CANDIDATES from page 1A

Oregon House of Representatives in Salem, including serving on the Agriculture and Natural Resource Committee, on Transportation.

crowd. While some of the queries questioned decisions made sales tax. by the current administration, ing levels for education and the be more, and it has always gone

possible need for a state-wide down in flames by huge numsales tax.

state's history surrounding earlier attempts at passing a sales tax and asked for a show of the Economic Development hands of those in attendance and Trade Committee and as who would support a sales tax. representative for Oregon Con-Chair of the Joint Commission Though she seemed somewhat surprised when most of the McKeown then opened the hands in the room were raised, tion. meeting to questions from the McKeown appeared resigned to the difficulties of passing a state direct in his criticism of Presi-

most revolved around the fund- ballot at least nine times, may-

bers," McKeown said. "This McKeown cited some of the showing of hands gives me some hope that maybe we can move in that direction in the banks in the country." future."

gressional District 4 since 1987, followed McKeown's presenta-

While the congressman was dent Trump and the adminis-"We've had a sales tax on the tration's policies, changes and of many small communities cuts during its first two years in office, DeFazio was primarily district.

> "The greatest accomplishment of this partisan Republican Congress is the passage of the massive tax cut bill. Seventy-three percent of the benefits cent set aside to dredge small flow to corporations ... and six percent of Americans have gotten a raise or a bonus due to the tax cut," DeFazio said. "The six ing for social programs like to know the Congressman's largest banks in America, al-

means we will borrow \$20 billion and add it to the national debt and give to the six largest

DeFazio then pointed to the the Oregon coast, mentioning the funding needed to maintain and improve the conditions of Oregon's small ports and, in particular, the Siuslaw Estuary.

"Small ports are the lifeblood on the Oregon coast, and the Corps (Army Corps of Engifocused on the work within his neers) has a budget that is not adequate," DeFazio said. "They have huge needs on the Columbia, and elsewhere, and they tend to ignore the small ports ... But I was able to get 10 perports and we are still benefit-

ting from that." The question of cutting fund-Medicare and Social Security ready profitable, will get a \$20 was raised and DeFazio again passing had been handled by Nov. 7 General Election.

billion tax break this year. This turned to the problems created the president. by recent tax cuts. He reiteratmore serious over time.

"We are projected to have DeFazio, who has been the ongoing needs of towns along a trillion-dollar deficits next year. A couple of hundred milcontinued efforts to provide lion of that is due to the tax bill, and that is a real concern. You can't borrow a trillion dollars a year in peace time and make it work," DeFazio said. "This means the debt will equal all of our other economic activity ... and Speaker of the House Paul Ryan has said this will undoubtedly lead to cuts in social Secu-

rity and Medicare." One question from the audience moved away from economics when someone who identified himself as a local veteran asked DeFazio about the death of longtime senator and former prison of war (POW) John McCain, wanting response to the way McCain's

"John and I served togethed his belief that the cuts are a er while he was on the senate major problem that will become side for many years. Mostly we worked together on Coast Guard issues, as we shared jurisdiction there and also things that related to commercial aviation," DeFazio explained. "He was a patriot that served his country both in uniform and in the senate for many years, he suffered horribly as a POW in Vietnam and, while we had our political differences, I think we had a mutual respect for each other. I honor his life and pass-

> ing." When asked if he had an opinion on the manner in which President Trump handled the death of McCain, De-Fazio paused for a moment, obviously choosing his words carefully before answering, "The president showed himself to be very small."

Both DeFazio and McKeown will be on the ballot on the

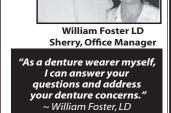
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CRITICAL from page 8A

The City of Florence is

schools, this time with a Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Competitive Grant Program. At a meeting on Aug. 20, Florence City Council directed staff to submit a letter of intent about participating in the FY

2019-20 grant cycle.

This project looks to complete sidewalks on 26th and 27th streets between Highway 101 and Oak Street to help stu-

as well as potentially adding a Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon near the schools on High-

If the letter of intent is approved, the city will submit a formal grant proposal in Oc-Also in October, the Siuslaw

School Board plans to host facilities open houses to encourage community members to

also looking to support local dents walk or bike to school, come in and see for themselves the state of the buildings.

> "A lot of the folks I know who are chamber members went to school at Siuslaw 15, 20, 30 years ago, and they don't know the current conditions," Pierson said. "Over the years, the district has cobbled together classroom spaces in places never intended as classrooms. There is inadequate ventilation, there is no exterior lighting and there are a lot of interesting things to see."

Erickson also encouraged people to talk to current and recently graduated Siuslaw students to get their opinion about the facilities.

"It is very interesting to see how they take it," she said. "They are very bright, they understand and they will fully tell you of the issues with the school. They don't have any reason to hold back, since they are the ones who use the school on a daily basis. It is a big eye opener to hear what

they say." People who wish to know more should visit the Siuslaw School District website, attend or request a presentation at a community meeting or take the survey at www.survey-

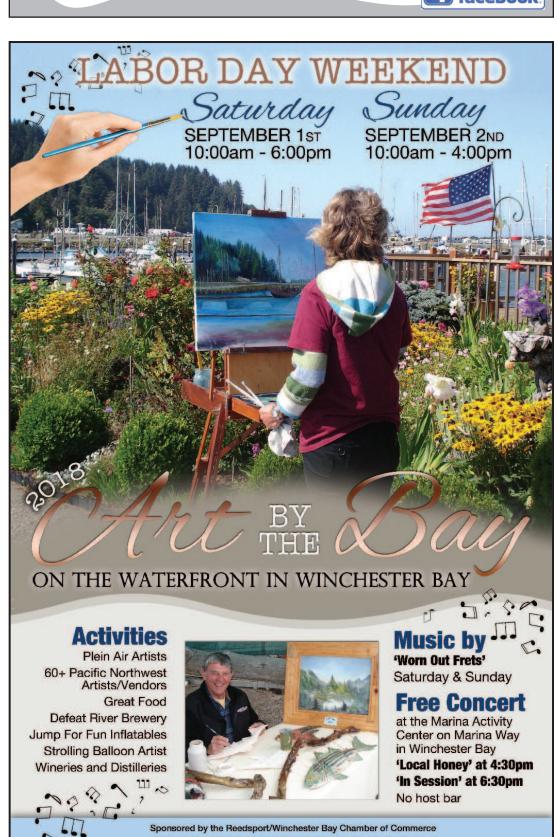
monkey.com/r/bap2. "We just want to get the information out there," Erickson said. "We won't tell people how they should or should not vote. It's their decision. We know it's a large chunk of money, but we want the facts out there."



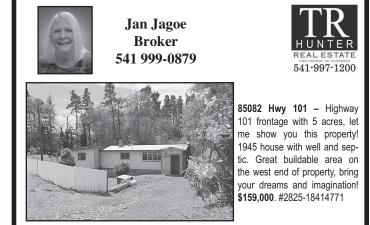
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