

# Community News

## City of Florence seeks to fill committee, commission vacancies

Would you like to see more public involvement in the City of Florence to make sure your voice is heard?

Would you like to make a difference and help contribute to the goals and objectives of the City as a whole?

City committees generally meet once per month as a group. Persons interested in

positions should expect to attend recurring meetings and devote time for study of issues and performance above and beyond meeting attendance.

Volunteer time is vital in working towards solutions to local government issues.

"City Committees work tirelessly to provide much needed volunteer time to keep many of the City's pro-

grams functioning at a level that would be impossible without their services," said City Recorder/Economic Development Coordinator Kelli Weese.

Anyone interested in serving their City and getting involved should consider applying for one of the open positions on the City's commissions or committees.

The deadline for applications is Dec. 31.

The following committees and commissions are currently filling vacancies for varying term lengths, with the positions set to begin on Feb. 1, 2021.

- Planning Commission
- Budget Committee
- Community & Economic Development Committee

• Environmental Management Advisory Committee

• Public Arts Committee

• Transportation Committee

Applying for a position is easy. Applications can be completed on the City's website at [www.ci.florence.or.us](http://www.ci.florence.or.us) and are available by contacting Weese via email at [kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us](mailto:kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us)

or.us or by calling 541-997-3437.

For details regarding the duties and responsibilities of these bodies, residency requirements of applicants, term lengths or other questions, contact Weese at 541-997-3437 or email at [kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us](mailto:kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us).

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## Mudmusic presenting pre-Christmas pitfired ceramics event

On Friday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., well-known local ceramic artist Mike Schwartz will be hosting a pre-Christmas sale at his Mudmusic studio. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the event will be an outdoor sale, with entry into the studio limited to two people at a time.

For visitors' protection, Schwartz will wear a mask and asks that visitors do the same.

"The current situation means everyone working together," Schwartz said.

The sale will be outdoors, rain or shine so that social distancing may be maintained. Since the weather is uncertain in December, the sale will be set up at the front of his garage just behind the overhead door so that both his visitors and ceramic art will be protected from the weath-



**Local ceramics artist Mike Schwartz at work creating his unique pitfired ceramics pieces.**

COURTESY PHOTO

er. Schwartz's work is pit fired, an ancient process in which ceramic works are not fired in a kiln but in an open fire. No glazes are used; the dramatic colors achieved are due to the interaction of fire and smoke

working on salts and metals applied to the ceramics.

Each piece is thrown by Schwartz on the potter's wheel to create one-of-a-kind works of art.

"Certainly much better than an 'ugly sweater' gift," joked Schwartz.

A psychiatrist in a prior life, Schwartz moved to Florence in 1995 and learned to become a potter to fulfill his view of retirement. "It's all about reinvention, retirement should not be spent just sitting around," said Schwartz, whose work can be seen in five Oregon Coast galleries from Gardner to Astoria.

Locally, Schwartz's work can be seen at the River Gallery on Bay Street year-round. Come to his Mudmusic Studio sale and meet the artist, view his unique works and have an opportunity to purchase an early Christmas gift.

To preview Schwartz's work, visit his new website at [mudmusicstudio.com](http://mudmusicstudio.com).

Mudmusic Studio is located at 04899 Heceta Beach Road, 1.3 miles west of Highway 101.

For more information, call 541-997-1012.

## SVFR, U.S. Marines team up to distribute toys Dec, 8

For the third year in a row, Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue is partnering with the U.S. Marines to host one of four toy distribution sites in Lane County. Due to COVID-19, this year's distribution will work differently than past events.

Pre-registration is required as usual (<https://eugene-or.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/default.aspx?n->

PageID=100&nPreview-Ind=200).

Distribution will be held at SVFR Station 1, 2625 Highway 101, on Tuesday, Dec. 8, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

After confirming the required paperwork is in order at the car, including proof of residency in Lane County, proof that the child lives with you and proof of the child's

age, toys will be bagged for each child.

However, no one will be allowed out of their vehicles to enter the fire station bay to pick out toys as in years past.

Once the toys have been received, organizers will not be able to take anything back.

"We are once again having the Coast Guard come to the rescue to help with

this event," said SVFR organizer Capt. Pete Warren. "In addition, Florence PD is always there, and the Kiwanis Club will be helping us this year, too. They, along with firefighters of Siuslaw Valley, are committed to ensuring children continue to receive toys in the area.

"Please contribute at the places around town with toy donation boxes."

## Annual 'Empty Bowls' event postponed until February

Due to the current statewide freeze placed on social

gatherings, Empty Bowls 2020, which was scheduled for December, will be postponed until early 2021.

Though the current freeze is set to expire the day before the annual event was scheduled to begin, the Empty Bowls Committee has determined that it is

in the best interest of the community to postpone the event for approximately three months in hopes that there will be an improvement in the pandemic.

The new dates for Empty Bowls are tentatively set for Feb. 18, 19 and 20 and have been secured at the Flor-

ence Events Center to hold the annual fundraiser.

More information will be provided as the new dates approach.

The event, which benefits Florence Food Share, will happen but at a safer time for all concerned.

**VIRTUAL CINEMA**

**CITY LIGHTS CINEMAS**



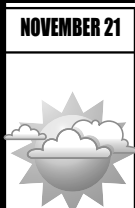
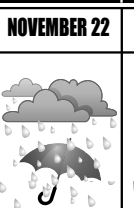
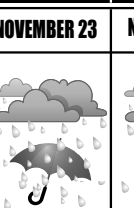
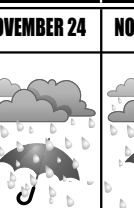
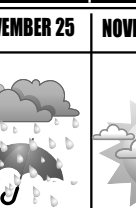
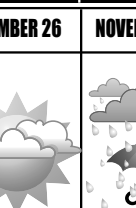

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For more information on our closure and current status, please visit [www.citylightscinemas.com](http://www.citylightscinemas.com)

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 21	NOVEMBER 22	NOVEMBER 23	NOVEMBER 24	NOVEMBER 25	NOVEMBER 26	NOVEMBER 27
						
Mostly Sunny	Rain	AM Showers	Rain	Rain	Partly Cloudy	PM Showers
55°F 37°F	50°F 43°F	52°F 44°F	53°F 44°F	51°F 40°F	52°F 40°F	53°F 42°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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