

In case of emergency

Emergency response leaders tour possible relief shelters



PHOTO BY CHANTELE MEYER/SUSLAW NEWS

More than 90 people attended a display from Western Shelter at Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) Station No. 1 on April 13. Representatives from coastal communities and Western Lane Emergency Operations Group (WLEOG) stakeholders listened to presentations and toured two shelter models that could be used for operations, hospitals and housing facilities when disaster strikes. "It was very informative and a great opportunity to interact with the other agencies," said one attendee. SVFR also hosted an Emergency Response Forum that afternoon.

FRAA artwork displayed at FEC all month

The Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) is presenting an eclectic art exhibit at the Florence Events Center throughout the month of April.

All artwork is for sale, and can be viewed weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Many media types are represented, including water color, oil, acrylic, encaustic, transparent watercolor, pastel, paper painting collage, photography, bone carving and gel pen.

The public is also invited to

attend an artist's reception April 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. This is an opportunity to come and meet the artists, view their work, and enjoy refreshments.

Participating artists are: Francine Derus, Mary Tuck, Kat Cunningham, Kathryn Damon-Dawson, Greg Stender, Carol Stender, Patricia Ball, Lily Whitney, Karen Nichols, Jan Woodford, Claudia Ignatieff, John Leasure, Gary Welton, and guest artist Rick Boudreaux.

Walk, run Health Fair 5K

The annual Community Health Fair 5K Fun Run and Walk will take place Sunday, April 19. It starts and ends at the Florence Events Center, following a familiar route through Old Town, out Rhododendron Drive and back.

Day-of-race registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the 5K starts at 9 a.m.

Participants can pre-register at florenceorhealthfair@gmail.com.

Entry forms are also available at Coastal Fitness. The \$20 entry fee helps benefit the Friends of Florence cancer van.

Each registrant receives a commemorative T-shirt, ribbon, and refreshments after the event.

Businesses and civic groups are encouraged to enter. The largest group registered together under the same organizational name will receive a plaque recognizing their achievement and appreciation for their contribution in advertising and publicity.

The annual Community Health Fair started Friday, April 17, and continues Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19, at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

This year marks the fifth anniversary of the event that typically draws hundreds of people and provides an opportunity to speak on matters of interest to women, men, seniors, kids and even pets, with a wide range of healthcare experts.

On Saturday, enjoy a free lunch provided by the Seventh-day Adventist Church at 1 p.m., then choose from a variety of helpful seminars by experts from across a variety of disciplines starting every half hour from 2 to 5:30 p.m.

The annual Community Health Fair is presented by the Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church and underwritten by Korando Dental Group.

For more information, call 541-999-2052.

WORD ON THE STREET

HAVE A QUESTION WE SHOULD ASK?

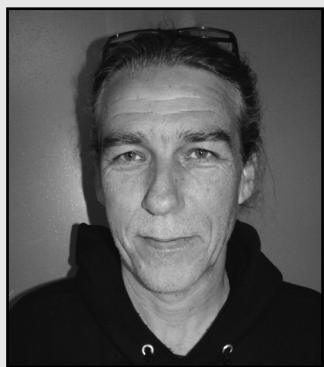
EMAIL: EDITOR@THESUSLAWNEWS.COM

How do you feel about raising minimum wage to \$15 per hour?



"It would probably hurt small businesses, like BJ's, because they'd have to spend more. (Food) would probably go up in price. In the long run, you'd be making more, but at the same time you'd be spending more."

—JACOB BERKNER, 22
BJ'S ICE CREAM PARLOR
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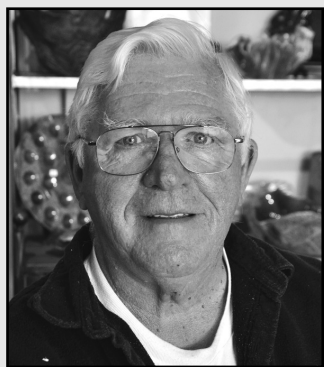
"I believe that currently, wages are not enough to sustain life. Something has to give. If your business plan doesn't allow enough to pay people a fair wage, it's not a fair business plan."

—RICHARD DREILING, 51
FLORENCE



"I think it could be very difficult for small businesses. I would love to be able to give employees that amount. The laborers are the backbone — they're invaluable. But I'm not sure it's feasible at this time."

—ROBERTA ROBIN, 78
MCKENZIE RIVER AREA



"I think it's a noble idea. But I also feel it's going to add a tremendous burden to many business owners, especially small business owners."

—JOE THISSELL, 72
FLORENCE

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