

Remodel from 1A

“Our investment goes beyond just bricks and mortar and sticks and carpet,” Murphy said. “For that, I’m going to introduce Dee and have her talk about some additional investments we’re making in the community.”

Dee Osborne, the local branch manager in Florence, said, “One thing I’m really proud of working for Banner Bank is the generosity to the communities we serve. We’re very strong on that. Recently we heard that Florence Food Share had an urgent need for support. Helping feed Florence-area families and individuals is an important priority, especially in the winter months. That’s why we selected Florence Food Share to receive a check for \$2,263.”

She said the extra “263” was brought in through bank-wide food drive by customers and

employees. The community also raised 81 canned food items during the month-long drive.

Florence Food Share Executive Director Norma Barton said, “I want to thank Banner Bank from the bottom of my heart. To collect all this and send it to food share is so special, especially right now. It has been so needed, and is greatly appreciated. We’re so grateful to the community.”

Osborne brought out another giant check.

“Another important organization in Florence that is focused on improving the health and lives of our community members is PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center Foundation,” she said. “We’d like to present a check for \$5,000 to PeaceHealth in support of the local palliative care program.”

Foundation Relations Specialist Casey Farm and Peace Harbor CEO Rick Yecny



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Community members join Banner Bank Branch Manager Dee Osborne (center) and Senior Vice President Mike Murphy (right) at the branch’s open house on Tuesday.

accepted the check with thanks.

“The Peace Harbor Medical Center Foundation is honored by our long-standing and continuing partnership with the Florence branch of Banner Bank. I want to personally thank Dee Osborne and the

entire Florence Banner Bank family for their generous gift in support of our palliative care program,” Farm said.

He said the home-based program focuses on comfort and the relief of symptoms, such as pain and physical discomfort,

Firefighters from 1A

Santa Rosa, Calif. Upon arrival, they were granted only enough time to stow their gear and set up cots in the 3,000 plus firefighter tent city at the fairgrounds,” he said. “Then, they were immediately deployed to the fire’s front lines to protect structures. They worked a 24-hour assigned shift before returning to rest after what amounted to a 54-hour duty cycle, including travel from Florence.”

The team from Oregon was comprised of people and equipment from fire districts across the state.

According to Orozco, the group was able to send a strong, capable contingent to California.

“Oregon has never sent a strike team to California before and this was a huge step in Oregon fire service history. The state ended up

sending 15 strike teams with a total of 75 engines to assist in the effort,” he said.

The significance of the contribution made by SVFR was emphasized by Warren, who pointed out the impact a devastating event like the California wildfires can have on people in the path of the conflagration.

Orozco said, “The fire moved very fast. It was in a metropolitan area and it burned 50 blocks in a matter of minutes. There were whole strip malls that were totally gone. There was literally nothing stopping this fire. It burned so hot and so fast it was unstoppable.”

Warren said SVFR responders were able to provide support and comfort to victims of the one of the largest fires in California history.

“Back at the fairgrounds, just on the other side of a fence, were many of the displaced evacuees watching the plumes of smoke rising above

the areas they had just retreated from” Warren said. “Among the memorable experiences our firefighters brought home was the sight of so many affected by this devastating conflagration.

“As they searched through burnt homes for remnants of anything resembling something of important or sentimental value, they came to deeply empathize with those who lost everything.”

The board of directors then heard reports from Langborg, authorized the payment of salaries and outstanding bills and adjourned the meeting.

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Port from 1A

The Port of Siuslaw hopes to hold multiple input meetings in the coming months, with each meeting held on the first Wednesday of the month. Further meetings should begin after the holidays.

In other news from the night, commissioners reviewed the port manager job description in a work session before the public meeting.

In the coming months, the commission will be hiring a new manager after the dismissal of the previous port manager, Steven Leskin.

Currently, McClure is the acting port manager. Her official position is administrative assistant.

The work session was a reckoning of the past few years, examining both negative interpersonal and business issues the port had experienced with past managers. The goal of the review was to stave off future problems by taking each of the requirements of the management position and reworking them in an effort to avoid confusion on what the manager’s responsibilities are, in particular in relation to the commission.

For example, the original wording of the job description read, “(The manager) is responsible for ongoing planning, development and maintenance of Port facilities.”

The requirement put the primary onus of planning on the manager, essentially keeping the commissioners out of the loop until work plans had been finalized.

The wording of the rule had created friction in the past, with managers presenting future plans to the board as essentially final, with the commissioners making recommendations after the fact. At times, managers had already begun acting on future plans before discussing them with the

board.

Instead, the commissioners said they needed to be more involved with the process, with both board and employees working hand in hand to shape the future of the port.

“My suggestion is, the manager brings the board project lists and provides recommendations so the board has more control over the planning and development,” McClure said.

In essence, it creates a concrete delineation between the essential duties of the board and the manager. The board makes policy; the manager maintains the policy.

Multiple other issues were discussed during the session, with the commissioners and McClure confident that the changes would quell future issues.

The process was not completed by the end of the session, and will be continued in further meetings.

The port plans to begin interviewing for a new manager in the first half of 2018.

Finally, the commission discussed the ongoing erosion project. Commissioners approved the existing plan for the project submitted by engineer Jack Aiken, who has been working on the design for more than a year.

However, the design dealt solely with erosion occurring from the river, and did not account for drainage coming from the parking lot.

Commissioner Terry Duman requested grading and drainage plans from the lot be included in the plans.

In addition, the Port of Siuslaw will also co-sponsor the Light Up Your Boat Float on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 3:30 to 7 p.m. Boat displays will be docked at the marina.

The contest is also sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and Breen Marine.

For more information and to sign up, contact the port at 541-997-3040.

and provides for the emotional and spiritual needs of the patient and family facing a serious or chronic illness.

Banner Bank’s open house allowed people to eat hors d’oeuvres and mingle with employees while touring the remodeled spaces.

“I’d like to extend thanks to

all of you, the people who make Florence such a wonderful place to live and do business,” Osborne said. “We’re grateful to our clients for your loyalty and patience during our remodel — which was kind of tough at times — and we look forward to continuing to earn your business in years to come.”

It’s Garage Sale Time!!!!

Saturday - Monday,
November 18-20
10am-6pm

50-80% OFF SELECTED MERCHANDISE

Come early for best selections on
New & Used Women Clothing
and Shoes, Accessories
and Jewelry!

ON YOUR FEET *Splash*

NORTHWEST
Lifestyles *bonjour!*

We’re located at the
FLORENCE PLAYHOUSE
Corner of 1st and Laurel, Old Town Florence

ANNUAL FLORENCE HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

SATURDAY November 25, 2017
3:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Historic Old Town Florence

FREE & OPEN TO EVERYONE

Please join us in celebrating the holidays and supporting local merchants with holiday shopping!

Santa Arrives: 3:30 pm in Siuslaw Valley Fire Truck at Gazebo Park

Hot Cider & Cocoa: 3:30 until it’s gone!

Hayrides: 3:30 - 6:00 pm

Tree Lighting & Caroling at approximately 5:30pm

Presented by:
Florence Area Chamber of Commerce & City of Florence

Connect with us
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florencechamber.com