

# GENERAL NEWS

## Swisshome motorcyclist dies in head-on crash

**STAFF REPORT**

MAPLETON — A Swisshome man died Friday evening after the motorcycle he was riding failed to negotiate a corner on Highway 36 near milepost 7, crossed the centerline and struck a pickup head on.

At about 5:15 p.m. on June 24, Oregon State Police troopers and emergency personnel responded to the crash near Mapleton. According to police, a preliminary investigation revealed that the 2004

Harley Davidson motorcycle, driven by 56-year-old Michael R. Lucier of Swisshome, was traveling eastbound when it collided with a 1999 Ford Ranger. Lucier was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver of the pickup, 23-year-old Rodney D. Pruett of Florence, was not injured.

The highway was closed for several hours while the investigation was conducted.

Oregon Department of Transportation and the Florence Police Department assisted at the scene.

## Youth invited to build hovercrafts at WindFest

“Miss Smith” will be at the Florence Master Recycler booth at WindFest, located at the east end of the Port of Siuslaw Boardwalk, from 2 to 4 p.m. on Friday, July 1, to teach youth to build hovercrafts.

Smith is a volunteer for the Elementary School Science Program.

Old CDs and DVDs will be provided and reused to build the hovercrafts and youth will

be able to take the hovercrafts home.

Parents are welcome to spend time at the booth to learn ways to improve recycling, reduce trash, save natural resources and preserve the environment.

Smith and the Master Recyclers will be back at WindFest with more projects for youth on the Fridays of July 15 and Aug. 12 and 26.

## CROW awards \$6K in scholarships

Children’s Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW) announced that nearly \$6,000 in scholarship funds was awarded to local kids to participate in CROW’s 2016 Summer Youth Theater camp program. These scholarships will benefit 26 local youth who would not otherwise be able to afford to attend the program.

The summer camps are the major educational component to the CROW program, during which students learn the key skills required to audition and perform in a main stage show. In order to obtain a scholarship, applicants were required to respond to several essay questions on various topics such as what drives their desire to be involved in the performing arts.

“Once again, we were impressed by the well-written applications, letters of recommendation, and touching personal narratives we received via the scholarship applications,” says CROW Artistic Director Melanie Heard. “So many local families have overcome tremendous obstacles such as financial difficulties, the passing of loved ones, enormous medical bills, sudden job loss and so much more. We feel very blessed to have the funds to provide to these kids, so that



COURTESY PHOTO

**The first of CROW’s Summer Youth Theater Camps begins July 11. Twenty-six students received nearly \$6,000 in scholarships to attend the three camps.**

they can attend camps without adding additional stress to their families.”

Heard also pointed out that none of the scholarship funds would be possible without the support of CROW’s donors, sponsor, and supporters, as well as a new partnership with the Siuslaw School District’s Twilight program.

“We are fortunate to live in such a vibrant, artistic community that truly understands the importance of quality arts education,” she says.

CROW is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, headquartered in Florence, with an educational philosophy of “The arts really do matter.”

Local audiences enjoyed April’s production of “Shrek Jr.” at the Florence Events Center, and CROW is already in the planning stages for the Spring 2017 musical. The musical’s title will be revealed at the Florence Playhouse at 3 p.m. on Aug. 5th, at the end of camp showcase for “Technical Theater Camp.”

The showcase and “reveal” is free to the public, although seating is limited.

CROW is in the process of completing phase one renovations on its new artistic space, at 3120 Highway 101, where camps will be held this year.

The new building features a large rehearsal, class and

workshop space, which can also be used for small performances, as well as a set-construction workshop, catering prep kitchen and updated ADA restrooms.

CROW plans to renovate the back portion of the building (to include green room, dressing rooms, and more storage space) once additional funds have been secured.

In order to be fully functional and ready for the kids this summer, CROW will still need to invest thousands of dollars into the building, which means that there will be more fundraisers on the horizon in summer and fall.

One such fundraiser will be a car wash during “Power of Florence” on Saturday, July 16, held in OPB’s parking lot.

“We are tremendously grateful to all who have helped us get this far,” says Heard. “We’re almost there, but we still have a little more magic to accomplish!”

If you would like more information about the CROW program, including ways that you can donate to help make many kids’ dreams come true, contact Heard at 541-999-8641 or visit [www.crowkids.com](http://www.crowkids.com).

## Oregon launches ‘Just Hang Up’ campaign

### Tips to help Oregonians avoid phone scams

Every year Oregonians lose thousands of dollars to telephone scams. Last year, Jeff D. from Silverton, Ore., learned his aging father wired \$1,300 to a scammer in Paris, Texas.

The scam was simple. A caller told his father over the phone that he had won \$350,000 and a GMC Denali. There was just one catch — his

father had to pay the taxes before he could claim his prize. Jeff never thought something like this could happen to his father.

“These people are masters at manipulative techniques. They prey on the emotional status of people who want to help their family and others,” said Jeff.

In commemoration of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (June 15), Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum released a “Just Hang Up!” campaign to educate

Oregonians about imposter scams and fraudulent phone calls.

To launch the campaign, the Oregon Department of Justice will distribute hundreds of posters to retirement centers and state agencies throughout Oregon. The poster includes six tips on when you should “Just Hang Up!” These include if the caller:

1. Asks you to wire money or buy a prepaid card;
2. Says you have won a prize or a gift but you need to

pay fees or taxes first;

3. Asks you to visit websites or download software;
4. Asks for usernames, passwords, account numbers, or your home address;
5. Says the offer is only good for today; or
6. Asks you to keep the call a secret.

If you have fallen victim to a fraud or a scam, contact the Oregon Attorney General’s Consumer Hotline at 1-877-877-9392 or online at [www.oregonconsumer.gov](http://www.oregonconsumer.gov).

## Construction to impact traffic June 30 and July 5

The City of Florence is busy at work with multiple construction projects in the area of Rhododendron Drive and 35th

Street.

On Thursday, June 30, Florence Public Works crews will be repairing a section of 35th Street between Myeena and N. Siano loops that has settled over time since the street was first constructed.

Vehicles will be detoured onto Myeena Loop coming from Rhododendron Drive and onto Siano Loop coming from Kingwood Street. In the area of work, 35th Street will be closed.

The settlement most likely is caused by the decomposition

of organic material from a burn pile when the street was constructed. The repair is being made in preparation of an upcoming chip and fog seal of 35th Street between Pine Street and N. Siano Loop after this summer.

On Tuesday, July 5, Ray Wells Inc. will be performing a grind/inlay to remove 2 inches of asphalt and paving back 2 inches of asphalt on Rhododendron Drive from approximately 250 feet north of 35th Street to a location south of Eden Lane. The total

construction will be approximately 1,500 lineal feet.

One travel lane will be maintained during the construction.

This paving is part of Phase 1 of the Rhododendron Drive gravity sewer project. The gravity sewer project, between 35th Street to south of Eden Lane, eliminates the Sandpines sewer pump station.

As a reminder, the chip seal done last year in this area was a temporary fix. This paving will help preserve the roadway for several more years.

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**FLORENCE OREGON 2016**

**Wings and Wheels**

**JULY 2ND**

**2016**

**Special Thanks To...**

- City of Florence
- Florence Chamber of Commerce
- Food Concessions By...
- The Lions Club
- ADA Grange

**Florence Municipal Airport**  
**Saturday July 2nd • 2016**  
**10 AM - 3 PM** **TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED AT 3 PM**  
**SUGGESTED DONATION: \$2.00 PER CAR LOAD**  
Proceeds benefit the Siuslaw High School Wrestling Team

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**Florence Unit of Civil Air Patrol**  
is recruiting volunteers.

*Come by our display at "Wings and Wheels" for more details.*

Next meeting:  
Monday, July 18th  
at the Florence Airport Office  
2d Lt Sue Owen, Commander  
541-999-9499

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JUNE 29	JUNE 30	JULY 1	JULY 2	JULY 3	JULY 4	JULY 5
Partly Sunny	Mostly Sunny	Sun and Clouds	Partly Sunny	Partly Sunny	Partly Sunny	Mostly Sunny
66°F 53°F	66°F 53°F	67°F 56°F	66°F 52°F	67°F 53°F	67°F 51°F	64°F 50°F

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