





FALL AUTO PAGE INSIDE — A8

Attention Medicare Recipients: Consult YOUR Local Expert!

→ PEACEHEALTH will no longer accept ALL Medicare Advantage Plans that it did as of 2020. Find out what this means for YOU! A Free, 40 minute, Educational Workshop will help you discover ALL options for which you qualify. (lower rates)

Tues. October 29th Either 11am or 4pm;
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VOL. 129, NO. 85
NEWS & VIEWS THAT DEFINE OUR COMMUNITY
 FLORENCE, OREGON

WEATHER



Clouds and sunshine with a high of 54 and a low tonight of 49.
Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY



Scare-CROW and other Halloween events.
INSIDE — A6



SHS gears up for district meet.
INSIDE — SPORTS

RECORDS
 Obituaries & Anniversaries
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SIDE SHOW
 Activities and comics every Saturday
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CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

City of Florence and RAIN representatives welcome entrepreneurs from Pakistan to Florence City Hall earlier this month.

An invitation to entrepreneurs

RAIN continues four-year partnership with City of Florence

BY CHANTELLE MEYER
 SIUSLAW NEWS

In October, Oregon Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (RAIN) celebrated four years of partnering with the City of Florence to boost a start-up and entrepreneurial economy. In two events on Oct. 15, an "Art-repreneur" Meetup at The Studios at Jayne Smoley Designs and a women in business tea at The Bodega, RAIN reaffirmed its dedication to rural communities and the entrepreneurial spirit that can uplift economies and improve futures.

"We only enter cities who invite us in. Fortunately, four years ago we got invited to the City of Florence, which was the first rural community to invite us in," said Caroline Cummings, executive director of RAIN.

In 2015, Florence City Manager Erin Reynolds contacted Cummings about a

partnership with RAIN. "She said, 'We know we have really talented entrepreneurs in this community, but we're a government. We don't know how to help them raise capital, think through their finances or realize if there is a market for their great ideas, whether it's an art project, turning a hobby into a business or a new technology, consumer or food product,'" Cummings said. "Once we started getting calls from rural communities, that's when RAIN thought, 'Wow, there's a real need.'

By working with the City of Florence, RAIN launched into the rural areas of Lane, Linn, Lincoln and Benton counties, following the organization's successes in Corvallis and Eugene.

According to Cummings, RAIN has now been invited into 20 rural communities in the State of Oregon.

"The size of the territory we cover is about half of the country of Pakistan," she said.

In Florence, several entrepreneurs have been involved with RAIN since the beginning, including fused glass artist Jayne Smoley. By working with RAIN, she developed a product, planned a business model, shifted plans, and eventually opened The Studios at 1458 First St. in Historic Old Town Florence.

"It's been a pure joy to work with RAIN," Smoley said. "I went to the very first meetup four years ago at City Lights Cinemas and met Caroline. RAIN has been a tremendous support throughout, ... connecting us with other businesspeople, finding support with financial institutions and introducing us to people who can support and help us grow our businesses."

Besides running The Studios, Smoley also began selling curated Studio Boxes, filled with themed art and regional products.

For RAIN, Smoley has been a success, Cummings said, because not only did she "pivot" from one idea to another,

she has found a way to support her business, create local jobs and find ways to help other artists.

"Jayne has really epitomized what it means to be an entrepreneur, because now it has come full circle and she is giving back, hosting and mentoring. That's really what we need," Cummings said. "We want Florence's entrepreneurial ecosystem to be about you, not about us and RAIN. This is community driven, so it needs to be owned by you and the community to really build the ecosystem. Jayne and many of the other entrepreneurs in the community have really stepped up to the plate to do that."

The Art-repreneur event was a relaxed meetup, where past RAIN participants were able to visit with people new to RAIN's model. Smoley also led a fused glass demonstration.

One highlight of the event was the participation of six women visitors

See RAIN page 5A

Climate debate continues (Part II)

BY MARK BRENNAN
 SIUSLAW NEWS

The Biosphere is extremely resilient. There have been numerous, major shifts in worldwide weather patterns over the millennia and there will always be climate changes on Earth. Nature has the ability to recover from degradation and adapting to the consequences of human life on Earth.

Then again it may not.

The geologic record clearly indicates there have been multiple ice ages and also extended periods of much warmer-than-average temperatures during the last 50,000 years and longer, going back a million years in some estimations.

The fossil record is replete with examples encased in the plants, rocks and earth of changes in the quantity and percentages of Co2 and methane in the atmosphere.

This resource can be studied to determine the biological make-up of the Earth's land and water during previous geologic eras and also in shorter time frames. Data gathered by scientists that work to understand the changes in the climate, and how it has impacted the planet, is for the most part aligned with the interpretation that man is having a direct negative impact on the viability of Earth.

Many scientists believe mankind has so dramatical-

ly impacted the planet that it has entered a new geological epoch — the Anthropocene — or, the era of human planetary control.

They also point out what, in a geological sense, is an abrupt spike in extreme weather conditions as proof that a change has taken place.

However, there are those who don't support the notion of what some are calling a climate "crisis." Among them is Florence resident Ian Eales, who disagrees with the positions expressed by local environmental activist Mike Allen in Part I of this series.

"What is 'abrupt?' There is

See CLIMATE page 7A

Individuals recognized by WLFEA for life-saving efforts

BY JARED ANDERSON
 SIUSLAW NEWS

Last Thursday night's meeting of the Western Lane Fire and EMS Authority (WLFEA), the administrative board of Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) and Western Lane Ambulance District (WLAD), showed how it takes a community to save a life. A special presentation was held to present a group of individuals Life Saving Awards.

WLFEA EMS Operations Chief Matt House presented the recognitions.

"On Sept. 11, which we all

know is a day of infamy for us, 343 brothers and sisters died in an act of terrorism," House, who presented the awards, said. "However, for this gentleman, it was a day that he was reborn."

House stood next to John R. Peterson, who last month, while shopping at the local Fred Meyer, went into cardiac arrest. Fred Meyer employees immediately began CPR on Peterson.

"Every minute of CPR that's not being done decreases the survival rate of a patient by 10

See WLFEA page 5A

Honor a loved one with a gift of light.

Brighten our tree with a light and inscribed star in honor of someone special.

Light Up A Life
 at the Florence Events Center
 Saturday, November 9, 2019 • 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Free Admission. Refreshments served.
 For more information call:
 Peace Harbor Hospice 541-997-3418



PeaceHealth
 Peace Harbor Medical Center