

Florence City Hall
 250 Highway 101
 Florence, OR 97439
www.ci.florence.or.us

Finance Department
 541-997-3436

Building/Planning
 541-997-8237

Inspection Request
 541-997-2141 xt. 3

City Recorder
 541-997-3437

City Manager's Office
 541-902-2182

Public Works
 541-997-4106

Police Department
 541-997-3515

Florence Events Center
 541-997-1994

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Suslaw Bridge photo courtesy of Joshua Greene, © 2011 All Rights Reserved

October 2012

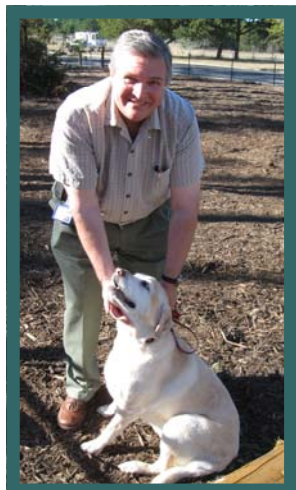
A Park of Their Own



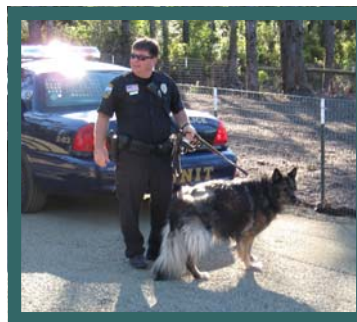
The City of Florence celebrated the Grand Opening of the Singing Pines Dog Park with a ribbon cutting ceremony Monday, October 1st. The 44,000 square-foot park offers off-leash fun for small and large dogs and is open from 8 a.m. to dusk.

For a full list of park rules, visit the City of Florence website at

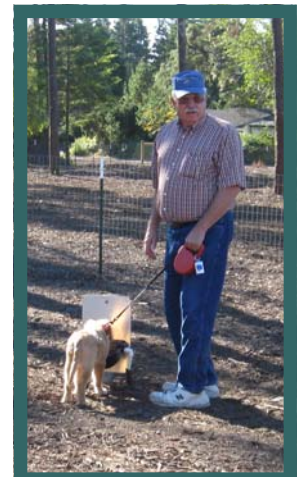
www.ci.florence.or.us.



City of Florence Public Works Director Mike Miller, with his dog Lucy, enjoy the new park.



Officer Ken Larson brought recently retired Senior K-9 Officer Brasso Von Dog by the park during the grand opening.



A puppy takes a quick drink break before mingling with the other dogs.

Employee Spotlight

Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) Participant — Katya Reyna

Katya Reyna is one of the newest members of the City of Florence team and made her way from Chicago to the Oregon Coast through the Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) Program. Established in 1994, RARE is an AmeriCorps program administered through the University of Oregon's Community Service Center and allows a unique opportunity for post-graduates to work within a rural community, assisting in various projects related to urban planning, natural resource planning, food systems and economic development.

A graduate of the University of Illinois at Chicago, Katya said she chose Florence because of its balance of urban and rural life.

"I was immediately attracted to the small-town feel, surrounded by natural beauty and an overall environmental awareness and stewardship," said Katya.

Why did you join the RARE program/ What do you hope to learn or get out of this experience?

I joined RARE because I wanted to gain tangible and real-life experience in the fields I have been studying for the past four years. I want to continue my education, but I believe I need more hands-on experience first. I also wanted to work somewhere completely out of my comfort zone. Having only lived and studied in a metropolitan environment, I saw working for a smaller local government in the Pacific Northwest as an opportunity to expand my horizons and gain a new perspective and skill set.

Why did you choose Florence?

I chose Florence because to me it reflected a balance of urban and rural life. I was immediately attracted to the small-town feel, surrounded by natural beauty and an overall environmental awareness and stewardship.



Katya Reyna comes to Florence as a participant of the AmeriCorps RARE Program.

What are you doing for the City of Florence?

I will be working with the Siuslaw Estuary Partnership and assisting in the public outreach portion of the North Florence Dunal Aquifer Protection Plan. I will also be facilitating the Environmental Management Advisory Committee meetings and events, specifically "Opportunity for Recycling." I will also be assisting in the implementation of the Florence Transportation System Plan.

Long term goals?

After RARE, I would like to continue to work within the public sector. I plan on eventually pursuing a master's degree in urban planning and/or landscape architecture. Chicago is my home

and first love, but I am starting to think I may stay in the PNW for a while.

Family?

My father is from Lima, Peru, and my mother was born and raised in the Central Valley of California. They attended the University of California in Santa Barbara and moved to Chicago in 1988. They both currently work for the University of Illinois at Chicago and live in Oak Park, just outside the city with my younger sister. My older brother currently resides in New Orleans where he is pursuing a Masters in Agricultural Economics. Though we are currently all over the map, we stay in touch and remain very close.

Hobbies?

In my spare time I like to bake, bike and listen to old vinyl records. From rock to funk to opera, I love live music and immerse myself in it as much as possible. I also love to travel and go camping whenever I can. Now that I live in Oregon, I look forward to spending more time outdoors and hopefully fulfilling my lifelong dream of learning to surf. So if anyone wants to teach me, I am more than open to that!

FREE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL EVENT

Rid yourself of hazardous waste this month! Bring your paints, household cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, car care products, arts and crafts products, or just about any other household hazardous waste to this free disposal event.



Friday October 19th from 12 pm-5 pm
Saturday October 20th from 8 am-2pm
At the Florence Transfer Site
2820 N Rhododendron Drive

This does NOT include empty containers, drums, radioactive waste, asbestos, explosives or electronics. For these types of disposals please contact the Lane County Waste Management County Waste Management Divisions at 541-682-3828.

Businesses which generate small amounts of hazardous waste may pre-register to bring that waste to this event. There will be a fee, but it is typically lower than hiring a contractor on their own. For more information about this program, call Lane County Waste Management Division at 541-682-4120

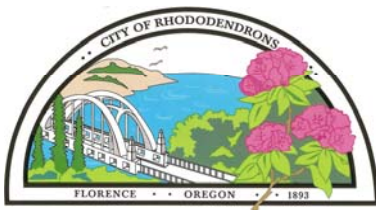
Can't make it that weekend?

There are year round sites for paint, electronics and florescent lamps in Lane County. Call 541-682-4120 for more information or visit the following websites:

www.paintcare.org

www.lanecounty.org/lamps

www.deq.state.or.us/lg/ecycle



Summertime in the City

As the Oregon Coast transitions into Fall, let's take a look back at some of the City's summer activities.



Florence Mayor Phil Brubaker (right) and Sherwood Mayor and Oregon Mayors Association (OMA) President Keith Mays welcome almost 70 mayors to the 2012 OMA Conference. From July 26th to the 28th, Florence hosted the annual conference that provided the mayors with opportunities to network and participate in educational seminars.



While the Mayors were busy in seminars, their spouses and guests enjoyed tours of Sea Lion Caves and the Heceta Head Lighthouse. Above, Sea Lion Caves Manager Boomer Wright welcomes the guests to one of the most popular attractions on the Oregon Coast.



City Manager Jacque Betz (left) and Public Works crew member Sean Selig work on a fence at the new Singing Pines Dog Park on Make-A-Difference Day, July 21st. Hundreds of volunteers came together that sunny Saturday to work on the parks, clean beaches and fundraise.



Local volunteers collaborated with the City to raise money and install new playground equipment at the 18th Street Pocket Park.

FACTS ABOUT ANNEXATION

There are many things a citizen must consider when analyzing their alternatives for having their home or business annexed to the City of Florence. The City of Florence provides many services including police protection, parks, code enforcement, planning/building, and city administration, which would be available to citizens upon annexation to the City of Florence. However, there is a cost-benefit analysis that every resident must do in order to decide if annexation to the City is right for them. For this reason, and in light of common misconceptions, the City has prepared a fact sheet on annexation which is available on the City of Florence website at <http://www.ci.florence.or.us/planning/annexation-fact-sheet>. Below is simply a sneak preview of the information contained in that sheet.

Standard Recurring Taxes/Fees

City Property Taxes – The City of Florence property tax rate (regular & bond) is \$2.85 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Thus a property valued at \$200,000 would see a tax increase of \$570/yr upon annexation.

Monthly Utility Fees – The City of Florence has four utility fees; water, sanitary sewer, stormwater, and street maintenance.

- Water fees are only charged to those occupants who use the City's water system. Heceta Water District would continue to be the service provider for residential areas north of the City limits and west of Hwy 101.
- The average sanitary sewer bill for a single family house is \$48.27 per month. If the house is not connected to the system, there would be no monthly charge.
- The current monthly stormwater charge for a single family house varies from \$5.00 to \$8.00 per month depending on the size of the lot.
- The Street Maintenance Fee charged for a single family house is \$5.00.

One Time Development Related Fees

Sanitary Sewer Connection – *The City does not require connection to sanitary sewer upon annexation.* Thus, it is possible to have city services such as police protection without sewer connection. If sewer connection is desirable, the cost to connect is estimated to be between \$9,000 and \$15,000 depending on the number of property owners who choose to participate in sharing the cost, and the complexity of extending the service. Other costs to be considered include the cost of abandoning the existing septic system, sanitary sewer connection fee, system development charges for sanitary sewer, stormwater, and streets. Estimates on those costs are discussed in the full annexation fact sheet.

Other Development Costs – It is important to note, that annexation does not require installation of sidewalks, street lights, or other types of public improvements. Many neighborhoods in Florence do not have these sorts of improvements. Only new development or major redevelopment would be required to comply with current development standards.

The City of Florence has a process for properties wishing to annex into the City of Florence. For more information on those processes, or the City of Florence's policies on annexation, please contact Kelli Weese, Interim Planning Director / City Recorder at 541-997-8237 or via email at kelli.weese@ci.florence.or.us.



From left to right: Councilor Brian Jagoe, Council President Nola Xavier, Mayor Phil Brubaker, Council Vice-President Suzanne Roberts, Councilor Paul Holman

Visit the City of Florence online at www.ci.florence.or.us

City E-mail Addresses

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Newsletter Editor
Shawn Penrod
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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Florence is to meet community expectations for municipal services, provide a vision for civic improvements, maintain a quality environment and position Florence to have an economically viable and sustainable future.

City Calendar

For more information about meetings (days marked in yellow), contact City Hall at 541-997-3437.
For information on events & concerts (days marked in blue), contact the Florence Events Center at 541-997-1994

October 2012

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Get a Flu Shot FEC 11 am to 5 pm | 5 | 6 FAHS Wine & Chocolate Gala FEC 6 pm |
| 7 | 8 Give Blood! FEC 11:30 am to 5:30 pm City Council Meeting 7pm | 9 Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 pm The Barrel Jumpers Concert FEC 7 pm | 10 | 11 Get a Flu Shot FEC 11 am to 5 pm | 12 Emerald City Jazz Kings Concert FEC 7:30 pm | 13 Gonzalo Bergara Concert FEC 7 pm |
| 14 | 15 | 16 Lane County Board of Commissioners Meeting FEC 5:30 pm | 17 Van Fans Fundraiser FEC 11 am to 4 pm | 18 Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (JATD) FEC 7 pm | 19 Get a Flu Shot FEC 11 am to 5 pm Fall Hazardous Waste Disposal FREE 12 to 5 pm JATD FEC 7 pm | 20 Yard Debris Disposal Day 9 am to 2 pm Fall Hazardous Waste Disposal FREE 8 am to 2 pm JATD FEC 2 pm |
| 21 Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat FEC 2 pm | 22 City Council Meeting 7 pm SHS Band Concert FEC 7 pm | 23 Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 pm | 24 | 25 | 26 Heceta Head Coastal Conference FEC 6 pm | 27 Heceta Head Coastal Conference FEC 8 am to 6 pm |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |