

# HOLIDAY TRADITIONS & MEMORIES: PART II

By Chantelle Meyer  
Siuslaw News

Traditions are best when they are shared, especially when there are tasty treats involved. See how these families spice it up for the holidays in these memories shared with the Siuslaw News.

### A CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Every other year our family gathers together with all of us that live in different states. We make tamales on Christmas Eve and we have a cookie decorating table and a craft table for the little ones. Finally, after a big potluck dinner (the tamales are bagged and given to everyone to take home) Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive with gifts for all the children. I'm so excited that this is the year to gather! And we always have a cake for Jesus' Birthday.  
— Karen Buckmaster  
(submitted via Facebook)

### MAKING TAMALES

Merry Christmas!  
My sister's family has a tamale making day around Dec. 10 at grandma's house.



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

The Siuslaw River Bridge Interpretive Center in Historic Old Town Florence features a festive holiday display.

The men decorate the outside of grandma's house with lights and yard decorations while the women make the

tamales and the children decorate grandma's tree. They all have a big potluck with Christmas music and cookies. This

Donna, the Yule log?  
— Susan Becker McGuire

Yup, with Santa, of course.  
— Donna McGuire

year they made 230 tamales!  
— Lynette Kristine  
(submitted via Facebook)

From now through the end of the year, the Siuslaw News is featuring the region's favorite holiday memories and traditions. Hilarious or heartfelt, recent or from those famous "days of yore," share the warmth of the holidays with your friends and neighbors. Submissions should be around 250 words, and a photo can be included. The Siuslaw News welcomes all submissions, though reserves the right to edit as needed. Send submissions to [PressReleases@TheSiuslawNews.com](mailto:PressReleases@TheSiuslawNews.com) or message us on Facebook.



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10818 Hwy 36 – Large commercial building on two city lots at the junction of Hwy 36 and 126 in Mapleton, a high traffic area. Metal building with high open beam ceiling, 3 phase power on one meter. Check with Lane County for zoning uses. Property is being sold "as is". \$65,000. #2802-18047518



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## Travelers should watch for debris and high water

High winds and heavy rainfall are causing problems for Oregon travelers who should be on the lookout for downed trees and debris, downed power lines and high water caused by clogged storm drains. Strong winds hit the Oregon Coast, Willamette Valley and Cascades Monday evening and continued through Tuesday. The wind has created many traffic hazards, including downed trees, broken tree limbs and other debris on area roads. The heavy rainfall has caused areas of high standing water. Here are a few travel tips from Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT):

- Slow down: High winds can

make it harder to control your vehicle or bicycle.

- Reduce speed and be especially wary when moving into an unprotected area and when coming alongside a large vehicle.
- Slow down, especially through high water. Driving through several inches of water at high speed can cause you to lose control of the car; it could also splash water into the engine and stall it. Lowering your speed helps you prepare for sudden stops caused by disabled cars, debris and other wet-weather hazards.
- Keep your distance. A car needs two to three times more stopping distance on wet roads.
- Turn on your headlights to

improve visibility. Use your low beams!

- Disengage your cruise control.
- Allow more time to reach your destination. In severe weather, closures and crashes can cause long delays.

Hydroplaning occurs when your front tires ride on a film of water. It can occur at speeds as low as 35 miles per hour, especially if tires are worn. If you hydroplane, ease off the gas, gently apply the brakes and steer straight ahead. Travelers should also be prepared for unexpected road closures, so keep alternate routes in mind. For updates on traffic, go to [www.TripCheck.com](http://www.TripCheck.com) or call

511. Access for pedestrians, including those with disabilities, is available and identified through or around work zones. High wind, especially after periods of rain, can cause landslides or push rocks, trees or brush into the roadway. Travelers should be especially vigilant in areas prone to slides, including hilly areas. Downed trees can cause power outages which can knock out traffic signals. When traffic signals are off, treat intersections like a four-way stop. Remember, keep both hands on the wheel and pull over if conditions get too rough. For current road conditions, visit to [www.TripCheck.com](http://www.TripCheck.com).



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It's the season of giving...of hope, joy and love.

Because of your gifts, we did amazing things this year. From providing comfort to our littlest patients with child life specialists at PeaceHealth Sacred Heart RiverBend, providing new hospital beds at PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center, to providing palliative care for PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center patients in times of transition.

In the spirit of gratitude, we say thank you to our PeaceHealth Oregon Foundation Giving Societies and every donor who supports the mission of PeaceHealth in Oregon.

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