

## Call to artists for OPB art display with FRAA

Oregon Pacific Bank (OPB) is in partnership with the Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) in requesting proposals for artwork to be placed on the south wall inside the OPB branch, 1355 Highway 101, in Florence.

This location provides high visibility to all customers and visitors to the bank.

The space is 12 feet across and 42 inches high. Artwork can be of any medium.

Artwork can be either one piece to fill the space, a mural or a series of pieces. If a mural design is submitted, it must be done on panels that can be adhered to the wall.

All artwork submitted must be "Wall-Ready," i.e. includes hangers or brackets.

Artwork will depict the local scenery and should include at least some or all of the following elements: the Siuslaw Bridge, the Siuslaw River and the Old Town "scene" (galleries, restaurants, shops, etc.)

Artwork should be done in colors that are compatible with the décor inside the bank.

Submissions should include a resume of the artist, including references.

They should include examples of previous finished work.

Submissions will include a color visual representation of their proposal in PDF or JPG format.

All submissions must be emailed with the following information to be considered eligible: Full name, address, email address, phone number and the medium they will be using.

By submitting a proposal, artist agrees and warrants that artwork is original and unique.

Submissions should be sent to: fraaoregon@gmail.com and the deadline is Monday, June 20, at 5 p.m.

The final selection will be announced by June 27.

The selected artwork will be purchased from the artist for a final price of \$1,800 and the design and finished piece will become and remain the exclusive property of Oregon Pacific Bank. Submissions not selected remain the sole property of the artist.

Artist is responsible for delivering the finished piece to the designated site no later than Aug. 8. At that time, ownership of the piece will transfer from the artist to Oregon Pacific Bank and final payment will be made.

A complete copy of this notice is also available online at [www.fraaoregon.org](http://www.fraaoregon.org).

## New driving school opens in Florence

Instructor Rob Griffes to offer teens accredited safe driving course

By JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

Rob Griffes is teaching his first Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) 10-week certified driver education course to seven Siuslaw High School students.

Griffes, 60, is one of fewer than a dozen driver education instructors in Oregon to be certified by both government agencies.

Driving has always played a major role in Griffes' life. He spent 13 years driving cab and has been a substitute bus driver for the Siuslaw School District for 11 years. He also spent many years driving various trucks.

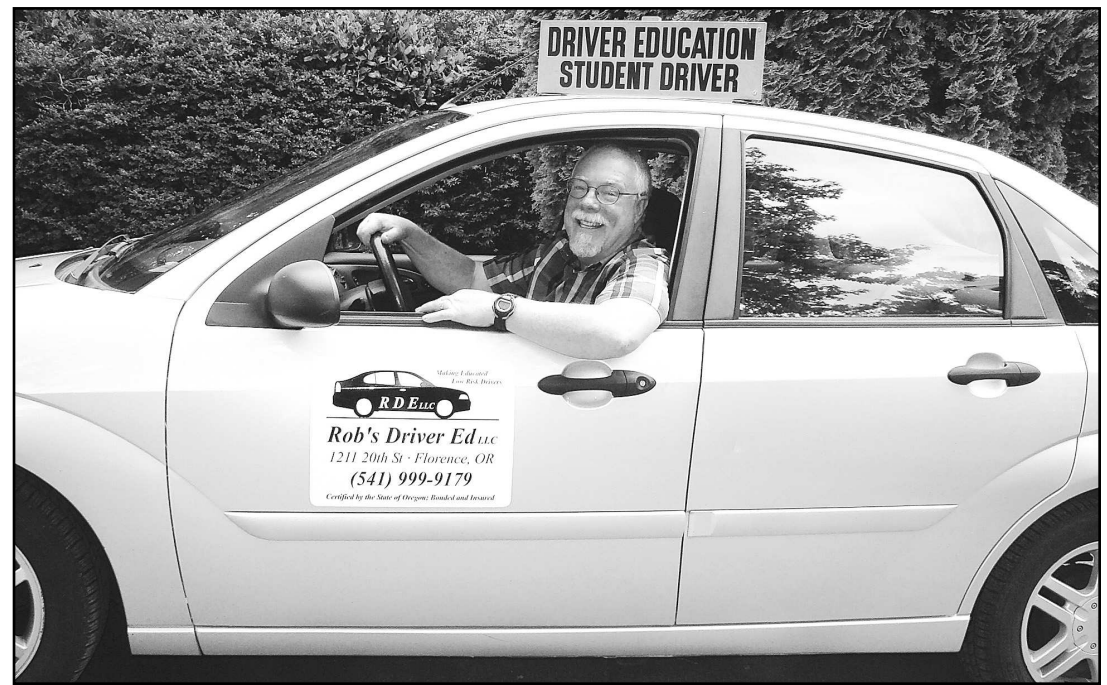
"I have two teenage sons," Griffes said. "When my oldest turned 15 and got his permit in 2012, I became acutely aware of the fact that there was no driver education this side of Eugene."

About the same time, he discovered that ODOT was offering a driving instructor course through Lane Community College (LCC) in Eugene for the first time in years.

After being trained and certified as an ODOT licensed instructor, Griffes spoke with the school district. The district was supportive, but did not want the course to be part of school curriculum. This presented another hurdle for Griffes. He now had to start his own driving school in order to teach driver education.

"I had to become an ODOT approved instructor and then I had to become DMV certified as a commercial driver training school. I also had to be certified as an instructor in my school," he said.

The last of the government requirements were completed and Griffes received his final



JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

Rob Griffes offers ODOT-certified drivers education to Florence students. Griffes is the only driver education instructor in western Lane County.

certification at the end of March.

"I can teach anyone ages 15 to 100 how to drive," Griffes said. "My goal was to be able to teach high school teens. I spoke with the district and they offered me a classroom to teach drivers education."

Griffes first driver's education class of seven students began the middle of April, using ODOT supplied curriculum.

"I have 15 two-hour classes and six two-hour drives with two students for each drive. The final drive will be another half-hour of driving," Griffes said.

ODOT requires the course take at least 35 days, but no longer than 180 to complete.

"There is an additional five hours of home practice. The complete course is 47 hours between classroom, driving and home practice. DMV requires an additional 50 hours of driving practice with an adult 21 years or older that has had a driver's license for at

least three years. The five hours of home-practice driving applies to the 50 hours," Griffes explained.

Without the ODOT course, DMV requires drivers to prove they have had 100 hours of supervised practice driving.

The cost of the course is \$400, but ODOT offers a subsidy of up to \$210. The rebate is available to any student who completes the course, pass or fail.

In addition, according to Griffes, the high school Twilight after-school program has a scholarship available for the driver education program that could cover the remaining \$200.

"With the ODOT subsidy and the Twilight scholarship the program could end up being of no cost to the students," Griffes said.

"Most people think of the insurance discount savings, but some of the hidden savings are that students who go through an approved program have a 20 to 25 percent less likelihood of

getting tickets and getting into accidents," Griffes said. "As soon as a teen has a ticket or any kind of insurance claim, that affects their insurance rates."

According to Griffes, nationwide, car accidents are the No. 2 cause of unintended teenage deaths.

"Teaching your child to drive can be a very stressful experience," Griffes said.

He has a specially equipped education car with a dual set of break pedals.

"I can take control of the vehicle at any point if necessary, and I've had to do it," he said.

Eventually Griffes hopes to drop the part-time bus driving and concentrate on his driving school and his primary job — being pastor of the Florence Evangelical Church.

He also would like to teach three courses a year with up to 15 students per course.

"I have a passion for driving and a heart for young people," Griffes said.

**Jolene Medeiros**  
Owner  
[Florencetechsolutions@outlook.com](mailto:Florencetechsolutions@outlook.com)

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## LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER'S: FOR CAREGIVERS - MIDDLE STAGE

an education program offered by the alzheimer's association



Monday, May 23 | 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue

(2625 Highway 101, Florence, OR 97439)

In the middle stage of Alzheimer's disease, those who were care partners now become hands-on caregivers. Join the Alzheimer's Association Oregon Chapter for this class and hear caregivers and professionals discuss helpful strategies to provide safe, effective and comfortable care in the middle stage of Alzheimer's.

This class is free, but registration is required. To register, call 800-272-3900.

Presented in collaboration with:



alzheimer's association®

### School

from 1A

Angal also achieved an "accomplished" rating of 3.55 in making progress in each of the five district goals established by the board for the 2015-16 school year.

"Superintendent Angal worked well within our com-

munity and in community groups, always keeping an open line of communication, and making every effort to build bridges with our community partners," Butler said.

Angal will retire June 30. Current Siuslaw Middle School Principal Andy Grzeskowiak will take over as district superintendent July 1, 2016.

### Invest

from 1A

Lofoodal is a shared-economy software app that redefines how local, organic food is grown and delivered. It utilizes technology to make organic produce available to families nationwide.

The Willamette Angels Conference will feature five finalists who will compete in the Launch Stage on May 12.

"It provides an opportunity for younger companies to gain invaluable experience, training and exposure," said Angels Conference fund manager Marc Manley.

The finalists include Lofoodal (Lofoodal.com) from Florence, Lola's Fruit Shrubs (lolasfruitshrubs.com) from Eugene, Great Life by Lucinda (greatlifebylucinda.com) from Depoe Bay, The Curriculum Projects (curriculumproject.com) from Albany and Animosa (animosa.co) from Eugene.

At the conference, each Launch Stage company will deliver a three-minute pitch, and an audience vote will determine which company walks away with \$2,500 from Palo Alto Software. Five companies in the next stage will also compete for investments.

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