

1285 RESTO BAR

We are open for dine-in, take-out, sidewalk & patio seating

We are doing everything we can to safely serve our community.

We are open:
Noon to 8pm every day

1285 Bay Street, Old Town Florence
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www.1285Restobar.com

Western Lane Ambulance seeks to renew levy

In November, local voters will decide whether to renew a five-year supplemental levy to fund the Western Lane Ambulance District. The levy, which makes up 26% of the district's operational funds, is critical for maintaining current services in Florence and surrounding areas, Fire and EMS Chief Michael Schick said in a recent interview.

The proposed levy re-

newal will mean no increase in taxes because it maintains the current funding level of 45 cents per \$1,000 of assessed home value. For a home in Florence with a median assessed value of \$204,000, the cost would be \$92 a year, or less than \$8 a month. The five-year levy received the support of 78% of voters in the 2016 election.

The administrative offices of Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue and Western Lane Ambulance District combined in 2019 to form the Western Lane Fire & EMS Authority (WLFEA). The next step will be to combine operational personnel into the Authority, Schick said. This union is expected to save taxpayer dollars in the long run by avoiding the duplication of administrative and bookkeeping costs as well as the ability to share personnel as needed.

A transition date hasn't yet been set for the move,

but Schick said administrative staff is recommending that the Board of Directors approve the move for July 1, 2022, as a potential start date.

Though the two agencies are sharing some resources currently, an official merger of the districts would require approval by voters.

"Recent polls have indicated strong support, but a complete transition is likely four to five years out," Schick said.

Directors from both agencies have expressed an interest in making sure that the expansion of the authority will work as planned before committing to a full merger.

According to Schick, the arrangement between local fire and ambulance agencies allows more flexibility in answering calls. He said it is possible to staff up to four or five ambulances at one time using personnel from both agencies.

Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue has nine career firefighters, three part-time firefighters and about 35 volunteer firefighters. Some of the part-time positions are shared between the two agencies.

Some of the many benefits of moving forward with the union includes retaining a publicly funded EMS service under local control, which ensures that citizens receive consistent high-level emergency medical care, delivered by trained and certified emergency medical responders who live and work in our community.

"Our district is 564 square miles—there's a lot of territory to cover," Schick said. "We believe that we would have fewer ambulances available in western Lane County if a private service was put into place."

For more information, visit www.wlfea.org.

the spotlight

A weekly roundup of shopping, savings and doings around town.



SAW SHOP FLORENCE
POWER EQUIPMENT SALES & REPAIR - RENTAL CENTER

HONDA Power Equipment

Make your life easier with HONDA. Florence Saw Shop is your local HONDA Power equipment dealer. Come see our selection of Generators, Mowers, Tillers and Pumps.

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ATHLETES from page 1A

However, unvaccinated athletes do need to continue to isolate for the full 14 day period, as recommended by Lane County Public Health. With the current surge of cases in Lane County, the 10 day isolation option is not available.

The period of isolation

for unvaccinated athletes should be through Thursday, Sept. 2, and able to resume normal activities on Friday, Sept. 3.

Siuslaw School District is working closely with Lane County Public Health to respond to this news to protect the health of the community. People can contact Lane County Public Health at 541-682-

1380 on the COVID-19 Hotline if they have any questions related to the isolation period guidelines.

Full football team activities can resume on Sept. 3 after the primary isolation of unvaccinated players has been completed, without the development of any further positive cases amongst the team.



Faith – Friendship - Fellowship – Fun CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

BAHA'I FAITH OF FLORENCE
Ongoing Devotions, Study Circles, Services to the Community, Join us on Facebook.
Join your friends via zoom, Monday's 7:30-8:30p.m.
"SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS"
Florence Baha'i Community For info: 541-590-0779

FLORENCE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
87738 Hwy 101 at Heceta Beach Road
RUAUU? All are welcome to explore the answer.
Until it is safe to meet in person, Sunday Worship Services are available 24/7 on our website: www.florenceuuf.org

BAY BERRY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
Friday Evenings – 7 PM SINGSPARATION
You are invited to come and sing your favorite Ole Time Gospel songs. Come and enjoy a time of fellowship & refreshments before we sing.
NEW LOCATION
Now Meeting in Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Church at 1935 East 25th Street
For Info: Jack - 541-999-8278 or Ron - mccrary9483@gmail.com

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2nd & Kingwood • (541) 997-6025
Link to Sunday services at www.florenceunitedmethodist.org or find us on Facebook.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
2705 Munsel Lake Road, All are welcome!
Sunday Worship Services are at 10 AM & 11:15 AM.
Bishop Larry Farnsworth 541-999-1979

FOURSQUARE CHURCH
1624 Highway 101 (next to A&W) — 997-6337
Pastor George Pagel – Something for the entire family.
Sun. Services: 9:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study returns this Fall.
Website: florence4square.com

COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
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.

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN E.L.C.A.
21st & Spruce Streets—997-8113
Interim Pastor David Brauer-Rieke, All are welcome.
Sunday in-person worship service@ 10:30.
Also available to you on website www.florencenewlifelutheran.org.

CROSS ROAD ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Corner of 10th & Maple- 541-997-3533
Sunday Services are 9am and 11am and on Facebook live and KCST at 11am
Wednesdays at 7pm
<https://www.florencecrossroadag.org/church-online>
Other platforms update after the service.
florencecrossroadag.org
office@florencecrossroadag.org

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SIUSLAW
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.

FLORENCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2nd & 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 florencechurch.com

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)
"War is still not the answer." FCNL
We meet Sunday's at 11am in our homes.
Call 408-482-1141 or 541-997-4237 for locations.

FLORENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST
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.
www.churchofchristflorence.org

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH, L.C.M.S.
Worship Services 10 am • Bible Study 9:00 am
Pastor Steve Waterman
85294 Hwy. 101 S. - 997-8038
DVD of Weekly worship service available.
www.puppro.wixite.com/rloflorence

FLORENCE EVANGELICAL CHURCH
1318 Rhododendron Dr. • 541-997-2523
Sunday Service 11am (Children Sunday School)
Mid-Week Activities, all ages.

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL
Church Welcomes You
Worship Sun. 9am Wed 11am 2135 19th St.
541-997-6600 standssecretary19@gmail.com Labyrinth & Garden daily 8am-5pm
"Be the change."

FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) – 997-3951
Worship on Saturday 11:00 A.M.
Adult/Children's Sabbath School 10:00 A.M.

SAINT MARY, OUR LADY OF THE DUNES CATHOLIC CHURCH
1.5 miles south of river on Hwy 101 – 997-2312
COVID-19 Compliant Masses have been scheduled.
Please call our office for details.

Deadline for Press Releases Is Every Monday and Thursday by Noon.
Email PRESSRELEASES@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM.

Give us a call 541-997-3441 to get your updates or info: mberg@thesiuslawnews.com