

**BUS from page 1A**  
The bus stops in Veneta and Mapleton before working its way to Three Rivers Casino Resort, then making a stop at the Old Town Park on Bay Street before ending its outbound run at Grocery Outlet.  
The trip takes approximately two hours and the Florence to Eugene route retraces the stops made on the bus's outbound route. The trip costs \$5 each way with a \$1 ticket available to and from Mapleton.  
The Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) is the managing authority for the new route as part of a larger more inclusive program designed to provide public transit options throughout the county. LCOG refers to the effort as LINK/LANE.  
The program is being of-

fered as a way for those that live outside of traditional transit corridors to have affordable access to public transportation.  
The need for a public transit option for mobility challenged individuals, seniors and those that choose not to drive, was also cited as one of the primary reasons for the creation of this particular route in the LCOG Request for Proposals posted on Nov. 7, 2019.  
"The route will provide a vital link in the statewide public transportation network and an option for people traveling between the valley and coast for medical, recreational, educational, shopping and personal needs," the proposal stated.  
The request indicated that the pilot program will be 18 months, with the potential to add an additional six months

of service, pending funding.  
"The pilot program will not only provide a service but also serve as a gauge for the viability and sustainability of possible future public transportation projects in the area," it concluded.  
Kelly Clarke, Senior Transportation Planner for LCOG, made a presentation in January to the Florence Transportation Advisory Committee which detailed the process behind the decision to initiate this particular route.  
"LCOG conducted a feasibility study in 2018 to evaluate the need for this bus route and found this gap in a public transportation option needed to be filled," she said.  
Funding comes from a statewide payroll tax, HB2017, which created dedicated to en-

hancing transit service across the state.  
"LCOG applied for and was awarded funding to operate the Florence-Eugene route and the Florence-Yachats Connector," Clarke said. "The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians contributed the bus and additional funding to the Florence-Eugene route. The Tribal partnership and many others, including with the City of Florence and Siuslaw Vision, is what is making this route a reality."  
The response from customers to the introduction of the LINK route has been positive, according to Clarke.  
"We have heard from numerous potential riders that they have been waiting for years for this service," she said. "They are now eager to use

it to get between the valley and coast for all types of trip purposes including visiting friends, family and recreational destinations, medical and personal needs and just not having to drive."  
Data will be collected during the initial run of the program, which then will be analyzed to determine usage levels and future funding of the route.  
As the program begins, there is only one bus being used to serve customers although two more buses will be introduced into the mix by the end of the year.  
Clarke added that LCOG and the Confederated Tribes have been awarded federal grant funding to purchase a second bus for this route.  
"LCOG is also in the process of acquiring a bus that can be

used for both routes from the Rogue Valley Transportation District. The Florence-Eugene grant funding included addition of a mid-day round trip and this will be integrated into the service once the buses are available," she said.  
People can visit lco.org/1068/Public-Transit or contact LCOG with suggestions or issues regarding the new service.  
The service operates Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 7:35 p.m. except federal holidays. The fare for a one-way trip to or from Eugene is \$2.50. Fares between Mapleton and Florence are only \$1. Exact change is needed for transit.  
Tickets can also be purchased prior to riding the route at River City Taxi, 1699 Pine St. in Florence.

**MUSEUM from page 1A**  
The American invasion of Iwo Jima began on Feb. 19, 1945 and continued until March 26, 1945. The individual one-on-one confrontations between American and Japanese troops were numerous and extremely violent, often ending in death.  
The ferocious fighting that took place during the assault added to the perception of the Japanese soldier as supremely dedicated and determined.  
It also accounted for what became an iconic image of unknown soldiers (at the time) raising the American flag on the island after a bloody struggle to conquer the small spit of land.  
There have been many shifts in the narrative surrounding the Pulitzer Prize-winning image, taken by Joe Rosenthal of the Associated Press on Feb. 23,

1945, including the revelation that the event was staged after the battle was secured.  
The Imperial Japanese Army anticipated the American invasion as early as 1943 and began reinforcing the island's defenses in 1944. The Japanese had built heavily fortified bunkers with hidden artillery and miles of interconnected tunnels to aid in the defense against the expected invasion.  
The battle for Iwo Jima was significant as it was the first U.S. attack on the Japanese home islands and the soldiers assigned to defend the island fought tenaciously. The battle for the small island was one of the fiercest of the war and remains iconic in that regard, with most Japanese soldiers fighting to the death.  
According to the U.S. Navy, the assault resulted in 26,000 American casualties, which

included 6,800 dead. The number of Japanese who died either during the fighting or by suicide following the Japanese loss is estimated at more than 18,000. Only 216 Japanese soldiers were captured during the battle.  
The United States returned Iwo Jima to Japan in 1968, during a time of healing between the two nations. A mutual respect for the combatants from each side grew in the intervening years and has resulted in joint memorial services on a number of occasions.  
One of the more unusual aspects of this battle are the two feature films directed by Clint Eastwood that tell the story of the struggle from different perspectives, one from the American side and one from the Japanese side.  
"Flags of our Fathers" tells the stories of the six men that

raised the flag over the island after the American victory; "Letters from Iwo Jima" recounts the events using the letters of soldiers who fought and died in the battle.  
These two films helped fundamentally change the way in which the Battle of Iwo Jima is viewed, both in the context of the WWII and also in a more inclusive way by highlighting the many similarities in the Japanese and American cultures.  
Geoffrey Cannon is Operations manager for OCMM, and he wanted to acknowledge the change in the perception of the battle by making the display multi-cultural.  
"The concept was to highlight the Battle of Iwo Jima through the view of both sides — from the American and Japanese soldiers' experience. In our American section, we

highlighted the story of Harlan Roth, who served on the USS Lancewood during the battle," said Cannon. "Mr. Roth, a native of Hemingford, Neb., became an Oregonian in 1998. In our Japanese section, we highlighted the story of Kazuyoshi

Morimoto, who was a doctor in the Japanese Army during the battle."  
The Iwo Jima exhibit at OCMM will be on display through March. For more info, visit oregoncoastmilitarymuseum.com.

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#### FOOD & DINING

Appetizer/Small Plate \_\_\_\_\_

Asian Cuisine \_\_\_\_\_

BBQ \_\_\_\_\_

Best Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_

Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_

Brunch \_\_\_\_\_

Burger \_\_\_\_\_

Burrito \_\_\_\_\_

Clam Chowder \_\_\_\_\_

Dessert \_\_\_\_\_

Family Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_

Mexican \_\_\_\_\_

Pizza \_\_\_\_\_

Restaurant Atmosphere \_\_\_\_\_

Restaurant Service \_\_\_\_\_

Salsa \_\_\_\_\_

Sandwiches \_\_\_\_\_

Seafood \_\_\_\_\_

Steak \_\_\_\_\_

Taco \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian/Vegan \_\_\_\_\_

#### DRINKS

Bar \_\_\_\_\_

Coffee \_\_\_\_\_

Craft Brew \_\_\_\_\_

Bloody Mary \_\_\_\_\_

Cocktail \_\_\_\_\_

Happy Hour \_\_\_\_\_

Margarita \_\_\_\_\_

Wine Selection \_\_\_\_\_

#### HOME SERVICES

Carpet Cleaner \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor \_\_\_\_\_

Electrician \_\_\_\_\_

Estate Liquidator \_\_\_\_\_

Handyman \_\_\_\_\_

Internet Service Provider \_\_\_\_\_

Landscape Service \_\_\_\_\_

Pest Control \_\_\_\_\_

Plumber \_\_\_\_\_

Self Storage \_\_\_\_\_

Garbage/Recycling Provider \_\_\_\_\_

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Accountant \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney \_\_\_\_\_

Bank/Credit Union \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Teller \_\_\_\_\_

Computer Help/Repair \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Planner \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Mortgage Lending \_\_\_\_\_

Photography \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher/Publishing Company \_\_\_\_\_

Real Estate Office \_\_\_\_\_

Real Estate Agent \_\_\_\_\_

Tailoring/Alterations \_\_\_\_\_

#### WELLNESS & BEAUTY

Acupuncturist \_\_\_\_\_

Audiologist \_\_\_\_\_

Barber Shop \_\_\_\_\_

Day Spa \_\_\_\_\_

Dental Office \_\_\_\_\_

Dentist \_\_\_\_\_

Denturist \_\_\_\_\_

Hair Salon \_\_\_\_\_

Health Club \_\_\_\_\_

Hearing Aide Provider \_\_\_\_\_

Manicure/Pedicure \_\_\_\_\_

Massage Therapist \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Facility \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Professional \_\_\_\_\_

Optometrist \_\_\_\_\_

Pharmacy \_\_\_\_\_

Stylist \_\_\_\_\_

#### SHOP LOCAL

Art Gallery \_\_\_\_\_

Art Supply Store \_\_\_\_\_

Antiques \_\_\_\_\_

Books \_\_\_\_\_

Clothes \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Store \_\_\_\_\_

Appliances \_\_\_\_\_

Furniture \_\_\_\_\_

Home Improvement Store \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Nursery \_\_\_\_\_

Florist \_\_\_\_\_

Jewelry \_\_\_\_\_

Pet Supplies \_\_\_\_\_

Thrift Store \_\_\_\_\_

Wine Shop \_\_\_\_\_

Shoes \_\_\_\_\_

Kids Clothing \_\_\_\_\_

#### AUTOMOTIVE

ATV Store \_\_\_\_\_

Auto Body & Paint \_\_\_\_\_

Auto Repair \_\_\_\_\_

Car Dealership \_\_\_\_\_

Car Detailer/Wash \_\_\_\_\_

Oil Change \_\_\_\_\_

Tire \_\_\_\_\_

#### ENTERTAINMENT

Art Gallery \_\_\_\_\_

Golf Course \_\_\_\_\_

Museum \_\_\_\_\_

Place to Gamble \_\_\_\_\_

Public Art Display \_\_\_\_\_

Live Music \_\_\_\_\_

Performing Arts Group \_\_\_\_\_

Performance Venue \_\_\_\_\_

Indoor Entertainment \_\_\_\_\_

#### COMMUNITY

Early Child Learning \_\_\_\_\_

Place to Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_

Retirement Community \_\_\_\_\_

Bed & Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_

Hotel/Hostel \_\_\_\_\_

Service Club \_\_\_\_\_

Support Group \_\_\_\_\_

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