

Florence Senior Center's Adult Social Daycare resumes

After a year and a half interruption, the Adult Social Daycare Program, i.e. Coffee Club, will resume in Florence. The program will be located in a designated area of the Florence Senior Center. There is a small cost to attend, but scholarships are available to defer cost if needed.

Under the direction of Juels Larson, a board of directors and a team of enthusiastic, caring volunteers has been assembled and are busy preparing for an anticipated re-opening in late October.

Adult Social Daycare is designed for seniors with memory deficits to be able to meet and enjoy each other's company in a safe and

secure environment. It also allows those who care for them a few hours of time to run errands, make appointments or just relax.

The Adult Social Daycare Program will open one day a week from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., offering qualifying seniors time for socialization, lunch, exercise, games and crafts. Committed volunteers are needed to open additional days.

Interested families/caregivers as well as volunteers can get an application by emailing Larson at memcarerespite@gmail.com.

Due to COVID restrictions, the Adult Social Daycare Program will only be taking six applicants at this time.

Cases of COVID-19 detected in Siuslaw schools

On Sept. 13, Siuslaw School District alerted families and staff that students at Siuslaw Elementary and one student at Siuslaw Middle has tested positive for COVID-19. This comes on the heels of a letter sent Thursday about positive contact at Siuslaw Elementary, with family connections at Siuslaw Middle.

"As members of the school community, we understand that this might raise concerns, alongside a caring response," said Siuslaw Superintendent Andrew Grzeskowiak. "We are working closely with Lane County Public Health (LCPH) to respond to this news and protect the health of our community.

Any individuals that are close contacts have already been notified by the school office directly to begin isolation and monitor for symptoms, pending follow-up LCPH or primary care providers.

Each situation calls for different protocols. In this case, the elementary and middle schools will follow the following steps:

Informing staff and families via this letter that will be posted to the website of the District, as well as a phone call to homes to those that were in contact with the individual.

A classroom cohort at the elementary school has been moved to distance learning for a period of quarantine & isolation.

In the event of addition-

al cases that would cause further delays, staff and families will be notified through an update on the website, with an automated phone call.

Common areas and high touch surfaces of the school building are being cleaned and sanitized through solution contact cleaning. Any other occupied areas are being disinfected with an electrostatic disinfection sprayer, in addition to the solution contact cleaning.

The best way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is through wearing face coverings, physical distancing and to practice good health hygiene habits. It is due to the use of face coverings, physical distancing and other reg-

ular mitigation practices within the school that exposures leading to isolation are limited.

"We will keep you updated with any new information as it comes out, while meeting the requirements to honor everyone's right to privacy," Grzeskowiak said.

More information can be found on the Oregon Department of Education's "Ready Schools, Safe Learners" page at www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/healthsafety/Pages/Planning-for-the-2020-21-School-Year.aspx and the Oregon Health Authority's COVID-19 page at healthoregon.org/coronavirus.

MEET AUTHORS & PUBLISHERS AT FESTIVAL OF BOOKS THIS WEEKEND

The Florence Festival of Books (FFOB) is the community's chance to meet and chat with authors, such as Melody Carlson, Bob Welch and William Sullivan, and have them sign a book. More than 50 authors and five publishers, includ-

ing Oregon State University Press, are signed up to participate in the book fair portion of the 10th book festival, held in Florence on Saturday, Sept. 18, at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

No admission is charged. Everyone is invited to come see what's new. This year, 20 new authors are participating. And among the returning authors, many have new books.

Because this is a book fair for publishers as well, expect to see returning publishers as well as new ones. This provides an op-

portunity to pitch an idea or manuscript and be back next year as a participant.

Besides the book fair, additional FFOB activities take place the day before on Friday, Sept. 17, at 7 p.m., with Melody Carlson as the Keynote Speaker.

As the author of more than 250 books, she is one of America's most prolific

and beloved Romance authors.

She also writes for teens and tweens and has had more than one of her books turned into a Hallmark movie. There will be no charge for the talk, but because space is limited, a ticket is required. So, call or stop by the Florence Events Center to reserve or pick up a ticket.

Another Friday event, requiring no fee, is a panel discussion — "The Path from Writer to Author" — from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the event center. This discussion will be between Bob Welch and William "Bill" Sullivan, two of Oregon's most admired writers.

Welch is an award-winning former newspaper columnist with Eugene's Register-Guard, who has written more than 20 books on a variety of subjects in the non-fiction genre. He is also an inspirational speaker and teaches writing workshops and has been an adjunct professor of journalism at the University of Oregon.

Many of Sullivan's books are hiking guides, and he wrote a hiking column for many years. He has also written six novels, three

travel and adventure books, and two Oregon histories.

Sullivan's "Listening for Coyote" was selected as one of the 100 most significant books in Oregon history by the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission.

The FFOB Planning Committee is thrilled to host these three outstanding authors. They will help make this 10th festival one of the best ever.

It is a milestone year in more ways than one.

Because of the pandemic, the event was canceled in 2020. This year, because of the Delta variant, the event has 1/3 fewer tables than in the past, which will allow social distancing for those attending. Since the tables are either six or eight feet with space between, social distancing is already there for the participants.

The pandemic was taken into consideration in the planning of the 2021 Florence Festival of Books. Mark your calendar for September 17-18.

For more information, visit www.florencefestivalofbooks.org or reserve your free ticket for Melody Carlson through the Florence Events Center, 541-997-1994.

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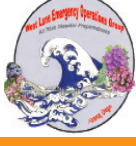
Is your family prepared?

If an emergency happens in your community, it may take emergency workers some time to reach you. You should be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 240 hours.

Get your emergency first aid kit started with these essentials:

- First aid manual
- Aspirin or pain relievers
- Laxatives, diarrhea medicine
- Rubbing alcohol, petroleum jelly
- Soap, salt, baking soda
- Sanitary napkins, matches
- Triangular bandages
- Elastic bandages, pressure dressings
- Cotton balls, disposable diapers
- Scissors, needles, tweezers
- Popsicle sticks, splints, heavy string
- Thermometer, paper tape
- Syrup of Ipecac
- Personal prescription medications

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