

Police arrest Florence man for rape, sex abuse

STAFF REPORT
Siuslaw News



Christopher Bryers

into the report on Monday. Bryers was arrested and taken to Lane County Jail the next day.

According to Lt. John Pitcher, the case is still under investigation and additional charges are pending.

A Florence man was arrested earlier this week following a report of possible sex abuse involving a female victim under the age of 18.

Christopher Gordon Bryers, 37, is facing multiple charges of rape, sex abuse, sodomy and harassment after Florence Police began an investigation

Stagecoach Road will be closed during the day on Aug. 11-12

A stretch of Stagecoach Road will be closed on Tuesday, Aug. 11, and Wednesday, Aug. 12, for culvert replacement.

The road, 4.1 miles east of Swisshome, will be closed from milepost 6.59 to milepost

7.57 both days between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Alternate routes include taking Highway 36 to Mapleton, or taking Highway 126 to Richardson Road and then turning left onto Stagecoach Road.

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Lunch from 1A

The Free Lunch program is funded by donations and through an annuity established several years ago and managed by the Western Lane Community Foundation. The United Methodist Church also holds an annual fundraiser for the program. Food Share provides bread and desserts.

Last year, the program received a \$1,000 grant from the Kiwanis Foundation for kitchen upgrades. Earlier this year the program was in danger of closing because of a lack of volunteers.

"In February the program almost died because many of the volunteers had gotten so old," Team Florentine supervisor Beth Newell explained. "We got a group from Florentine Estates together to get enough volunteers to fill in the necessary slots."

Mann-Heintz said, "This represents yet another successful cooperative venture in our generous community."

Anyone interested in volunteering or helping support the Florence Free Lunch program can call Suzanne Mann-Heintz at 541-590-0779.



JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

Team Florentine volunteers Susan Lyons and Tom Gosner dish up hearty vegetarian chili and Cajun sausage and rice soup during the Florence Free Lunch program last week. Guests also enjoyed bread, coffee and dessert. The program turned 20 years old in July.

Rhody from 1A

"Not only are we breaking ground today, it's groundbreaking," Henry said.

The road reconstruction will include a grind/inlay of a two-inch thick hot mix asphalt cement (HMAC) roadway surface along Rhododendron Drive from Ninth to Wild Winds streets.

Henry used the city's jackhammer to "break ground" on the street.

"I always wanted to do that," he said.

City Manager Erin Reynolds said, "We're doing just the roads right now, and we'll do the two 6-foot shoulders in the spring."

The shoulders will be a multi-use path for pedestrians and cyclists and will be part of

the Rhody Drive project's continuation in 2016.

"Be patient," Reynolds advised drivers and neighbors. "We'll be doing roadwork for the next week or two."

One bystander said, "We're ready to repair this road!"

Henry thanked city staff for their work in preparing the site, guiding traffic and securing the contractor, Wildish Construction Company.

"I want to thank you all for coming," Henry said. "I want to thank Mike Miller and his department for figuring out a way to save us quite a bit of money on this project; ... Erin and her staff, especially Andy Parks, the finance director, for finding a way to get this thing going for us; all the councilors for your support and all you fine citizens for your taxes so we can do this."

Cinemas from 1A

conclusion that almost all the theaters along the Oregon coast were the standard commercial theaters, running cur-

rent movies and not much else.

"With our background, we thought, what if we did a hybrid model, where we could do commercial, but we could also do art house and performing arts?" Falter said.

"There is a very distinct audience here in Florence," he continued. "There is a large retirement population, but there are a lot of families as well. If we are doing our job right, we should get them to come to the theater and have enlightening experiences, entertaining experiences, community experiences, a lot of education outreach. That's where our heart is. We need the commercial to pay some bills. But it's the other stuff that gets us excited."

Since acquiring the shuttered theater, Falter and Tive have done major lobby renovations, including new carpet; installing an upgraded sound system; and adding beer and wine to the refreshment counter menu. Future upgrades are also planned.

Two recent events at City

Lights, "American Bear" and "I am 11," underscore Falter and Tive's passion for community outreach. Both films were brought in as school events.

"Twice we had school kids in theater four, the big house," Falter said. "The first time was for 'American Bear,' which was a sweet little documentary, and we had the couple that directed the film there interacting with the kids. That I loved. I can't get enough of that."

"The same thing with 'I am 11,' which was such a great film for middle school kids to see because it illustrated what 11-year-old kids in India and all over the world felt, their thoughts and concerns. It was so great for them to see their own age being represented on film," he added.

Current 3D technology is different than the 3D movies so popular in the 1960s, when viewers put on paper glasses with one blue lens and one red lens. Today, 3D still requires glasses, but the most popular system, like the one at City Lights Cinemas, uses polar-

ized lenses.

The glasses are available for purchase at \$2 per pair and may be used for any future 3D movie the viewer sees. People may also bring in their own polarized glasses, but Falter does not recommend polarized sunglasses. People with existing eyewear can bring polarized lenses that clip over their frames if they choose.

The first big 3D blockbuster City Lights hopes to show will be "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," due to come out in December.

In addition to the 3D theater experience, City Lights is considering adding the Bolshoi Dance Company and other performance groups to its current performing arts offerings.

The Aug. 13 reception and viewing of "Casablanca" is free to City Lights members. The movie is open to the general public at regular theater prices. City Lights is holding a membership drive and anyone who signs up for the annual membership during the evening will see the movie for free.



5th Annual

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Florence In Bloom is locally owned and operated by local residents who are passionate in the floral industry and know how important it is to serve their community with the level of service they too would expect to receive themselves. We thank the community for it's many years of support and look forward to many more years of community involvement.

We invite you to stop in Florence In Bloom at the corner of Rhododendron and Kingwood or call us at 541-997-5391.

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