

Siuslaw Schools

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Elizabeth Wartnik — Creative Arts

BY BENJAMIN CAHOON
Siuslaw High School Student

This column has never had a repeat student — until now. Elizabeth Wartnik was featured for choir two months ago and now, due to additional outstanding artistic performance, she is being recognized once again for creative arts.

Elizabeth, a senior at Siuslaw High School and daughter of Neil and Kerri Wartnik, is not currently taking a creative art course. Wartnik's artistic interests span a vast array of mediums including colored pencil, acrylic paints, vocal arts, piano, creative writing and poetry. Her favorite part of the arts is how she is able to "take dreams, thoughts and beliefs and embody them like you weren't able to while you were younger."

Mrs. Kim Pickell, the teacher who nominated Elizabeth, states, "No matter what I assign, she finds a way to include her faith, personality and friends in her art."

When one has such a variety of art forms, such as Elizabeth does, people begin to question what gives them their inspiration and motivation. Wartnik explains William Blake, Van Gogh and other impressionists use "vivid colors and details of the big picture." That is what inspires her.

She also describes that she draws her motivation from her "beliefs and Jesus" and in the "complexity in humanity and how humans relate to each other."

Writing is one of Wartnik's other passions and she reveals that "writing is seeing pictures and finding words to fit in like paint." Even though Elizabeth will be pursuing music composition at George Fox University, she will still continue in her other arts and reports that she will "explore them before and after school."

Siuslaw High School will be proud to see Elizabeth go on to succeed in the many facets of art where she excels.



PHOTO BY CAROL JOLLEY



One of Elizabeth Wartnik's paintings currently on display at the Siuslaw Public Library

FLORENCE

A POEM BY ALEXIS CURTIS
SIUSLAW HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN
ENGLISH CLASS

Small and busy,
in the summer it gets crazy.
Roads are curvy,
they could make you dizzy.
Beaches are packed,
'til the day is done at last.
Sandrails all over,
zooming louder and closer.
Transients and tourists,
roam all over.
Rhody days grow closer,
anticipation gets greater.
People from all over,
come over for the summer.
Weather is bipolar,
partly cloudy, or rainy,
sunny, or the wind blows like crazy.

SHS students display artwork at library

Siuslaw Public Library is displaying both 2D and 3D artwork by Siuslaw High School students. The artists are made up of ninth through 12th graders in Kim Pickell's art and pottery classes.

The work will be on display for the month of March.

Students whose work is in the show are: Taylor Booth, Benjamin Cahoon, Madeline Castle, Brandy Crase, Anthony Di Salvo, Katherine Dodson, Dixie Dyess, Blanca Figueroa, Thelma Gentry, Lainey Goss,

Rachel Hanna, Nicole Hine, Summer Huntington, John Kelly, Lyndsey Keppol, Reanna Latham, Sandra Lorenzo, Madison Marbas, Natalie Madden, Dylan McGallian, Haileigh Middleon, Cassidy Moore, McKenzie Murphy, Anthony Perez, Emily Rosinbaum, Victoria Rojas, Bradley Snow, Jackson Spinner, Ryan Stewart, Karmen Trebelo, Celia Twombly, Elizabeth Wartnik, Samantha Watson-Bryers and Hailee Williams.

STUDENTS 'READ ACROSS AMERICA'



In March, Siuslaw Elementary School participated in Read Across America week. Students read many Dr. Seuss books, including "The Cat in the Hat" and "The Lorax," and visited the school's Book Fair in the library. Librarian Alice Burns dressed up



as The Cat in the Hat and took photos with students, such as teachers Tamara Carpenito's AM and PM kindergarten classes (top photos) and Annette Griffes' AM kindergarten class (at left). —Submitted by Tamara Carpenito and Annette Griffes

Sixth-graders compete in Battle of the Books



SUBMITTED BY HILARY ROACH

Lizbeth Garcia, Laena Jagoe and Alison Huff participated in this year's Oregon Battle of the Books in Eugene.

On Saturday, March 7, Siuslaw Middle School participated in the Regional Competition for Oregon Battle of the Books in Eugene at Willamette High School.

The Ladies in Blue, coached by Kelly Dotson, competed against other middle school teams across Lane County and were the first ever all-sixth grade team from SMS to compete.

In addition to competing, the Ladies in Blue also got to meet and hear from authors Graham Salisbury and Roseanne Parry.

The Oregon Battle of the Books is a statewide voluntary

reading motivation and comprehension program sponsored by the Oregon Association of School Libraries in conjunction with a Library Services and Technology Act grant.

Students in third through 12th grade, regardless of ability, are exposed to quality literature representing a variety of literary styles and viewpoints.

The mission is to encourage and recognize students who enjoy reading, to broaden reading interests, to increase reading comprehension, to promote academic excellence, and to promote cooperative learning and teamwork among students.

SHS BIOLOGY CLASS EXPLORES GENETICS



Biology class students at Siuslaw High School wrapped up their genetics unit this month. Some of the hands-on labs included spooling DNA from wheat germ, amplifying variation and separating solutions with a gel electrophoresis chamber. Students used the chamber to simulate a crime scene scenario and DNA fingerprinting. The class ended its unit with a discussion and an essay on the bioethics of genetic engineering, transgenic techniques and cloning. Above, students hold up their beakers to show the variation in the amount of amylase (enzyme) they have in their saliva to break down starch. —Submitted by Gina Castro Brandt