



# Siuslaw News

SATURDAY

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## Reynolds accepts Florence city manager position

By CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

On Jan. 20, the Florence City Council unanimously voted to hire Finance Director Erin Reynolds as the new city manager.

City Manager Pro-Tem Larry Patterson said, "Mayor and members of the council, it's my honor as well as

my distinct pleasure to enter into an employment agreement with Erin Reynolds to the position of city manager."

Reynolds said, "I do accept it and I sincerely look forward to working with each



Erin Reynolds

one of you in the next two years at least."

"At least," Mayor Joe Henry said with a smile.

Reynolds' two-year contract begins on March 1, 2015. According to the council meeting packet, her starting salary will be \$105,000.

The council was "happy" to make the offer to Reynolds after meeting

with Patterson to go over the contract in an executive session earlier on Jan. 20.

"We went through the contract pretty extensively," said Councilor Ron Preisler.

After the unanimous vote, Mayor Henry congratulated and thanked Reynolds.

He also said, "Thank you Larry

Patterson for helping to facilitate that for our city. I think it's a great step forward and I think it's going to be a great year."

Councilor Joshua Greene said, "This is a big check off our to-do list."

"That was goal No. 1," Mayor Henry said.

See CITY 6A

## STAIRRY STAIRRY NIGHT



PHOTOS BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

**Clockwise from top left: Chamber Executive Director Cal Applebee congratulates Jon Thompson from KCST Radio for receiving the Community Caring award. Cindy Wobbe displays her First Citizen award, next to Courtney King who was named the Future First Citizen. Woody Woodbury shows his Distinguished Service award. Ron Green holds the coveted Stu Johnston Business of the Year award won by Oregon Pacific Bank.**

## OPB, WOBBE EARN TOP HONORS AT ANNUAL SIUSLAW AWARDS

By JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

Both businesses and individuals received accolades from members of the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce at the Florence Events Center Wednesday evening, Jan. 21, during the eighth annual Siuslaw Awards banquet.

Cindy Wobbe was chosen from among three nominees to receive the First Citizen award. Her resume of philanthropic endeavors included creating and overseeing the annual food pounding for Florence Food Share for 14 years.

"Cindy is selfless, seeks no recognition,

always thanks those around her and prefers to be in the background," Mayor Joe Henry said. "She encourages all those around her to support wonderful causes in our community."

"I am humbled and very grateful," Wobbe said. "I love this community. I love being a part of it. This is a very special evening for a lot of people and I'm thankful to be here and to be recognized."

Future First Citizen award recipient is Siuslaw High School student Courtney King, daughter of Laurie and Dennis King.

Siuslaw School District Superintendent Ethel Angal presented the award.

"Courtney shows genuine caring for those around her and is always willing to help," Angal said. "She strives to learn and improve herself in all that she does."

King said, "I'm honored to receive this award. I'm grateful for this community. I've loved growing up here."

From a list of five nominees, Oregon Pacific Bank was chosen to receive this year's Stu Johnston Business of the Year award.

Award presenter Cal Applebee, chamber

executive director, said, "Thirty-five years ago, Oregon Pacific Bank was founded on a culture of caring about the community. They promote that philosophy of giving back, both in dollars and volunteer hours."

Accepting the award was Oregon Pacific Bank President and CEO Ron Green.

Green said, "It is our honor to be recognized tonight, especially with the name 'Stu Johnston' on the award. He was such a pivotal part of this community."

"Anything we can do to carry on the tradition of what Stu did for the Florence business community is really our honor. Florence is everything to Oregon Pacific Bank. We are so indebted to this community," he added.

Woody Woodbury, owner of Grocery Outlet, received the Distinguished Service award.

Other awards included: Community Caring, given to Coast Broadcasting, KCST radio; Excellence in Customer Service, presented to Siuslaw Broadband; Nonprofit Achievement, awarded to Western Lane Community Foundation; and Curb Appeal went to The Chicken Coop.

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TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly sunny	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly cloudy
59 46	62 46	61 49	57 49



## Emergency department fundraiser nears completion

Peace Harbor Medical Center only \$120K short of \$5M goal for major expansion

By JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

One of the largest fundraising efforts in the history of Florence is nearing completion. The \$5 million goal to expand the PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center emergency department (ED) is just \$120,000 short of completion.

Michelle Douglas, the hospital's director of development released the updated figure Jan. 23, following the hospital foundation's Circle of Giving Celebration Dinner.

"We had people hand us checks during the dinner," Douglas said.

By the end of the evening, more than \$18,000 had been received, bringing the total remaining amount needed to approximately \$120,000.

Prior to the dinner, Kay King, chairwoman of the Leave A Legacy: Save A Life emergency department campaign, said the total amount raised was \$4,861,321.

The \$5 million expansion will double the size of the current ED to more than 7,500 square feet, and includes six private treatment rooms, two trauma rooms, a centralized nurse station and a secure treatment room for potentially violent patients.

"The very fact that a city of our population and the surrounding areas can raise this much for such a worthy cause is an amazing feat," Douglas said. "I am grateful for every single donor that helped us get this far."

The ED expansion campaign has been an ongoing three-year fundraising effort.

"We recently received a large gift of more than \$900,000, which puts the campaign very close to being done," Douglas said.

King added, "The M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust has challenged the community. They will donate \$250,000, if the community can raise the last \$120,000."

Douglas said, "The exciting thing is that we have a guaranteed maximum price (GMP) from Skanska USA Building, Inc., which also built our central utilities plant. The GMP is good through June 30. If we break ground before that then the GMP stands."

During the Circle of Giving Celebration Dinner, Dr. A. J. Brauer, of Florence, was presented the Nat Guistina Philanthropy Award.

PeaceHealth Medical Group President and Chief Mission Officer Alan Yordy made the presentation on behalf of the entire PeaceHealth Medical Group.

"This is an award that recognizes individuals who have given not only substantial financial resources, but also their time and talent over many years in support of PeaceHealth," Douglas said. "Dr. Brauer is only the fifth recipient in the 10 years that this award has existed."



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