

On The Record

10 Tips for Shopping Securely Online

It seems just couple of years ago, consumers were skeptical about shopping online, but today, shopping online for everything from groceries to televisions has become the norm. But it comes with some risks.

The FBI Internet Crime Report shows that cyber-criminals were responsible for \$4.1 billion in losses in 2020, with Business Email Compromise (BEC) schemes being the costliest for online shoppers.

With holiday shopping just around the corner, cybersecurity is — and should be — a top concern for consumers. Here are 10 tips to keep your data safe and your accounts secure from the Northwest Credit Union Association:

- Beware of online deals that seem too good to be true. This is especially important on social media. Many times, scammers set up fake shopping sites in order to steal your personal information and your money.
- Be smart about site security. The Google Chrome browser flags any site that is not secure and sends a warning message to the user.
- Be wary of email scams offering amazing bargains. And be careful of claims that there's a problem with delivery, especially if you're unfamiliar with the sender. Never open attachments or click links that are included in the email unless you can verify the sender is legitimate.

- Avoid shopping while connected to public Wi-Fi — it's a sure way for hackers to spy for your online activity and gain access to your personal information.
- Whenever possible, buy with a credit card, not a debit card. Most credit cards offer \$0 liability for account fraud, while a debit card gives shady sellers

direct access to your bank account.

- Guard your sensitive personal information. No legitimate online retailer will ever ask for your Social Security number. If they do, it's a major red flag.

- Pay close attention to the details of the transaction, such as shipping notices and tracking information. If a retailer refuses to give details about your order, such as a shipping date or order status, chances are you may not receive the merchandise. Report the charge to your credit card company to get your money back.

- Check your accounts regularly to ensure that all charges are purchases you actually made. If you see a charge you don't recognize, notify your credit union or credit card company immediately.

- Choose strong and unique passwords for your online accounts. Combine letters, numbers, and special characters to create complex passwords that are difficult to hack.

- Report suspicious activity or file a scam complaint with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission and the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at <https://www.ic3.gov/>. You'll be helping to keep yourself and fellow citizens safe against present and future scammers.

WEATHER DATA

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
Nov. 16	49	37	0.05
Nov. 17	49	37	0.00
Nov. 18	54	43	0.33
Nov. 19	51	38	0.13
Nov. 20	49	35	0.00
Nov. 21	51	38	0.00
Nov. 22	53	32	0.09

Rainfall Week: 0.60"
Month: 8.04" Year: 51.28"

Courtesy of Roger Cunningham

Siuslaw News

garage sale GUIDE

Guys Garage Sale
Saturday 11/27
9am-4pm
1915 East 36th Street.
Clearing out my Shop. RV things too!

NOW OPEN
Oregon Coast Humane Society Annual Christmas Store

1179 Bay Street
Old Town, Florence
Open
Monday-Saturday
10am-4pm

Get Results...List With Wendy.



Wendy Krause
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Thank you for your support over these months.
Unfortunately we will be closing the store.

Everything in the store is 40% off now through November 30th.
Fixtures are for sale as well.
(Please inquire for pricing).

Everyone is Welcome!

Coastal Belle Boutique
87768 Hwy. 101, North • (Next to American Market)
Open: Fri-Tues 10am-5pm • Closed Wed & Thurs.

Suspect identified in Nov. 22 bomb threat at SMS

Student to be suspended pending threat assessment

A student suspect has been identified by authorities in the bomb threat message found at Siuslaw Middle School on Monday afternoon. As per local school board policy, the individual is suspended from school, pending a threat assessment and a disciplinary hearing that may result in expulsion.

Additional information is still being reviewed and the school district is cooperating with law enforcement in all aspects of the investigation.

“Student safety is a priority of all district personnel,” said Siuslaw Superintendent Andy Grzeskowiak. “When a potential threat is known, relevant and accurate information is released as soon as possible. Any person specifically named as a target of a potential

threat is notified.”

If groups of students are stated to be potential targets, the community is informed and the incident is taken as a potential threat to the entire campus. During the investigation, as more information is discovered and confirmed, it is also released so that families can make the decision that is best for them.

The Siuslaw School District, in coordination with local law enforcement, uses the bomb threat screening protocol outlined by the Department of Homeland Security.

In the case of this bomb threat, there was:

- No individual person or group of persons named as potential targets
- No specific information was given about the nature of any possible de-

vice

- No specific information was given about a time, date, or location of any possible device

- No demand or grievance was listed in the message

“At no point in time would students be allowed to be on campus if law enforcement determined that there was a credible threat to their safety,” Grzeskowiak stated.

Schools would be closed until deemed safe by law enforcement to resume operations. With the culprit being identified last evening it was possible to continue with operations today as there was no active threat to students, transportation or facilities.

Law enforcement will determine the proper criminal charge for this act.

There will be disciplinary action from the school, in line with law and policy, which could result in expulsion without services for up to one calendar year.

As the person in question is a minor and a student, there are restrictions preventing the disclosure of their identity and the exact consequences of discipline.

The Siuslaw School District takes threats and rumors seriously. All avenues are explored to determine the credibility and validity of potential threats to student safety. Please know that the district will always investigate any threat, or rumor of a threat, to the fullest extent possible in cooperation with the police.

For more information, visit siuslaw.k12.or.us.

Friends Of Moments Of Peace Presents

Christmas 2021:
The Magic is Back
with
Charles Suniga and
“The Angels”

Saturday, December 11th at 6pm

At the Florence Events Center

An Evening of holiday music by Florence's piano man Charles Suniga along with special guest vocalists.

Call the Events Center for more information at 541-997-1994
or www.aftontickets.com/charlessuniga
Produced by Sure Hits Productions




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THIS SUNDAY AND MONDAY
November 28 & 29





St. Vincent de Paul
2315 Hwy. 101 Florence • (541) 997-8460
10AM-6PM • Seven Days a Week • svdp.us
“Have some fun, save some money, do something nice for your neighbor.”

EUGENE: 2890 Chad Drive • 705 S.Seneca • 201 Division Ave
• 2167 W11th **SPRINGFIELD:** 4555 Main St. • 199 Q. St
ALBANY: 2220 Pacific Blvd **SALEM:** 445 Lancaster Dr. NE
JUNCTION CITY: 333 Ivy / Hwy 99 **OAKRIDGE:** 47664 Hwy 58