

Siuslaw Pioneer Museum cancels opening dates

Due to rising statistics in rural areas relating to COVID-19, as well as concerns for the safety of visitors and volunteers, the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum Board of Directors has cancelled the museum's July 4, 5, 11 and 12 opening dates. The historic museum, 278 Maple St. in Historic Old Town Florence, has been closed during the

pandemic. The board elected to delay reopening, saying directors "want everyone in the community to stay healthy and safe." People can watch the newspaper, as well as the museum's website, www.siuslawpioneermuseum.com, and Facebook page for more information about visiting the museum in the future.

Community News

Local residents protest over water contamination concerns



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Last Saturday, a small group of Florence and Mapleton residents gathered just past the 8-mile marker of Highway 126 to protest land that they claim has been sprayed with pesticides without proper notification or environmental impact testing. Protesters said they are trying to bring attention to what they consider a significant danger to the area's waterways, which eventually work their way to the Siuslaw River and, if infused with chemicals, could threaten those who use those waterways, including residents of Mapleton, Duncan Island and the Florence area.

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Modeling suggests considerable rise in COVID-19 transmission

New modeling of the COVID-19 virus shows that COVID-19 is spreading more rapidly in Oregon, according to the latest model released today by the Oregon Health Authority and the Institute for Disease Modeling. The model, which is based on data through June

18, offers three projections — optimistic, moderate and pessimistic — predicting that daily case levels could rise as much as 20 percentage points. The modeling assumes that hospitalizations from COVID-19 remain stable and testing remains at its present level of approximately 4,000 a day. The optimistic scenario with those assumptions suggests the previous modeling increase of June 11 was the result of higher testing and that case counts would remain stable at about 180 per day over the next month. This is the least likely scenario to occur because it assumes diagnosis of all new cases and presently about one-third of new infections cannot be traced to a known source. The moderate scenario suggests the rise in cases

in the last modeling report was due to increased transmission and expanded testing — and that daily infections of COVID-19 could rise over the next month to more than 900 per day, with daily hospitalizations rising from 8 to 27. The most pessimistic scenario suggests the rise in cases in the last modeling report was due entirely to increased transmission and not expanded testing — and that infections could rise to more than 4,800, and hospitalizations could increase to 82 per day. "We know that COVID-19 is in our communities," said Dean Sidelinger, MD, Oregon state health officer. "This latest model provides us with a sobering reminder that we all need to guard against continued spread, especially as we continue

to reopen and the weather gets warmer." Dr. Sidelinger said, "Think hard about your choice of activities, especially as we get close to the Fourth of July holiday. Ask yourself: how can I reduce my risk and the risk I might pose to people around me?" Do what you can to suppress the virus: Stay 6 feet away from other people. Wear a mask. Avoid large gatherings, and if you are in a group setting -- like a holiday barbecue -- stay outside, keep your distance and use a face covering when you're not eating. Wash your hands frequently and stay home if you're sick. OHA uses this modeling for data analysis and planning purposes and releases it on a bi-weekly basis. The entire report can be found at www.oregon.gov/oha.

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Greater Florence Area Business Quarterly

The next Siuslaw News Business Quarterly will be published July 11. All submissions are due Tuesday, July 7. Email press releases and photos to PressReleases@TheSiuslawNews.com.

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
JULY 1	JULY 2	JULY 3	JULY 4	JULY 5	JULY 6	JULY 7
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
62°F 49°F	63°F 48°F	64°F 49°F	64°F 50°F	63°F 51°F	63°F 52°F	63°F 52°F

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- 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.

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