

APPLY NOW FOR PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE

The Public Art Committee (PAC) is seeking two community members to add to the selection committee for the Central Lincoln PUD Mural project. This selection committee will meet between Tuesday, Dec. 4, and Thursday, Dec. 6. The selection committee will review the three finalists' proposals and make an artist recommendation for the (PAC). If interested, submit an application form to Sarah Moehrke at Sarah.Moehrke@ci.florence.or.us by noon on Wednesday, Nov. 14.

Operation Christmas Child gift collection to begin

Florence Evangelical Church, 1318 Rhododendron Drive, is once again the area collection point for Operation Christmas Child, the world's largest Christmas project of its kind. Florence residents, families, churches and groups can help spread joy to millions of children around the world by filling shoeboxes as Christmas gifts for them. The gifts can include school supplies, clothing and toys for children ages 2 to 14. From the distribution sites, boxes are flown to countries around the world, and then delivered to communities by trucks — and even donkeys, camels or canoes. This year's National Collection Week is Monday, Nov. 12, to Monday, Nov. 19. Florence project coordinators hope to collect at least 500 shoeboxes this year. Collection hours at Florence Evangelical Church are Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Plus, Wednesday, Nov. 14, from 5 to 8 p.m., and Monday, Nov. 19, from 8 to 10 a.m. Donations to help with postage are also appreciated. For questions about dropping off shoeboxes or putting them together, call the church at 541-997-2523. Operation Christmas Child has been an annual project of Samaritan's Purse since 1993. The project has delivered gift-filled shoeboxes to more than 124 million children, in more than 150 countries and territories. For information, visit www.samaritanpurse.org/occ.



Florence Food Shares Annual Food Pounding Fundraiser

Located at Grocery Outlet

Saturday, November 17th 10am to 2 pm.

The pounding is a yearly event held at Grocery Outlet, where community members buy food and donate it to Florence Food Share. The groceries are weighed, and then donors match those pounds in cash donations, which assist Florence Food Share with operational costs.

The Pounding is not only a source of food and funding but also one of main sources of turkeys for Thanksgiving. This year we are looking to get 150 turkeys during the pounding. There will be turkeys in stock for supporters to purchase. Thank you Florence for helping us share with one another!



Applications now available for 2019 WLCF grant cycle

Western Lane Community Foundation has announced the beginning of its 2019 grant cycle with the availability of the grant application. The application can be found on its website located at www.wlcf.org. Each year, WLCF awards several grants to local non-profit organizations for projects/programs in its target area of western Lane County. Grants are awarded in the areas of education, medicine and science, the arts and social and civic services. In 2018, more than \$73,000 was awarded to several of these worthy causes. Grant requests for the 2019 grant cycle will be accepted until Jan. 15, 2019. The application can be downloaded at WLCF's website and it is highly recommended that applicants review the Grant Guidelines included there. Submit applications to Western Lane Community Foundation, P.O. Box 1589, Florence, OR, 97439 or by email to wlcf@wlcfonline.org in PDF format. Completed applications must be postmarked or received no later than close of business on Jan. 15, 2019. Applications will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and each applicant will be contacted by a WLCF Board member for an interview regarding the request for funds. Grants will be selected in February and then awarded in late March. Selected grant recipients will be required to submit a grant report by Aug. 31, 2019. Grant requests and awards will be selected based on merit, need, and benefit to the community at large. Grant requests and award amounts vary greatly, but are usually between \$100 and \$5,000, depending on the nature of the grant project and funds available for distribution. For more information, call 541-997-1274.

EDUCATION from page 1A

"This week, we are reminded of our great responsibility to empower our nation's students to develop the skills needed to pursue meaningful careers. We must continue our efforts to expand freedom and opportunity in education, with the knowledge that our country's future relies on today's students," says the proclamation, which carried the theme for this year's Education Week as: "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility." Ironically, this year's observance of American Education Week comes one week after the rejection of the Siuslaw School District's request for an \$108 million bond to replace the high school and upgrade the elementary and middle schools. Siuslaw School Board Chair Suzanne Mann-Heintz was understandably disappointed with the outcome of the vote on the school bond. She said

she wants those in the community who supported Measure 20-291 to know the goal of convincing the community of the importance of modern, safe schools has not ended. "I am saddened by our failure to pass the school bond measure. The problems in our old buildings with outdated mechanical equipment and inadequate space will not go away," Mann-Heintz said. "There is no other means for schools to pay for capital improvements than to go to the voters. The school board will have to ask again. As we go back to the drawing board, we are listening and welcome the community's feedback, suggestions and collaboration." Despite the setback, Vonnie McClellan, executive assistant to Siuslaw School Superintendent Andy Grzeskowiak and to the board, said there were still several events planned for this week to celebrate the good work by teachers, administrators and the community in

support of education. "During this year's American Education Week, millions of educators, parents, students and community leaders will join the National Education Association (NEA) in raising awareness about the critical need to provide every child with a quality public education," she said. "Here in Florence, the Siuslaw School District and School Board will be treating all staff to goodie bags and cards made by students as a way of expressing gratitude for the work they do, every day." "Board members and others will be on hand to say a personal thank you to staff," McClellan added. "It will also help reinforce American Education Week's theme, 'Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility.' The theme represents NEA's vision of calling upon all Americans to do their part in making public schools great for every child."

DONATE NOW!
Maximize your donation by donating to Cars for a Cause by Dec. 31st. We accept cars, trucks, RVs, boats & motorcycles CALL NOW!

- Helps those in need in Lane County
- Charitable donation
- We do all the paperwork

St. Vincent de Paul
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18th ANNUAL 'TREE OF GIVING'
Begins Monday, Nov. 26th
Stop by for a coffee or hot chocolate and cookies. Select an ornament from the tree representing gift requests for specific necessities by a high school student in our community. Return gifts to us by Dec. 19, to be distributed before Christmas break.

SIUSLAW
Glass & Mirror ccb#55030
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Holiday Gift Guide

Christmas Gift List

Toys • Books
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Houseware
Furniture
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