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# SENIOR LIVING ON THE OREGON COAST

SPECIAL MAGAZINE INSIDE



# Siuslaw News

126TH YEAR | ISSUE NO. 85

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

## A change in the RAIN

**RAIN hires David Youngtob to be new coastal venture catalyst**

By CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (RAIN) has worked with the City of Florence and the coastal region for more than a year to bring focus and support to entrepreneurs and businesses. Now that it has proved the viability of a program in western Lane County, RAIN hired a new coastal venture catalyst, David Youngtob, to begin Nov. 1.

“Many of you already know of his great work at Fertilab —

launching its Mentor Clinic ID8 pre-accelerator program and several other entrepreneurial programs for early-stage entrepreneurs,” said RAIN Venture Catalyst Caroline Cummings. “David is transitioning from his director of entrepreneurship role at Fertilab over to our coastal venture catalyst role. We are very excited to have him join our team.”

RAIN was started to advance the formation of high-growth innovative startup companies in Lane,

Lincoln, Linn and Benton counties. It offers instruction for start-ups, accelerator and pre-accelerator programs for launching businesses, resources for testing the market, opportunities for investment and connections with partners and mentors.

Cummings has been RAIN’s main presence on the coast since October 2015.

“We really want to get boots on the ground. This year, I was proving there was a ‘there’ there, but

could only spend 20 percent of my time on the coast,” she said.

Youngtob’s territory will be western Lane County and Lincoln County. His experience with rural communities, entrepreneur support groups and mentor programs will benefit the mid-coast region. He has also been an entrepreneur and started his own traded-sector bio-science company.



COURTESY PHOTO

See RAIN 7A

David Youngtob

## Nordahl retires after 39 years with Siuslaw News

Siuslaw News graphic designer Carolyn Nordahl retired Friday after 39 years in the back office.

“My work has consisted of creating display advertising and section covers, plus merging the work of our news staff with that of the advertising department,” Nordahl said.

By CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

Nearly every page published by the Siuslaw News has had Nordahl’s fingerprints on it — whether in paper or digitally.



SIUSLAW NEWS FILE PHOTO  
Carolyn Nordahl

“Carolyn was a huge factor in getting our paper to the printer on time each week. She was a vital member in the way we do things, and she will be missed,” said Siuslaw News General Manager Jenna Bartlett.

A former telephone operator and stay-at-home mom, Nordahl’s position in the composition department was her first in the newspaper business. Though she had no formal training in her field, fine arts were a hobby of hers and she applied a creative mind to the artistic demands of graphic design.

“It comes pretty naturally because I’ve always dabbled in the arts,” she said. “It was an artistic thing, so it was fun to learn.”

She started out part-time, hired on by then-publisher Dave Holman, whose son Paul later took the reins; but, like many newspaper jobs, her position soon evolved into full-time.

She was composition supervisor from 1999 until she “retired” in 2006, but continued to create both in the office and at home, with her small business called Echo Graphics.

“I do much of the same things as I have done at Siuslaw News — mostly business materials such as cards and brochures, posters, flyers and advertisements,” Nordahl said.

She also paints in watercolor. A selection of her work will continue to be on display at the Siuslaw News on 148 Maple St.

That is also where you can buy a copy of her books: “Grandma’s Window Shade” and “A Skunk in the Garden.” She hand-painted and designed the watercolor covers.

See RETIRE 7A



## LINKING UP

*Oregon National Guard meets with local agencies, community*

PHOTOS BY MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS



**Oregon National Guard sets up a containerized kitchen to feed people and interact with the community at the Florence Events Center Sunday. Florence-area first response agencies also attend the family-friendly event.**

By MARK BRENNAN  
Siuslaw News

### Oregon National Guard units and Florence emergency responders conducted a joint exercise Sunday in the Florence Events Center parking lot.

The purpose of the exercise was to plan a response to a natural disaster that would require National Guard units to travel from Eugene to Florence to render assistance.

First responders from the Florence Police Department,

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue and Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) were on hand to coordinate the local response to the simulated disaster.

Florence Police Commander John Pitcher said, “From our perspective it went really well. The National Guard got to test their abilities and get some hands-on experience. And we got to know and interact with each other — and, maybe most important, we get to see what they can offer us in the event of an emergency.”

The National Guard contingent included vehicles and transports specifically designed for quick setup and use.

A major focus of the event was food distribution, according to Florence Mayor Joe Henry.

“The National Guard is coming here as part of a maneuver to demonstrate that they can get to Florence during an emergency, and deliver large amounts of food,” he said.

The guard accomplished this goal by setting up and staffing a completely functioning kitchen with the ability to feed thousands of displaced persons if necessary.

The set up and operation of the Guard’s containerized kitchen (CK) was a special focus of the exercise.

National Guard First Sergeant Michael Creech said, “An impor-

tant part was to set up the CK, get it up and running in as short a time period as possible and to start serving food as quickly as possible.”

According to Creech, another element of the event was to connect with the community and to local first responders.

He said, “One of the goals was to show presence in the community, to show the assets we can provide and, of course, to give information to the public.”

Creech also said that the community response to the exercise was very positive.

See GUARD 7A

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