

'Our Town' to expand its reach with sister station

Coast Radio's award-winning monthly public affairs program, Our Town, is expanding its reach.

The program has aired on KCST, 106.9 FM, for more than two decades. Now, it will air twice more on KCFM, a sister station to KCST that airs on three signals in the Florence and Mapleton areas: AM 1250; FM 104.1 and FM 103.1.

"The goal is to reach out to other listeners who can't hear to the regular first Wednesday of each month broadcast," says Coast Radio general manager Jon Thompson.

He added that the locally owned and operated station is

hoping to reach more people with the interesting stories and community information on the show.

Thompson was the show's first host, when it was called The Community Forum, and he put it on the air not long after KCST began broadcasting in the fall of 1988.

Current host Bob Sneddon took over the show in 1998. Four years ago, it was expanded to include several topics each month and renamed Our Town.

The expanded offerings will include rebroadcast on KCFM the next morning, after the first Wednesday, beginning at 10

a.m. The same show will then air, in its entirety, again the following Sunday, also at 10 a.m.

Our Town is also posted on the station's website, www.kcst.com, the day following the first airing. Previous programs are also archived on the website.

The July 1 show will feature interviews with the founder of Minutes of Gold, a nonprofit organization aimed at helping grieving families with a still-born child. Sneddon will also speak with the central coast legislative delegation to Salem.

State Representative Caddy McKeon and State Senator Arnie Roblan will discuss the

nearly ended session.

An in depth interview with founders and drivers of the Oregon Coast Military Museum will also be featured.

Our Town on Coast Radio is sponsored by Andy Baber, Edward Jones Investments; The Archives, Photo Restoration Specialists; Holloway and Associates CPAs; Peace Health Peace Harbor Medical Center; Lane Community College in Florence and Siuslaw Public Library.

Video broadcasts of some segments of Our Town can be viewed on Charter Cable channel 191.

'HAM' RADIO OPERATORS HAVING 'FIELD DAY' TODAY AT SUTTON

Florence ham radio operators will join thousands of amateur radio operators across the U.S. and Canada to demonstrate their effectiveness and proficiency in providing critical communications after a catastrophic event such as an earthquake or tsunami.

On the weekend of June 27-28, members of the Central Oregon Coast Amateur Radio Club (COCARC) will establish four amateur radio stations capable of communicating all over the world at Sutton Campground in group area A.

Beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 27, local hams will operate these stations continuously for 24 hours.

During that time they will communicate with other stations in Canada, the United States and Oceania to test abilities, equipment and practices.

One station will be dedicated to public education and information, where members of the public are invited to get on the air.

This year the club will be assisting members of Troop 777 of the Boy Scouts of America to obtain their radio merit badges. This will be an exciting educational experience for the members, and for Fire and Police Department staff, city staff and the community at large.

Field Day is the largest amateur radio event in the world. Last year, more than 2,700 different groups and more than 40,000 licensed operators all across the U.S. and Canada participated in this event.

This year, ham operators will construct emergency radio stations at fire stations, parks, shopping malls, schools and

back yards all around the country. The Amateur Radio slogan, "When All Else Fails, Ham Radio Works" is more than just words.

Hams will again demonstrate their ability to send messages in many forms without the use of phone systems, internet or any other infrastructure that may be compromised in a crisis.

Over the past several years, the news of catastrophic events around the world and here at home have summoned ham operators to volunteer their skill and equipment to aid in saving lives and protecting property.

There are more than 700,000 FCC licensed Amateur Radio operators in the U.S., and more than 2.5 million around the world. Hams voluntarily, and at no charge, provide emergency communications for thousands of state and local emergency response agencies.

COCARC maintains and operates emergency communications stations at the Florence Justice Center and the Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue hall, as well as adjunct equipment in other community facilities in town and a powerful 2-meter repeater on Herman Peak.

Wildfires, blizzards, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis; all these and more are the events Hams endeavor to prepare for and Field Day is a valuable tool to exercise and cultivate readiness and capabilities.

The Central Oregon Amateur Radio Club invites the public to participate in Field Day 2015.

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HELP HABITAT BUILD & REPAIR HOUSES

The Habitat Faith Relations Committee is hosting a Yard Sale to benefit Florence Habitat construction and repair programs. They are soliciting donations of all items, except clothing.

**Donations can be dropped off at
2017 40th Street.
Call Shirley Kilmer
541-997-4010
to arrange drop-off time.**

SALE DATES: July 2nd, 3rd and 4th.
PLACE: 2075 40th Street, Florence
TIMES: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

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