

## Library holds Mango Language Open House

The community is invited to join Siuslaw Public Library on Saturday, Jan. 7, from 2 to 5 p.m., in the Bromley Room, to learn more about the library's latest database, Mango Languages.

Mango offers interactive language learning for over 60 languages.

This new program is free with a library card and is accessible anywhere there is an internet connection.

The Mango Languages Open House will feature laptop stations to demonstrate six different languages:

Spanish, French, Italian, Japanese, American Sign Language and Pirate — the librarians' particular favorite.

Each station will also offer foods to complement that language, in addition to coffee and cookies.

A Friend of the Library volunteer will be available at each station to help participants get to know Mango.

Meg Spencer, library director, will be on hand to help patrons sign up for the database.

This event is designed for all ages and is free and open to the public.

## Red Cross offers cold weather safety tips

With freezing temperatures and wind chills in the teens expected for the next few days, the Red Cross has issued the following cold weather and heating safety tips:

### Home Heating Safety

When the weather is cold, the number of home fire incidents tend to rise. Use caution when heating your home with space heaters, fireplaces and woodstoves.

**Caution: Carbon Monoxide Kills** — Never use a generator, grill, camp stove or other gasoline, propane, natural gas or charcoal-burning devices inside a home, garage, basement, crawlspace or any partially enclosed area.

**Portable Space Heaters** — Use portable space heaters with an automatic shut-off so if they're tipped over they will shut off. Keep at least three feet of space between the heater and combustibles such as furniture, curtains, bedding and papers. Inspect heaters for cracked or damaged cords, broken plugs or loose connections.

Replace before using the space heater. Turn heaters off when not in use, before going to bed or when leaving the room.

**Fireplaces and Woodstoves** — Have chimney and woodstove flues and vents inspected and cleaned every year. Check for creosote deposits, soot build-up and physical damage. Always use a fire-place screen made of sturdy metal or heat-tempered glass to prevent sparks from escaping.

Clear the area around the hearth of debris, decorations and flammable materials. Store kindling, fire logs and wood at least three feet from any heat source. Use proper fire starters, such as newspaper, kindling or specially manufactured starters designed for indoor use.

Never use flammable liquid, such as lighter fluid, kerosene or gasoline to start a fire.

### Cold Weather Safety

Assemble disaster preparedness kits to keep at home, in your vehicle and at work. In case of a power outage, make sure you have enough non-perishable food and water stored to last everyone in the household until power has been restored.

A three-day supply of food and water for each person is recommended. Use battery-operated flashlights or lanterns instead of candles (because it could be a fire hazard) during a power outage.

Do not leave burning candles unattended. Have plenty of blankets and warm clothing available should you be without heat for an extended period of time due to a power outage.

Make sure you have batteries in your radio (to receive information updates) and keep a spare battery for your cell phone handy (also keep your phone charged).

Protect your pipes— Run water, even at a trickle, to help prevent pipes from freezing. Wear waterproof, insulated

boots to keep your feet warm and dry and to maintain your footing in ice and snow.

Bring pets indoors. If they can't come inside, make sure they have enough shelter to keep them warm and that they can get to water that is not frozen.

For more cold weather pet safety tips, view the blog at [www.redcrossblog.org](http://www.redcrossblog.org).

### Weather Alerts and First Aid Tips

People can download the FREE Red Cross Emergency App for instant access to winter storm tips and weather alerts for their area and where loved-ones live.

Expert medical guidance and a hospital locator are included in the First Aid App in case travelers encounter any mishaps. Both apps are available to download for free in app stores or at [redcross.org/apps](http://redcross.org/apps).

For information on road conditions from the Oregon Department of Transportation, visit [www.tripcheck.com](http://www.tripcheck.com).



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## Prosser to speak of 'heart truth' for women at DAR

In recognition of National Heart Month, the Oregon Dunes Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will feature important information with a program presented by retired RN, Katie Prosser, at its monthly meeting on Friday, Jan. 27, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Katie will share "The Heart Truth," to educate members on a brief overview of the history of women and heart disease and common myths specific to women. Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in the United States. Almost two-thirds (64 percent)



COURTESY PHOTO

**Katie Prosser**

of women who die suddenly of coronary heart disease have no

previous symptoms.

Though Daughters of the American Revolution is a lineage organization, members of the community are welcome to attend and learn more about heart health for women in a casual setting.

This information could make a difference for you or those you care about.

This local chapter supports active duty military, veterans and is proud to award an annual scholarship to a graduating senior.

For more than a century, the members of the National Society Daughters of the

American Revolution have dedicated themselves to historical preservation, promotion of education, and encouragement of patriotic endeavor.

Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution, is eligible for DAR membership.

Women interested in membership or attending a meeting as a guest can contact Karen Childs at 541-997-7154.

To learn more about the Daughters of the American Revolution, visit [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org).

## Remember icy weather driving rules as winter arrives

Winter weather is here and

with it comes potentially hazardous road conditions and the need for extra caution when driving.

Lane County Road Maintenance Manager Orin Schumacher warns drivers to be aware of road conditions and prepare in advance for an icy commute.

"If you go to bed tonight and the roads are wet, you should assume there will be ice on the roads in the morning," said Schumacher. "Outlying county roads especially can become icy when temperatures drop because they tend to be higher in elevation than the metro area."

Tips to stay safe while driv-

ing in winter conditions:

- Pay attention to the weather. Check your local forecast before leaving and keep an eye on the temperature.
- Stay home if you can. If possible, avoid icy conditions altogether.
- Change your route. Choose a route that avoids steep climbs or descents.
- Slow down. Vehicles, even with AWD and traction tires, can still slide. High speeds increase your chance of losing control and make it difficult to stop.
- Go easy on your brakes. Braking hard can cause vehicles to slide on icy roads and increase the risk of a collision.

• Wear your seatbelt. Seatbelts should be worn at all times when you are in a moving vehicle.

"We want people to be more aware of their surroundings, especially if they're traveling on rural roads," said Schumacher. "Drive a little slower and put the safety of you and your passengers, as well as everyone else on the road, first."

For more tips on driving in winter conditions, AAA offers a "How to Go on Ice and Snow" brochure with information for drivers to consider at [www.exchange.aaa.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/AAA-How-to-Go-Ice-Snow.pdf](http://www.exchange.aaa.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/AAA-How-to-Go-Ice-Snow.pdf).

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