

Future from 1A

“Why aren’t we waiting to see where this is going before we jump into the repairs? We have the cart ahead of the horse. We should have had the trail figured out and incorporated it into the repairs.”

These issues were further complicated by multiple upcoming repair projects that the port had to consider. From rebuilding the bulkhead at a cost of \$1.5 million to dredging the marina at \$400,000, the scope and cost of the repairs are daunting.

McClure suggested that rate increases in campground and moorage fees might need to be enacted to help pay for these projects, but doing that could prove difficult.

“Unless we have some

planned improvements going into the campground and in the marinas, I’d hate to raise rates just to raise rates,” she said. “I know there would be some public pushback on that, unless we had some real reasons to.”

Buckwald agreed, saying, “It’s a catch-22. We have to make money to fix the place up.”

“All of this falls into the strategic business plan,” McClure said. “What are our projects, what are our priorities? And what are our sources of funding?”

At that point, the commissioners came to the conclusion that members of the public need to get involved with making these major decisions.

Buckwald made the first suggestion, opening up the idea of implementing commit-

tees for members of the public.

“I think the city has done that in all of the projects that they’re doing in Florence,” Commissioner Nancy Rickard said. “They’re involving a lot of people, a lot of planning and a lot of committees. It takes a lot more input.”

Buckwald took this idea a step further, noting that the Port of Siuslaw’s district goes well beyond the City of Florence.

“We go close to I-5 in one spot,” he said. “We need to find a way to reach out to our entire district. Sometimes I feel like I’m just representing the local campers. We need to reach out to the entire district, not just the City of Florence. This district is more than Florence.”

The commissioners became

invigorated at this point, with Duman pushing the idea of opening up the port to more than just committees.

“We need to sponsor sailboat classes, fishing classes and crabbing classes,” Duman said. “Ways to involve the people in Florence and the surrounding areas to let them know there’s more to do at the port than just catching salmon. Somehow we need to get people excited about the opportunities they have at the port.”

Buckwald agreed.

“And that’s why I think getting volunteers for a committee is important. There’s people from this community that have been here for 50 years and know this community better than all of us combined that are just dying to be asked something. We need to coor-

dinate a volunteer system. I know they’re there. Each month, I’d like to have something on the agenda to talk about on this so it doesn’t begin to get lost.”

While no actual committees are currently planned, the port will look into creating them in the coming months.

“We need outreach,” Duman said. “There are a lot of opportunities out there. Right now,

the City of Florence doesn’t have a very good view of the Port of Siuslaw. And we need to start clearing that up.”

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@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM.

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THIS WEEK ON THE COAST

A WEEKLY LISTING OF COMMUNITY EVENTS IN THE FLORENCE AREA
 SUBMIT ALL EVENTS INFORMATION VIA EMAIL TO PRESSRELEASES@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM

- Oct. 21**
- Yard Debris Disposal Day**
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Disposal fee required
Kingwood and 27th streets
 - Ada Grange October Bingo**
5 p.m. — Kitchen opens
6 p.m. — Bingo begins
Tickets required
Ada Grange, 10 miles out Canary Road
541-997-2380
 - 2nd annual Bras for a Cause**
Soroptimist International of Florence
6 p.m.
Tickets required; bra sponsors available
Florence Events Center
 - “Greater Tuna”**
7 p.m.
Tickets required
Class Act Theatre
catproductions.org
- Oct. 22**
- “Greater Tuna”**
2 p.m.
Tickets required
Class Act Theatre, catproductions.org
- Oct. 25**
- RAIN Startup PubTalk: Nature Savvy**

- 5 p.m.
Open to public
The Studios at Jayne Smoley Design
1458 First St.
 - West Lane Translator Quarterly Board Meeting**
6 p.m.
Open to public
Siuslaw Public Library
westlanetv.org
- Oct. 26**
- KCST Coast Radio’s 28th Annual Great Pumpkin Give-Away**
3 to 5 p.m.
Open to public — one pumpkin per child
Old School Furniture
 - SEACoast presents Ballets with a Twist**
6:30 p.m. — pre-concert talk
7 p.m. — show time
Tickets required
Florence Events Center
www.seacoastea.org/
- Oct. 27**
- Scare-CROW “Nightmares” Haunted Maze**
6 to 9 p.m.
\$5 entry
CROW Center for the Performing Arts
3120 Highway 101
www.crowkids.com

- “Greater Tuna”**
7 p.m.
Tickets required
Class Act Theater
catproductions.org
 - Spooky Word Contest**
Hosted by Florence Big Wave Poetry
Fundraiser for Malakai’s Bone Marrow Transplant
7 p.m.
Admission is \$10 — costumes encouraged
FRAA Art Center
120 Maple St.
- Oct. 28**
- Sea Grant — State of the Coast Conference**
8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Tickets required
Florence Events Center
www.stateofthecoast.com
 - Central Oregon Coast British Car Club Meeting**
9 a.m. — buffet breakfast for purchase
10 a.m. — meeting
Open to public
Driftwood Shores Resort
541-997-7354
 - “Nightmares” Haunted Maze**
6 to 9 p.m.
\$5 entry
CROW Center for the Performing Arts

- “Greater Tuna”**
7 p.m.
Tickets required
Class Act Theater
catproductions.org
- Oct. 29**
- Spooktakular Community Halloween Party**
Costume parade, prizes and decorated/carved pumpkin contest
1 to 3 p.m.
Open to public
Ada Grange, 10 miles out Canary Road
541-997-2380
 - “Greater Tuna”**
2 p.m.
Tickets required
Class Act Theater
catproductions.org
 - Jazz Kings — “Keep Your Sunny Side Up”**
2 p.m.
Tickets required
Florence Events Center
www.theshedd.org/jazzkings1718
 - Florence Ukulele Club “The Flukes” — canceled**
Next gathering is set for Nov. 5
janetwellington@charter.net
- Oct. 30**
- “Nightmares” Haunted Maze**

- 6 to 9 p.m.
\$5 entry
CROW Center for the Performing Arts
- Oct. 31**
- Trick or Treat in Florence Old Town**
3 to 5 p.m.
Open to youth and families
Historic Old Town Florence
 - Trunk or Treat at Cross Road**
5 to 7 p.m.
Open to public
Cross Road Assembly of God
 - Trunk-or-Treat at ABC Preschool**
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Open to public
Alice Brauer Christian Preschool
 - Howl-le-luia Party**
6 to 8 p.m.
Florence Christian Church
Open to youth and families
Second and Ivy streets
 - “Nightmares” Haunted Maze**
6 to 9 p.m.
\$5 entry
CROW Center for the Performing Arts
 - Helping Hands Coalition**
Meets Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Open to public or volunteers
New Life Lutheran Church
2100 Spruce St.

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