

# SN

## Siuslaw News



**nova health**  
**URGENT CARE**


We're here when you need us!

Walk-ins welcome or schedule online.

4480 Hwy 101, Suite G • Florence  
(541) 997-1251 • NovaHealth.com

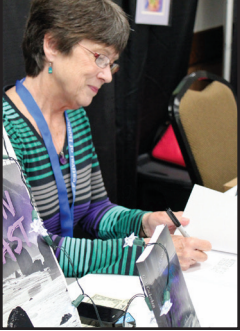
**Siuslaw News**  
NEWS & VIEWS THAT DEFINE OUR COMMUNITY  
VOL. 131, NO. 75  
SEPT. 18, 2021  
FLORENCE, OREGON

**WEATHER**



Rain with a high of 60 and a low of 52.  
Full forecast on A3

**COMMUNITY**



Festival of Books turns new page at FEC  
INSIDE — A3

**SPORTS**



Mapleton football changes gears  
INSIDE — B

**RECORDS**  
Obituaries & emergency response logs  
INSIDE — A2

**SIDE SHOW**  
Activities and comics every Saturday  
INSIDE — B5

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
Listings and public notices  
INSIDE — B6

FOLLOW US FOR THE LATEST NEWS:

 /SIUSLAWNEWS

 @SIUSLAWNEWS

THE SIUSLAWNEWS.COM

2 SECTIONS | 24 PAGES  
Siuslaw News  
0 88267 02345 1  
COPYRIGHT 2021

# To tackle traces of trash on rights of way

*City of Florence cites Leaven No Trace*

BY CHANTELE MEYER  
SIUSLAW NEWS

It started with something simple — to gather litter and roadside trash into one space, highlighting humanity’s carelessness with its castaways. Raymond Block and his nonprofit organization Leaven No Trace have traveled through Coos, Douglas and Lane counties picking up trash from the sides of the road. Once each trash bag is filled, he ties it off, adds a spray-painted face emoji, and secures it where the most people can

see it. Unfortunately for entities like the City of Florence, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and other governments, Block leaves his bags in visible areas along roadways and often in the rights of way of sidewalks and private properties.

“We like that (Leaven No Trace) is picking up trash. Everybody likes that. I don’t know anybody who would argue with that. But we do have systems in place to help dispose of it,” said Florence Assistant City Manager Megan Messmer.

Block has been in the Florence area for more than a year, and he picks up trash nearly every day.

“Essentially, I’ve been running a nonprofit organization to bring awareness, prevention and clean-

up projects to the communities for a massive mess,” he said.

Besides traveling on city and county roadways, Block also took four months cleaning one side and then the other of Highway 101 from California to Washington.

The problem, according to the City of Florence, is what Leaven No Trace does with the trash once it is gathered.

Messmer said, “Right now, what we’re trying to do is get them within one of our programs so that we can help dispose, which we’ve been trying to do for quite a while. ... We’re not upset people are picking up trash. It’s just what you do with it once you bag it.”

See TRACES page 5A



Leaven No Trace seeks to clean up the area of litter. After bagging trash, the group then installs the bags in prominent places, including sidewalks.



# South Jetty Road construction continues

Large construction vehicles and an array of workers are rebuilding and repairing the last mile or so of the South Jetty Road. The repair will require the movement of thousands of tons of sand to add to the road’s substructure.

STORY & PHOTOS  
BY MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS



“Work along the South Jetty Road project is moving on schedule,” reported District Ranger Michele Holman of the Central Coast Ranger District.

U.S. Forest Service announced in July that it would close parts of South Jetty Road for repairs to sections of the roadway. Begin-



ning in August, access to the last mile of the road has been closed.

There have been multiple road and asphalt failures over the past few years along the way to the popular crabbing and surfing locations at the end of the South Jetty Road.

“Construction crews are in the

process of rerouting the northern end of the road, beyond beach access point number five, and are preparing to pave it,” Holman said. “Most of the subgrade excavation is completed. ... We expect the project to be completed by the end of October.”

See JETTY page 6A

# Mapleton Water District meeting gets things flowing

*Board makes decisions regarding past-due bills, new treatment plant provider*

BY ZAC BURTT  
SIUSLAW NEWS

The Mapleton Water District (MWD) Board of Directors met on Sept. 14 with a full agenda. Some important topics covered the procedure for dealing with past due bills, the choice of supplier for the new water treatment plant and the introduction, to the public, of new smart meters to be installed at all district residences.

The meeting began with the safety committee discussing a recent visit by OSHA. OSHA had requested that, and the board discussed, making sure fire extinguisher numbers were suitable, road signs were updated and that MWD Board Director Dustin Basurto was certified for flagging, a requirement as board director and important to day to day operations for the MWD. It was determined that all requirements were met.

After that, Board Secretary/Treasurer Jami Sautner discussed the district’s financials. She stated that in Banner Bank, as of Aug. 31, the district had \$93,500.25, and in Oregon Pacific Bank the total was \$7,598.26. The bills that had been paid since the last meeting totaled



Workers from Delta Operations, of Eugene, assist Mapleton Water District workers on leak repairs on East Mapleton Road.

\$40,000.

Board member Bryan Moore asked, “Before we move on, how much money do we really have?”

“We have \$58,000,” replied Sautner.

Later in the meeting, she explained the actual amount the district had to work with was lower because of bills being paid to West Yost Engineering for advisement on the procurement of a new, permanent, treatment plant and WesTech

for operation of the temporary treatment plant currently being used.

Board member Sharon Schrenk went on to state that money is tight right now for the district.

“We used to keep a balance of about \$190,000, so we are down,” she said.

Schrenk went on to explain much of the funding is being used for attempted leak repairs with assistance of a company called Delta Operations. This company is used for day-

to-day operations that require certifications that Basurto is currently working towards.

Schrenk said, “Dustin and I had a phone conference today with Delta and told them that we need to mitigate these expenses. We need to cut down on the money going out.”

She then asked, “What can the board do to support Dustin to get him up to speed to get him more in an operating mode?”

The current thought is that many of the services provided by Delta will eventually be taken care of by Basurto. The board agreed that it was only a matter of time and said Basurto was on course to complete his training and certifications as quickly as possible.

Moore, in hopes on cutting down on labor costs, offered assistance.

“Dustin, you can call me, for anything you need, and I can get a crew together, for sure,” said Moore.

Next topic discussed was an important one, as the board debated what the policy for late bills would be moving forward.

In February, bills were sent out to all residents on the MWD. These bills were much higher than many residents expected.

See WATER page 6A

**QUIET WEST OLD TOWN**



935 8TH STREET  
Charming well cared for home in central Florence. This home received a new roof in 2020. Home is close to post office, shopping, and medical facilities. This south facing home takes full advantage of the daylight through the homes large windows. Established low maintenance landscaping features easy to care for native plants. Fenced back yard is great for morning coffee or soaking in the hot tub. Large master bedroom with walk in closet and a well appointed master bathroom.  
\$510,000 # 12255 MLS# 21357073

**RIVERFRONT HOME**



11381 E MAPLETON RD  
This retro inspired manufactured home is perfectly situated on 1.5 acres of quiet, riverfront property. Structurally sound, cleaned and move-in ready. Plenty of space to add a shop, garden or just enjoy the serene country surroundings. Small shed, a covered patio and 15'x15' shop off the carport round out this must see property. \$389,000 # 12254 MLS# 21239691

**MOVE-IN READY**



2225 52ND STREET  
Immaculate, move-in ready for sale for the first time by the original owner. Luxury vinyl plank flooring entry, bathrooms, kitchen floors; oversized hallway and doors for easy access with no-step entry. Light and bright great room w spacious kitchen, upgraded appliances, eating bar, door to outside oversized patio for entertaining. Fully fenced backyard with separate fenced dog run. Double finished and insulated garage. More pictures and virtual tour coming soon. \$429,000 # 12249 MLS# 21092502

**BRAND NEW BEACH AREA HOME**



4319 N. RHODODENDRON  
Brand new Pacific Northwest style 1-level home close to beach and recreational areas. Soaring vaulted ceilings in main living area, covered private back patio (pre-wired for hot tub), granite and SS kitchen, large master suite with walk-in closet. All 1 level with no steps. Finished garage. Low maintenance landscaping. Quality throughout. Make this new home yours today!  
\$514,900 # 12161 MLS# 21450495

  
**COLDWELL BANKER**  
**COAST REAL ESTATE**  
**541-997-7777**  
“We’re next to the Bridge”  
100 Hwy. 101  
See all Florence Listings at  
 