



Siuslaw News

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WESTERN LANE COUNTY PREPS FOR EMERGENCIES

Emergency operations group coordinates efforts to handle regional disasters

BY CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Agencies in the public and private sectors of the coastal area are preparing for emergency situations.

The cities of Florence and Dunes City are working with the Mapleton Fire Department, Siuslaw Valley Fire

and Rescue (SVFR), Western Lane Ambulance District, Port of Siuslaw, PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center and the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians Police Department, along with other groups, to build plans to handle natural and man-made disasters.

SVFR Fire Chief Jim Langborg is

the emergency management coordinator for Western Lane Emergency Operations Group (WLEOG).

“At WLEOG, we have created a committee to start coordinating. In other words, we’re bringing in the major players — the school district, the hospital, the cities, law enforcement agencies, ambulance and fire — to sit down and help each other plan and, most importantly, make sure we’re aware of each other’s plan. We’re coordinating; we’re not dupli-

cating efforts. We’re aiming for as good as a response as possible,” Langborg said.

The member agencies of WLEOG meet throughout the month to work on facets of the three plans as well as other emergency operations.

The associate members of WLEOG are American Red Cross, Apex Helicopter, Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, Florence Area Humane Society, Greentrees Village, Lane Community College, Lane County

Public Health, Oregon Department of Transportation, Oregon Episcopal Diocese, Oregon Parks and Recreation, Oregon State Health Security Preparedness and Response Program, Senior and Disabled Services, Siuslaw School District, West Lane Amateur Radio Emergency Operation / Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (ARES/RACES) and U.S. Coast Guard.

See **PREP 6A**

Tourists urged to ‘linger longer’

Public artwork sought to help turn Florence into art destination city

BY JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) President Harlen Springer said the group has a proven plan to bring more tourists into Florence, have them stay longer and ultimately spend more money, by turning Florence into an art destination city through public art.

“The concept is one I borrowed from other cities called ‘linger longer,’” Springer said. “It means if you come to a place and you see things that interest you, you decide to stay a while and look at them. That means you will buy food, groceries and stay overnight. That’s how these things happen. Public art can really attract people’s attention and make them linger longer. It is economic vitality.”

Springer will present a proposal to the Florence City Council during a work session March 18, at 10 a.m., to support the public art program FRAA has initiated.

“We are going to talk about the history of the arts in Florence and those groups that have gone before us, such as Backstreet Gallery, Florence Arts and Crafts Association and GALA,” Springer said. “Then we will explain what FRAA has done, with the art center and how we want to take the next step, public art.”

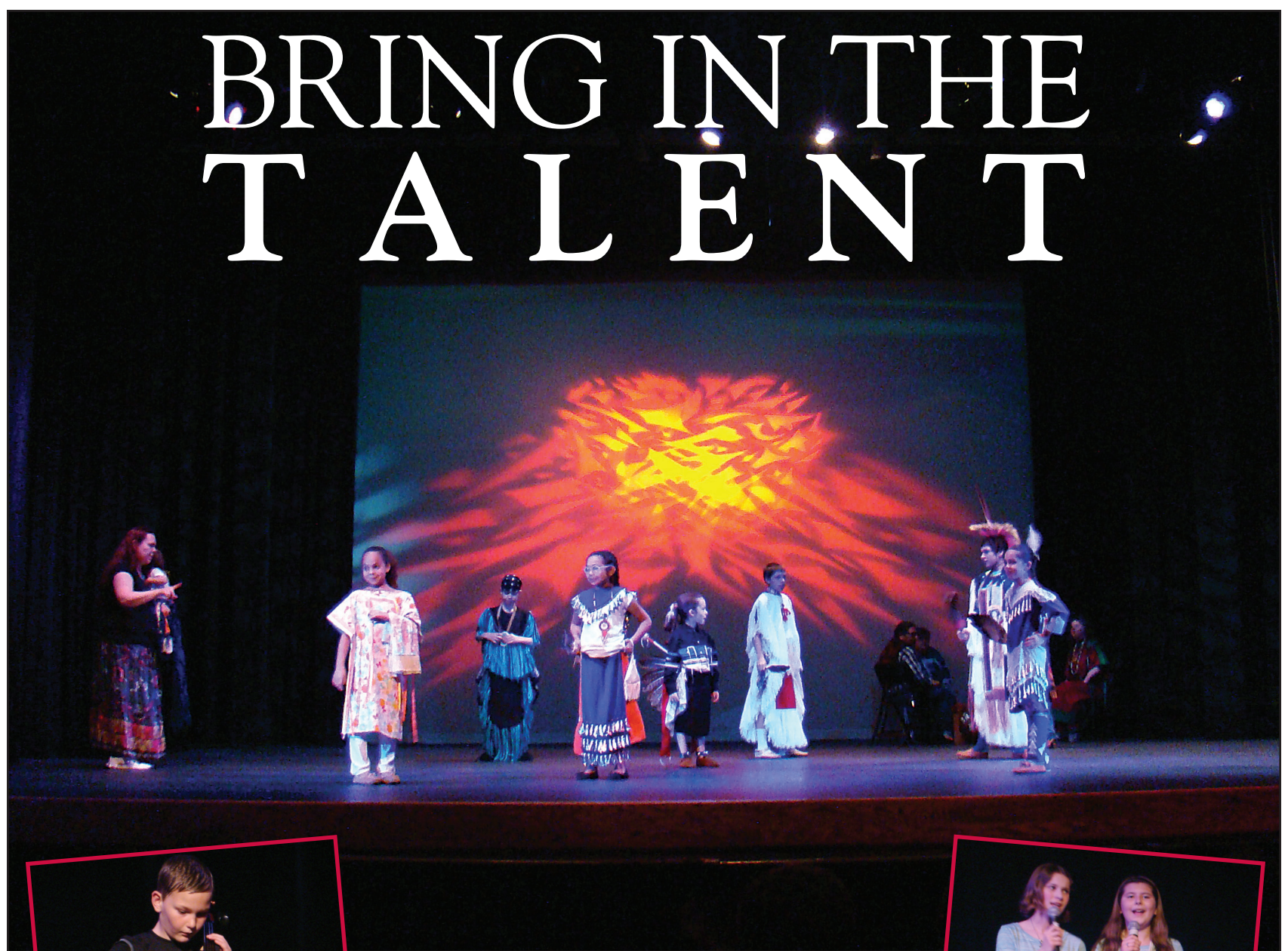
He plans to share with the council what other northwest towns have done to encourage visitors to stay longer and see all that those communities have to offer.

“Our vision is that we want Florence to become the destination for the arts,” Springer said. “Leavenworth, Wash., is in the middle of nowhere, yet look what has happened to them. They got the community together around a theme. Now it’s a destination. Joseph, Ore., is literally in the middle of nowhere, but they have an active city because of public art. It also is now a destination town.”

Springer cited a study done by Americans for the Arts, which included the economic impact of the arts on the financial health of Eugene. He said the impact to the Eugene economy was approximately \$45 million in 2010.

“The point I want to make to the councilors,” Springer said, “is that there is a real, positive economic impact if you support the arts and culture.”

See **ART 6A**



PHOTOS BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

More than 100 students from Siuslaw Elementary School entertained a wildly enthusiastic audience at the Florence Event Center on Thursday and Friday evening, presenting 29 acts of music, dance, tradition and merriment. Principal Mike Harklerode was master of ceremonies for the annual Florence Community PTA Talent Show. The \$2 admission charge went to help with PTA expenses. Elementary school librarian Alice Burns was in charge of the event. The talent show has been dazzling Florence audiences for more than 10 years.

Superintendent receives high marks from school board

Angal’s overall job performance rating averages 3.57 out of possible 4.0

BY JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Siuslaw School Superintendent Ethel Angal, who was appointed to the position July 2014, received an overall rating of “accomplished,” the highest rating possible on her evaluation summary released after Wednesday’s school board meeting.

The board based the evaluation score on nine professional standards and five district goals. The evaluations were a compilation of feedback from school district staff, administrators and the board of directors.

In the nine professional standards categories, the board gave Angal’s performance a rating of 3.5 or higher, out of a possible 4.0, in eight of

nine categories: visionary leadership, policy and governance, communications and community relations, effective management, curriculum planning/development, instructional leadership, labor relations and ethical leadership.

This qualified her for an overall rating of “accomplished.”

In resource management, Angal’s

performance scored 3.42, which gave her a rating of “effective,” the second highest for that category.

Angal took over the school district at the same time the challenging and somewhat controversial Oregon Common Core State Standards were implemented.

See **SCHOOL 6A**

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TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Rain	Rain	Mostly cloudy	Rain
59 51	59 47	58 44	56 42

SPORTS — B



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BLACK
YELLOW
MAGENTA
CYAN