

# Siuslaw News

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WEDNESDAY

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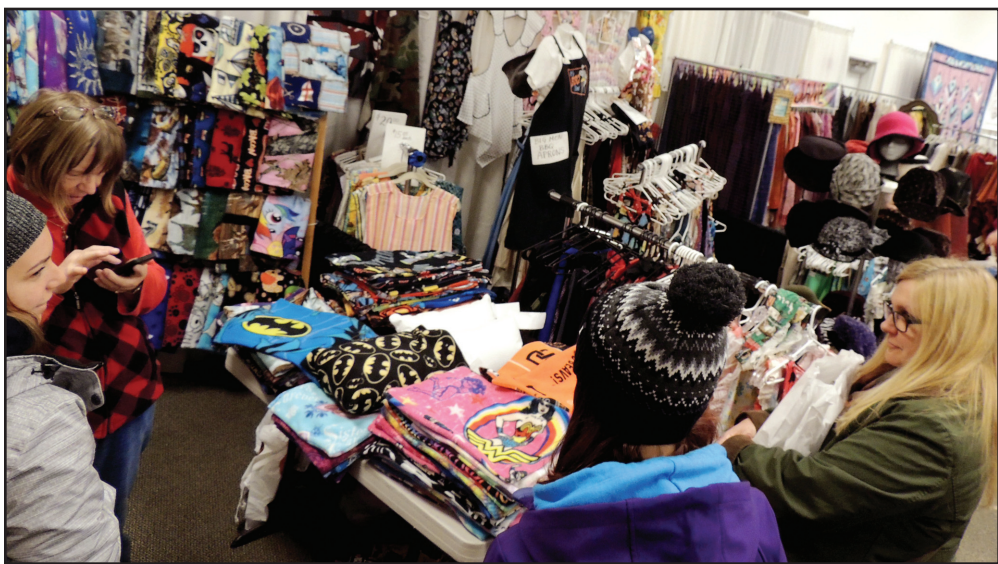
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## FOLKS flock TO FEST

Hundreds attend annual Winter Folk Festival at Florence Events Center



Winter Folk Festival's annual amateur pie contest and sale was a hit during last weekend's event, which also featured an artisan craft fair and a full lineup of performers, including headliner singer-songwriter Tom Paxton (above right), at the Florence Events Center.

By CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

More than 1,100 people attended last weekend's Winter Folk Festival, which ran from Saturday, Jan. 17, to Sunday, Jan. 18, at the Florence Events Center. It was the 13th year of the popular annual event.

Headliner Tom Paxton and eight other artists entertained concert-goers with sets of music, which included a range of genres from folk, bluegrass, world, pop, Celtic, rock and Western. This was Paxton's final year performing at the festival as he is retiring.

The pie-baking contest invited entrants in separate pie categories.

The grand-prize winner was Jean Edelman for her pecan pie, which won first place in the nut category. Also in the nut pie category, Janet Wellington took second place.

Hal Weiner won first place in the sugar-free category.

Ginger Buchman won first place for her apple pie, and Beverly Schriver took second place. Buchman also won first place for her berry pie, with Jean Edelman taking second place in the berry pie category.

In the "other fruit" category, John James Gilreath won and Janet Wellington took home

second place.

A "pie by the slice" fundraiser sponsored by Friends of the Florence Events Center let attendees purchase slices of the winning pies, pies entered in the contest and pies donated by community members.

An Artisan Craft Fair drew attendees to the festival with booths from local and regional vendors. Merchandise included candles, soaps, photography, crystal glass prisms, unique jewelry and textile, metal, wood and garden art.

Gourmet jams, roasted nuts and hard cider were also available for purchase.

Winter Folk Festival will return next year with more folk music, artisans and pie makers.

## Boys and Girls Club faces financial crisis

New fees for after-school programs start next month

By JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

Beginning Sunday, Feb. 1, the Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County will implement a drastically increased fee structure. According to a letter sent to parents, the increase is needed to cover the cost of after-school care and enrichment programs.

The cost of the Boys and Girls Club membership will remain at \$25 per year per child.

The new fee structure for after-school programs will be \$30 per week per student, with a 10 percent discount for more than one student per family, in addition to the annual membership. The new fees will total \$900 per school year and be due in nine \$100 payments throughout the school year.

According to current Boys and Girls Club board members, the Boys and Girls Club has not increased its \$25 annual dues since its inception more than 30 years ago.

Boys and Girls Club board members have set three town hall meetings to discuss the reasons for the increase. The first meeting was yesterday, Jan. 20. There will be two more, tonight and Thursday, Jan. 22, both at 6 p.m., at the Siuslaw Elementary School cafeteria. Anyone with questions or comments is invited to attend.

In a letter sent out to parents, retiring Boys and Girls Club Executive Director Jonathan Hicks said, "We have implemented, and will continue to pursue, as many cost-cutting measures as we can find to ensure that the club and its services survive, both for the good of our children and our employees."

Hicks and his wife Denise have moved to Sisters, but he will remain as executive director of the Boys and Girls Club to help with the management transition.

## Police nab suspects in burglaries

By CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

An alarm triggered on Bay Street on Jan. 13 led to the Florence Police Department (FPD) arresting a suspect accused of breaking into two businesses.

This follows the Jan. 2 arrest of three suspects in connection with a burglary in December.

"Burglary affects a lot of people. It was good to show that we've caught some suspects," said Lt. John Pitcher, FPD.

In the two instances, four suspects were arrested and transported to Lane County Adult Corrections (LCAC).

On Dec. 28, 2014, the FPD received a report of a burglary of a residence on 17th Street in Florence. When the occupant of the residence returned, he reported that his home had been broken in to and several items had been stolen. Firearms were included in the stolen articles.

"They had a lead at the beginning," said Pitcher.

On Jan. 2, after an investigation of the lead and interviews, Florence police officers arrested the following suspects in connection to the burglary: Brad Michael Taylor, 28, Alisha Sue Juliano, 26, and Emily Crystal Armstrong, 18. The three suspects were from the Florence area.

The suspects were charged with burglary, criminal trespass, criminal mischief and four counts of theft.

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See SUSPECTS 7A

## Former SHS grads, now sheriff's deputies, receive lifesaving awards

By JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

Two Benton County sheriff's deputies, both Siuslaw High School alumni, received lifesaving awards last month during the Oregon State Sheriff's Association Conference at

the Riverhouse Hotel and Convention Center in Bend.

Deputy Sheriff Michael Pitcher, 29, and Deputy Sheriff Kody Reavis, 25, received the award Dec. 8 for saving the life of a man Jan. 27, 2014.

According to Dwes Hutson, pub-

lic information officer for the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, the two officers responded to a report of a 14-foot aluminum boat that washed ashore on the property of the Brandy Bar condominiums on the Umpqua River, east of Reedsport. The boat had been

reported stolen.

"At approximately 12:15 p.m., there was a second report of a man attempting to cross the river using a cooler as a flotation device in the same location," Hutson said.

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Your Weather			
<b>TODAY</b> Partly sunny 54 43	<b>THURSDAY</b> Mostly cloudy 56 49	<b>FRIDAY</b> Mostly cloudy 57 48	<b>SATURDAY</b> Partly sunny 58 47



Sports — B

