

**STABLES from page 1**

We make our way down the beach and I decide to see how fast CJ can go. I dig my heels in, gently, and he responds immediately by breaking into a run.

I suddenly find myself on the back of an animal that seems to think he is at the Kentucky Derby. The half-ton equine seems to want to run full out, so I let him, holding on with legs and hands, hoping I won't end up on my butt in the sand.

The speed and strength of the horse are somewhat unexpected, so I pull back on the reins. CJ immediately slows down. I give him a few yards to downshift and we come to a mutually agreed upon stop.

The wind has died down for a few moments and I take in the sharp-edged ocean air and notice the strong connection I feel to CJ, sitting on his broad back. His breathing is heavy, as is mine, although he has done all the heavy lifting, carrying me effortlessly over the last couple of miles.

I let CJ pick his own pace as we turn and head back the way we came, and he seems comfortable with a brisk walk. He slowly angles across the wet,



COURTESY PHOTO

hard-packed sand to join his stable mates. All the horses are heading north now, returning to their home at the stables.

**C&M Stables has initiated programs to work with Florence-area youth from Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County and the Twilight After-school Program at Siuslaw Elementary School.**

We all work our way slowly up the path leading between the wind-swept dunes and the scrub pines.

The re-crossing of the Highway 101 takes a few minutes, as the traffic is denser later in the day, but is accomplished without any problems.

The two-hour ride ends with all the horses and riders gathering in the corral, spending a few minutes discussing the ride and then going their separate ways, most stretching previously unused muscles after dismounting.

Everyone I talked with during the ride and after had a good time, many stating they will definitely be returning.

I give CJ the half apple I have been saving and he gives me a strong nose nudge as I leave him with the young people working in the corral.

Pat Reno, a C&M employee for the last few years, has been working with another group of happy riders, students from the Siuslaw School District. The young people are part of two

new initiatives undertaken by C&M to offer an alternative to traditional after-school activities.

"This is the first year we are doing this with the Twilight Program. We invited all the kids participating in the program to come to C&M and tour the stables. We are doing it over a period of four weeks on Monday and Tuesday," Reno said. "We are going to show them how a ranch works and how great horses are. We give them a ride in the corral and an opportunity to do something that might be a little different than what they are used too."

The second program Reno is working on is The Horse Club. This a chance for students spending time at the Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County to participate in a non-athletic option after school.

"The horse club program has really expanded this year. I typically get a lot of students from the Boys and Girls Club and we have 21 students now," she said.

The program runs during the school year from September to January and then from January to May.

"I've gotten some really positive responses from teachers on how much the kids enjoy the time working with the horses — and that's the reason we are involved," Reno said. "We want kids to have another option for their after-school activities, and we want to show them how much fun horses can be."

Boys and Girls Club Acting Director Chuck Trent said he is pleased C&M Stables is adding an after-school option for students who may not be interested in more traditional activities.

"Having an opportunity like this, to be with animals up close, is awesome for our kids. This provides them with the chance to have something to do other than organized sports," Trent said. "Doing this with C&M is a great partnership for us and we really appreciate their willingness to work with us to make this happen."

**For more information about C&M Stables, call 541-997-7540 or visit [www.oregonhorsebackriding.com](http://www.oregonhorsebackriding.com).**

**Shauna Robbers joins Windermere Real Estate**

Shauna Robbers, a real estate broker with 40 years' prior experience, has joined the team at Windermere Real Estate in Florence. Robbers specializes in residential property as well as new construction. Prior to moving to Florence, she worked as a broker in Santa Monica and in Pennsylvania. She is a board member with the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce and also is a volunteer Ambassador for the Chamber. She enjoys playing Frisbee with her dog, hiking, fishing, camping and traveling.



**Florence adds electric vehicle, Tesla charging stations**

Owners of Tesla automobiles and other electric vehicles (EVs) traveling through Oregon's Central Coast can now charge their cars in Florence's Historic Old Town district.

Thanks to a unique partnership with Tesla, The River House Inn and The Old Town Inn have just powered up charging stations for EVs, making these lodging properties among the only publicly-available charging locations on Highway 101. The Old Town Inn is at 170 Highway 101 in Florence, and The River House Inn is at 1202 Bay Street, along the Siuslaw River in Historic Old Town Florence, just about a block off the high-way.

The new charging station locations join several Tesla "Stage 2" charging stations on the coast. Others can be found in Port Orford (1), Bandon (2), Coos Bay (1), Yachats (1), Waldport (2), Depoe Bay (1), Lincoln City (1), Tillamook (2) and Cannon Beach (4). Rapid Tesla Super-charger stations are located in Bandon and Lincoln City, but more are planned for Oregon's



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

coast.

"Our new charging stations make it even easier for Tesla owners, and owners of other kinds of EVs, to make the exciting and scenic 363-mile drive on Highway 101 from California to Washington, and still have plenty of juice to get back over to I-5 if they choose," explains Craig Sanders, president of Hoagland Properties, owner of the two inns. "Until now, many of these drivers had to miss out on the Oregon Coast experience — especially this section we call Oregon's Coastal Playground."

Though the charging stations are primarily for the hotels' guests, they are available for a

small charge to the rest of the EV motoring public. A charge lasting up to eight hours per vehicle costs around five dollars.

Tesla and other EV drivers have apps like PlugShare and websites like plugshare.com that tell them where they can plug in and how long of a wait they might have.

"We have worked diligently with the folks at Tesla to make it possible for their vehicle owners to drive the entire length of the Oregon coast, as Florence is the midpoint of Highway 101," Sanders said. "In the past, Tesla owners had to stay along I-5 to see Oregon, or make a day trip between Portland or Grants Pass

on I-5 to Highway 101. Others had to be a paying customer at a hotel on the coast, and use fairly slow charging infrastructure."

There are four charging stations at each inn — one general Level 2 EV charger and three Tesla Stage 2 chargers.

Hoagland Properties collaborated with Tesla and Travel Oregon to invest \$21,000 in the project. Tesla paid for a local electrician to install their chargers at a rate of nearly \$8,000 per property. Travel Oregon, the state's primary tourism marketing agency, and ForthMobility — an organization whose mission is to advance electric, smart, and shared transportation in the Pacific Northwest — invested \$2,500 per property. Both will add The Old Town Inn and The River House Inn to maps used by EV drivers and boost tourism to the Central Oregon Coast.

The River House Inn and The Old Town Inn are top-rated in Florence. For more information on the hotels, visit [RiverHouse-Florence.com](http://RiverHouse-Florence.com) or [Old-Town-Inn.com](http://Old-Town-Inn.com).

**Oregon RAIN plans Startup Happy Hours for entrepreneurial learning, networking**

*Events will explore the inspiration, investigation & implementation of launching a startup*

FLORENCE—Oregon RAIN, a state and regionally funded entrepreneurial support group, has planned three Startup Happy Hours for April, May and June. These informal events are for networking and exploring entrepreneurial topics, specifically the inspiration, investigation and implementation of launching a startup. The first Startup Happy Hour is next Tuesday, April 10.

"No matter the industry, every entrepreneur goes through

inspiration, investigation and implementation stages. At these Startup Happy Hours, we will discuss how to do this effectively, and we will hear from guest speakers who have learned a lot about these phases through their own trial and error," said Oregon RAIN Coastal Venture Catalyst David Youngentob. "This will also be a great forum for Florence area entrepreneurs to connect with folks who are also starting new ventures or seeking the inspiration to start one themselves."

**Inspiration** — April 10  
5 to 7 PM  
Beachcomber Pub, 1355 Bay St. in Historic Old Town Florence

Title: Do you know why the best company ideas come from the worst problems?

Guest Speaker: Spencer Holton, Trail Supply Co.

**Investigation** — May 8  
5 to 7 PM  
Beachcomber Pub

Title: Talking to customers before you have anything to sell is the best way to save money

Guest Speaker: Todd Edman, Waitrainer

**Implementation** — Jun 5  
5 to 7 PM  
Beachcomber Pub

Title: A plan is the difference between a wish and a goal

Guest Speakers: Joe Maruschak & Shane Johnson, RAIN Eugene

The Startup Happy Hours are free to attend, and drinks and appetizers are provided. Anyone interested in starting a new venture is encouraged to attend. Guests can RSVP at [www.Facebook.com/OregonRAIN.org/Events/](http://www.Facebook.com/OregonRAIN.org/Events/).

Following the Startup Happy Hour series, Oregon RAIN is planning to host a Startup Weekend in late June. The Startup Weekend is a three-day event where entrepreneurs with various skills meet to pitch ideas, form teams and build and present a prototype of a business or product. More information about Startup Weekend will be available at a later date.

"We're very excited to offer a Startup Weekend to the

Florence startup community because it's a quintessential event in any entrepreneurial ecosystem. Anyone interested in participating in Startup Weekend is encouraged to attend the Startup Happy Hours because they will prepare you for what to expect that weekend," said Youngentob.

In addition to the Startup Happy Hours, Oregon RAIN, with the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Development Center at Lane Community College (LaneSBDC), will offer Florence Pub Talks, a new, monthly business workshop and networking series. The next Pub Talk, titled "3 Ways to Reach More Customers with Digital Marketing," is on April 26, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the LCC Florence Center (3149 Oak St). Tickets can be purchased in advance at [FlorenceChamber.com](http://FlorenceChamber.com).

**About Oregon RAIN**  
The Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network (RAIN) is an Oregon consortium of government, higher education and

the business community. RAIN was founded by the State of Oregon's Regional Solutions network and funded by the 77th Oregon State Legislative Assembly to advance the formation of high-growth innovative startup companies located in Lane, Linn, Benton and Lincoln Counties.

In coordination with the cities of Corvallis and Eugene, as well as communities throughout the region, RAIN is partnered with two accelerators to create a collaborative environment to assist entrepreneurs in establishing viable companies that generate jobs, wealth and opportunities for the region.

RAIN also recently partnered with the City of Florence, Lincoln City, Newport, Toledo and the Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County to launch two pre-accelerator programs serving the mid-coast region. One is based in Florence and the other in Newport.

For more information about RAIN, visit [www.oregonrain.org](http://www.oregonrain.org).

**PORT HOLE CENTER**

**The CENTER of the Oregon Coast!**

Plan Your Event Today!  
[www.PortHoleCenter.com](http://www.PortHoleCenter.com)  
Email: [PortHoleCenter@gmail.com](mailto:PortHoleCenter@gmail.com)

**PORT HOLE BOOKS**  
FULL SERVICE BOOKSTORE!

New - Used - Rare  
Special Orders - Book Searches - Appraisals

[www.PortHoleBooks.com](http://www.PortHoleBooks.com)  
Email: [info@EllenTraylor.com](mailto:info@EllenTraylor.com)  
Owner: ELLEN GUNDERSON TRAYLOR  
[www.EllenTraylor.com](http://www.EllenTraylor.com)

**PORT HOLE PUBLISHING**

**LET US PUBLISH YOUR BOOK!**

[www.PortHolePublishing.org](http://www.PortHolePublishing.org)  
Email: [info@EllenTraylor.com](mailto:info@EllenTraylor.com)

179 Laurel Street - Suite D  
Florence, Oregon 97439  
Ph: 541-999-5725

Owner/Publisher:  
Bestselling Author  
ELLEN GUNDERSON TRAYLOR  
[www.EllenTraylor.com](http://www.EllenTraylor.com)

**Florence Tech Solutions**

- Smart TV Setup
- Virus Malware
- Cloud/iCloud
- Email Setup
- Tutoring
- iPad, iPhone, MAC
- Universal TV Remote
- Sound Bar Setup
- Smart Phone | Tablet
- Monthly Computer Tune-Up
- Streaming Setup (Roku, Firestick)
- Printer Scanner
- Social Media Education
- Website Design

541-991-3705

Jolene Medeiros  
Owner | Technician  
[info@FlorenceTechsolutions.com](mailto:info@FlorenceTechsolutions.com)

**Mon-Fri 9am-4pm • Closed Sat & Sun**  
1431 Bay Street (Old Town)

LCB#6718

**LAUREL BAY GARDENS**

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK  
88493 Hwy 101, 3 miles north of Florence  
(541) 997-5973

**We deliver!**

Plants • Flowers  
Soil • Rock • Bark  
Pavers • Gravel  
Shrubs • Compost