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Planning Department 541-997-8237

Police Department 541-997-3515

Public Works 541-997-4106

Senior Center 541-997-8844

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#### March 2016

# Walking, Running, or Biking Experiencing Florence from the Sidewalk

Submitted by City Councilor Susy Lacer

When Megan Messmer, the Focus on Florence editor and Assistant to the City Manager, invited Council members to write articles for the newsletter, I asked for suggestions on topics she thought would be useful for the publication. Megan mentioned that it is always nice to hear what people love about living in Florence. For instance, she knows that I walk, run, or bicycle around our fair city every day. For this article, I'll share some of my favorite trails and routes for experiencing Florence as a pedestrian.





Since I live near the Justice Center, I use the 12th Street Path on a regular basis. This half-mile long trail links Rhody Drive and Kingwood Street. It makes for a nice little loop using 9th Street as the connector, or you can follow Rhody all the way down to Kingwood for a longer loop. The wood chip surface of the 12th Street Path is perfect for running and the mixed open field and woodsy surroundings make for an enjoyable nature walk. The crossing over Munsel Creek, currently a rushing stream with the recent rains, is a bonus.

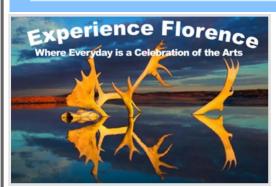
Another favorite walking and running route uses the extensive trails in Miller and Singing Pines Parks. These two adjacent parks have a mix of paved and gravel paths. The crisscrossing loop

See Walk, Run, Bike, Page 3

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# SPOTLIGHT

# City of Florence Public Art Committee



The Public Art Committee has been working diligently on the creation of a public art program for the City of Florence that will help Florence rise above the rest and become a place where art is integrated into the daily life of our community.

On February 17th the Committee presented the City Council with their findings toward the creation of a public art program in the City as a tool to help fuel the local economy through creative tourism and creating a place where residents and tourists alike can thrive.

The Committee laid out their plans for how the City can become a "Premier Coastal Community" for the arts by implementing City ownership of art in public places, creation of a city public

gallery and rental space, and promoting public- private partnerships by streamlining the City's mural code. The Committee presented the Council with guidelines and policies to help bring the ideas to fruition and a timeline for the Committee over the next six months.

The City Council will be taking a final look and potentially approving the proposed policies to get the projects in motion at their meeting on March 7th. For more information about the Florence Public Art Committee please contact City Recorder/Economic Development Coordinator Kelli Weese at kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us.

Below: The Public Art Committee presented at the February 17th City Council Work Session.





# Join Us Online!

The City of Florence and the Florence Events Center are both on social media. You can find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Vimeo. Watch for updates on meetings, events, videos, and other important information.

### Like Us On

facebook

www.facebook.com/ CityofFlorenceOregon



www.facebook.com/ FlorenceEventCenter

### Follow Us On Ewitter

www.twitter.com/ CityFlorenceOR



www.twitter.com/ FloEventsCenter

Watch Us On

www.vimeo.com/ florenceoregon

#### WALK, RUN, BIKE, Page 1

paths in Miller Park are all paved, totaling about three-quarters of a mile around the perimeter of the Park. The paved Oak Street Bike Path runs along the east side of the Park, roughly connecting 15th Street with 20th Street, creating another loop option. Gravel trails in Singing Pines Park connect to Miller on the west side. These woodsy trails weave around this 6 acre park, which is adjacent to the Senior Center and the fenced Singing Pines Dog Park.

One of the advantages of seeing Florence from a sidewalk view is noting the details that can be missed while in a vehicle. I frequently walk a loop through Historic Old Town, keeping up on changes in local businesses there, reading notices in shop windows about upcoming events, and, for the past few months, admiring the twinkling light displays at

several businesses, as well as at the Siuslaw Interpretive Center and Gazebo (Old Town) Park. Watching the progress on the Highway 101 bridge restoration has also been a regular activity lately, and walking the Port's docks and boardwalk is beautiful at every tide stage and weather condition.

Ours is a welcoming community; passersby almost always exchange a friendly greeting, whether they are locals or visitors. The pedestrian's close-up view of our city brings into focus its character and charm. I feel very fortunate to live in Florence and enjoy this quality of life, including sharing this amazing community with those who choose to call it home.



Visit <a href="www.ci.florence.or.us/publicworks/parks">www.ci.florence.or.us/publicworks/parks</a> for a full listing of our parks, trails, and open spaces! We have also developed a <a href="Bike Friendly Route Map">Bike Friendly Route Map</a> with 5 bike-friendly routes that take you on a tour of our parks and allow you to enjoy the City of Florence. While you are there, don't forget to check out our Adopt-a-Park Program!



The City of Florence and our West Lane Emergency Operations Group (WLEOG) partners are participating in the Tsunami Blue Line Project and the 2016 Tsunami Walk Out on March 11th. See pages 4-6 for more information!

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#### Leaving Tsunami Zone

Improving tsunami evacuation wayfinding will save lives by helping people in the inundation zone get to safety faster. Oregon has been working for several years to improve how we mark and define tsunami evacuation routes. A recent program by the Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) in New Zealand called the "Blue Line Project" paints a blue line, with additional signage on the roadway at the line demarking the evacuation zone. The Oregon pilot project will work with several communities to install these Blue Line markers on selected routes.

The participating communities are:

- Florence
- Reedsport
- Coos Bay
- Gold Beach

# Told March 11-12 Tsunami WalkOut @Practice your route

Share on social media
#ORTsunami

For more information:

Althea Rizzo

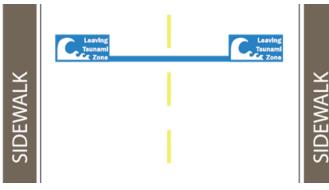
Oregon Office of Emergency Management 503-378-2911/ althea.rizzo@state.or.us



#### What's the Tsunami Blue Line Project?

Participating communities include Florence, Reedsport, Coos Bay, and Gold Beach have partnered with the Oregon Office of Emergency Management for the Tsunami Blue Line pilot project. This project has provided each participating community with five signs to direct the public out of the tsunami inundation zones.

The five signs will each include a roadway blue line and larger roadway signs reading "Leaving Tsunami Zone."



#### Where will the blue lines be located?

The Blue Line signs will be placed at the following locations and are demonstrated on the map on page 6:

- Quince Street (near the old ball fields)
- Rhododendron Drive South (near Hwy. 101)
- Rhododendron Drive (near 9th Street)
- Rhododendron Drive North (south of 35th Street)
- Heceta Beach Road

#### What can you do?

Join us for the 2016 Tsunami Walk Out on Friday, March IIth! Local, state, and federal representatives will be providing comments on the pilot project as well as the importance of emergency preparedness at City Hall beginning at 10:30 am. Following comments, the tsunami sirens will sound at II am so we can all practice our evacuation routes. **Reminder, this is just a drill.** 

#### More Info:

For more information on the 2016 Tsunami Walk Out visit <a href="https://www.ci.florence.or.us">www.ci.florence.or.us</a> or call 541-997-3437. For more information on emergency preparedness, visit <a href="https://www.wleog.org">www.wleog.org</a>.

### Oregon Tsunami Outreach

## After an earthquake, quickly walk to high ground or inland

### Tsunami can happen at any time!

A tsunami (su-NAH-mee) is a series of waves usually caused by the sudden movement of the ocean floor because of a large undersea earthquake. As tsunamis enter shallow water near land, they increase in height and can cause great loss of life and prpoerty damage.

People on open beaches, low-lying areas, by bays or tidal flats, and near mouths of rivers draining into the ocean are at greatest risk from a tsunami and may have little time after a large earthquake to move to high ground.

# 2 types of tsunami know the difference

A DISTANT TSUNAMI is caused by an earthquake far away from our shores, aqnd can take hours to arrive in Oregon. There is plenty of time to issue a warning evacuate, if necessry

A LOCAL TSUNAMI is caused by an earthquake near our shores and will come ashore in 10 to 20 minutes after the shaking starts. There will be no official warning and you MUST self-evacuate to high ground or inland.

Oregon has new tsunami evacuation route signs



#### What are the Blue Lines?

The Blue lines are road markings that show you when you are leaving the tsunami evacuation zone. This is the point you need to get past as you move to high ground during a tsunami.

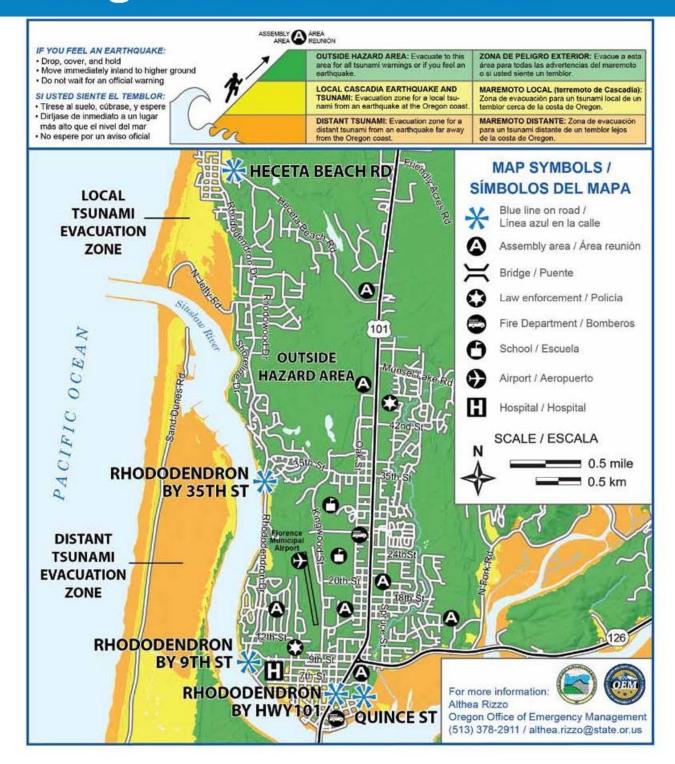
Learn the facts, make a plan, & get some help

Get an evacuation map for your area by going to OregonTsunami.org. Talk to your family and neighbors about how to prepare and respond during a tsunami and then practice your evacuation routes. There is so much you can do to get ready to survive a tsunami.

See more at www.OregonTsunami.org

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# Florence, OR Oregon Tsunami Outreach





Tornadoes (yes they are rare in the Pacific NW, but we do get them), lightning, floods, rip currents and early season heat - spring is three months of danger that can imperil the unprepared. It roars in like a lion, rampaging across the United States throughout March, April and May. And there's one hazard that can strike the coasts at any time: tsunamis.

Spring hazards include:

- ★ Severe Weather/Tornadoes
- **♦** Floods
- → Lightning
- → Tsunamis
- ✦ Rip Currents/Beach Hazards

Nobody knows the hazards of this dynamic season more than NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS). We ask that you get weather-ready for spring with just a few simple steps:

#### I. Know Your Risk

Check <u>weather.gov</u> every morning. It is a simple action that will ensure that you're ready for the day's weather. Don't leave home without knowing the forecast.

#### 2. Take Action!

Assemble an <u>emergency supplies kit</u> with 72 hours worth of food and water. In an emergency (such as after a windstorm or some other hazard event), you may be stuck at home without electricity for three days or more. Make sure that you're prepared. Also, ensure that everyone in your life knows how to stay in touch with an <u>emergency communication plan</u>. This plan lists meeting places and alternate ways of communicating in case of emergency.

#### 3. Be A Force of Nature

Inspire others by sharing your weather-ready story on social media with the hashtag #SpringSafety. It can be a simple as posting a photo of your emergency supplies kit or letting your friends know how to reach you during an emergency. Together, we can build a Weather-Ready Nation, one that is ready for any extreme weather, water, or climate event.

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#### SPRING WEATHER, Page 7

#### **SPRING HAZARDS**

You are not powerless in the face of extreme weather and water events. Learn about the hazards most common to spring - and some that are threats year-round - and what you can do about them.

#### **Severe Weather/Tornadoes**

Spring is a time when severe weather and tornadoes are a threat for much of the Southeast and Great Plains. Since 2005, 49 states have come under a tornado warning; all 50 states have come under severe thunderstorm warnings; and lightning strikes occur in every state. While tornadoes can strike almost anywhere, the Great Plains is particularly prone to tornadoes in the spring. The 2013 Moore, Oklahoma tornado, which killed 24 people and injured hundreds, struck in May of that year.

What to Do: You may have only minutes to find shelter before a tornado strikes. Practice a <u>family tornado drill</u> at least once a year.

#### **Floods**

Due to snowmelt and heavy rain from thunderstorms, flooding is common across much of the U.S. in the spring. In May of last year, widespread flooding in Texas left 17 dead. Flash flooding is the number one killer associated with severe weather. A mere six inches of fast-moving flood water can knock over an adult. It takes just 12 inches of rushing water to carry away a small car, while two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles.

What to Do: It's simple: Turn Around Don't Drown®. It is NEVER safe to drive or walk into flood waters.

#### Lightning

In 2015, there were 26 lightning fatalities - five in Florida alone. 62% of fatalities were men. Lightning strikes the United States about 25 million times a year. Although most lightning occurs in the summer, people can be struck at any time of year.

What to Do: When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors! No place outside is safe when thunderstorms are in the area.

#### **Tsunamis**

Since the beginning of the 20th century, 34 tsunami events have caused more than 500 deaths and over \$1.7 billion (2015 dollars) in damage to U.S. coastal states and territories. A tsunami can strike any ocean coast at any time. We cannot predict where, when or how destructive the next tsunami will be, however, we can be prepared.

What to Do: If you live, work or play on the coast, prepare for a tsunami by learning about <u>tsunami warnings and</u> evacuation routes.

#### Rip Currents/Beach Hazards

Rip currents are powerful currents of water moving away from shore. They can sweep even the strongest swimmer away. Rip currents are deadliest during the spring and summer, claiming the lives of 41 people in 2015 (preliminary figures). They are also south Florida's deadliest weather-related hazard. Other beach hazards include extreme heat and dangerous waves. Stay safe this Spring Break and year-round.

What to Do: Break the grip of the rip! Check water conditions before going in by looking at the <u>local beach forecast</u> before you leave for the beach and talking to the lifeguard at the beach. Only swim at a beach with lifeguards. The chances of drowning at a beach with lifeguards are I in 18 million (U.S. Lifesaving Association).

#### Rules of the Road

Presented as a Public Service by the Florence Police Department Auxiliary



#### **ARE YOU A SAFE DRIVER?**

### DO YOU FOLLOW THE RULES OF THE ROAD?

The Florence Police Department is hosting a public session on following the Rules of the Road. It will focus on the factors relating to safe driving.

Join the Florence Police Auxiliary on Saturday, March 12th beginning at 1pm in the Bromley Room at Siuslaw Public Library. They will review the following topics and more:

- Crosswalk and Pedestrian Areas
- Construction Zones
- School Buses and School Zones
- Distracted Driving
- Following Distances

#### Neighborhood Watch



The Florence Police Department has received several questions lately relating to Neighborhood Watch programs. The Florence Police Auxiliary Officers coordinate our Neighborhood local Watch Program

Florence and have been assisting a few neighborhoods get their own groups going.

If you are interesting in forming or revitalizing a Neighborhood Watch for your own neighborhood, please contact Auxiliary Officer Mike Nielsen at 541-991-3240. Mr. Nielson is our Program Coordinator and can answer any questions you may have.

Remember, if you have a concern over suspicious behavior contact the Florence Police Department at 541-997-3515 or by calling 911 for emergencies.



Are you interested in learning about how Kickstarter can help your business needs? Join us for the Big Mix V2: Kickstarter Crowdfunding In Food, Film, Craft and Games

March 12, 2016 from 1-5 p.m. at the Hult Center in Eugene. Visit the <u>www.hultcenter.org</u> to register and purchase tickets! Tickets are \$25 per person or \$20 for students.

For more information, check out <u>OregonRAIN</u> and <u>Fertilab</u> on Facebook or check out the Register Guard article <u>Upcoming Hult Center event for innovators to focus on Kickstarter.</u>

For more information on Florence's Involvement with the RAIN or the City's Economic Development Efforts, contact Economic Development Coordinator Kelli Weese at <a href="mailto:kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us">kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us</a>.

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# Yard Debris Disposal

#### YARD DEBRIS DISPOSAL DAYS RETURN IN MARCH

#### BRING YOUR:

- Tree clippings
- Leaves
- Grass clippings
- Weeds
- **Prunings**
- Brush

#### DO NOT BRING YOUR:

- Food & Household waste
- Animal waste
- **Plastics**
- Construction debris
- Hazardous waste

The City of Florence's March and will take place through October (weather permitting.)

Bring your yard debris to the Kingwood en-2pm on collection days.

Collection days will be the third Saturday

of each month, with Yard Debris Disposal the exception of May, Day returns again in in which it will be held on May 14th due to payment. Rhody Days.

Disposal costs are pickup truck load or due to the possible small utility trailer trance of the airport (single axle) or less; (Kingwood and 27th \$15 for a medium util-St) from 9am until ity trailer (10-12 feet in length); and \$20 for a large utility trailer (12-18 feet). Over 20 cubic yards is \$20

plus \$5 for each additional cubic yard. Please bring cash for

Scotch broom cannot be accepted after the \$10 for a standard June collection date spread of seeds during transport to the disposal site.



#### COST

Pickup Load	\$10	
Small Utility Trailer (single axle)	\$10	
Medium Utility Trailer (10-12 ft)	\$15	
Large Utility Trailer (12-18 ft)	\$20	

Greater than 20

cubic yards

\$20 +

\$5/yd

over

#### 2016 COLLECTION DATES

Yard debris collection is from 9AM to 2PM at the Kingwood entrance to the airport, located at Kingwood and 27th St.

MARCH 19 **MAY 14 JULY 16** SEPTEMBER 17

**APRIL 16 JUNE 18 AUGUST 20** OCTOBER 15

For questions, please contact the City of Florence Public Works Department at 541-997-4106.



#### Recorder's Corner

#### **News from the February Council Meetings**

As we roll on into the new year, February is the time when the City takes the goals it has created and begins to draft a budget to put those goals into place. On February 1st, the Florence City Council did both those items with the adoption of the 2016 Florence City

Council goals and work plan as well as an overview of the upcoming budget process. Stay tuned as the City works to complete its work plan and budget for the new year.

During February the City Council also completed the following:

- > Purchase of a wastewater treatment plant boiler,
- Liquor license approval for Homegrown Wildcrafters Kitchen & Deli,
- Approval of a franchise agreement with Heceta Water People's Utility District,
- > Approval of an agreement for the new public works facility to occupy the property adjacent to the airport,
- > Overview of the Public Art Committee program and policies,



- > Overview of the Marijuana Business License processes and potential code changes,
- > Agreement with ODOT for street and stormwater maintenance,
- Engineering Services for Sewer Line Extensions to Harbor Vista Campground,
- North Fork Road Water and Wastewater Extensions,
- Presentations for Western Lane Ambulance, 'Little Rhody' the Sea Lion Pup, Tsunami Preparedness Blue Line Project, Senior Center Management and the Winter Folk Festival.

For more information about Florence City Council meetings and actions, please contact City Recorder Kelli Weese at 541-997-3437, or via email at <a href="mailto:kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us">kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us</a>. Information on all Council meetings and actions taken can be found on the City of Florence website at <a href="https://www.ci.florence.or.us">www.ci.florence.or.us</a>.

Above: Little Rhody was introduced to the Florence City Council on February 22nd.

Right: Western Lane Ambulance Director Brian Burright recognized Communications Officer Tyler Marler at the February 22nd Council meeting. He provided instruction and dispatch support during the birth of Lilianna Vivienne Pruett (pictured with her family). Lilianna was born at home on January 24th at 2:06am.



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Visit the City of Florence online at www.ci.florence.or.us Focus on Florence Page 12

#### FLORENCE CITY COUNCIL



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Councilor Susy Lacer susy.lacer@ ci.florence.or.us



Councilor George Lyddon george.lyddon@ ci.florence.or.us

#### **City Council Meetings**

Council Chambers City Hall, 250 Hwy. 101 (unless otherwise noted)

Mon., March 7, 6 PM Mon., March 21, 6 PM **Work Session** Wed., March 9, 9:30 AM Wed., March 16, 10 AM

Wed., March 23, 10 AM

**Regular Meetings** 

City Council regular meetings are open to the public, televised on cable Channel 191, and available for online viewing the following day. For the most current agenda & materials call 541-997-3437 or visit www.ci.florence.or.us.

#### **COUNCIL GOALS**

■ Sustain and improve the delivery of cost effective and efficient services, including public safety, to the citizens of Florence and our visitors. ■ Sustain and improve the City's livability and quality of life for Florence residents and visitors. ■ Create a strategy and actions aimed towards sustaining and expanding the Florence economy. ■ Sustain and improve the City's communication program and strengthen citizen trust. ■ Sustain and improve the City's financial position, City-wide policies, and the infrastructure networks to support current and future needs.

### CITY CALENDAR: MARCH 2016

#### **Questions?**

Contact City Hall at 541-997-3437. Contact the Florence Events Center at 541-997-1994.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		I	2	3	4 Home & Garden Show 2pm—6pm, FEC	5 Home & Garden Show 10am—6pm, FEC
6  Home & Garden Show I lam—3pm, FEC	7 City Council 6 pm, City Hall Siuslaw High School Band 7 pm, FEC	Fresh Impressions Youth Art Show 5 pm, FEC	9 City Council Work Session 10 am, City Hall Siuslaw Elementary Talent Show 6 pm, FEC	Siuslaw Elementary Talent Show 6 pm, FEC	2016 Tsunami Walk Out 10:30 am, City Hall 11 am, Siren Test	The Rules of the Road, Presented by the Florence Police Auxiliary Officers I pm, Siuslaw Public Library Bromley Room
13	Public Art Committee 10 am, City Hall	Econ. Dev. Committee 2:30 pm, City Hall	FURA/Council Work Session 10 am, City Hall TAC 1:30 pm, City Hall Airport Committee 2 pm, City Hall	EMAC 1:30 pm, City Hall	I8  Glenn Miller  Orchestra 7 pm, FEC	Yard Debris Disposal Day 9 am—2 pm, 27th St.  Cavy Show 9 am—4 pm, FEC
20	City Council 6 pm, City Hall	Planning Commission 7 pm, City Hall	FURA 6 pm, City Hall	Job Fair 10 am—5:30pm, Three Rivers Casino	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		