

Heart from 1A

The Fullers set the boxes of gloves up in the hallway outside of the fourth and fifth grade classrooms, and with the help of elementary principal Mike Harklerode, had students file by in small groups to choose their gloves.

The Fullers then took the gloves to Siuslaw Middle School to distribute. Any remaining gloves would be given to high school counselors to allocate.

The Fullers held car washes and fundraisers throughout

the year to help pay for the gloves. They also created a senior scholarship program.

"This is what our son wanted us to do," Amber said.

Harklerode said, "It is nice to have a community group come in, especially when they have a personal connection to the school and to the heart-healthy community. Something like this is not on kids' radar. ... This can help start the conversation at home and put it on their radar."

Anyone interested in donating to the glove program can call Amber Fuller at 541-999-7656.

Twilight bus tours resume Jan. 7

A new season of Siuslaw School District's Twilight program "Magical Mystery Bus Tours" will begin Thursday, Jan. 7.

This year, the trips will be limited to grades 5-8, and will be restricted to a regular group of eight attendees, with seven alternates.

Alternative students will fill in when regulars are ill, have appointments, etc.

Tours will be on the first, second and fourth Thursday of each month.

After Spring Break, the group of alternates will be able to move to the priority group of eight if they choose, and new sign-ups will be accepted.

This updated version of last year's program includes a new name, the Twilight Explorers.

In accordance with Twilight's educational goals of enrichment and recreation, these trips will continue to visit Florence area businesses and agencies with the objective of showing students the variety of interesting people, activities



COURTESY PHOTO

The Twilight Explorers tour is resuming in January. Students who participated in last year's bus tour visited places like the U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River.

and employment opportunities there are in their hometown. Last year's visits included the U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River, Florence Police Department, Siuslaw Valley

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Senior from 1A

Currently, the center has an agreement with Meals on Wheels for lunch every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, for free or a small donation.

The senior center staff kitchen manager and volunteer chef provide meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays for \$5.

Starting Dec. 14, more people will be able to eat lunch at the center.

The senior center also has an



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Florence Senior Center at 1570 Kingwood St. will soon offer events for all seniors and guests, regardless of age.

agreement with the Memory Loss Center, which uses space in the center to provide private care to people with Alzheimer's disease or dementia for \$10 per day.

"The volunteers are there three days a week, but they are looking for more participants," May said.

With 30 to 40 volunteers and people coming into the center for meals, exercises, card games, games of pool, meetings and events, there has been a greater increase in usage, which has led to the center looking to expand in other ways.

"A building expansion was expected," May said. "The big deal is the finances, but it's where we're headed."

The center's expansion will cost approximately \$500,000 to fit in all the necessary changes, including the addition of a dozen more parking places.

An architect already has plans, and a fundraising project will get underway soon.

The center is planning a community-wide event on Saturday, Jan. 9, to welcome people of all ages.

"Mark your calendars now and plan on celebrating with us," said May.

The senior center will be closed for the holidays from Monday, Dec. 21, until Monday, Jan. 4.

For more information about the center, events, meals and services, go to www.florence-seniorcenter.org or call 541-997-8844.

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