

Boys and Girls Club readies summer program

Nine-week elementary summer day camp program begins June 20

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County summer day camp for elementary students in kindergarten through age 12 will run from June 12 through Aug. 19, 7:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, at the Siuslaw Elementary School.

The nine-week program will include full breakfast and lunch, prepared by the elementary school cafeteria staff, and weekly field trips to popular destinations.

The theme for this year's program is "Around the States in 44 Days."

Elementary Summer Program Director Samantha Gauderman said, "We have 44 days of summer camp and each day we are going to be doing daily destinations. We will 'travel' to a different state each day and learn facts about it. I'll be using magazines, maps and brochures from each state."

According to Gauderman, the focus of the nine-week program is to help maintain and improve student's math, reading, vocabulary and writing skills throughout the summer.

In addition to learning about the different states, each day will have two structured learning segments, "Mind Madness" in the morning and "Brain Train" in the afternoon.

"Each day we will have a 45-minute segment called 'Mind Madness,'" Gauderman said.



COURTESY PHOTO

Boys and Girls Club members prepare to explore the dunes during the 2015 elementary summer day camp. The nine-week program, open to students ages 6 to 12, returns in June.

"Mondays will be mathematics. We will be doing things like triangle flash cards, with the older kids doing multiplication and division while the younger kids do addition and subtraction. We will also have fun math games."

On Tuesdays, students will learn the basics of sign language and do arts and crafts. Wednesdays will focus on reading. Thursdays will be vocabulary and writing. Fridays will promote bully prevention and team building.

Siuslaw Elementary School Principal Mike Harklerode said, "One of our most comprehensive needs is in developing academic vocabulary. It's encouraging to know that our students attending the (Boys

and Girls Club) after-school or summer programs will have aligned elements in their instruction."

Gauderman said, "Part of the afternoon program is called 'Brain Train.' It varies from simple activities like telling time and shoe tying to spelling bees and safety training. We have a buddy system where the older kids help the younger kids, kind of a big brother, big sister thing."

Representatives from various local organizations will teach Thursday afternoon safety lessons.

"We have a policeman coming in to talk about 911 safety," Gauderman said. "We have the U.S. Coast Guard coming over to talk about water safety.

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue will be here with a fire truck, and Central Lincoln PUD will teach electricity safety."

Other topics include safety issues for Halloween, animals and being home alone.

The most popular part of the Boys and Girls Club summer day camp are fieldtrips to popular youth friendly venues.

"We have a lot of fun fieldtrips planned, including Sandland Adventures, Eugene Skate World, a Hobbit Trail beach hike, Western Lane Ambulance, three trips to City Lights Cinemas and two Water Days at the Teen Center," Gauderman said.

Three Rivers Casino Resort is donating use of their large bus for out-of-town trips.

"The kids call it the limousine bus because it is so nice," Gauderman said.

Fees are \$900 for the full summer program, \$100 per five-day week or \$25 per day. Students participating in the district's four-week Twilight summer program will be offered discounted rates.

For more information, call the Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County at 541-902-0304, or stop by the Teen Center at 1501 Airport Road.

Summer day camp scholarships are available. Scholarship application forms and summer contracts may be picked up at the elementary after-school program or the Teen Center. Scholarship applications and contracts need to be turned into the Teen Center by June 1.



Showcase from 1A

Anderson spoke about body positivity and fat shaming, and how she is both overweight and beautiful. Her talent used her favorite skill from school — speech and debate. She wrote and performed a humorous 1940s-styled radio show about women during World War II and changes in how women interact with the world. After high school, Anderson wants to be a freelance writer, radio host or news reporter.

Coolidge performed a variety of martial arts moves, impressing the Junior Court by dropping a young man to the stage. Her platform was on the pro-life movement, and how one action can forever impact a life, or end it. After high school, Coolidge wants to study pre-med and eventually study anesthesiology.

Keppol spoke about the arts, such as theater, music, culinary arts and art classes, and the way they have shaped the life of her and her family. Then she sang Colbie Caillat's "Try," a song about loving oneself above trying to make others like you. After Keppol graduates in June, she will attend Lane

Community College and get a certificate in culinary arts before eventually becoming a first-grade teacher.

At the end of the evening, the entire court came onstage for the grand announcement of queen. When Anderson's name was announced, the audience of more than 135 erupted in cheers.

Along with her title, Anderson won a \$1,000 scholarship. Coolidge and Keppol are both this year's runner-ups and won \$500 scholarships.

All 13 members of the 2016 Rhody Court will make appearances during Rhody Days. On Saturday, May 21, they will ride quads with Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue in the Junior Parade. On Sunday, May 22, they will "Catch the Wave!" on a float during the Rhododendron Festival Grand Floral Parade, starting at noon.

This year's Rhody Court advisers were Jenna Bartlett, Annette Foglio, Katie Libby, Jan McNight, Dee Osborne, Eric Tanikawa and Wobbe.

The Rhododendron Festival is sponsored by the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, its underwriter Three Rivers Casino Resort and distinguished sponsors.

City from 1A

National Safe Boating Week will be from May 21 to 27.

People can show their support by wearing life jackets to work on Friday, May 20.

Senior Chief Tim Tregoning, who assumed command of Station Siuslaw River in June 2015, previously served in Yreka, Calif., a designated Coast Guard City.

"They were already a Coast Guard City when I got there. They showed support mostly

through parades and our annual Coast Guard Ball, where a lot of city officials came and we all dressed up super fancy," Tregoning said.

He said that he feels Florence "most certainly" supports the Coast Guard and their families. Of the 33 active duty members at the station, Tregoning said that most of the personnel live off base, within residential communities in the Florence area.

He is working on a way to make renting a home off base easier for the Coast Guard families.

"Some of the military families also bring their extended families with them, too," Tregoning said. "Boatswain's Mate Alan Veach's father moved up here to be with him. ... And he's staying here (now that Alan is gone)."

Cordone has started a list of the many ways the Coast Guard and its members have worked with the city, such as driving in parades like the upcoming Rhododendron Festival Grand Floral Parade on May 22, providing a Color Guard for official events, inviting school groups

for field trips, raising funds and supplies for area organizations, volunteering with Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue and engaging in tournaments and fun activities with area agencies.

In turn, the community honored the Coast Guard's 225th birthday with a proclamation, reminds water recreationists about boating safety, offers military discounts at stores, invites members to events like the annual Florence Rotary Auction and citizens volunteer as auxiliaries.

In February, City Lights

Cinemas held a special showing of Coast Guard movie "The Finest Hours" and Siuslaw High School culinary students catered a reception for Coast Guard members.

"It's not only what the community has done for the Coast Guard, but also our partnerships," Cordone said. "This community loves the military. You can see it's really important."

Henry mentioned the large amount of veterans in the area, and the Oregon Coast Military Museum's mission to preserve

and celebrate military presence.

"I'm willing to be a catalyst or spearhead to see Florence recognized as a Coast Guard City," Henry said. "I think as we begin to publicize this, people will come out and show support."

Cordone said, "One thing that would really help the application process would be letters of support from area businesses and civic groups."

For more information about Station Siuslaw River, go to its Facebook page.

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