

DISASTER PREP

By DAVE ROBINSON
Special to the Siuslaw News

Make a plan

Here on the Oregon Coast we are accustomed to fairly balmy weather. We rarely see snow at our altitude and it is discussion-worthy if we drop below freezing. These past couple of weeks have given all of us reasons to re-think our winter driving habits and how we approach snowy mornings.

Our local counties don't bother with buying snow removal gear, so when it does snow, schools close, people don't go to work and those who do show up are either lauded for their bravery or chastened for their foolishness.

One family friend spent 16 hours stranded with her eight-year old daughter in the Portland area. Icy roads, snow and total gridlock shut down the entire city and surrounding area.

Fortunately her gas tank was on full when the adventure began and she was wise enough to ration her gasoline by starting her car to warm up only when absolutely necessary.

Another person I heard of lives on the east side of Portland and works a few miles west of the city. He made it to work by mid-afternoon on Monday and stayed in a motel through Thursday night because of the dangerous traveling conditions.

I grew up in Nebraska and can't remember staying home through the worst blizzards. School may have been released early to send the students home on the bus, but society simply did not come to a standstill because of a little snow, ice and wind.

Simply put, the local governments were equipped with snow removal equipment and the locals knew to adjust their driving habits when the roads turned slick.

The best advice for motorists is simply "stay home!" You can't have an accident, contribute to the gridlock or get stranded at the side of the road if you call off the trip.

Some of the toughest decisions I have had to make involve cancelling a trip, especially if someone else is counting on you to be at a particular function 200 miles from home.

Pilots have been known to suffer from a disease known as "get home-itis" when they are gone from home and bad weather sets in. The wrong decision can be more than inconvenient; crashing an airplane has been known to have serious consequences.

Better to remain overnight in an airport lounge than become the object of a search party.

I have become fond of a quote that keeps popping up on social media: "Good judgement comes from experience, and experience often comes from bad judgement."

I have also learned it is best to learn to profit from other peoples' mistakes.

Bottom line is this: If you find yourself travelling in winter conditions, take along some extras. A blanket or two, something to eat, maybe a thermos of coffee and for goodness sake, a full tank of gas.

Of course tire chains, maybe a tow strap, a charged-up cell phone and your paid-up auto club membership.

Then before you go, do what pilots do, let somebody know where you are going, the route you will be taking and an estimated time of arrival.

That way we'll know where to send the search party.

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.disasterprep-dave.blogspot.com.

AARP to begin tax prep at library Feb. 2

AARP tax service will once again be available for residents of Florence and nearby communities.

Taxes will be prepared in the Bromley Room at the Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth St., every Monday and Thursday from Feb. 2 through April 13. Help will also be available on Saturday, April 15, from 9:15 a.m. until 2 p.m. Bring 2015 tax return, a

photo ID, social security card, 2016 tax documents and medical documents, including Medicare, private, government, market place or Cover Oregon insurance information. This is a free, in-person tax preparation service.

For more information contact Frank Williams, AARP Local Coordinator at 541-997-7836

Pre-SUPER BOWL, Feb 4th 2017

\$5,000.00
Bingo Bash

All proceeds support Siuslaw 2017 Project Graduation!
Chance to win over \$5,000.00 worth of Gifts & Prizes!

Location & Time: Three Rivers Events Center, doors open at 5 p.m.
First game starts at 5:30 p.m.

Price: \$25.00 includes 2 bingo cards; extra cards available to purchase!
Beverages available for purchase! Dinner from Hole in the Wall BBQ only \$5.
Open to all ages!

Date: Saturday, February 4th, 2017

Contact:

Michelle Rose at 541-999-0401
Kay King at 541-997-2248

For details, purchase advanced tickets or reserve a special table for groups of 8 or more!!

All Sponsorships and Donations are tax deductible - EIN #93-0962789, Credit cards will be accepted, excluding the Casino Cage. In the case of multiple bingo winners on any single game a play off game will determine a single winner.

**Top Prizes • Golf Membership
Fred Meyer Shopping Spree
Sunriver Getaway & Much More!**

Thank you to these donors and many others!

Florence Yamaha • Beauty By Delivery Day Spa
Silver Lining Boutique • Toni's Canine Castle • Christa Smoley
Teresa's Sunrise Espresso • Dutch Bros. • Oregon Pacific Bank

SOS recieves donation from Cow Creek Umpqua

Recently, the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation awarded Siuslaw Outreach Services (SOS), 1576 12th St., with \$7,500 to support its Emergency Voucher Program.

The program helps local res-

idents address a particular financial burden due to a recent crisis they have experienced.

The funds can go toward heating bills, water bills and prescriptions.

The funds can also be used

for bathing facilities, laundry and transportation for the homeless.

In rare cases, the funds may also be used to place homeless families with children in a motel during nights where the

temperature is at a freezing level.

Last year, SOS spent more than \$45,000 to aid 2,350 people with emergency vouchers.

For more information, call 541-997-2816.

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) of women who die suddenly of coronary heart disease have no previous symptoms.

Though Daughters of the American Revolution is a line-



COURTESY PHOTO

Katie Prosser

age 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 DARevolution, visit www.dar.org.



The SIUSLAW PIONEER MUSEUM showcases the pioneer heritage of this area, and now we wish to **SHOWCASE the VOLUNTEERS** who make it possible... **Thank You!**

Jane Ashley; Allan Bacon; John Barnes; Elsie Caldwell; Virginia Carroll; Chris Colling; David Dumas; Judy Fleagle; Joe Fyie; Dianna Kramer; Georgia Garrett; Beverly Hopps; Shirly Hunt; Lonnie

Iholts; Earl Jensen; Fred Jensen; Betty Johnson; Jean Kent; Joy Mc Court; Dorie Miles; Diane Neale; Deane Nordahl; Terri Pennington; Del Phelps; Rosie Puderbaugh; Bob Richardson; Gini Read; Alyson Scott; Peter Shoys; Steve Skidmore; Nancy Sobottka; Lynn Taylor; Bill Tizzard; Sharon Waite; Jeff Williams; Harry Zinn; Sandy Zinn;

Cemetery Clean Up

Silas Gorder; Jamie Gorder; Max Kuhn; Clara Kuhn; Shawn Murray; Leesa Murray; Jason Osburn; Crystal Osburn; Darrel Sheets; Shannon Sheets; Kathy Tidwell; Derek Wells; Catholic church teen youth group; Bear Cub Scouts Pack 777.

Museum Hours:
February to April & October to December
Tuesday through Sunday 12:00pm to 4:00pm

May 1st through September 30th
Open 7 days a week 12:00pm to 4:00pm
278 Maple St in Florence, Or.
www.siuslawpioneermuseum.com

HUGE INDOOR YARD SALE

THE LARGEST YARD SALE UNDER ONE ROOF!
OVER 35 BOOTHS
INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND NON PROFIT GROUPS

Saturday

January 28
8 a.m. — 2 p.m.

Florence Events Center
715 Quince Street
Florence, Oregon
541-997-1994

\$1.00
Admission



CONCEAL CARRY PERMIT CLASS
Oregon-Utah
Valid in 35 States

Wednesday, January 25th
1pm & 6pm

Walk-ins Welcome

Florence Event Center, 715 Quince St.
OR/Utah-valid in WA \$80
or Oregon only \$45

FIREARMTrainingNW.com ~ FIREARMTrainingNW@gmail.com

360-921-2071