

NATIONAL NIGHT from 1A

“We invite community support through this,” Turner said. “This is definitely a work in progress, as so far we have only had one planning meeting.”

The police department welcomes donations and involvement from area groups.

“At the planning meeting with (Public Works Director) Mike Miller, we started talking about bouncing houses, a free barbecue and all the other possibilities. There was a quick realization that we needed to ask for help,” Turner said.

In the coming months, people in the community might receive a letter of interest and will learn additional ways to help make the event successful.

“We hope to make this an annual event here in Florence moving forward,” Turner said. “We’re excited to have a police-centric

event, as that has been rare for us. This is not something we’ve been doing, and we want to pursue a better, more open and friendly relationship with the community.”

Florence City Councilors said that they could see local community service and church groups embracing the event and getting involved.

“I love the idea of the police getting out in public where we can get to meet them and get to know them individually as members of our community, and not be intimidated by the uniform,” said Councilor Joshua Greene

Florence Mayor Joe Henry said, “This sounds like a great idea.”

“We’re excited to bring it here to Florence,” Turner said.

To find out ways to donate or get involved, contact the Florence Police Department at 541-997-3515.

QUILT OF
VALOR FOR
VIETNAM
VET

Ada Grange #570 member Barb Harter made and presented a Quilt of Valor to Ada member Harold Johnson, a Vietnam veteran who served in the U.S. Army.



RADIO from page 1A

Other benefits of the new equipment are particularly relevant for this area because of the landscape in and around Florence. These benefits have to do with the distance and type of landscape that radio waves can cover during active transmission.

The radio repeater installed on Glenada Hill is a combination of a radio receiver and a radio transmitter. The device works as a receiver and transmitter, enabling two-way radio signals

to cover longer distances. A repeater sited at a high elevation can allow two mobile stations, otherwise out of line of sight of each other, to communicate.

COCARC President Julie McGrew said the purchase of the new repeater was made possible by donations of time and money from members of local radio clubs and the Western Lane Community Foundation.

“Housing and power for the repeater equipment and tower space for the antenna were contributed by West Lane

Translators Incorporated. Cash contributions were provided by Western Lane Community Foundation and the members of COCARD. The project cost was an economical \$7,500 due to the generous time and labor provided by our local radio club,” McGrew said.

There is an ongoing need for members of the Florence area to participate in the work, and fun, being undertaken by COCARD and ARES/RACES members. The likelihood of a natural disaster on the Oregon coast in-

creases every year, and the aging nature of members of both groups, is a cause for concern for McGrew and Pine.

They both want to assure interested individuals that there is educational assistance available for no charge to anyone interested in learning about and becoming involved in amateur radio.

“We are always looking to encourage, train and support anyone who has an interest in amateur radio, whether their interest be in emergency communications, casual radio operation

or the social aspects of participating in our local radio club events,” McGrew said. “For less than \$200, anyone can obtain an amateur radio license and a digital handheld radio that can connect through the new Glenada Hill repeater and communicate with other ham radio operators around the world. And the best part — there are no long-distance charges.”

The Florence Chapter of ARES will also be participating in the 2018 Field Day from 11 a.m. Saturday, June 23, to 11 a.m. Sunday, June 24.

Every June, more than 40,000 amateur radio groups throughout North America set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio’s science, skill and service to local communities

and the U.S. Ham Radio Days combine public service, emergency preparedness, community outreach and technical skills in a single event.

This year’s event will be staged across the street from Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue’s Main Station on Highway 101. It will include stations on amateur radio stations, emergency operations, Morse code, digital and satellite communications.

“We invite you out to see what we do, get a feel for amateur radio and show your support for what we do,” Pine said. “In the event of a disaster, we will be the ones who provide your emergency communication with the outside world. This will show you what we can do.”

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WORKSHOP from page 1A

The patient has a right to rescind the request at any time.

Should either physician have concerns about the patient’s ability to make an informed decision or feel the patient’s request may be motivated by depression or coercion, the patient must be referred for a psychological evaluation.

Florence resident Bruce Yelle has a degenerative neurological condition that, unfortunately for him, does not fit easily into the parameters of the Oregon law. He has been diagnosed with a terminal illness, but he could live for years with the illness, which would disqualify him from utilizing the law to

plan for the end of his life.

He is also concerned that his illness will effect his judgement and this decline in his mental acuity will disqualify him from the law’s requirement that he be mentally able to determine the time and manner of his death.

Yelle has formed a patients-rights group, End Choices, to identify areas in the current statute that need to be modified. He hopes to adjust the law to take into consideration situations like his, that were not considered when the act was written.

“There are some problems with the original law that need to be addressed. I have formed a 501(c)(3) to help educate the public on the gaps in the original law and we hope to be able to change the current law, in the next year or two, to take into account these situations.”

Yelle has spent the past year networking with individuals involved in end of life issues and has found an important ally in the effort, Oregon resident Derek Humphry.

Humphry is the author of the multi-million bestselling book, “Final exit,” which lays out the rational and potential methods for ending one’s own life, which is commonly referred to as suicide.

The author lives in Junction City and will be joining Yelle on Sunday, June 10, at the Bromley Room at the Siuslaw Public Library for a discussion of this topic.

The forum will be educational in nature and Yelle and Humphry will participate in a discussion designed to formulate a plan to change the Oregon law.

Members of the Oregon legislature, including State Sen. Arnie Roblan, have been in contact with Yelle during the last six months and have agreed to assist in his attempts to update the current Death with Dignity law.

“I’ve met with Sen. Roblan, and he has asked us to submit suggested changes to him after we have figured out how the law needs to be changed,” Yelle said. “I think we will have something ready for the legislature to consider in 2019.”

For more information on the End of Life Options workshop on June 10, contact Yelle at 541-590-3204.

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