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WEATHER



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Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY



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Vikings nipped by  
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## Port completes erosion project



PHOTOS BY JARED ANDERSON & MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS  
Work is finally complete at the Port of Siuslaw marina alongside the Siuslaw River. The 550 cubic yards of boulders and riprap provide a foundation to prevent further erosion.

*Campground riverfront  
repair fully-funded*

BY JARED ANDERSON  
SIUSLAW NEWS

After more than three years of planning and work, the Port of Siuslaw is finally putting the finishing touches on fixing the erosion damage along the riverfront on the east end of the campground.

“It feels really good to get it done,” Port Manager David Huntington said. “The look of it makes me feel like it was worth it. It’s nice, it really is.”

Official work on the project began just after New Year’s Day, which started with sloping the affected area. Then, a 12-ounce fabric was laid down, with a combination of 550 cubic yards of boulders and riprap — loose stone used as a foundation — covering the fabric. All of this combined protects against both runoff from above, and any possible erosion that could occur from the river below.

“I like the clean appearance, the contour of the slope,” Huntington

said of the completed design. “And just knowing that it’s going to help the port. I hope it’s going to last forever. I can’t imagine it’s going to fall apart.”

Running along the top of the slope will be native vegetation.

The erosion was caused in part by the heavy winter of 2015-16. The affected portion of the campground has been closed since April 2016.

See PORT page 7A

## Women’s Wave events scheduled for Saturday

BY MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

Since the 2016 presidential election, there has been a significant rise in activism in the U.S., particularly among women and minorities. During the most recent national elections held last November, women set records for the number of female candidates for governor, U.S. House and U.S. Senate. As a result, candidacies dramatically effected the U.S. House of Representatives, which welcomed an historic number of 90 women to its ranks in early January.

Over the past two years, increased attention to the concerns expressed by the #MeToo movement has also contributed to growing support for, and participation in, the annual Women’s March, which was held for the first time in 2016, just days after the inauguration of President Donald Trump.

For 2019, that march has expanded into what has been renamed the “Women’s Wave,” which will be across the nation, including Florence, on Jan. 19.

“This year’s march in Florence is more than a march. It will be a celebration and a fundraiser meant to be positive and to recognize the strides taken by women in the past year,” said Eileen Angilletta, spokesperson for the local affiliation of groups involved in sponsoring the local Women’s Wave.

See RALLY page 7A

## Details come forward on assisting Coast Guard

*Station Siuslaw River works with military museum, residents on ways to offer support*

BY CHANTELE MEYER  
& MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

On Monday morning, Senior Chief Jay Nilles, officer in charge of Station Siuslaw River, agreed to host a small meeting for concerned citizens working to assist Coast Guard personnel affected by the federal government shut down. The group wanted to spread the most current information available on ways to support the Coast Guard and other federal employees, many of whom haven’t been paid since the shutdown began on Dec. 22.

“We’re here, the lights are still on and we’re still able to respond,” Nilles said.

On Tuesday, the Coast Guard did not get paid for any work done since Jan. 1, despite active-duty members being required to work and train as usual throughout the 26 days the shutdown has lasted so far. Money came through for the Coast Guard for one check early in the shutdown process, but either one of the two federal “Pay Our Coast Guard Acts” or a signed budget will need to pass before additional funds are released.

For families in the Siuslaw region needing to pay rent, utilities and living



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River continues to operate amidst the current government shutdown, now in its 26th day.

expenses, including food and transportation, those funds can’t come soon enough. In the meantime, local community members have come to-

gether to offer resources once an outlet is in place.

Florence Mayor Joe Henry said, “It is important that something gets done. It is good to see this community step up and step forward to help make that happen. And I hope it continues going further until the situation is resolved.”

Henry was speaking of a “Military Assistance Program” list created by Oregon Coast Military Museum and Museum Executive Director Cal Applebee. The list, now available at TheSiuslawNews.com and other community sites, both details how people can make direct donations on behalf of Station Siuslaw River to the Chief Petty Officers Association (CPOA) in North Bend — which will then send support back to the local station and throughout the sector — as well as the best, most ethical methods of supporting affected individuals and families. The list will be updated throughout the current shutdown as more permanent ways of supporting local military personnel are crafted.

Applebee said he launched a request last week “insisting that we do something, since we’re a Coast Guard City.

See SUPPORT page 6A

**VAN FANS FUNDRAISER WILL BE FUN AND GAMES**

Get together with friends for a fun day of card games and lunch hosted by the Van Fans

Friends of Florence Van Fans is a nonpolitical organization that sponsors this event twice a year. All proceeds go to support the Cancer Bus which transports patients every weekday to and from Eugene and Springfield for radiation treatments.



**WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 20TH**

at the Elks Lodge 1686 12th Street. Check in time is 11:30/Lunch at Noon

Tickets are on sale now for \$15 and includes lunch.

To reserve a table for the game of your choice contact:

**Connie Rosenbalm 541-997-8205**

**Sharon Gelmstedt 541-991-3209**