

125TH YEAR SSUE 15 No.

# **B&G** Club director placed on paid leave

COMMUNITY

HERITAGE

### **Board continues** to seek solutions for financial struggles

BY JACK DAVIS Siuslaw News

Last weekend Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County Board of Directors President Mike Smith placed club Executive Director Jonathan Hicks on paid administrative leave, effective immediately, according to club secretary and media liaison Bob Forsythe.

"We are in a restructuring mode and we needed to make that move for several reasons," Forsythe said. "Hicks and his family have already moved to the Bend area, so he was only here either one or two days a week, depending on which week of the month. It's also something we really needed to do as a part of the restructuring process the board is doing."

Hicks has served as executive director of the club since Feb. 1, 2013. He was initially hired as the club's athletic director in 2012.

Forsythe said the club's board is continuing negotiations with Oregon Pacific Bank on restructuring options to ease financial pressures and allow the club to continue operating.

The Boys and Girls Club currently operates an after-school program in cooperation with the Siuslaw School District; the ABC Preschool program and the Quality Child Care of Florence daycare facility, as well as numerous sports and other programs.

SIUSLAW, MAPLETON STUDENTS SELECTED TO REPRESENT ANNUAL FESTIVAL

2015





Trista Lane

FEBRUARY 21



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#### Natalie Madden

Kennedy Roylance

**Bailey Wells** 

### SENIOR COURT - PRINCES



**Courtney King** 



**Trey Cornish** 

Joseph Dotson



**Jonathan Griffes** 

JUNIOR COURT - PRINCESSES

Ariana Galvan **Olivia Moore** Mendez

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PARENTS AND SIUSLAW SCHOOL DISTRICT

**BY CHANTELLE MEYER** Siuslaw News

Alize Giselle

Castellanos

ontinuing a tradition that began more than 100 years ago in 1908, five Siuslaw High School senior girls, four

Siuslaw High School senior boys,

one Mapleton Elementary girl and

joined the Rhododendron Festival's

The Rhododendron Festival High

School Court is comprised of five

Courtney King, Trista Lane, Natalie

outstanding young women:

four Siuslaw Elementary girls

2015 "Rock 'n' Rhody"-themed

royal court.

Madden, Kennedy Roylance and Bailey Wells.

Adelaide

**Ficcadenti** 

The four outstanding young men are Keoni Castro, Trey Cornish, Joseph Dotson and Jonathan Griffes. This is the Rhody Festival's second year with boys included in the scholarship competition.

University, George Fox University, Lane Community College and Oregon State University, to those a little farther away, like Brigham Young University Idaho.

The mission of the Rhododendron Court program is to provide scholarships for higher education, to promote community outreach and volunteerism and to offer networking and mentoring opportunities to outstanding young women and young men in a program that perpetuates an appreciation for Rhododendron Festival history and tradition. The Junior Court is comprised of five young ladies: Alize Giselle

Castellanos, Adelaide Ficcadenti, Olivia Moore and Elizabeth Perez of Siuslaw, and Ariana Galvan Mendez of Mapleton.

Beginning in March, court members will visit community events, business leaders, senior living centers, youth organizations and civic groups. Court members also receive one-on-one mentorship.

# American **Bear' comes** to Florence

### Award-winning documentary of interest to students, adults

BY JACK DAVIS Siuslaw News

Spoiler alert. This movie has nothing to do with hunting, bears, hibernation, cute cuddly cubs or the California state flag. It's about human interaction and one couple's unique American odyssey, spanning 60 days, 30 states and five small towns named Bear.

This award-winning documentary, by husband-and-wife filmmaking team Sarah Sellman and Greg Grano, both 25, is coming to City Lights Cinemas Tuesday, Feb. 24, because of the efforts Mapleton School District of Superintendent Jodi O'Mara.

"A former colleague I taught with introduced me to the documentary, 'American Bear - An Adventure in Kindness," O'Mara said. "I looked at it and spoke with Michael Falter of City Lights Cinemas. He had been talking with the filmmakers for another theater that he manages."

#### See BEAR 6A

Applicants had to provide references, fill out an application and describe their personal achievements and goals. They also said which college they would prefer to attend

Choice in college varied from relatively close, like Central Oregon Community College, Corban

The members of the senior court will showcase their talents in the Rhododendron Showcase on Wednesday, May 6, where they will compete for the titles of Queen Rhododendra and King of the Coast in addition to scholarship money.

Joanne Whitney,

chief pharmacist

at the Florence

Nome McBride,

a master herbalist

based in Eugene,

than 50 people at

the Florence Herb

Enthusiasts' Feb.

cannabis.

19 meeting about

address more

Bi-Mart, and

## Herb Enthusiasts learn history, uses of cannabis

#### **By Chantelle Meyer** Siuslaw News

The Florence Herb Enthusiasts invited herbalist Nome McBride and Joanne Whitney, chief pharmacist at Bi-Mart in Florence, to speak about cannabis at their Thursday, Feb. 19, meeting.

McBride covered history, types and uses of cannabis. Whitney answered questions about the interaction of cannabis with pharmaceuticals and provided input from the medical community.

"I was a little surprised when I was asked to do this presentation, but I'm glad to," McBride said. He has spoken at five previous meetings of the

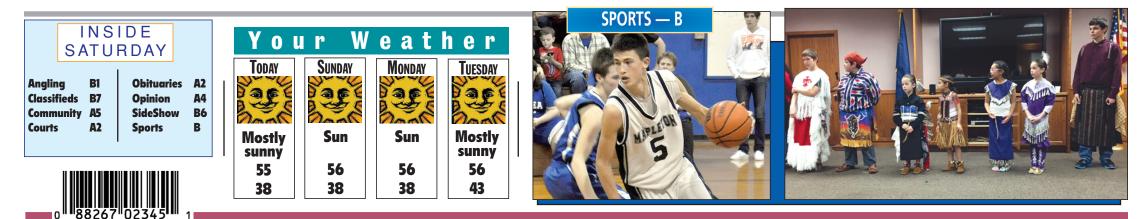
Herb Enthusiasts. "I'm for cannabis," he said. "I'm for every herb and the use of every herb in the correct dosage at the correct time, and that time may or may not occur in your lifetime. But it is good to respect every herb for the uses that it can have."

According to McBride's research, cannabis is an ancient plant with origins in the Himalayas. It spread, along with colonialism, to South America



Parts of the cannabis plant are used in medicines, food and the manufacture of clothing and building materials. Male cannabis is called hemp, which means "useful," and has antifungal properties.

#### See HERBS 4A



and into North America.

plant in human history."

"Cannabis is definitely the most bred plant on

There are many strains and uses for cannabis.

earth," he said. "It's probably the oldest recorded