

Family reception at FEC with Santa Dec. 11

All families are invited to come and enjoy Christmas treats and a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus on Sunday, Dec. 11, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Admission is free and there will be door prizes.

Bring your own cameras or choose to have a photo taken by the on-site photographer, who can develop photos immediately and place them in a Christmas photo folder for

\$5. Santa welcomes adults as well as children to have their photos taken.

Guests can also view beautiful artworks available for purchase; nothing will be priced more than \$100.

Original prints and greeting cards will also be available to purchase if desired.

The Santa reception will take place at the Florence Events Center in Gallery One.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS



Sponsored by
St. Mary Our Lady of the Dunes
Knights of Columbus
Assembly 3656
Florence, Oregon

DISASTER PREP

By DAVE ROBINSON
Special to the Siuslaw News

What's on the menu?

We were having one of our winter storms, the kind where the rain is coming down sideways and the trees are bending back and forth. I was at work a half hour away when my wife called and announced that the power had gone out and wanted to know where I had stored our camp stove. It was in my shop and I told her how to find it.

A short time later, I received another phone call, this one with a bit more volume behind it, if you know what I mean. She found the stove right where I said it was. What I had neglected to warn her of, you see, was that there were at least two killer mice living inside the box where it was stored (I seriously did not know this ahead of time, really!)

As she described it, both mice ran down her arm and escaped into the nether regions of my shop. But not before doing irreparable lifelong damage to her mouse-aphobia. You can

imagine her delight as she related the story. That was about when I asked if the mice were ok... but that's another story.

Arriving home, I fully expected to dine on canned chili or beef stew. Much to my surprise she had fixed pork chops, mashed potatoes, gravy and vegetables for dinner that night on our Coleman stove.

Not all "survival" meals are going to measure up to that one. But with a little planning and not a whole lot of extra expense, you can build up a decent pantry to draw from during a disaster.

About this time I know what you're thinking, "I'll just go to the store and get what I need after the lights go out."

That's a little like trying to buy car insurance after the accident. You can expect there will be a run on the store - besides experts believe most stores will be emptied out within four hours. In the event of a major earthquake, we can plan to go several days, possibly weeks

before our local stores are resupplied.

Now is a good time to mention that if all the power in the region is out, you won't be able to rely on your debit or credit card to cover your purchases. I can tell you from experience, the only grocery store in our little town closes up tight during a power outage.

It is possible the grocery stores will have generator power to keep their refrigerated inventory cold, but if the banks are all shut down no one is going to honor your plastic. Stores may be operating on a cash-only basis.

So it's a good idea to have a bit of cash set aside to cover expenses under those conditions. How much cash you keep on hand is up to you and your budget.

Now when you're stocking up, it's a good idea to buy things that you can prepare just by mixing with hot water.

Soups are a good choice, especially in colder weather. If you think about it, most of our power outages come in the middle of a wind-rain storm. Ideal soup weather!

Kids love Ramen noodles, they're not all that nutritious, but they're inexpensive and easy to fix.

Secondly, buy foods that you are accustomed to eating. There is no benefit to throwing your body into a gastric crisis because you suddenly have only MREs to eat (MRE: Meals, Ready to Eat, used by the military when out in the field, away from a "real" mess hall.)

Or you have only stocked up on freeze-dried backpacking fare without ever trying one out. You are already in a stressful situation, your body knows it and will likely revolt if you suddenly change your diet.

Remember, a failure to plan is a plan to fail.

Dave Robinson is the postmaster in Bandon, Ore., and author of "Disaster Prep for the Rest of Us." He may be contacted at disasterprep.dave@gmail.com. Visit his website for more disaster preparedness tips, www.disasterprepdave.blogspot.com.

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FRAA announces appointment of new board for 2017

Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) members elected new board members at their recent annual meeting.

The new board also selected officers for the 2017 term.

Serving as FRAA president is Krisitin Anderson.

Other officers are: Vice-president Ronald Hildenbrand; secretary Bev Hildenbrand and treasurer John Leasure.

Board members chairing various committees include: Caroline Mesman, staffing; Ellen Huntingdon, media; Meg Spencer, membership; Claudia Ignatieff, publicity; Ken McDougal, photography; and Bill Johnson, member-at-large.

Completing their terms as board members are Harlen Springer and Claudia Brown who have given countless hours of their time to make FRAA a success.

FRAA is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote all the art forms in Florence and surrounding areas, with the goal of making Florence an arts destination.

FRAA's Art Center and Gallery is located at 120 Maple St., where a variety of classes are offered. In addition, gallery space is available for members to exhibit their art.

The gallery is completely staffed by volunteers and the organization is supported by memberships and sponsors.

For more information on the outreach of FRAA, membership benefits, classes, the open studio, Second Saturday Gallery Tours, upcoming Festivals and events or how to join FRAA, visit www.fraa.oregon.org.

The FRAA Art Center is open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cindy Wobbe Estate Sales hosts Business After Hours

On Thursday, Dec. 1, Cindy Wobbe Estate Sales is hosting the first Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours in December in Florence Antiques District.

Kick off the Christmas season at Business After Hours from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at 498 Highway 101.

Join Wobbe and her estate sales team for nibbles and nosh, great music and door prizes and preview firsthand the private offerings of several local estates.

This event is open to the public.

For more information, go to www.cindywobbeestates.com and florencechamber.com.



Florence Regional Arts Alliance

HOLIDAY Arts FESTIVAL

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715 Quince Street, Florence, Oregon



Pet Pageant PHOTO CONTEST

We're looking for the cutest critters to compete in our photo contest! Take a Shot at Our Petacular Grand Prize: The Winning pet will be the "Cover Pet" in our Winter special section, **the Ultimate Pet Guide** PLUS will win: **A PET'S WAG BAG**

* Prize may not include items from contest sponsors
* Pets that have won in the past are not eligible to win.

ENTER YOUR PET NOW! Until December 1st

Here's the Scoop on How to Enter...

1. Email your photo to klibby@thesiuslawnews.com. There is a \$5 processing fee, we will call you for payment.
2. The most photogenic pet will be selected by our panel of judges.
3. All pets and the grand prize winner will be featured in the December 3rd issue.
4. You may also enter by mail. Simply fill out this contest form, and send it and payment along with a labeled photo of your pet to:

Siuslaw News
148 Maple • P.O. Box 10
Florence, OR 97439

Pet Photo Contest Mail-In Entry Form

Your Name: _____

Pet's Name: _____

Pet's Breed: _____ Age: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

___ Check Enclosed *Make Check Payable to: The Siuslaw News*

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exp. _____

PLEASE NOTE, IF YOU WISH TO HAVE YOUR PHOTO RETURNED, PLEASE INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE WITH YOUR ENTRY.

BOOKING APPOINTMENTS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON!

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