

Community News



*We invite
you to
join us.*

**We will be live streaming from
Facebook at 10am Sunday mornings.**

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"Since 1983"

A virtual celebration



IMAGES COURTESY OF THE VIRTUAL RHODY PARADE

Although the 113th annual Rhododendron Festival was officially canceled earlier this year, the City of Florence and Florence Area Chamber of Commerce held the Grand Floral Parade virtually on Sunday. The 36-minute video includes highlights from students, bands and community members, plus the 2020 Rhody Court. Watch it online through www.ci.florence.or.us/community/2020-rhody-parade. Visit FlorenceChamber.com for more info on the festival.

In addition, Chamber Ambassador Mike Bones, owner of Bones Nursery and member of the Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society, wanted to keep the parade real for the community.

"I just really felt like we needed a parade, especially this year, so I decided I would just walk the parade route and remind people about what it means to our town," Bones said. (Pictured on A1)

He filled a wheelbarrow full of rhododendrons and walked the usual parade route — starting on Highway 101 and working his way over the next hour along the highway and down Kingwood and Bay streets through Historic Old Town Florence before ending at the Port of Siuslaw.

Other community members also got moving with Florence Habitat for Humanity's Rhody Run.

"It may not have been our normal celebration, but this town is awesome and we knew the Rhody Fest must go on, even if it was virtual," said Habitat Executive Director Janell Morgan.

People can still purchase commemorative Rhody Days shirts and hoodies from Habitat. For more information, visit florencehabitat.org or call 541-902-9277.



Three Rivers Casino Resort to reopen Friday

The Confederated Tribes of Coos Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians of Oregon Tribal Council has directed casino management to reopen the Three Rivers Casino Resorts in Florence and Coos Bay. The reopening date is set for 9 a.m. Friday, May 22.

During the time of the closure, the executive management team has written reopening safety guidelines in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Oregon Health Authority. These guidelines are aimed to keep casino team members and guests safe during visits to the property.

Marketing Director Rich Colton said, "We are looking

forward to seeing our guests back at both properties. For everyone's safety, we are strongly encouraging everyone to be as safe as possible by reading and following our guidelines."

The guidelines include temperature checks and required wearing of masks for both guests and team members. Guests are asked to bring their own masks.

Points of entry will be limited to the main doors all other doors are for exit only.

The casino gaming floor will be open with limited hours, 7 a.m. to 3 a.m. in Florence and 7 a.m. to 2 a.m. in Coos Bay; restaurants will be opened with limited seat-

ing, and service will end at 10 p.m. daily.

The casino floor has been rearranged for social distancing and many hand sanitizers are provided throughout all areas.

The casino has purchased several cordless electrostatic sprayers to use to clean and sterilize hotel rooms, the casino gaming floor, restaurants and office spaces. Every day during the hours the casino is closed, every guest touch point will be deep cleaned.

Three Rivers Casino Resorts in Florence and Coos Bay had no reported cases of COVID-19 and the executive management team will

continue to monitor the situation nationally and locally. Updates on casino operations will be posted on the website, threeriverscasino.com, as new information becomes available.

Three Rivers was initially opened as a casino-only facility in 2004 and was expanded into a full-service resort including the adjoining hotel in 2007. Owned and operated by the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, Three Rivers Casino Resort has strong ties to the communities along the Central Oregon Coast.

For more information, visit threeriverscasino.com.

KRAB KETTLE

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Fresh Seafood Market

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**Western Lane
Community
Foundation**

Community People Helping Community People

Now Accepting

Continuing Education Scholarships

Awarded annually and designed for students who use permanent home addresses within the Florence/Dunes City/Mapleton/Deadwood geographical areas and graduated from High School in 2019 or earlier, have their diploma, GED, or were home schooled and are eligible to enter higher education, a trade school or a graduate program. This includes non-traditional students starting or returning to a program after a career or family change or job loss.

Scholarships are available for traditional four-year universities, colleges, community colleges, and accredited trade schools and special arts programs.

Applications can be obtained on the WLCF website: www.wlcfonline.org.

APPLICATION DEADLINE JUNE 30, 2020

Western Lane Community Foundation, founded in 1974, is a community trust, private non-profit organization. The Foundation's mission is to improve life throughout Western Lane County by encouraging and maintaining philanthropic activity.

WLCF focuses its giving in four major areas: culture, medicine and science, education, and social and civic services.

Farmers Market now open weekly with online ordering

The Florence Farmer's Market is now open on Tuesdays as an on-line purchasing and drive-through market.

In alignment with the City of Florence's Covid-19 guidelines, and with respect for the health and safety of farmers and customers, people can

now go to WhatsGood at www.florencefarmersmarket.org or sourcewhatsgood.com to access vendor menus.

Customers will order, pay and schedule pick-up for the same great produce and products they have come to expect.

"We call it physical distance with social connection. And we are making it as easy as organic apple pie," organizers said.

Each vendor will list a pre-priced bag with a selection of their produce and products. Orders will have to be placed

by the Sunday before Market Day to allow vendors to organize. Customers will pay and schedule their pick-up time at 4 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday. This will allow market volunteers to manage traffic flow.

There will be no on-site cash or credit sales, with the exception of SNAP customers who can order online, and pay and pick-up at the Market site. Deadlines for SNAP orders are also by the Sunday before Market day.

For SNAP customers who cannot order online, they can come to the Market Manager booth on Tuesdays and make an order for the following week.

People without computers can inquire at the Market Manager's Booth for assistance.

On Tuesdays, customers will drive into the parking lot on the west side of the market site on Bay Street, pass the Lotus building, and pick up their purchases at each vendor's vehicle on the east side of the parking lot.

No one will need to get out of their car. Vendors or a volunteer will place the customer's pre-labeled order in their car for them.

Until the market is advised by the City of Florence that a walk-in market can be resumed, the Florence Farmers Market will continue to deliver its committed farmers' healthful, nutritious food to the community in a safe and convenient way.

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
MAY 20	MAY 21	MAY 22	MAY 23	MAY 24	MAY 25	MAY 26
PM Showers	AM Showers	AM Showers	Partly Cloudy	PM Showers	AM Showers	Partly Cloudy
57°F 48°F	56°F 46°F	58°F 45°F	63°F 50°F	62°F 51°F	62°F 50°F	62°F 49°F

Health is our #1 Priority!

At Shervin's we are taking extra precaution in order to ensure that our customers and staff are kept safe and healthy during this quickly changing situation.

1 Car Sanitation - All cars are wiped down with a sanitizer before and after the service. We wipe down any areas in the interior where employees have touched, such as door handles, the steering wheel, keys, shifters and power window panels.

2 Hand Sanitation - Our staff will continue to wash their hands throughout the day and change gloves after each car they service.

3 Give Customers Options - We will pick up and deliver your vehicle to your home. You may also drop your key in our secure mailbox for drop-offs to avoid or minimize contact.

4 Employee Illness is Serious - We are encouraging employees not to shake hands. We are practicing "personal distancing" and encouraging employees to stay home if they feel under the weather.

5 Wipe Down High Touch Points - We wipe/spray counters, credit card machines, door handles, phone handles, kitchen areas, and chair arms and tables in waiting area multiple times a day. We continue to be focused and committed to working with each of you to ensure we continue to meet and exceed your expectations. We are here for you. We thank you for your business and more importantly, your friendship. Please be safe and exercise extra precaution during this challenging time.



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