

**PILOT from page 1A**

of practicing landing and takeoffs and using instruments to land at the larger and more challenging air traffic situation in play at the Eugene Municipal Airport.

"We did all the flight planning and wrote our course up," he said. "We took off and climbed to 9,500 feet. Then we flew up to Crater Lake and made a right turn on the outside of the crater so I could take some pictures, which was really cool."

Tomeny first worked with LaCosse when he attended a two-week seminar sponsored by Tomeny and Spayd called the Air Academy. The classes are offered by the Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County during the summer so area students can learn about careers in aviation.

"Elijah was in the first Florence Air Academy two years ago," Tomeny said. "He was focused then as a 14-year old and knew that he wanted to be a pilot. Actually, I flew with him on his flight back then. It's very rewarding seeing a sharp young man follow his passion, especially now being able to solo him out."

Tomeny and LaCosse established a bond during the academy. That friendship has continued to the point where Tomeny has taken on a mentorship role with the aspiring young pilot, encouraging him and providing advice as he progresses through the certification and training curriculum needed to become a licensed pilot.

"I was looking to do an introductory flight to make sure I actually wanted to be a pilot. I had never flown before, I'd been in commercial jets, but I'd never flown," LaCosse said. "I wanted to make sure that before I invested all this



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS  
**Elijah LaCosse and Terry Tomeny plot a flight course as part of LaCosse's pilot preparation lessons.**

time and money, it was actually something I wanted to do."

LaCosse said he enjoyed his time at the Air Academy and wanted to continue learning, but was confronted by a

common obstacle that faces many young people pursuing their dreams: a lack of money.

"After the academy, I was still thinking about getting my pilot's license, but I knew I didn't have anywhere near

the amount of money, nor did I have the revenue capabilities to make enough money to pay for it and to get it done in a reasonable amount of time," he said. "But for my birthday, my grandpa said, 'I have these stocks I have been saving and I can pay for you to get your pilot's license.'"

The enthusiasm LaCosse feels when discussing his future is infectious. His plans for the future have been dramatically changed thanks to the generosity of his family.

LaCosse and Tomeny are optimistic about his future — and both are determined to keep working towards their goal of obtaining a pilot license for LaCosse.

"Next steps are to teach him navigation and to send him solo to other airports," Tomeny said. "We will do some night flying and then get him ready to take a check-ride with a flight ex-

aminer for his private pilot's license. But he has to be 17 to do that and his birthday is not until November. He's progressing so well we may need to slow down."

When LaCosse was asked to sum up his experiences surrounding flying, his response was as upbeat as could be expected.

"It's been really awesome. I've been progressing really fast. It's been amazing, a really wonderful experience," he said. "It's really hard for me to pinpoint exactly what I like about flying, but I do know there is literally almost nothing that makes me happier."

The Boys and Girls Club will again offer Air Academy classes this summer during the first two weeks of August. Interested students or families can contact the club at 541-902-0304 or visit bgc.wl.c.org for more information.

# What's happening in the Siuslaw region

**Weekly**

**Florence Pickle-Ball**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday — weather permitting | Open to all ages & skill levels  
8:30 to 11 a.m.  
Rolling Dunes Park, 35th St.

**Tuesdays**

**Yoga for Pain Management**

Sponsored by PeaceHealth Peace Harbor; Free — drop-ins welcome  
2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Yoga mats and other equipment are supplied  
Lane Community College Florence Center

**Peace Harbor Farm Stand**

Collaboration between PeaceHealth, Trillium Community Health Plan and FOOD for Lane County  
Fresh, seasonal vegetables and fruits free to people with OHP or who qualify for food assistance  
PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center, 400 Ninth St.

**Florence Farmers Market**

May to October  
3 to 6 p.m.; open to public  
Intersection of Bay and Kingwood streets in Historic Old Town Florence

**Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families**

5:30 to 7 p.m.; open to public  
Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church  
For more info, contact 541-991-3223

**Yoga At The Blue Warehouse**

With instructor Dave Garff  
6 to 7:15 p.m. | \$10/session  
The Blue Warehouse, 80 Harbor St.

**Wednesdays**

**Fun Connections Playgroup**

For children 5 and under  
9:30 to 11 a.m.; Open to families  
Pregnancy & Parenting Center

**Points of Grace Community Acupuncture**

Experience relief from pain and stress; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. | Donations appreciated  
1845 Highway 126

**Yoga At The Blue Warehouse**

With instructor Tracy Markley  
6 to 7:15 p.m. | \$10/session  
The Blue Warehouse, 80 Harbor St.

**Thursdays**

**Yoga for Pain Management**

Sponsored by PeaceHealth Peace Harbor; Free

## Oceans FLAMENCO EN VIVO

Seattle-based Flamenco artist, Savannah Fuentes brings her latest work, *Oceans, Flamenco en Vivo*, to Florence on Saturday, June 8, at 7:30 p.m.

The water-themed presentation will feature singer/percussionist Jose Moreno and guitarist Pedro Cortes. Both musicians are third generation Spanish Flamenco artists and reside in New York City. The all-ages performance is the second engagement of a 29-date that tour that begins in Bellingham, Wash., and ends in Southern California.

This is an all-ages event, with general admission for \$22, VIP reserved seating for \$35, student tickets for \$13 and child pricing of \$7. Tickets are available at eventcenter.org. For



more info, visit savannahf.com.

**Savannah Fuentes**

Born in Seattle to parents of Puerto Rican and Irish ancestry, Fuentes is one of the only touring artists in the Pacific Northwest region with strong links to Flamenco culture. She studies both baile (flamenco dance) and cante (flamenco singing).

**Jose Moreno**

Born into a family of famous flamenco artists, Moreno began his flamenco career at an early age. His debut was at the famous Tablao Cos-

ta Vasca in Miami. Jose continued his studies with the Great Manolete, Farruquito, and Andres Marin and Cajon Percussion with Manuel Soler.

**Pedro Cortes**

Coming from a family of Spanish Gypsy guitarists, Cortes began his studies with his father and the esteemed flamenco guitarist Sabicas. Cortes is a third-generation Flamenco guitarist and uses the experience passed down to him by his family to maintain the purity of flamenco while creating new compositions.

— drop-ins welcome  
2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Yoga mats and other equipment are supplied  
Lane Community College Florence Center

**Women's Empowerment**

A safe space for encouragement, life skills and discussion  
4 to 6 p.m.; open to women  
Siuslaw Outreach Services | 541-997-2816

**Yoga At The Blue Warehouse**

With instructor Tracy Markley  
6 to 7:15 p.m. | \$10/session  
The Blue Warehouse, 80 Harbor St.

**Community Chorus of Florence**

7 to 8:30 p.m.; Open to new members;  
Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw

**2nd & 4th Friday**

**Free Testing for HIV and HepC**  
Hosted by Alliance for Men's Wellness and HIV Alliance | 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; free  
PeaceHealth Oregon Cardiology

**Saturdays**

**Jerry's Place Pool Tournament**

1:30 p.m.; \$5 buy-in  
Not held during Rhody Weekend  
Jerry's Place, 88274 Rhododendron Dr.

**Sundays**

**2019 Yachats Farmers Market**

May to October | 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Yachats Commons | yachatsfarmersmarket.webs.com

**June 8**

**Friends of the Library Book Sale**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; open to public  
Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth St.

**2nd Saturday Gallery Tour**

3 to 5 p.m.; Open to public  
Various locations around Florence  
2ndSaturdayGalleryTour.com

**Bret Lucich & Paul Biondi Experience at Three Rivers**

7 to 11 p.m.; 21+  
Blue Bills Sports Bar at Three Rivers Casino Resort

**June 9**

**Mapleton Lions Club Breakfast**

Pancakes, Eggs, Ham and/or Sausage, OJ and Coffee  
7:30 to 10:30 a.m. | Cost \$7 for adults, \$4 kids  
Mapleton Lions Club, 88148 Riverview Ave.

**Friends of the Library Big June Book Sale**

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; open to public  
Siuslaw Public Library, 1460 Ninth St.

**Ryan Marvel in Concert**

Kathy Parson's House Concert Series  
7 to 9 p.m.; donations accepted  
RSVP to kathympiano@gmail.com for details

**June 10**

**SAFE (Smart Alert Fearless Equipped) Women**

Personal safety program  
6 to 8 p.m.; RSVP encouraged to safewomenflorence@gmail.com  
The Blue Warehouse, 80 Harbor St.

**Siuslaw Soil & Water Conservation District Board Meeting**

6:30 p.m.; open to public  
SSWCD District Office, 1775 Laurel Way #4

**Siuslaw Middle School Band Concert**

7 p.m.; open to public | Florence Events Center

**June 11**

**Mapleton Cribbage Club**

5 p.m.; open to public  
Mapleton Branch of Siuslaw Public Library, 88148 Riverview Ave.

**Summer Reading Family Movie Night**

6 to 8 p.m.; open to children and families  
Siuslaw Public Library District | Siuslawlibrary.info

**Us TOO Florence Prostate Cancer Support Group**

With Dr. Bryan Mehlhaff  
5 to 7 p.m.; Open to public  
Ichiban Restaurant | 541-999-4239

**June 12**

**Women Veterans Day**

**Coastal Women Veterans Luncheon**

11:30 a.m.; open to women vets and guests  
1285 Restobar; RSVP to 541-590-3346, ardel-laedwards@outlook.com

**Florence Garden Club**

1 p.m.; Open to public  
Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3996 Highway 101

**June 13**

**Siuslaw Talespinners Toastmasters**

5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Open to public  
Port of Siuslaw Office

**Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting**

5:30 p.m.; RSVP required  
Three Rivers Casino—Events Center  
541-997-3128 or Bettina@FlorenceChamber.com

**June 14**

**CDABA Artist's Challenge Reception**

5 to 7 p.m.  
Open to public; 541-271-2485  
Mindpower Gallery, 417 Fir Ave.

**Hecktic Week at Three Rivers**

7 to 11 p.m.; 21+  
Blue Bills Sports Bar at Three Rivers Casino Resort

**June 15**

**FEC Indoor Yard Sale**

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; \$1 admission  
Florence Events Center

**Jeep Junction**

Hosted by Oregon Coast Military Museum  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; open to public  
Johnston Motor Co., 2150 Highway 101

**Flight Dance Team Auditions**

Noon; open to youth  
CROW Center for the Performing Arts, 3120 Highway 101 | crowkids.com

**Spring Into Summer Acrylic Pour Art with Pam Nedder**

2 to 4 p.m.; registration required  
Florence Regional Arts Alliance, 120 Maple St.  
541-997-4435

**Hecktic Week at Three Rivers**

7 to 11 p.m.; 21+  
Blue Bills Sports Bar at Three Rivers Casino Resort

## A Weekly Listing of Community Events in the Florence Area

Submit all events information to [PressReleases@TheSiuslawNews.com](mailto:PressReleases@TheSiuslawNews.com)

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Cell: 541-505-1180  
Alva@CBCoast.com  
541-997-7777  
100 Hwy. 101, Florence, OR  
COLDWELL BANKER  
COAST REAL ESTATE

**Us TOO Florence**  
Prostate Cancer Education Support on the Oregon Coast  
www.usrooflorence.org  
• Tuesday Evening Group (2nd Tuesday) 5-7 p.m. - Ichiban Chinese/Japanese Restaurant • Urologist Dr. Bryan Mehlhaff attends.  
• Tuesday Lunch Group (3rd Tuesday) 12 noon - 1:00 p.m. - Ichiban Chinese/Japanese Restaurant • Urologist Dr. Roger McKimmy attends.  
Contact Bob for more information: (H) 541-997-6626 • (C) 541-999-4239 maribob@oregonfast.net

**Tires LES SCHWAB**  
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**ONLINE**  
**Florence Kiwanis**  
On-line auction - \$6000 in local items.  
www.florencekiwanis.org.

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541-361-9080  
jmirvis@charter.net  
Florence, Oregon

**CTR County Transfer & Recycling**  
CTR provides solid waste collection and recycling services for both residential and commercial customers in Florence, Mapleton, Dunes City, Westlake and Ten Mile Areas.  
We offer big company support and local company service. For more information on how we can serve you call us at  
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