

**PORT from page 1A**

According to the meeting, COVID-19 seems to be having less of an impact than expected on the port's occupancy rates, as numbers have remained essentially the same although the number of available spots has increased.

Port leadership expanded rental space by removing large storage structures that had become a hazard and which only generated a minimal revenue stream. This idea stemmed from Huntington.

That decision has proved to be a significant boost to both the fiscal stability of the port, to the public perception of the facility.

The success of the increased rental spaces has led commissioners, particularly Commission Chair Terry Duman, to consider the options for further increasing the spaces the port would have available if it were to continue upgrading underutilized areas of the port property.

On Wednesday, commissioners discussed the future needs of the port related to

dredging waste and storage. After considering those, all commissioners agreed that Huntington should evaluate the idea and report back to the Port Commission with his recommendations.

At the end of the meeting, commissioner comments centered on the upcoming port election, which has sitting commissioners running unopposed as candidates for their current positions.

There was general agreement that the working relationship among commissioners and staff was excellent and all commissioners thanked Huntington and Administrative Assistant Kelly Stewart for their work. The next Port of Siuslaw Board of Commissioners



**MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS**  
**Repairs and upgrades continue on port property this spring.**

meeting is scheduled for May 19 at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit portofsiuslaw.com.

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**MARKET from page 1A**

“We are look forward to seeing you all again,” said Joanna Henderson Florence Farmers Market’s new communication coordinator. “We’ll celebrate by turning the page toward a more enjoyable and fruitful summer. ... We will have all your favorite local produce and products, live music and some limited sampling, as well as the pleasure of reconnecting with you.”

The intervening year has allowed the farmers market to modify the procedures put in place to insure patron and vendor safety. Some of the changes are expected and include the elimination of many of the community extras offered during its first two seasons, including cooking classes offered on site and information booths. One important change from last year will be the opening of market booths, with social

distancing, for direct customer shopping.

Henderson said the upcoming season, while still challenging, will be rewarding for both customers and vendors.

“Robust community support and new Oregon Health Authority guidelines, have made it possible for us to enjoy the company of friends and the fruits of our vendors in a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere at our walk-in market, at the corner of Kingwood and Bay Streets.” Henderson said. “The safety of our shoppers and vendors is our number one concern. So, there will be informational signs, and our staff and vendors will be wearing masks. We request that our shoppers do the same to ensure a safe and easy shopping experience for everyone.”

The vendor line-up at the market shifts during the season as the growing cycles of different food crops and the lifecycles of birds and animals dictate availability and attendance.

Many vendors will return for this season despite the challenges presented by the pandemic. They include Estill Farms, The Kurzhall Fam-

ily and their Kickin’ Pickles, Federated Seafood, L’Etoile and Fair Valley Farms.

There will be additional vendors announced once the market has opened and the shifting COVID guidelines have stabilized.

One of the main goals of the market is to provide healthy, locally produced food products for Florence customers. The distance and time from source to table is always better for taste and nutrition if it is as short as possible, and the market model is often the best way to achieve that goal. One of the benefits associated with this model of food distribution is a personal and regional connection to the foods people eat.

L’Etoile Farms, located in Noti, is a large family farm that grows a full line of vegetables and is certified by Oregon Tilth. Estill Farms grows Blueberries in Drain. Federated Seafood fishes the waters from Newport to Coos Bay to catch and sell fresh, seasonally sustainable and locally caught seafood. Fair Valley Farm is located outside of Eugene and raises poultry, pork, beef and lamb from open, outdoor pastures.

All of these vendors are as concerned with the way in which they interact with the planet as they grow and harvest food for the market as they are in the commercial success of their efforts. In addition, they provide a viable alternative to more commercialized models of distribution where producers and customers never meet.

The Florence Farmers Market management team is prepared for the upcoming season but does have some personnel issues as at this time they do not have enough volunteers. More individuals that wish to volunteer at the market are needed to provide adequate support to the vendors or to customers.

Britte Kirsch, volunteer coordinator for the market, said, “As a non-profit, we rely on the skills, creativity and generosity of our community. The market has many niches to be filled by those who have the time and can help us keep the market vibrant and running smoothly. No effort is too small.”

Returning again this year is the market policy of doubling the purchasing power of Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. Information on the restrictions and benefits of the program are available at [florencefarmersmarket.org](http://florencefarmersmarket.org), as are updated remote ordering procedures.

Safety measures will be in place for the overall shape of the fourth annual Florence Farmers Market. Changes new for this season include:

- Spacing: The farmers market layout has been redesigned with social distancing in mind – vendor booths are spaced 6 feet apart to allow customers more space for social distancing.
- Monitoring: Each vendor booth has a designated Social Distancing Safety Officer
- Protection: All vendors and market staff are required to wear masks or face coverings.
- Protocols: Vendors will adhere to Center for Disease Control (CDC) protocols.
- Cleaning: High-touch areas are frequently sanitized.
- Sanitizing: A hand-washing station that is foot activated is provided. All vendors have hand sanitizer available.
- Caution: Neither vendors, nor their staff, will come to the Farmers Market if they are ill. We are waiving cancellation fees for them.
- Signage: We’ll have reminder signs posted.
- Re-design: No public tables or seating will be provided
- Distancing: We will have music, but musicians are required to wear a mask or face shield and remain six feet apart from one another and customers.

Henderson, Kirsch and the staff and crew of the Florence Farmers Market are happy the season has changed, so to speak. They eagerly anticipate the start of the market season on May 11.

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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

To include your organization in this directory, please call us @ 541-997-3441



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<p><b>THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS</b> 2705 Munsel Lake Road, All are welcome! Zoom Worship Services: 10 AM &amp; 11:30 AM Sunday. Bishop Larry Farnsworth 541-999-1979</p>	<p><b>FOURSQUARE CHURCH</b> 1624 Highway 101 (next to A&amp;W) – 997-6337 Pastor George Pagel – Something for the entire family. Sun. Services: 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study returns this Fall. Website: <a href="http://florence4square.com">florence4square.com</a></p>
<p><b>COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH</b> 4590 Hwy. 101, Across from Fred Meyer -- 997-7418 Sunday School, 9:30a.m. – Worship, 10:45 Wed. Prayer - 6:00 p.m. – Wed. Ministries 1-8 Grade 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>NEW LIFE LUTHERAN E.L.C.A.</b> 21st &amp; Spruce Streets—997-8113 Pastor Jim Abbott, All are welcome. Sunday in-person worship service@ 10:30. Also available to you on website <a href="http://www.florencenewlifelutheran.org">www.florencenewlifelutheran.org</a>.</p>
<p><b>CROSS ROAD ASSEMBLY OF GOD</b> Corner of 10th &amp; Maple- 541-997-3533 Sunday Services are 9am and 11am and on Facebook live and KCST at 11am Wednesdays at 7pm <a href="https://www.florencecrossroadag.org/church-online">https://www.florencecrossroadag.org/church-online</a> Other platforms update after the service. <a href="http://florencecrossroadag.org">florencecrossroadag.org</a> <a href="mailto:office@florencecrossroadag.org">office@florencecrossroadag.org</a></p>	<p><b>PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SIUSLAW</b> 3996 N Hwy 101 541-997-7136 Internet and in person Sunday services at 10AM, Call the church for details. Reverend Greg Wood All Welcome. Come as you are.</p>
<p><b>FLORENCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH</b> 2nd &amp; Ivy - 541-997-2961 - Non-Denominational Service is on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Sunday Service also streaming live at 10:00 am at <a href="http://florencechurch.com">florencechurch.com</a></p>	<p><b>RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)</b> “War is still not the answer.” FCNL Since we meet in homes, we are taking a mindful pause. Call 997-4237 or 902-9511 for information.</p>
<p><b>FLORENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST</b> Pre-Denominational (Romans 16:16) 1833 Tamarack Street (2 blocks east of Hwy. 101 on 18th St.) Bible Study: Sunday 10 a.m.; Worship: Sunday 11 a.m. <a href="http://www.churchofchristflorence.org">www.churchofchristflorence.org</a></p>	<p><b>RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH, L.C.M.S.</b> Worship Services 10am 1st &amp; 2nd Sunday and 8am 3rd &amp; 4th Sunday 85294 Hwy. 101 S. - 997-8038 DVD of Weekly worship service available. <a href="http://www.puppro.wixite.com/rloflorence">www.puppro.wixite.com/rloflorence</a></p>
<p><b>FLORENCE EVANGELICAL CHURCH</b> 1318 Rhododendron Dr. • 541-997-2523 Sunday Service 11am ( Children Sunday School) Mid-Week Activities, all ages.</p>	<p><b>ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH</b> Welcomes you to Worship Services Sunday at 9am and Wednesday at 11am 2135 19th St. - 997-6600 Reservations Required Call or Email <a href="mailto:standrewssecretary19@gmail.com">standrewssecretary19@gmail.com</a> Labyrinth &amp; Garden Open Daily 8am - 5pm <a href="http://www.standrewsflorence.org">www.standrewsflorence.org</a></p>
<p><b>FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</b> 4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) - 997-3951 Worship on Saturday 10:30 A.M. Adult/Children's Sabbath School 9:15 A.M.</p>	<p><b>SAINT MARY, OUR LADY OF THE DUNES CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 1.5 miles south of river on Hwy 101 - 997-2312 COVID-19 Compliant Masses have been scheduled. Please call our office for details.</p>

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87738 Hwy 101 at Heceta Beach Road  
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Until it is safe to meet in person, Sunday Worship Services are available 24/7 on our website: [www.florenceuuf.org](http://www.florenceuuf.org)

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