



Siuslaw News

WEDNESDAY

WWW.THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM



BUSINESS PROFILE 2015

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FLORENCE • DUNES CITY • WESTLAKE • MAPLETON • SWISSHOME • DEADWOOD • YACHTS AND ALL POINTS BETWEEN

125TH YEAR • ISSUE No. 20

MARCH 11 • 2015

\$ 1.00

A BANNER DAY



PHOTO BY CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Siuslaw Bank completed the transition to Banner Bank on Monday, celebrating the change with punch and cake in the lobby.

By CHANTELLE MEYER
Siuslaw News

After more than 50 years serving Mapleton, Florence and Lane County, Siuslaw Bank, formerly Siuslaw Valley Bank, closed its doors Friday, March 6, and reopened Monday, March 9, as Banner Bank.

Banner Bank announced the merger with Siuslaw Bank in August 2014 when Banner Corp., based in Walla Walla, Wash., purchased Siuslaw Financial Group, the parent company of Siuslaw Bank.

Siuslaw Valley Bank began on Jan. 17, 1964, in Mapleton. It was started by businessmen who wanted to bring a bank to Mapleton, but decided to start their own.

The original board members were A. E. "Pony" Ellingson, Steven Vaughn, Johan Mehlum, Don Lee Davidson and William J. Beck. Mehlum was the longtime CEO until he stepped down on Jan. 17, 2013, 49 years after the bank opened. Lonnie Iholts became the next CEO. He joined the bank in 1971 after graduating from the University of Oregon.

The Florence branch opened in 1968 and

became headquarters for the 10 locations in Lane County.

Siuslaw Bank was the county's oldest independent community bank.

Community was and is an important part of the bank. The original board members were key members on other boards in Mapleton and Florence and encouraged community service and involvement.

Siuslaw Bank has created a corporate culture of student scholarships, sponsorships and charitable giving.

See **BANK 7A**

Museum pays off mortgage

Bequeathal also funds new roof for Siuslaw Pioneer Museum

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Thanks to the generosity of a loyal Siuslaw Pioneer Museum supporter and volunteer, the museum's \$180,000 mortgage has been paid off. Jean Chapman stipulated that the museum would be the beneficiary of her home, furnishings and vehicle upon her death.

"We were all heartbroken when she died, but she really did a great thing for the museum," museum board President Del Phelps said. "When we got through probate, we held estate sales to take care of the furnishings. After we sold the house, the museum probably netted a total of \$255,000."

In addition to paying off the mortgage, the museum was able to put on a badly needed new roof.

In 2005, the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum moved from its former location along Highway 101, south of Florence, to its current location in the old local school building at 278 Maple St. The school was built in 1905.

The museum purchased the school building for \$910,000. There was a stipulation to the loan that a large portion of the mortgage needed to be guaranteed.

After selling the former museum building, the mortgage balance was approximately \$710,000.

"Western Lane Community Foundation graciously stepped up with a \$200,000 pledge. That put us down to \$510,000," Phelps said. "Then we set up a consortium of Siuslaw Bank, Oregon Pacific Bank and the Davidson/Crowell family. They loaned the \$510,000."

In 2007, the museum set up a legacy program with donors to retire the mortgage debt.

See **MUSEUM 7A**

Healthy HOME Growing GARDEN

More than 2,000 people attended the 19th Annual Florence Home and Garden Show last weekend at Florence Events Center.

"The weather was spectacular and the debate all weekend was whether that was good or bad for attendance," said Jon Thompson, Coast Radio owner and Home and Garden Show organizer.

The show, presented by Coast Radio and Siuslaw News, fea-

tured outdoor exhibits from Cedar Works Spas, Laurel Bay Gardens and Gib's RV that caught guests' attention. One guest was even allowed to park his vintage yellow station wagon in front of a camper to be part of Gib's display.

19th Annual Florence Home and Garden Show a 'tremendous' success

By CHANTELLE MEYER
Siuslaw News

"It was a great mix of vendors, products and services," Thompson said.

Inside, nearly 40 vendors, from Aloha Environmental to Whiskey Creek Organics, filled the facility.

See **SHOW 7A**



PHOTOS BY CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Nearly 40 vendors filled the events center last weekend for the annual show.



INSIDE WEDNESDAY

Classifieds	C5	Police	A8
Coast Life	B	Scoreboard	C2
In Brief	A9	Sports	C
Library Tidings	A5	Tides	C1
Opinion	A4	Weather	A2

Your Weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Rain	Rain	Mostly Cloudy	Rain
57 51	62 48	60 52	60 49



Sports — C



0 88267 02345 1

BLACK
YELLOW
MAGENTA
CYAN