

RESPONSE from page 1A

physical distancing is difficult, did not deter holiday visitors from patronizing local restaurants, motels and businesses by the thousands. All three elements of the city's emergency response teams were called on multiple occasions, mostly for minor issues.

However, there were some situations that were more serious, according to Florence Police Commander John Pitcher.

"It was a busy weekend for our 911 Center taking calls for Western Lane, Siuslaw Valley, Mapleton Fire, Swisshome/Deadwood Fire and Florence Police," Pitcher said. "There were several accidents over the weekend in the area, along with several other medical calls. We normally get a lot of illegal fireworks calls, but looks like we had more than normal this year from both inside and outside of town."

Police logs for the weekend show that there were at least five reports of illegal fireworks and a report of shots fired on Munsel Creek Loop this weekend.

There were also multiple reports of disputes and disorderly conduct, with some individuals cited for public intoxication.

warrant arrests and more."

Michael Schick, Fire and EMS Chief for the Western Lane Fire and EMS Authority also reported a busy weekend for both Siuslaw Valley and Western Lane crews over the weekend.

"It was an exceptionally busy holiday weekend for us. We responded to 54 combined incidents July 3 through July 5, with a peak of 24 incidents on the July 4," Schick said. "Fortunately, there were no fires of note, with only an illegal burn and a fire alarm requiring a fire-only response."

Some of the calls were more serious, including "high acuity medical calls ranging from a gunshot wound to a few ATV accidents," the chief said. "Of course, we had our typical lift assists and ALS transports. The cooperation among the Western Lane and Siuslaw Valley crews was outstanding."

Over the weekend, some calls received by the 911 dispatch had less to do with criminal activity but more with COVID-19. Primarily, callers were distressed by the number of visitors not wearing masks and the lack of physical distancing between shoppers, walkers and their pets and children.

"Dispatch continued to advise people calling in con-

cerning personal protective tively responded to almost equipment, visit www.osha. gov/SLTC/covid-19/. For information from Oregon Health Authority, visit govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19.

100 calls.

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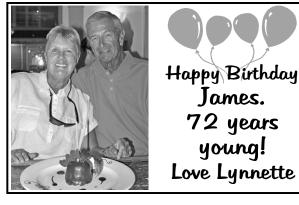
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James.

72 years

young!

One of the main points Pitcher wanted to share with the community was the integration and professionalism shown by members of Florence's first responders over the holiday, which he characterized as an all-around team effort as they collec-





Jim Hoberg, ABR, CRS, GRI

During these uncertain times, we are accessible by phone, email and by appointment only.

SEE MORE 4TH OF JULY PHOTOS ON A7

FIREWORKS from page 1A

In addition, the majority of visi-The day before, local made signs in order to participate and engage with a greater national about race and

FLAGS from page 1A

After about an hour, the group caravanned to Old Town Park, where more visitors and locals participated in patriot-themed games, conversation and signed various petitions.

For more information, people can go to FlorenceRepublicans.com.

DEADWOOD from <u>page 1A</u>

children

conversation

tors throughout Florence followed state guidelines to wear protective face coverings when visiting Historic Old Town Florence, which again sported red, white and blue thanks to Florence Kiwanis Club's flag program, Old Town merchants and Florence Habitat for Humanity's Fourth of July Porch Parade.

of hate speech, the Fourth protest was peaceful.

PROTEST from page 1A

freedom.

For more photos about the Deadwood and Florence Black Lives Matter demonstrations, visit photographer Kate Harnedy online at www. katehphoto.com and on Facebook.



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In addition, there were a cerning the wearing of masks number of vehicular incidents, including a hit-andrun accident.

"For our officers it was a little busy, and there were a lot of people in town," Pitcher said. "Officers responded to a ply to outdoor," Pitcher said. range of calls - from suicid-

to contact the OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) number that was provided by the governor's office, as well as let them know the order does not ap-For more information al subjects, hit and run, DUII, on OSHA guidance con-

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are a fun memory from the year of COVID. You can get yours at the Siuslaw News Office on Maple Street in Old Town Florence.



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Your Full Service People

Your guide to great locally owned restaurants.

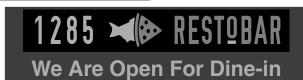
Local Eats

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