

# Celebrating and honoring 'Old Glory'



PHOTOS BY MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS



By MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

Florence took time to honor and celebrate Old Glory on Flag Day last Thursday during numerous events held around town.

Flag Day was conceived as a way to recognize the important symbolic place the Stars and Stripes has played in American history and continues to play in

American culture.

This year's Flag Day events around Florence included the annual presentation of the colors by Florence Elks Lodge 1858, the distribution and display of more than 500 flags around town and an official "Retirement Ceremony" for deteriorating flags owned by local residents and organizations.

There were also new additions to the flags displayed for

residents to appreciate, which were located on the boardwalk at the Port of Siuslaw. The stunning visual created by the many different flags was comprised of a wide variety of flags of international origin, each of which had flown over parts of pre-independent America.

The colorful banners brought a striking combination of colors in contrast to the usual mixture of red, white and blue.

The most poignant event of the day was the Retirement of Flags ceremony, which was presided over by Florence American Legion Post #59, at the Veteran's Memorial Park on Bay Street.

Members of local Boy and Girl Scout troops assisted in the ceremony which began with the presentation of colors by members of Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River.

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