

CENSUS from page 1A

We are still pushing to have as many households as possible respond online, by phone or by mail. When households promptly respond on their own, we can get the most accurate count of their household," Slater said.

According to Slater, Florence's current self-response rate is 62.1 percent. In 2010, that self-response rate was 59.2 percent.

"Great news as Florence

surpassed its 2010 rate," she said.

Lane County's current self-response rate is 66.8 percent.

Those who haven't responded yet can still do so online, by phone or mail until Oct. 31.

The taking of the Census is mandated in Article 1, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution, and the data gathered every 10 years is used to apportion federal funding, which is allocated on population informa-

tion gathered during that census cycle.

The data is perhaps just as importantly used to determine the number of members a given state has in the House of Representatives.

"Census results shape the future of communities, as census data informs how billions of dollars in federal funds are distributed for health clinics, school lunch programs, disaster recovery initiatives and other critical

programs and services for the next 10 years," Slater said.

One of the areas that Census officials are concerned with is the need for information on a second home owned by respondents.

"It's required that homeowners complete a separate Census form for every house they own, including seasonal residences," Slater said. "If homeowners have been staying in their seasonal homes during the

COVID crisis, they still need to complete a Census form for their primary residence. People should count themselves at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time under normal conditions."

In addition, participation in the Census is not voluntary; it is required.

According to United States Code, Title 13, Chapter 7 Sub-Chapter II, if someone is over 18 and refuses to answer all or part of the census, they

can be fined up to \$100. If they give false answers, they are subject to a fine of up to \$500.

Anyone unsure of how to obtain a census questionnaire can go to 2020census.gov and find comprehensive instructions.

Those who have not received a paper questionnaire and do not have internet access may also respond to the 2020 Census by calling 844-330-2020.

Tax filing and payment deadline extended to July 15

The Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service are providing special tax filing and payment relief to individuals and businesses in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The filing deadline for tax returns has been extended from April 15 to July 15.

The IRS urges taxpayers who are owed a refund to file as quickly as possible. For those who can't file by the July 15 deadline, the IRS reminds individual taxpayers that everyone is eligible to request an extension to file their return.

This filing and payment relief includes:

The 2019 income tax filing and payment deadlines for all taxpayers who file and pay their Federal income taxes on April 15 are automatically extended until July 15. This relief applies to all individual returns, trusts and corporations. This relief is automatic; taxpayers do not need to file any additional forms or call the IRS to qualify.

This relief also includes estimated tax payments for tax year 2020 that are due on April 15.

Penalties and interest will begin to accrue on any remaining unpaid balances as of July 16, 2020. You will automatically avoid interest and penalties on the taxes paid by July 15.

Individual taxpayers who need additional time to file beyond the July 15 deadline can request a filing extension by filing Form

4868 through their tax professional, tax software or using the Free File link on IRS.gov. Businesses who need additional time must file Form 7004.

State tax returns

This relief only applies to federal income returns and tax (including tax on self-employment income) payments otherwise due April 15, 2020, not state tax payments or deposits or payments of any other type of federal tax. Taxpayers also will need to file income tax returns in 42 states plus the District of Columbia. State filing and payment deadlines vary and are not always the same as the federal filing deadline. The IRS urges taxpayers to check with their state tax agencies for those details. More information is available at <https://www.taxadmin.org/state-tax-agencies>.

Individual taxpayers

who need additional time to file beyond the July 15 deadline can request a filing extension by filing Form



Without this extension, they may face a failure-to-file penalty.

To get an extension to file, taxpayers must do one of the following:

- File Form 4868 through their tax professional, tax software or using Free File on IRS.gov.
- Submit an electronic payment with Direct Pay, Electronic Federal Tax Payment System or by debit, credit card or digital wallet and select Form 4868 or extension as the payment type.
- Pay what they can by

the deadline.

- Taxpayers must pay their bill on time. If they don't, they could face a failure-to-pay penalty. Taxpayers should remember that an extension of time to file is not an extension of time to pay. An automatic extension of time to file will process when taxpayers pay all or part of their taxes electronically by the Wednesday, July 15 due date.
- Taxpayers who know they owe taxes but can't pay by the deadline have options. For example, they can apply for a payment plan on IRS.gov or in writing using Form 9465, Installment Agreement Request.
- The IRS is processing tax returns, issuing refunds and accepting payments. Taxpayers who mailed a tax return will experience a longer wait. There is no need to mail a second tax return or call the IRS.

For more information, visit irs.gov.

Wood Vocal Studio presents digital workshop for adults

Local performer and instructor Jason Wood is launching the Digital Vocal Workshop for Adults.

This three-session workshop will run July 31, Aug. 1 and 7 and will feature a Zoom performance for participants on Aug. 8.

The cost of the Workshop is \$40 per student and meant for adults and older students who want the chance to sharpen their vocal chops.

Wood was last seen on stage during Last Resort Players' November production of "Mamma Mia!" He has appeared in dozens of shows on Florence stages, most recently as his alter ego, drag performer Fanny Rugburn.

People can sign up through the day of the first session.

For more information, contact Wood at 951-252-4119 or jasonbrettwood@gmail.com.

because penalties and interest can cause a taxpayer's debt to grow.

If a taxpayer owes taxes,

but can't pay by the July 15 deadline, they should File their tax return or request an extension of time to file.

card or digital wallet and select Form 4868 or extension as the payment type.

- Pay what they can by

What's happening soon

Each Sunday
Florence Farmers Market
Ordering Deadline
 Go to www.florencefarmersmarket.org/ to place order or go to sourcewhatsgood.com/ Market pickup each Tuesday from 4 to 6 p.m.
 Kingwood Street in Old Town Florence

2nd & 4th Saturday
Rhody Cruisers "Cars & Coffee" event
 10 a.m. until noon; open to public
 Florence AutoZone, 1665 Highway 101

Now through July 15
Call for Art: 2021 Central Coast Connection Business Directory & Phone Book
 Presented by Pacific Publishing and Florence Regional Arts Alliance
www.fraaoregon.org/central-coast-entry-instructions.html

Now through July 15
Apply for Mapleton Continuing Ed. Scholarships
 Hosted by Mapleton Community Foundation and the Mapleton Lions Club
 Applications and info can be obtained from jayh6539@msn.com

Sign up now through July 24
Florence Air Academy
 Sponsored by Aero Legends Biplane Rides and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Lane County
 For teens 12 to 18; no cost to Boys and Girls Club members
 Teens can join for a \$25 membership fee and \$100 program fee
 Apply at Boys & Girls Club Teen Center, 1501 Airport Road

Sign up now through July 31
Digital Vocal Workshop for Adults
 Presented by Wood Vocal Studio
 Three sessions: July 31, Aug. 1 and 7, with a Zoom performance on Aug. 8
 \$40 per student; Contact Jason Wood at 951-252-4119 or jasonbrettwood@gmail.com

Sign up now through Aug. 1
"Music in Motion" Online Summer Camp
 Presented by Jason Wood and Sheena Moore

Camp intended for kids 5-8+ \$40 per student; contact jasonbrettwood@gmail.com or sheenamooorevocals@gmail.com

July 11
Save the Oregon Dunes Scotch broom removal
 10 a.m. to noon at the North Jetty
 Contact brian@eugencescadescast.org to attend and for further info

July 15
Income Tax Day
July 25

Take-Out Pancake Breakfast
 To support Pregnancy and Parenting Center 8 to 11 a.m.; open to public; donations accepted
 Florence First Baptist Church, 1935 25th St.

Aug. 1
Habitat for Humanity Bottle & Can Drive
 Social distancing drive-thru event 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; open to public
 Florence Habitat ReStore, 2016 Highway 101

Submit your planned events to PressReleases@TheSiuslawNews.com

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- Tuesday Evening Group (2nd Tuesday) 5-7 p.m. - Ichiban Chinese/Japanese Restaurant • Urologist Dr. Bryan Mehlhaff attends.
- Tuesday Lunch Group (3rd Tuesday) 12 noon - 1:00 p.m. - Ichiban Chinese/Japanese Restaurant • Urologist Dr. Roger McKimmy attends.

Contact Bob for more information:
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