Red Cross offers free virtual classes

PORTLAND—The devastating winter storms our region just experienced, and this past summer's wildfires, serve as a painful reminder that disasters can happen to anyone, anywhere, anytime even during a pandemic.

So, in honor of March being Red Cross Month, the Red Cross Cascades Region is hosting a series of free emergency preparedness presentations throughout the month. All presentations are virtual, and everyone is welcome to attend. Red Cross volunteers are available for virtual media interviews today.

Taking place every Tuesday in March from 6 to 7 p.m., classes will cover the most common disasters we face in the Pacific Northwest and how to prepare for them. Whether you're motivated to start building your preparedness kit, or need a refresher course, these classes are designed to help families and individuals learn how to be better prepared.

Information and links can be found at redcross.org/

Classes are March 16: Earthquake Safety; March 23: Flooding Safety and March 30: Home Fire Safety.

Red Cross recognizes that preparing for emergencies looks a little different right now, but the three basic action steps remain the same: Build a Kit, Make a Plan and Be Informed. In addition to the preparedness series, the Red Cross Cascades Region has a free downloadable "Prepare! Guide" available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Russian.

For nearly 80 years, U.S. presidents have proclaimed March as Red Cross Month to recognize people giving back through its lifesaving mission — which is powered more than 90 percent by volunteers. They include people who volunteer to provide emotional support, psychological first aid and referrals to community assistance for families coping with disasters during the pandemic.

You can help ensure that families don't face emergencies alone - especially during a pandemic:

- Donate: Support our Disaster Relief efforts at redcross.org/GivingDay. A gift of any size makes a difference to provide shelter, food, relief items, emotional support and other assistance. Your donation will be part of our annual Giving Day on March 24 to aid families in need across the country.
- Volunteer: Visit redcross.org/VolunteerToday for most-needed positions and local opportunities.
- Give blood: Make an appointment at RedCross-
- Learn lifesaving skills: Take a class in skills like CPR and first aid to help in an emergency at redcross.org/ TakeAClass.

PeaceHealth eases visitation restrictions

With COVID-19 transmission falling in Lane County, PeaceHealth will ease its temporary "no-visitor" policy at all four Oregon hospitals to allow one visitor per day, per patient, with some limited exceptions. For patients suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, the no-visitor policy remains, with limited exceptions.

This change was effective March 8 and applies PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center at RiverBend; PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Cen-University District; PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center; and PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center.

PeaceHealth Medical Group clinics will continue to limit visitors to only those accompanying patients needing assistance.

The change in hospital visitation aims to balance safety with patient, caregiver and visitor well-being and satisfaction. Peace-Health will continue to diligently monitor the local prevalence of COVID-19 and will tighten these rules again if necessary, as the health and safety of our caregivers, patients and community remains our top priority.

While most patients will be allowed only one designated visitor per day, two may be allowed for patients at end-of-life as well as minors, including infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Patients with disabilities may be allowed up to three support persons.

Most hospitalized tients with confirmed COVID-19 are not allowed visitors. Minors, Labor & Delivery and end-of-life patients may have one visitor.

Any exceptions to the policy will be made at the discretion of PeaceHealth clinical care leadership.

Also effective now, Peace-Health will no longer actively take the temperature of caregivers and visitors upon entry to any Peace-Health Oregon facility, in alignment with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention infection prevention recommendations. However, anyone enter-

ing a PeaceHealth facility will still be asked to confirm that they do not have a fever or other common symptoms of COVID-19. There will still be thermometers available at screening stations for those who request

Visitors must wear a mask at all times and will be asked to limit their movement throughout the hospitals. They will be issued a dated bracelet identifying them as a visitor. While they can purchase food in the cafeterias, they must return to eat in the room of the patient they are visiting. All gift shops will remain closed to visitors. Visitors will be instructed to clean their hands frequently, avoid touching surfaces and practice physical distancing by remaining at least six feet away from caregivers and others whenever possible.

With the virus still circulating in our community, we encourage everyone to remain vigilant about mask wearing, social distancing and limiting gatherings.

Visit peacehealth.org/ coronavirus for more information about safety measures at PeaceHealth, as well as other education and prevention resources related to COVID-19.

OCHS Thrift Shop has special sale today

The Oregon Coast Humane Society (OCHS) Thrift Shop, 1193 Bay St. in Historic Old Town Florence, is having a sale that will floor you.

Well, it's more like it will floor them. With new

"We need to clear out as much inventory as we can since we're getting new floor coverings, so everything in the store is 50 percent off on Saturday, March 13, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.," said store manager Lynne Dixon.

People will find everything from new and gently used clothing, household goods, tools, furniture, appliances and more.

"We even have a wooden armadillo, for example, which shows just how unique are some of the finds in our store," Dixon

All goods have been donated by the community and all proceeds from the shop help fund OCHS' shelter at 2840 Rhododendron Dr., the thrift shop and OCHS's many services

microchipping services, a pet food pantry and more. After the sale, the shop

will be closed through Friday, March 26, with a grand reopening on Saturday, March 27. The store will be unable to receive contributions of salable goods until after March 27.

In 2020, OCHS found new fur-ever homes for more than 600 dogs and cats, provided more than 400 spay/neuter surgeries, distributed nearly two tons of pet food to pets in need

such as spay/neuter clinics, and saved more than 1,000 animals. The humane society adopted out 308 cats and dogs, reunited 104 lost pets with their humans, held medical clinics that treated 233 pets, received 340 strays and 252 pets that were owner surrenders.

Its mission is funded by contributions from the community of pet food, bedding, toys, cat litter, bleach and cleaning supplies and cash.

For more information on OCHS, visit www.Oregon CoastHumaneSociety.org.

conducts the superinten- al executive sessions to dis-

Siuslaw School Board The directors met in sever-

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EVALUATION from page 1A dent evaluation every year cuss the evaluation and the in February and March. process to gather data.

"We utilized an outline and format provided by Oregon School Board Association, which includes performance standards and the Siuslaw School District Board and Superintendent Goals," Sneddon said.

The directors created an evaluation summary, which is available to view in full at www.siuslaw.k12.or.us/ school-board--169, and the

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SIUSLAW NEWS

standards and goals they surveyed.

"Regarding the eight professional standards, we determined that Superintendent Grzeskowiak is accomplished in performing in the areas of effective financial management as well as policy governance and advocacy," the document stated. "The board found the superintendent effective in the standards you very much," Sneddon majority report that child of visionary district leadership, ethics and professional norms, inclusive district culture, culturally organizational effective management."

During the meeting, the motion to approve Resolution 031021-6.5 was made by Director Dennis King, seconded by Director Paul Burns and was passed unanimously by those in attendance.

time for the vote.

responsive instructional ed past meeting minutes cies, faith groups, medical leadership and improve- and the second reading of facilities and businesses ment, communication and policies concerning school to increase their particcommunity relations, and counseling, graduation ex- ipation in our efforts to ercise and charter schools.

considered "effective" in calendar and policies on nities in which we live." his efforts towards his interdistrict student trans-

All of these were passed unanimously by the board.

In addition, Sneddon read a proclamation about April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. The proclamation was

submitted by 90by30, a Director John Barnett nonprofit working to rewas absent, and Director duce child abuse in Lane Diana Pimlott arrived in County 90 percent by 2030.

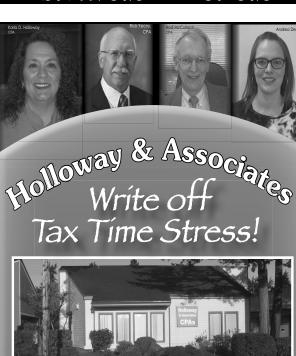
"The public cares deep-"Mr. Grzeskowiak, thank ly about child abuse and a said once the motion was abuse is a very important moral issue to them," Sned-The consent agenda don stated. "I call upon all from the meeting includ- citizens, community agensupport families, thereby Action items included preventing child abuse and Grzeskowiak was also the 2021-22 school year strengthening the commu-

> People can learn more by going to 90by30.com.

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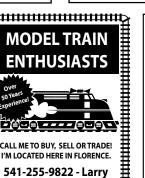
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 Urologist Dr. Roger McKimmy attends. Contact Bob for more information: (H) 541-997-6626 • (C) 541-999-4239 maribob@oregonfast.net