in the community, every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and appointments are not necessary. Because PeaceHealth does not fund POG entirely, it continues to rely on modest donations from attendees to help sustain the program.

Wellspring Clinic is located at 1845 Highway 126 at Park Place, Suite H. For more information, contact Wellspring Clinic at 541-902-8860

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NEW LISTING
Excellent location right in Old Town. Multifamily, 2 units. Each has single parking area
Unit 1: 3 Bdrm, 1 Ba 1375 sq ft
Unit 2: 1 Bdrm, 1 Ba 961 sq ft
\$325,000 BH7408 ML#17484113



NEW LISTING
Charming Old Town area home on 78'x110' corner lot. Covered back porch, oversized detached single garage with upper storage
3 Bdrm, 1 Ba 1080 sq ft
\$169,000 BH7402 ML#17045892



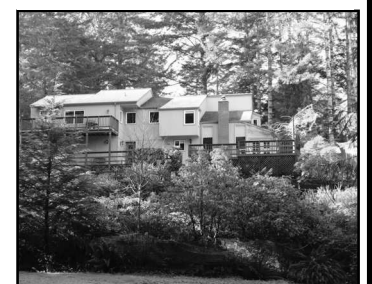
NEW LISTING
In town well cared for vintage home on a 120'x130' lot. Large fenced backyard. Double garage in front with stairs to loft area.
4 Bdrm, 2 Ba 1685 sq ft
\$259,900 BH7403 ML#17697188



NEW LISTING
Townhouse, fully furnished in the heart of Florence
2 Bdrm, 2 1/2 Ba 1368 sq ft
\$210,000 BH7407 ML#17609274



FEATURED LISTING
Heceta South vacant lot. Great deal. Possible owner carry terms.
.31 acres
\$72,000 BH7222 ML#16581452



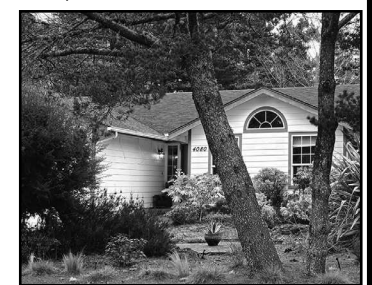
NEW LISTING
Privacy among the trees! Stunning remodeled home with community dock on Woahink Lake
3 Bdrm, 2 full & 2 partial Ba 2538 sq ft
\$550,000 BH7396 ML#17579675



NEW LISTING
Multi family duplex 2 units, each with 1143 sq ft 2 bedroom/1 1/2 bath. Both have private fenced patio areas and attached garages
2 units-2 Bdrm, 1 1/2 bath 1143 sq ft (ea unit)
\$289,900 BH7391 ML#17598038



NEW LISTING
Shelter Cove custom elegance-propane fireplace, double garage-covered back deck & porch
3 Bdrm, 2 Ba 2211 sq ft
\$444,500 BH7395 ML#17196889



NEW LISTING
Well cared for home, private backyard with park like setting adjacent to Munsel Creek. Covered carport, greenhouse & more.
3 Bdrm, 2 Ba 1548 sq ft
\$267,500 BH7404 ML#17241724