



MARK BRENNAN/SUSLAW NEWS
Recruits enter Station No. 4's Hot Box during training.

Training

from 1A

Larson explained, "In the first weekend, they have learned to use their turnouts, Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, pre-connects, hydrants and fire extinguishers and do search and rescues and car fires. This is just the tip of the iceberg. Prior to this, they completed about 40 hours of online computer based training."

The response to the real-

life work from the trainees tends to focus on more immediate physical concerns.

"They are very sore after the initial training begins," Larson said. "Often, I hear, 'This is harder than I expected,' and that's a good thing. It's not an easy job and the recruits recognize they need to keep fit in order to do the job they are training for."

For more information on volunteer and training opportunities, call Siuslaw Valley at 541-997-3212.

Mental health, PUD, Plover today on 'Our Town'

It's long been known that early intervention in a medical emergency such as a heart attack or a stroke can save the life of the patient. But, it was not until recently that this concept began being applied to mental health issues and emergencies.

The concept of mental health first-aid was developed in Australia in 2000, and within four years it began to spread around the world.

One of the proponents of that concept is Dr. Jonathan Betlinsky, a psychiatrist and the assistant director of the Oregon Health and Sciences University's department of public psychiatry.

Betlinsky is just one of the

many presenters that will be at this weekend's "Jump Start Your Health" community health fair in Florence.

He is also one of the guests on today's edition of Our Town.

Betlinsky, along with health fair coordinator Linda Lydick and promotional coordinator Scott Steward, will talk about not only Mental Health First Aid, but all of the features of this weekend's health fair at the Florence Events Center.

More than 30 exhibitors will be at the center Friday. They will be followed by a series of health related seminars and presentations Saturday; then a fun run/walk and kids events on Sunday.

Other segments of Our Town

will include a quick conversation with Chris Chandler, the Public Affairs Director with Central Lincoln PUD, about the new "Smart Hub" online accounting and billing system for the publicly owned utility.

Dan Carpenter, the executive director of the Siuslaw Watershed Council, and project manager Mizu Burruss will also be on the program to talk about that organization.

A phone interview with incoming Lane Community College President Dr. Margaret Hamilton will be featured. Hamilton will move to Eugene in June and is set to take over the reins of the county-wide two-year college July 1.

Wrapping up the program

will be a conversation with wildlife biologist Cindy Burns. She has been working on efforts to restore the habitat and coastal populations of the Western Snowy Plover. The small shore-bird has been on the Endangered Species "Threatened" list since 1993, when there was an estimated population of only 28 birds on the entire coast.

Now, says Burns, after more than two decades, there are more than 40-times that and they're beginning to spread into other areas where they've not been seen in years.

Our Town airs on KCST, FM 106.9 today from 4 to 6 p.m., then again Thursday morning, April 6, from 10 a.m. to noon on KCFM, AM1250-FM 104.1.

Lovejoy's Tea Room hosts Business After Hours tomorrow

On Thursday, April 6, starting at 5:30 p.m., Lovejoy's Restaurant and Tearoom will host a Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Business After

Hours at 195 Nopal St. in Historic Old Town Florence. This event is open to the public.

Owners Heather and Hannah are opening their British-style

restaurant to share a sampling of finger foods such as samosas and pasties and dessert items like sticky toffee puddings and lemon tarts. There will also be tea samples and refreshments.

Visit Lovejoy's to see why it was voted the Best Cup of Tea in Siuslaw News' Reader's Choice Awards and received the Curb Appeal Award during the Siuslaw Awards.

Spruce Point Assisted Living & Memory Care

Living, Loving, & Thriving

Caring for a loved one can be very overwhelming. We are here to help.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2017 @ 2PM
Successful Communication & Support Group

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2017 @ 2PM
Nutritional Needs

TUESDAY, JUNE 27TH, 2017 @ 2PM
Maximize Enjoyment

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2017 @ 2PM
Learn the "Best Friends" Approach to Caring for a Loved one with Dementia

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2017 @ 2PM
Dementia Drugs, Facts and Myths

All seminars are free and open to the public.
Refreshments provided.
To register for these free events please call (541) 997-6111 or email us at ldouda@prestigecare.com

Prestige Senior Living

Spruce Point
an assisted living and memory care community
www.spruce-point.com

Life's Short. Get Dirty.

Time for Spring Planting at LAUREL BAY GARDENS!

PLANT NOW

FRUIT TREES: Apple, Peach, Plum, Cherry

CANE BERRIES: Thornless Blackberry, Marion

STRAWBERRIES: Seascape, Quinalt, Tristar

SEED POTATOES: Red, Yellow & Blue

VEGETABLES: Seeds & Starts

NEW ARRIVALS

RHODODENDRONS: Over 80 Varieties

AZALEAS: Encore for blooms for all seasons

FLOWERING TREES: Cherry & Magnolia

"We're glad to get you growing!"

LAUREL BAY GARDENS
NURSERY • LANDSCAPING • GARDEN CENTER

Award-winning Landscaping Service
Patios • Water Features • Fire Pits
Outdoor Lighting • Irrigation Systems
Home & Garden Décor

10% Senior Discount Every Tuesday

88493 Hwy. 101 Florence
Open 7 days
Just 2 min. N. of Fred Meyer

997-5973 www.LaurelBayGardens.com
Find us on Facebook

Debate

from 1A

You are going to see how many are going to come out of the woodwork. It is really terrifying," he said.

Ivy Meadows said, "I think some of the data is not right about who does what. Your typical homeless person is not necessarily an immigrant. There is some confusion over who needs sanctuary and who has some other socio-economic problems that are challenging their ability to work, maintain a home and stay clean and sober.

"I'm not so much for or against a sanctuary city status, I just think some of the anti-sanctuary information as presented may not actually be representative of what the real issues are."

Several other speakers voiced varying versions of the pro and con arguments, including the argument that because Oregon is already designated a sanctuary state, this would be a

duplication of effort.

One speaker alluded to the conflict between state and federal laws regarding illegal immigration.

Henry let the public comments portion of the meeting exceed the 15 minutes allotted in order to allow both sides the opportunity for equal time and representation.

At the close of the public comment segment, Henry said, "You need to know that there is currently no action on the agenda, either this evening or in the future, dealing with this particular subject."

Monday's debate was in response to an agenda item proposal by Councilor Ron Preisler during the March 22 council work session. Ironically, Preisler never used the term "sanctuary city" in his proposal.

Preisler called the proposed ordinance "Protection for Individuals," and based it on a similar ordinance adopted by the City of Eugene.

During the March 22 meeting, Preisler said the reason he wanted to have the proposal on the agenda was because, "I have heard from a number of Latinos, people here in Florence, that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has come into town and has upset many of them.

"People are afraid they will be picked up in an immigration raid, whether they are undocumented or documented. We need to show the citizens of our city that we care about them."

Preisler withdrew his ordinance proposal during the March meeting because of a lack of council support.

On Sunday, March 26, ICE agents entered Florence and arrested four individuals on immigration charges. At least one of the individuals arrested was fully employed and had no criminal record. No criminal or employment information was available on the other three detainees.

Town Hall

from 1A

He also talked about the new Lane County restriction on purchasing tobacco products, which raises the legal purchase age to 21 throughout the county.

Trapp explained the importance of extending the current 4-year levy for five more years.

"We have reduced capacity based releases (at the jail) by 62 percent. Those are both in sentenced offenders and pre-trial

defendants. The types of people we are releasing today are much less dangerous," Trapp said.

According to the sheriff, the levy will mirror language in the 2013 levy. Only the dates will change.

He said the levy cost would not exceed the current levy's not-to-exceed rate of 55 cents per \$1,000 of property value. For next year, the cost would be closer to 38 cents.

The levy will be used to help fund jail space, hire additional

deputy sheriffs and support critical youth services.

The sheriff's department is still trying to recover from massive layoffs due to budget cut-backs in 2012 and 2013.

"We have hired over 110 deputy sheriffs over the last four years, but we only gained about 40 overall positions because of attrition," Trapp said.

The jail levy will be the only county-wide measure listed on the May 16 Special Election ballot.

KCST 106.9 COAST RADIO • FM

OUR TOWN
A News Magazine for Florence

Jump Start Your Health Community Health Fair
With Linda Lydick and Scott Steward
Featuring:
Dr. Jonathan Betlinski
Asst. Dir.
Oregon Health Science University
Psychiatry

What's up in the Watershed?
Siuslaw Watershed Council
Exec. Dir. Dan Carpenter
Project Mgr. Mizu Burruss

Lane's new president
Dr. Margaret Hamilton
Incoming President
Lane Community College

Smart Hub and you
Changes online for Central Lincoln PUD
Public Affairs Manager
Chris Chandler

Plovers Progress
Recovery of the Western Snowy Plover
USFS biologist Cindy Burns

Wednesday, April 5
4-6 PM on KCST, 106.9 and
Thursday, April 6
10 - Noon on KCFM
AM1250/FM 104.1

With Host Bob Sneddon