



FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2021

Sivslaw News

NEWS &

VIEWS THAT

DEFINE OUR

COMMUNITY

OL. 130, NO. 105

Rain and wind with a

high of 51 and a low tonight of 46.

Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY

Food Backpack for Kids

WEATHER

Peace Harbor provides first COVID-19 caregiver vaccinations

STORY & PHOTO PROVIDED BY PEACE HARBOR

PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center held its first COVID-19 vaccination clinic for caregivers and providers on Dec. 24, with additional clinics planned over the next several weeks.

Peace Harbor's first shipment of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine arrived on Dec. 22. The hospital piloted the vaccination process with 10 frontline providers and caregivers on Dec. 23; Hospital Medical Director Heather McArthur, DO, an Emergency Department physician and hospital medical director, volunteered to be first.

the first one to roll up my sleeve,"



"I was honored and thrilled to be Peace Harbor Hospital Medical Director Heather McArthur, DO, was the first caregiver in Florence to receive the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

said McArthur. "This is a momentous day for Peace Harbor, and for this community. Finally, we see a light at the end of this long, dark tunnel. We can't wait for our caregivers and community members, especially those whose age or medical condition make them especially vulnerable, to be protected against this virus."

Because the vaccine supply is limited, PeaceHealth is prioritizing the first doses of vaccines for healthcare workers with direct patient contact. Peace Harbor expected to vaccinate at least 75 caregivers, and in coming weeks will provide the vaccine to every caregiver who wants it.

See VACCINE page 5A



Multiple first response agencies responded to a house fire on Sand Dunes Park Drive on Christmas Day, but the house was a total loss. Four occupants are currently getting help from SOS and the American Red Cross, as well as through community donations and two GoFundMe campaigns.

SIUSLAW NEWS STAFF REPORT

Just before 5 p.m. on Christmas Day, Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) and Western Lane Ambulance District (WLAD) responded to reports of a structure fire located

Commission

approves fencing,

lighting plans for

applicants

By Mark Brennan

SIUSLAW NEWS

The Florence Planning Commis-

sion met virtually on Dec. 22 with

all commissioners in attendance.

The agenda for the meeting was

main decision in front of the group

a discussion and decision regarding

short on action items, with the

a request for a design review by

the commissioners to approve

Larry and Crystal Farnsworth re-

garding a commercial development

Resolution PC 20 30 DR 07 asked

at 5352 Sand Dunes Park Dr.

Four fire engines, 15 firefighters, one water tender, a ladder truck and two ambulances staffed by four WLAD crews arrived to find the structure — a double-wide mobile home that included wooden decks in the front and rear — fully

engulfed in flames. In addition to local responders from Florence, a three-person fire crew from Reedsport also responded as mutual aid, along with Oregon State Police and officers from the Lane County Sheriff's Office.

See FIRE page 5A

Mapleton officially lifts boil notice

Installation of water treatment skid ends 6-month concern

SIUSLAW NEWS

The Mapleton Water District (MWD) has announced an end to the water boil notice for the district's residents. The cautionary notice has been in effect since July and recommended all customers of the MWD to boil all water used for

cooking and drinking. There have been a number of repair and upgrade in the past six

MWD Board Vice Chair Dustin Basurto wants area residents to know the recent installation of new equipment at the main district building, and the testing of that

See WATER page 5A

Food Backpacks receive donation INSIDE — A3 By Mark Brennan



Elks feed annual **Christmas Dinner** INSIDE — B

RECORDS Obituaries &

response logs Inside — A2

NEW: TV GUIDE Inside — A7-A8

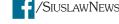
KIDS CORNER

Activities for kids Inside — B5

CLASSIFIEDS Listings and notices

Inside — B6

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Cold Weather Shelter opens for first night

Individual units allow people to shelter, keep warm during COVID

By Chantelle Meyer SIUSLAW NEWS

On Monday night, the weather in Florence dropped to 34 degrees, warranting the first opening of the Florence Emergency Cold Weather Shelter (FECWS) of the 2020-21 winter season.

The cold weather shelter used Pallet Shelters, located at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, to house nine attendees in a safe, warm manner.

"It went very well," reported FECWS President Patricia Burke on Tuesday morning. "It was brutally cold, but they reported that they slept. One fellow said, 'I haven't had as good a night sleep in a Masks and proper physical dis-

tancing were required by both attendees and volunteers.

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Earlier this year, FECWS received 20 Pallet Shelters from Lane



Individual Pallet-brand shelters have been set up at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw as the Florence Emergency Cold Weather Shelter seeks to protect people from both the cold and COVID-19.

shelters from Pallet, a company a warm, dry and safe place to spend based in Everett and Seattle, Wash.

County's supply of 120 Pallet-brand These shelters allow people to have See SHELTER page 6A

lighting and fencing designs for a city-owned parcel, on behalf of Heceta Self Storage Corporation, to construct a phased 470-unit storage See PLANNING page 6A

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