

**LCC** from 1A

In addition to his on-the-ground work at LCC in green building and sustainability, his research interests include social science, particularly environmental issues and their relationship to the faith community. LCC has signed a two-year contract with Pierson as the interim director of the Florence Center.

"I'm looking forward to working with the Florence community and to build on the work that Mary Jeanne has done," Pierson said.

Pierson plans to be actively involved in the Florence community, working with the Siuslaw School District, local government and charitable organizations.

Kuhar, who has been the Florence center director since March 2011, said, "I will continue to work with the Florence center. Russ will report to me. I will still get to be involved with the college and community in Florence."

Kuhar also will oversee the LCC Cottage Grove center, downtown center and the aviation academy at the Eugene Airport.

"Russ is well grounded in the LCC culture," Kuhar said. "He has a good background in facilities. He also has a strong background working with students needing financial aid."

Pierson's first official day will be Monday, March 9. He also will be at a community conversation meeting at the Florence center that day from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 3149 Oak St.

# City manager joins team

*Erin Reynolds officially swears in to Florence position*

By CHANTELLE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

Florence City Council welcomed Erin Reynolds as city manager on March 2.

"The next order of business is one of the more enjoyable things I've gotten to do since I was mayor, and that is to install our new city manager, Erin Reynolds," said Mayor Joe Henry.

"We're just very proud to have you," he said to Reynolds.

Reynolds said, "Thank you, mayor and council. Thank you for having me and hiring me and I look forward to serving you."



PHOTO BY CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

**Mayor Joe Henry swears in City Manager Erin Reynolds on March 2. Reynolds continues her 3-1/2 years of working for Florence with a two-year contract. The community is invited to meet Reynolds March 17 at the FEC.**

"She was goal No. 1 for us for the year," said Henry. "So we refer to her as 'Goal No. 1.'"

Reynolds said, "Not only am I really excited to work for the

newly elected council, but I also have a great team to work with here at the City of Florence."

Reynolds went on to say, "No success comes just by one

person. That's just the way I was raised. I was raised by a great team, by my family, first my parents and siblings, and secondly my new family that I got by marrying my husband Greg. The Reynolds family has been amazing.

"And then, my family that came as friends all along my life, including here in Florence, and I have people who have traveled from afar. Thank you everyone for coming. I love you. You are a great part of my team."

Henry said, "Erin's family is here in great part this evening. What a great looking family and we certainly appreciate your raising a fine young person like this to be our new city manager."

The community is invited to meet Reynolds at a Meet and Greet hosted by the City of Florence on Tuesday, March 17, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

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**Clinic** from 1A

Dr. Taggart earned his medical degree from Oregon Health and Science University in 1976. His special medical interests include adolescent and adult primary care, cardiovascular disease, and sports medicine.

Dr. Mildred Rowley has been in family practice for over 25 years, with a strong interest in preventive and integrated medicine.

Dr. John Egar received his medical degree from Case Western University in Ohio. He



PHOTO BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

**Dr. Phillip Taggart, Dr. Mildred Rowley and Dr. John Egar of McKenzie Primary Care Associates**

is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

The clinic is affiliated with the McKenzie-Willamette Medical Center in Springfield and plans to have specialists from the center visit the Florence clinic regularly.

MPCA Clinic Manager Kathy Blakeslee said, "The McKenzie-Willamette administration is looking at different services we can tap into for this clinic. A vascular surgeon and a cardiologist will be at the clinic twice a month. Other specialists, including physical therapy and cardiac rehabilitation, will be visiting as well."

Citing other potential medical services that the clinic would like to address in the future, Dr. Taggart said, "There is a real shortage of mental health providers here on the coast."

"And there is only one dermatologist that comes over from the valley," Taggart continued. "She doesn't see new patients, she only sees follow-up patients. It takes two months to see her. This

is a grossly under-served community with a high number of elderly patients."

According to Taggart, the clinic draws its own lab tests in house and processes them in Eugene.

"There are a few exceptions," he said. "If the patient is difficult to draw or the results are needed quickly, such as staph infection, we have the patient go to the PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center lab."

The clinic does not have radiology services at this time. It sends patients to the Peace Harbor radiology department.

"In my opinion, the radiology department at Peace Harbor is outstanding. We can send somebody over for an X-ray and have a typed report in less than an hour," Taggart said. "We also have good relationships with Home Health and Hospice services, and the emergency department at the hospital."

The McKenzie clinic is participating in a new Veterans Administration (VA) policy called VA Choice.

Veterans must apply for a new insurance card that, if they live more than 47 miles from Eugene, allows them to see a physician in the Florence area.

"Most vets have had to get their care either in Roseburg or Portland," Taggart said. "Now, with this new card, they will essentially have a doctor in the Florence area. This saves an immense amount of money and time. They will still get their medications through the VA, and we have to get approval to do certain procedures."

"We are seeing eight to 10 new vets a week; people who have lived in the community for years. Now they have the convenience of seeing a physician here as opposed to having to go out of the area. The veterans are pretty excited about it."

According to Taggart, the McKenzie clinic is the only Florence-area medical facility currently signed up for VA Choice. All three doctors are accepting new patients.

McKenzie Primary Care Associates hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; phone: 541-997-1251.

For details, check our website at  
[www.fraaoregon.org](http://www.fraaoregon.org)

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2015 March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 3 pm - 6 pm Oil Painting w/Michael Wood	3	4	5	6	7 9 am - 12 pm Oil Painting w/John Leisure 2 pm - 4 pm Water Media w/Silvia Trujillo
8	9 3 pm - 6 pm Oil Painting w/Michael Wood	10 1 pm - 4 pm Bead/Weaving Bracelet w/Elaime Williams	11	12 10 am - 12 pm FREE DEMO: Woodcarving w/Keith Garvey FREE 1 pm - 4 pm Tangle in Color w/Rosie Hill	13	14 9 am - 12 pm Oil Painting w/John Leisure 2 pm - 4 pm Water Media w/Silvia Trujillo 3 pm - 5 pm 2nd Saturday Gallery Tour
15	16 1 pm - 2:30 pm Copic Markers w/Rosie Hill 3 pm - 6 pm Oil Painting w/Michael Wood	17	18 4 pm - 5 pm Speakeasy: 30 Day Challenge FREE	19	20	21 9 am - 12 pm Oil Painting w/John Leisure 2 pm - 4 pm Water Media w/Silvia Trujillo
22	23 3 pm - 6 pm Oil Painting w/Michael Wood	24	25	26	27 10 pm - 3 am Used Art Supply Sale FREE	28 9 am - 12 pm Oil Painting w/John Leisure 2 pm - 4 pm Water Media w/Silvia Trujillo
29	30 3 pm - 6 pm Oil Painting w/Michael Wood	31				

The wait for primary care is over.

**McKenzie Primary Care Associates welcomes new providers.**

John Egar, M.D. (board-certified, internal medicine), and Mildred Rowley, M.D. (board-certified, family practice), have joined the team at McKenzie Primary Care Associates. Along with Phillip Taggart, M.D. (board-certified, internal medicine), they welcome new patients at their Florence location. **Medicare, Medicaid and most insurance plans welcome. Ask us about preventive care services your health insurance may cover at no cost to you.**

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McKenzie

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