

Greater Florence Area
Business Quarterly

 Special Section
 Inside — A8

Inside – Progress: Real Estate


VOL. 129, NO. 54
 NEWS & VIEWS THAT DEFINE OUR COMMUNITY
 FLORENCE, OREGON

WEATHER

 Partly sunny with a high of 67 and a low tonight of 52.
 Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY

 Wings & Wheels Returns today
 INSIDE — A3

SPORTS

 Cyclists return to Florence
 INSIDE — SPORTS

RECORDS
 Obituaries & emergency response logs
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SIDE SHOW
 Activities and comics every Saturday
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 Listings and public notices
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Fourth of July festivities ROCKETS' RED GLARE

Fireworks end full day of fun, food, friends in Florence

STORY BY MARK BRENNAN
 PHOTOS BY MARK BRENNAN, CHANTELE MEYER AND VICTORIA SANCHEZ
 SIUSLAW NEWS

The 2019 Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Independence Day Fireworks display drew thousands of spectators to the Port of Siuslaw for the dynamic ending of a sunny day that had earlier featured pie and watermelon eating contests as well as events around town.

Young and old alike participated in the friendly contests, which this year were sponsored by Florence Habitat for Humanity and the chamber.

The crowd started arriving at the large lawn by the marina boardwalk around noon and, by sunset, hundreds had staked out a small patch of ground

from which to watch the highlight of the day, which came with the fireworks display at 10 p.m.

There was some concern earlier this year that Florence would not have a fireworks show this year due to logistical concerns; there didn't appear to be a way to launch the fireworks from the river, as the barge that had served as a launching pad for the pyrotechnics had been sold and moved to another location.

Fortunately, Port of Siuslaw



Mapleton fireworks come back after a two-year hiatus

The Mapleton High School parking lot was awash in smoke, flashing lights and smiles as family members from across the

By JARED ANDERSON
 SIUSLAW NEWS

upriver community gathered to watch the return of Mapleton's fireworks show.

"My husband and I used to watch the ones that happen across the street. After they stopped doing that, we went to Florence, but we're so happy it's back here now," said Malena Butler as she tailgated with her family, setting off their own fireworks when they were waiting for the big show to begin. "I feel like it makes families even closer, and the community that much closer. It definitely makes you get to know your neighbors and people that you would never really talk to."

Malena's niece, six-year-old Katie, smiled as she spun a sparkler around in various designs.

"Crazy sparkles," Jesse Butler said, watching Katie laugh as the burning embers fell to the ground.

See MAPLETON page 5A



Local loggers' voices heard on House Bill 2020

R&R King Logging, Foglio Trucking participate in Timber United rally in Salem

BY VICTORIA SANCHEZ
 SIUSLAW NEWS INTERN

In June, the Oregon House and Senate were in the midst of trying to pass a controversial cap-and-trade bill with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emission levels to 80 percent below what they were in 1990 by 2050. This would be done by essentially charging corporations for polluting in the state, as well as raising gasoline prices in an effort to transition Oregonians to renewable energy instead of fossil fuels. These changes would have affected rural Oregonians more, as farmers, truckers and loggers would have to pay more for the gasoline that goes in their equipment.

R&R King Logging has been part of the Florence community for more than 50 years. Started by her grandfather and father, Jennifer Waggoner is now the partial owner of R&R. Both she and her husband are multi-generational logging families and, currently, R&R works with large



COURTESY PHOTOS
 (Right) Jennifer and Cait Waggoner travel to Salem to join the Timber United rally against controversial cap-and-trade bill that would adversely affect rural industrial businesses.



industrial landowners for logging around Oregon.

"It's as much a business as it is a culture," Waggoner said.

According to the Oregon Forest Resource Institute, Oregon is the country's number one producer of softwood lumber, which is wood from coniferous trees

used mainly in furniture, structural framing, beams and other construction.

For Waggoner, logging is — and has always been — a lifestyle. That's why, on June 27, she and

her 13-year old daughter, Cait, attended the Timber United rally at the state capitol in Salem, which included loggers, truckers, road construction and agriculture workers showing their support for the Republican senators who walked out of the capitol and left the state on June 20 after House Bill 2020 came before the Oregon senate.

"We started driving into the capital and we had tears, because people were so proud of what they do for a business and the product they provide, and to be able to link arm to arm with other people that share those values and contributions to our community," Waggoner said. "The trucks kept coming around the corner and it was so moving. People made a lot of sacrifices to be there."

In an effort to curb the rapidly warming climate, HB 2020 intended to commit Oregon to a cap-and-trade system, setting caps on the total greenhouse gas emissions allowed for industries around the

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SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE

THE VAN FANS ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL
 Saturday, July 20, from 1 to 3 p.m.
 at the Florence Events Center.
 Everyone is welcome
 Please, come spend a relaxing afternoon, enjoy the ice cream, and do something that will help a neighbor or friend.

TICKETS ARE \$8
 and will be available at the door.

We are serving:
 • Homemade pie and cake (a la mode of course)
 • Hot and Cold beverages
 Separate Gift Drawing and Raffle tickets Sold


