

GENERAL NEWS

A GREAT DAY FOR THE U.S. COAST GUARD

Florence is celebrated as newest of 24 U.S. Coast Guard Cities

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

The City of Florence officially became the 24th American Coast Guard City on Wednesday in a ceremony at Florence Events Center.

Residents, dignitaries and community members attended the event, put on by U.S. Coast Guard 13th District Commander Rear Admiral David Throop's office, with the cooperation of local Station Siuslaw River and its executive petty officer, BMC Ben Snider.

The hour-long ceremony had the overarching theme of "relationship" as speakers honored the 100-year history of Florence and its Coast Guard.

Florence Christian Church Lead Pastor Mike Blankenship gave the benediction, praising both the Coast Guard and the city.

"As a resident of Florence, I know first-hand of the Coast Guard families that are valuable members of our community, and who have been for the past 100 years. Each and every day they keep the people of Florence and our visitors safe on the river up and down the coast, as well as being involved in numerous activities throughout our community," he said.

Throop was the presiding official and dedicated Florence as the 24th Coast Guard City.

"It is great to be here to honor the City of Florence, which has had a 100-year relationship with your U.S. Coast Guard," Throop said. "I knew I was coming into a special place when I saw those American flags flying. It has continued to get more special every passing minute as I spent a little more time here and had the chance to meet some of you."

He thanked community groups, such as Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County, Oregon Coast Military Museum and Daughters of the American Revolution, for welcoming Coast Guard members and their families "into the fabric of the community."

"For members of the Coast Guard and the U.S. military, we stand on the strengths of our families," Throop said. "When the chips are down and we get the call to go out when no one else will go out, we know that our families are safe at home, that they are taken care of and that they have neighbors and friends they can call while we go out and get the mission done. That's what makes a great Coast Guard community — and that's why people want to come back here. For the last 100 years, that's what the City of Florence has done."

Florence Mayor Joe Henry accepted the designation from Throop, announcing that Florence Public Works crews were able to install a brand new "Welcome to Florence — A Coast Guard City" sign at Gallagher Park on Highway 126 that morning.

"This designation is only awarded to a few cities in the U.S., and is in recognition of the support of a local community for Coast Guard personnel and their families stationed in that community," Henry said. "It's an indicator of the relationship between the city and the Coast Guard, one that we hold in highest regard."

"I am humbled, yet very proud and honored, to be here today on behalf of the City of Florence to accept this prestigious award from the U.S. Coast Guard to be the 24th Coast Guard City."

Throop said, "This is a great day for the Coast Guard. What a terrific day to celebrate."

Throop also took time to thank those who worked to put together the application packet.

"Our Coast Guard Auxiliary is the greatest force multiplier in history. They are a group of volunteers, 30,000 strong across our Coast Guard, and I just want to highlight one, Deborah Heldt Cordone, who not only came alongside as a Coast Guard auxiliary, but really helped the mayor and city put together the application packet."

Outside the FEC, U.S. Coast Guard Air Sector

North Bend flew in a Dolphin MH-65 helicopter for people to tour, along with several boats from Station Siuslaw River and two military jeeps provided by Oregon Coast Military Museum.

The Boys and Girls Club Florence Air Academy were the first to explore the helicopter before the event began.

After the ceremony, a group of school-aged youth from Eugene also got to tour the apparatus — and eat some of the cake prepared by Pavilion Catering, who also provided brunch-style refreshments for the day.

Station Siuslaw River also hosted an open house and shuttled people to tour the base and interact with station staff.

According to Henry, additional events are on the radar to "continue to show our support and appreciation of these fine men and women throughout the coming years."

In closing, Throop said, "It has been my high honor to celebrate with you, to share in why I think it's so important that we have Coast Guard cities, and why I think your city is so special. Thank you for what you do for our Coast Guard families. It makes a difference every single day. I look forward to the next 100 years and seeing what Florence and Station Siuslaw River are going to do together. *Semper Paratus.*"



PHOTO BY JACK DAVIS



PHOTOS BY CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Dignitaries and community members celebrate Florence's official Coast Guard City Designation during a Coast Guard-led ceremony Aug. 16 at the Florence Events Center and Station Siuslaw River.



CITY LIGHTS CINEMAS

\$9 | \$8 Senior/Student/Military | \$7.50 Matinees Before 2 | \$7 Child | \$6.50 Members | Performing Arts: \$19/\$15/\$10

| | FRI 18 | SAT 19 | SUN 20 | MON 21 | TUE 22 | WED 23 | THU 24 |
|---|--|--|---|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| AUGUST 18 - 24 | | | | | | | |
| ANNABELLE: CREATION R 109 MIN - "A professional jitters-fest, made with deep-seated esteem for the genre rather than cynicism about a box-office sure thing." | 1:30 PM 4:05 PM 6:40 PM 9:10 PM | 1:30 PM 6:40 PM 9:10 PM | 1:00 PM 3:35 PM 6:10 PM 8:35 PM | 4:05 PM 6:40 PM 9:10 PM | 1:30 PM 4:05 PM 6:40 PM 9:10 PM | 1:30 PM 4:05 PM 9:35 PM 9:10 PM | 4:05 PM 6:40 PM 9:10 PM |
| THE HITMAN'S BODYGUARD R 118 MIN - "As close to a live-action cartoon as you're likely to get this year...in the hands of helmer Patrick Hughes — and more importantly, owing to the chemistry of stars Samuel L. Jackson and Ryan Reynolds — it makes for a delightfully ridiculous screwball action comedy." Variety | 1:20 PM 3:55 PM 6:30 PM 9:05 PM | 1:20 PM 3:55 PM 6:30 PM 9:05 PM | 12:50 PM 3:25 PM 6:00 PM 8:40 PM | 3:55 PM 6:30 PM 9:05 PM | 1:20 PM 3:55 PM 6:30 PM 9:05 PM | 1:20 PM 3:55 PM 6:30 PM 9:05 PM | 1:20 PM 3:55 PM 6:30 PM 9:05 PM |
| LOGAN LUCKY - Channing Tatum, Daniel Craig PG-13 119 MIN - "This is a brilliantly constructed, whip-smart, and laugh-out-loud-funny romp from a filmmaker whose precision and craft is nearly unparalleled. It's hard to think of a movie this year that has been as singularly delightful, one that, with each passing moment, reveals something charming or odd or real." | 1:10 PM 3:45 PM 6:20 PM 8:55 PM | 1:10 PM 3:45 PM 6:20 PM 8:55 PM | 12:40 PM 3:15 PM 5:50 PM 8:25 PM | 3:45 PM 6:20 PM 8:55 PM | 1:10 PM 3:45 PM 6:20 PM 8:55 PM | 1:10 PM 3:45 PM 6:20 PM 8:55 PM | 1:10 PM 3:45 PM 6:30 PM 9:30 PM |
| MAUDIE - Sally Hawkins, Ethan Hawke PG-13 115 MIN - "One of the most beautiful and life-affirming and uplifting movies of the year." | 1:00 PM 6:25 PM | 1:00 PM 6:25 PM | 12:30 PM | 6:25 PM | 1:00 PM 6:25 PM | 1:00 PM | 1:00 PM |
| WONDER WOMAN PG-13 141 MIN - "Wonder Woman ranks as one of the few great [super-hero movies]." The Wrap | 3:30 PM 8:55 PM | 3:30 PM 8:55 PM | 3:00 PM 8:15 PM | 3:30 PM 8:55 PM | 3:30 PM 8:55 PM | 3:30 PM 8:55 PM | 3:30 PM 9:05 PM |
| Events & Performing Arts: | FRI 18 | SAT 19 | SUN 20 | MON 21 | TUE 22 | WED 23 | THU 24 |
| I AM THE BLUES NR 106 MIN - Take a musical journey through the Louisiana Bayou, the Mississippi Delta and the North Mississippi Hill Country. | | 4:05 PM | 5:55 PM | | | 6:25 PM | |
| THE WATCHMAN'S CANOE 120 MIN - Filmed on the Southern OR Coast! Writer/Producer/Director Barri Chase in person <small>Box Office opens 30 min. prior to 1st Film 1930 HWY 101 www.citylightscinemas.com Times: 541-305-0014</small> | | | | | | | 12:00 PM 6:30 PM |

| SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| AUGUST 19 | AUGUST 20 | AUGUST 21 | AUGUST 22 | AUGUST 23 | AUGUST 24 | AUGUST 24 |
| | | | | | | |
| Sunny | Mostly Sunny | Sunny | Partly Cloudy | Partly Cloudy | Partly Cloudy | Sunny |
| 69°F 50°F | 70°F 53°F | 70°F 55°F | 68°F 54°F | 68°F 53°F | 64°F 50°F | 65°F 52°F |

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