

Siuslaw News  
P.O. Box 10  
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Opinion

VIEW FROM UPRIVER



Mapleton’s scaled-down 4th

WESLEY VOTH  
For the Siuslaw News

the small donations placed in hats around Mapleton and by people supporting their local businesses who in turn are among the big donors. And this year, for reasons that needn’t be spread further than they already are, Terry no longer has access to the dock just above the mouth of Knowles

Creek and Mapleton Bridge that has been the launching pad for the legally sanctioned — state and county permitted — fireworks for the past 15 years. He learned of this too late to make other arrangements.

Part of the state and county permitting process involves submitting a plot map with distances and structures and sight lines. Even a small change of location means re-measuring and reconfiguring, something Terry plans to do and have in place for next year. Even when there aren’t changes, the hard to obtain permits have to be approved at least 30 days in advance, and in hand to legally purchase that level of fireworks. To get a decent price on the products, the earlier before that the better. Terry says he enjoys doing the fireworks, and wishes things had worked out to

have the show as usual this year. His disappointment was evident when we spoke this last week.

So, it is a bit of a mystery what the Fourth will be like here. Many Mapleton people that I’ve talked to plan their usual gatherings along the river anyway, and it will be interesting to see what people do in the absence of the usual official fireworks display. Who knows, it may turn out to be even more memorable if people have to be entirely responsible for their own entertainment. I hope we can all do so safely and with tolerance.

This weekend, June 26-28, is the annual Highway 36 Yard Sale. Highway 36 begins in Mapleton at the confusing intersection with Highway 126 and continues on 54 miles to Junction City along some of the most scenic country around. The highway traces the Lake Creek arm of the Siuslaw Watershed, around Triangle Lake, to the top of Low Pass and down in to the Long Tom Watershed through Goldson and Cheshire.

And in Mapleton, like many of the other small communities along the route, signs will attempt to entice folks a little away from the highway itself. In other places, people bring their goods down from the creeks and hollows to the highway to sell.

It is always fun.

YESTERDAY’S NEWS

MOMENTS IN TIME  
The History Channel

• On July 4, 1826, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, the second and third presidents of the United States, respectively, die on the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. Both men had been central in drafting the historic document.

• On June 30, 1859, Frenchman Emile Blondin becomes the first daredevil to walk across Niagara Falls on a tightrope. Wearing pink tights and a yellow tunic, Blondin crossed a cable about 2 inches in diameter and 1,100-foot long using only a balancing pole.

• On July 5, 1865, in London, revivalist preacher William Booth and his wife Catherine establish the Christian Mission, modeled after the British army, with women given ranks equal with men. In 1878, the organization was renamed the Salvation Army, and two years later the first U.S. branch opened in Pennsylvania.

• On July 2, 1881, President James A. Garfield is shot as he walks through a railroad waiting room in Washington, D.C. His assailant, Charles J. Guiteau, was a disgruntled and perhaps insane office seeker. Garfield died 80 days later of blood poisoning.

• On July 1, 1951, Cleveland Indians ace Bob Feller pitches the third no-hit game of his career, making him the first modern pitcher ever to throw three no-hitters. Feller made his first start in 1936, when he was just 17.

• On July 3, 1985, the blockbuster action-comedy “Back to the Future,” in which the iconic DeLorean concept car is transformed into a time-travel device, premieres.

• On June 29, 1995, the American space shuttle Atlantis docks with the Russian space station Mir to form the largest man-made satellite ever to orbit the Earth. It was the 100th human space mission in U.S. history.

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LETTERS TO THE  
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The Siuslaw News welcomes letters to the editor concerning issues affecting the Florence area and Lane County.

Emailed letters are preferred. Handwritten or typed letters must be signed. All letters should be limited to about 300 words and must include the writer’s full name, address and phone number for verification.

Letters are subject to editing for length, grammar and clarity. Publication of any letter is not guaranteed and depends on space available and the volume of letters received.

Libelous and anonymous letters as well as poetry will not be published.

All submissions become the property of Siuslaw News and will not be returned.

Write to:  
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A Parent’s Guide to SUMMER EMOTICONS

HAPPY



SAD



GRUMPY



MAD



SURPRISED



BORED



EXCITED



TIRED



CONFUSED



ANNOYED



LETTERS

Get off the  
fast track

It’s a shame that the fast-track trade authority bill for the president and the Trans-Pacific Partnership passed. That shows us how much corporate power there is in this country. Unfortunately, that power is only going to increase with the passage of the TPP.

What have the Free Trade Agreements done for us so far?

They have provided a lot of cheap goods and profits for the wealthiest corporations at the

expense of American jobs, the exploitation of resources and workers in other countries, and a major contribution to climate change through constant global transport of goods.

It makes me want to not buy a darn thing.

Julie MacFarlane  
Florence

Being considerate

We recently had a “pedestrian crossing safety enforcement program” in Florence, which helps pedestrian safety but occasionally nabs someone who perhaps

shouldn’t be. It can be difficult to determine if someone happens to be standing on a corner, and not moving forward, whether that person is going to cross.

Well, on Saturday, I was heading south on Highway 101 in Florence and the traffic was stopped in both directions. I was in the third row back southbound and couldn’t see why traffic was stopped.

Finally, after some delay, traffic began moving. The reason for the long delay was someone had crossed 101 while walking slowly and doing something on a

hand-held device. Perhaps there was an emergency and the person crossing had to attend to it immediately with their device.

But if it wasn’t, I think this was an extremely inconsiderate and selfish act.

I ask that we all try to be considerate of others while being a driver or a pedestrian to help make everyone’s travels easier, by handling emergencies on our phones on the sidewalk or crossing the street swiftly while texting.

James A. O’Connell  
Florence

WHERE TO WRITE

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