

# Siuslaw News

WEDNESDAY

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## 8,000-plus pounds of food contributed at annual 'pounding'

Local business owner and a score of Food Share volunteers worked for hours Saturday collecting supplies for emergency food pantry.



PHOTO BY THERESA BAER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Mon Ami's 14th annual pounding to benefit Food Share, held Saturday at Florence Grocery Outlet, hit a new record by collecting 8,180 pounds of food donated by the community, just in time to fill the shelves at Food Share for the holidays. During the four-hour food drive, volunteers were kept busy boxing more than 1,000 cans of tuna, 1,000 boxes of macaroni and cheese, hundreds of jars of peanut butter, hams and turkeys, and several truckloads containing thousands of canned, boxed, fresh and frozen food items, all of which will be distributed to about 650 families in need in the Florence community over the next few weeks. "Florence may be a small town, but it's got an awfully big heart," said Cindy Wobbe of Mon Ami, who started the pounding in 2001 and has matched the community's donations pound for pound ever since. "Gene and I are so grateful for everyone's generosity, and for the opportunity for us to give back to the town we love." The event is co-sponsored by KCST Radio.



PHOTO BY NED BECKEN/SIUSLAW NEWS

## Santa rolls into Old Town Florence

Mrs. and Mr. Santa Claus arrived in town Saturday evening, Nov. 22, and served as master and mistress of ceremonies for the annual tree-lighting, caroling and visits with people young and old. More photos are on page 8A.



## Write-in votes nearly finalized

By THERESA BAER  
Siuslaw News

The Lane County Elections office announced Monday the final counts in November's write-in votes.

In Dunes City, Ken Platt has been elected to city council with 273 write-in votes. He joins Sheldon Meyer and Duke Wells, who were reelected to positions on the council, as well as Rebecca Ruede, who holds on to her seat as mayor. Among the write-ins were several names of past councilors. Platt received the most votes with 107 write-ins. John Scott won 71. Not all Dunes City voters took the election seriously. Ted Bundy and Charles Manson were also named among the write-ins.

Platt was unavailable for comment at press time. Heceta Water Public Utility District retains most of its roster of commissioners, including Debby Todd, Jim Sievers, Bob Hursh and Chuck Gesik. Write-in votes totaled 25, but the county has not released the finalist in that vote. Six of those write-ins each won a vote of two; of those six names, one is Wendy Rohner, whose position expires this year; however, she did not file for an additional term.

As for state measures, Measure 92 was defeated by such a small margin (0.06 percent) that it is most likely headed for a recount, starting next week. The measure calls for labeling genetically modified foods.

## Public art, finances dredging dominate port discussions

By JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

Three topics dominated the Nov. 19 regularly scheduled Port of Siuslaw board meeting: a presentation on public art by Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) President Harlen Springer; disagreement over the financial state of the port; and approval of the port moorage area dredging permit process.

Springer's presentation was about developing public art sites on port property.

He cited a nationwide 2010 economic impact study on revenue coming into communities through artistic and cultural tourism.

"Cultural and artistic tourists spend more money than regular tourists," Springer said. "These are the kind of tourists we want to bring over. They want to be involved, take a class or workshop. They don't want to just pass through." Springer said that Ashland and Leavenworth were two examples of small Northwest towns that successfully have promoted cultural and artistic tourism.

"Our vision is for the Florence area to be the ultimate destination for the arts," Springer said. "Our mission is to unify and support all the artists, singers, dancers, musicians, the theater, we are going to incorporate all those people."

The FRAA was formed in January 2014. It opened an art center north of town in May. It currently has 100 members, according to Springer.

"The first thing on our future goals is public

See PORT 8A

## Deadlines advance for Thanksgiving week

The Siuslaw News is joining other area businesses by being closed Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 27.

The deadline for line classifieds and public and legal notices for Saturday, Nov. 29, is 10 a.m., Friday, Nov. 28. Deadlines for placement of other news items and advertisements are noon today.



## Cafe & Mercantile

"Where great friends & good food meet."

### This Week's Menu



Scalloped Potatoes & Ham  
Carrot-Ginger Bisque



Grilled Chicken, Bacon Swiss  
Panini on Sourdough  
Fresh Pea Soup



Homestyle Lasagne & Caesar  
Salad  
White Bean & Leek Soup



Savory Roasted Winter  
Vegetable Wrap  
Shrimp Bisque



Smokey Mac & Cheese w/Bacon  
Turkey Vegetable Soup

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Your Weather			
TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly sunny 59 53	Clouds & rain 57 52	Some rain 55 48	Rain 52 45

