

# GENERAL NEWS

## View holiday tree festival this weekend

Today and tomorrow, the annual Festival of Trees will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Florence Events Center.

A donation of \$3 is suggested to attend.

There will be light refresh-

ments available and Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available for pictures.

Wreaths will be available for purchase as well.

All funds raised will benefit the Oregon Coast Military Museum.

## Soroptimists prepare food baskets, toys

Saturday, Dec. 19, is the day of the Florence Soroptimists' annual food basket and toy giveaway for residents of Florence and Mapleton.

This year, the Florence Soroptimists are planning to serve more than 400 families with items purchased, boxed and handed-out to children and families that might not receive holiday food and gifts otherwise.

Any leftover food is donated to Florence Food Share to help in the weeks after Christmas.

Soroptimist members will be in the same locations as last year: at Siuslaw Middle School for the food dispersal and at the Nazarene Church for the toy dispersal.

There is an increased need for cash for the food purchase. Money is needed as soon as possible so the staff can make the purchases in time for distribution.

The gift basket program is a town-wide event headed by the Soroptimist of Florence club members, along with support from the Kiwanis and Rotary.

Volunteers from several nonprofit groups and students



COURTESY PHOTO

Soroptimists hope to provide 400 families with holiday food and toys this Christmas.

from the Siuslaw High school Key Club, Leadership Club and Siuslaw Interact Club will help out on the day of the event.

Trees will be set up by Soroptimists in local businesses with baskets for donat-

ed toys.

New, unwrapped toys for children from ages 1 to 12 years old are requested.

Donations can also be sent to Soroptimist of Florence, P.O. Box 1209, Florence, OR 97439.

Contacts for toys are Michelle Fraley at 541-997-3434 or Shasta McMullen at 541-997-2413.

Contact for food is Carol Bennett at 541-997-9766.

Please send donations marked "food basket."

**LEE OMLID** ATTORNEY

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## FACC asks for socks to share with those in need

"Holiday Stockings" is the theme for December's meeting of the Florence Area Community Coalition, set for Wednesday, Dec. 2, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the Bromley Room at the Siuslaw Public Library.

Attendees are asked to bring socks for distribution to

Siuslaw Outreach Services, Helping Hands and the Cold Weather Shelter.

As the holiday frenzy builds, the community is reminded that not all of us find this time of year exciting and joyful.

For some, holidays bring sad memories, feelings of

isolation and loneliness, and economic stress.

Participants at December's meeting are invited to share information about holiday activities and resources, from bazaars to charitable projects to support groups.

The mission of the

Florence Area Community Coalition is to improve the quality of life in western Lane County through partnerships, networking, volunteerism, community involvement, education and awareness.

For more information and membership application, go to [www.florenceareacc.org](http://www.florenceareacc.org).

## Contribute to Florence by serving on a committee

Would you like to see more public involvement in the City of Florence to make sure your voice is heard?

Would you like to make a difference and help contribute to the goals and objectives of the city as a whole?

Then consider applying for one of the open positions on one of the city's committees. The deadline for applications is fast approaching on Dec. 31.

These positions offer citizens an excellent opportunity to volunteer their services on significant matters. Committee member contributions are invaluable to the mayor, the city council, as well as the city.

The following boards and committees are currently filling vacancies for varying

term lengths, with positions set to begin on Feb. 1, 2016.

- Audit Committee: 1 open position
  - Budget Committee: 3 open positions
  - Environmental Management Advisory Committee (EMAC): 3 open positions
  - Florence Urban Renewal Agency (FURA): 2 open positions
  - Florence Urban Renewal Budget Committee: 1 open position
  - Planning Commission: 2 open positions
  - Transit Advisory Committee: 4 open positions (1 for high school student)
- Applying for a position is

easy. Applications are available at Florence City Hall and can be downloaded from the city's website at [www.ci-florence.or.us](http://www.ci-florence.or.us).

City Hall is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to noon; 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

All qualified persons are encouraged to apply.

For details regarding the duties and responsibilities of these bodies, residency requirements of applicants, term lengths, or any other questions, contact City Recorder Kelli Weese at 541-997-3437.

Applicants will be interviewed by the City Council on Jan. 13 and 14.



Florence Regional Arts Alliance

# HOLIDAY Arts FESTIVAL

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SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 28	NOVEMBER 29	NOVEMBER 30	DECEMBER 1	DECEMBER 2	DECEMBER 3	DECEMBER 4
						
Plenty of Sun	Sunny	Clouds Limiting Sun	Cloudy with Possible Rain	Cloudy, Possible Rain	Cloudy, Possible Rain	Cloudy, Possible Rain
49°F 36°F	50°F 39°F	50°F 40°F	53°F 46°F	55°F 38°F	51°F 38°F	52°F 39°F

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