

GENERAL NEWS

Big Wave Spoken Word Poetry contests Saturday

On Saturday, May 7, there will be two Spoken Word Poetry Contests. The first one is for youth poets, age 18 and under. It will be held at 2 p.m. at the Florence Events Center and admission is free.

Students can sign up to read or perform one of their original poems at 1:30 p.m. at the FEC, 715 Quince St.

Three judges will determine the first, second and third place for prizes of \$100, \$50 and \$25, respectively.

The Adult Spoken Word Poetry Slam (Contest) takes place at 6 p.m., also at the FEC.

Poets from around the state have signed up to participate. This event will be a traditional

poetry slam. Five audience members are chosen to be judges. After each performance, judges hold up cards, with scores from 1 to 10. The top and bottom score is eliminated, the middle three are added up for a total score for that poet.

Audience members are encouraged to "boo" the scores if they feel they are too low. Prizes of \$500, \$250 and \$100 will be presented to the top three scoring poets.

Jorah LaFleur, Poet Slam Mistress from Eugene, host the event.

Tickets are \$10 at the door. This event is organized by the Florence Regional Arts Alliance.

City honors Public Works, Planning departments

3 proclamations praise drinking water, safe buildings, public works

By CHANTELLE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Mayor Joe Henry read proclamations about Building Safety Month, National Drinking Water Week and National Public Works Week at the Florence City Council meeting Monday night.

"We have three proclamations, which is the fun part," Henry said.

The first proclamation declared May as Building Safety Month.

Planning Director Wendy Farley-Campbell and Eric Rines, building permit technician, accepted the proclamation for the Planning Department from the mayor.

The theme for Building Safety Month is "Building Codes: Driving Growth through Innovation, Resilience and Safety."

Henry said the department's "continued efforts to address the critical issues of safety, energy efficiency, water conservation and resilience in the built environment" gives the city confidence in the safety of

its citizens.

"The first week of Building Safety Month is building solutions for all ages. It includes design tips for Baby Boomers," Farley-Campbell said.

The Planning Department also delivered activity books to second-graders at Siuslaw Elementary School.

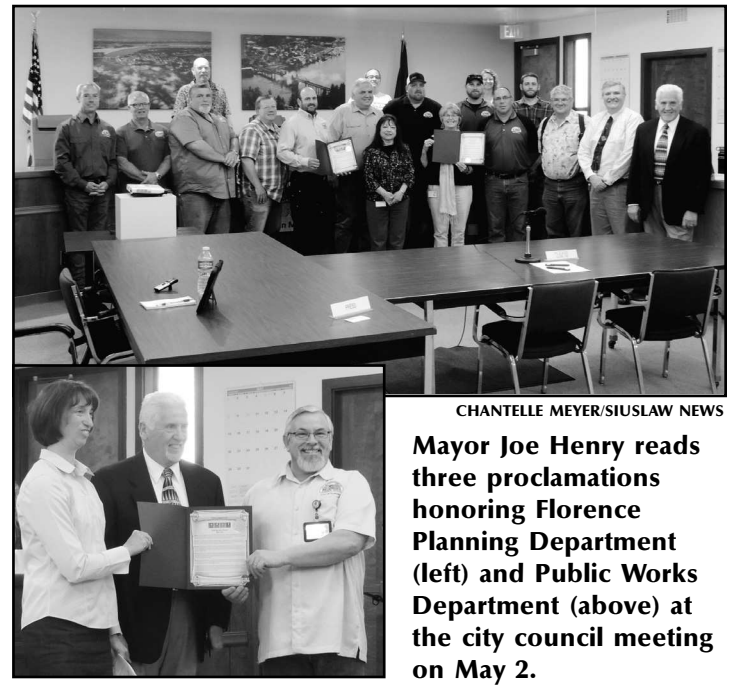
"We have two more proclamations," Henry said, "and the same people are here to receive both of those proclamations."

Fourteen members of the Public Works Department came forward to accept proclamations on National Drinking Water Week, May 1 to 7, and National Public Works Week, May 15 to 21.

Henry read, "We are all stewards of the water infrastructure upon which future generations depend."

He thanked the department for its work on keeping water resources safe.

The final proclamation, on National Public Works Week, said, "Public works infrastructure, facilities and services



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS
Mayor Joe Henry reads three proclamations honoring Florence Planning Department (left) and Public Works Department (above) at the city council meeting on May 2.

provided in our community are of vital importance to the health, safety and well-being of our citizens' everyday lives."

The Florence Public Works Department's employees are part of the planning, design, operation and maintenance of systems, such as water, wastewater, stormwater, streets, parks, airport and public

buildings. In April, Public Works Director Mike Miller told the council about the active FloGro compost program, as well as other Water Treatment Plant projects.

"Thank you all very much. I appreciate it," Henry said to the Planning Department. "Thank you Mike, on behalf of all of us."

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KCST's 'Our Town' to discuss elections, more today

Several candidates on the May 17 ballot in Lane County will be featured on today's edition of Our Town.

The two candidates for Lane County District Attorney will get the most time to talk about themselves and the office.

Patty Perlow was the Chief Deputy DA for eight years before ascending to the top spot last summer. She was appointed by Governor Kate

Brown to be the new District Attorney after Alex Gardner stepped down.

Clayton Tullos is challenging Perlow; he is an attorney from Eugene.

There are four candidates for the Lane County Justice of the Peace on the ballot, but one has dropped out. Florence resident Guy Rosinbaum said he was the first to file. He is also a member of the Siuslaw School Board and when others did join the race at the last minute, he opted to withdraw. But, it was too late to remove his name from the ballot.

Rick Brissendon, Woody Woodbury and Joshua Rogers are the three remaining candidates.

Brissendon and Woodbury have committed to appearing on Our Town. As of press time, Rogers had not responded to any of three inquiries.

One other election related item in this month's Our Town will be a conversation with Mapleton Schools Superintendent Jodi O'Mara about that district's request for \$4 million.

If approved by voters, it would be paired with a matching Oregon Department of Education grant to make capital improvements to school facilities. The grant would give officials a total of \$8 million to spend.

O'Mara will talk about what the district would use the

money for, and why the money is needed.

Our Town conversations will also cover economic development in Florence with a couple of local entrepreneurs who are participating in "RAIN," the Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network. Plus, the high school athletic director of the year in the 1A division, Aaron Longo, of Mapleton High School, will talk about winning that as well as the Athletic Directors Association of Oregon Leadership Award for 2015.

Our Town will air from 4 to 6 p.m. today on KCST, then again Thursday morning from 10 a.m. to noon on KCFM.

FEC offers exhibit space for local artists

Florence Events Center will have several opportunities for artists to display their talents in Gallerie One and Five during the fall and winter of 2016, and continuing in 2017.

The FEC Gallery Committee, as part of Friends of the FEC, is giving artists advance notice of upcoming exhibits, as well as offering new and creative challenges to artists.

The first special exhibit will take place in October and November. This will be the

second annual Artistic Visions Award Show. Artists can display up to three pieces of artwork, including 2-D, photography and 3-D.

Cash awards will be given to winners in each category, as well as honorable mention ribbons. Qualified jurors from outside the Florence area will judge this show.

In December, 2016, the FEC will offer a new exhibit encouraging people to "Give Art this Christmas." Artists will be asked to submit works

that are \$100 or less. January and February of 2017 will be third annual "For the Love of Animals" exhibit, with a reception held to benefit the Florence Area Humane Society.

March and April will be a patriotic themed exhibit, with a reception benefiting DAV and the Military Museum.

Details on the upcoming exhibits will be available the month prior. Applications will also be available at that time at www.eventcenter.org.

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MAY 4	MAY 5	MAY 6	MAY 7	MAY 8	MAY 9	MAY 10
						
Cloudy, Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Sunny,	Times of Clouds & Sun	Partly Sunny	More Sun than Clouds
58°F 51°F	61°F 50°F	66°F 52°F	67°F 51°F	63°F 48°F	64°F 48°F	63°F 48°F

Lisa's Avant Gardener Tips of the Week

Plant summer vegetable seeds such as beans, cucumbers, dill, and summer squash. Wait for soil temperatures to be warm before transplanting tomatoes, peppers, and basil. Fertilize shrubs with a light complete fertilizer with the late spring rains.

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