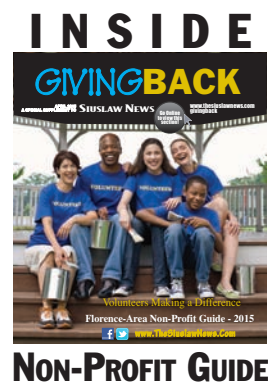




# Siuslaw News

WEDNESDAY

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## COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OPPOSE STATE BUDGET

### School district leaders sign protest letter, call proposed funding 'woefully inadequate'

BY JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

Siuslaw School District Superintendent Ethel Angal's name topped the list of all 16 Lane County school district superintendents who signed a letter of protest opposing the new

2015-2017 biennium budget passed last week by the Oregon Legislature's Ways and Means Committee.

The letter called the proposed budget "woefully inadequate," even though it offered a 9 percent increase over the previous budget. That increase, according to the letter, is more than

offset by the state-mandated full-day kindergarten set to begin fall 2015.

The letter stated, "The total amount is simply inadequate to add full-day kindergarten without taking resources away from students in the other grades. ... We are dismayed by the proposed funding level and the impacts it will have on Lane County schools."

"I know our legislators are doing the best they can to meet all the

increasing needs in our state," Angal said. "However, the budget that is put forth in H.B. 5017 will be a major setback to the small gains afforded to K-12 education in the last biennium. Districts will either cut positions or leave vacancies unfilled. No gains will be possible in restoring effective opportunities.

"I believe Oregon can do better for our children and I am hopeful that our senators and representatives will take

some additional time before this bill is passed in its current form," she added.

According to the Lane Education Service District, Oregon spends about 88 percent of the national average on education per pupil in classes K-12, and it ranks 49th out of 50 states in student-to-teacher ratios; six more students per teacher than the average of all other states.

The Legislature was scheduled to vote on the budget this week.

## Wiegan's journey to Seoul

### SOS director travels to South Korea to present at vocational conference

BY CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

David Wiegan, director of Siuslaw Outreach Services (SOS), recently went on the trip of a lifetime to Seoul, South Korea. While there, he presented to a group of professors, students and professionals about vocational rehabilitation.

The organizer of the 2015 Vocational Rehabilitation International Conference on Vocational Rehabilitation, Professor Na Woon-Hwan of Daegu University, invited Wiegan to speak several months before.

"Vocational rehabilitation counselors typically work with people that have disabilities to help them become gainfully employed and overcome their disabilities," Wiegan said. "I worked within a subset of that, within developmental disabilities."

Although Wiegan left the field about five years ago and now works at SOS in Florence, he has more than 30 years of experience.

"I really enjoy working with the people that we serve. The clients are great to work with. ... There is a considerable amount of overlap, from time to time," he said. "Our board of directors was very supportive of me going and doing this presentation."

Wiegan was one of two American speakers at the conference.

"I wrote a book titled 'Job Success for Persons with Developmental Disabilities.' The organizer of the conference had purchased the book, then used it in one of his classes," he said.

The book was published in 2009 after Wiegan could not find training materials to assist counselors in placing individuals with disabilities in jobs. He worked with Jessica Kingsley Publishers, based in London, to write and publish the book.

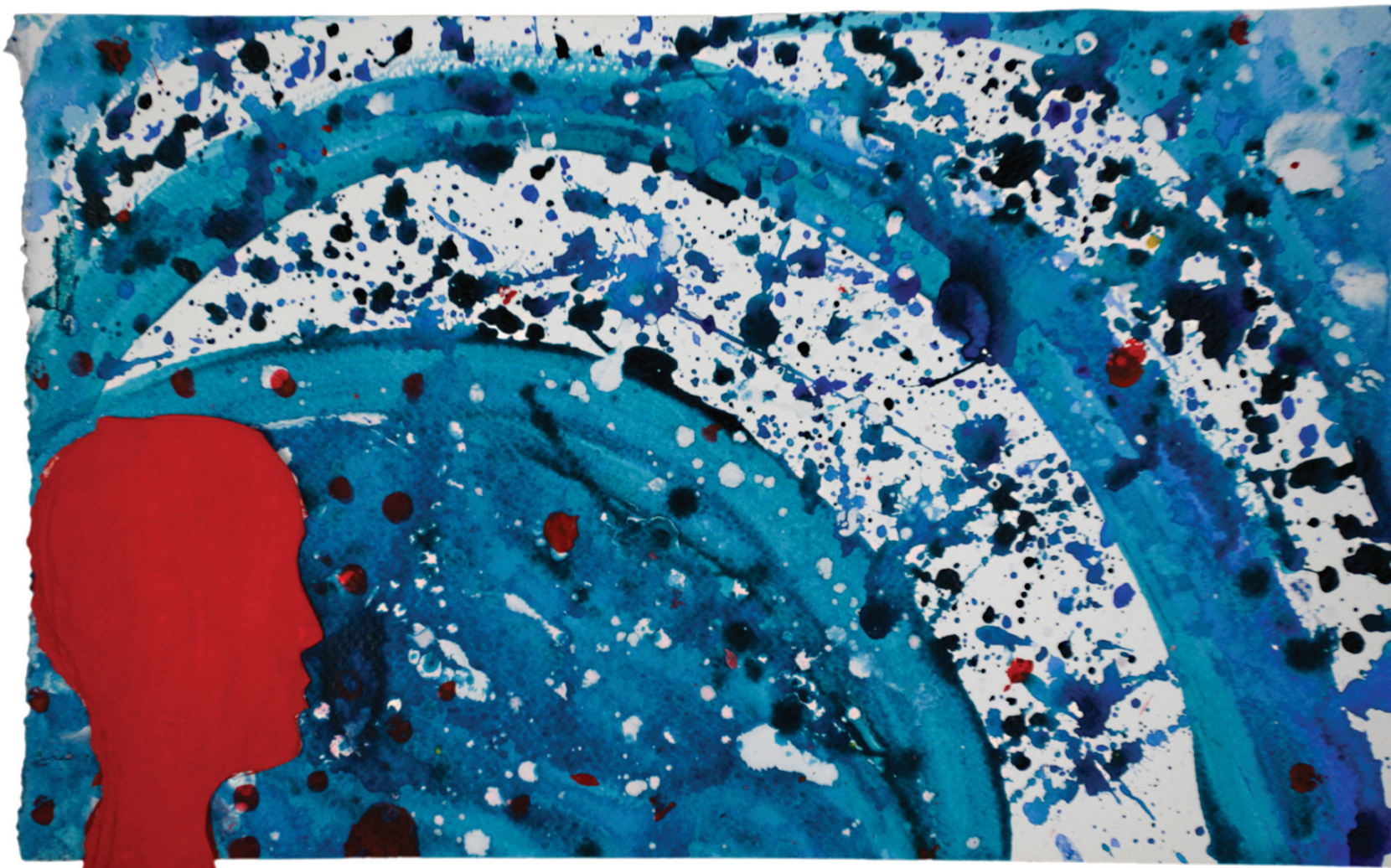
"I had ordered some books from them to bring along to the conference, but the publisher was out. They said they have to do a second printing," Wiegan said.

During the conference on March 6, Wiegan spoke from a script he prepared ahead of time so it could be translated. Then, interpreters spoke into headsets for each of the attendees while Wiegan spoke.

This was especially helpful at the end of the presentation when there was time for discussion.

See **KOREA 10A**

## LIKE A DREAM



"Disassociation" by Rose Kapelka-Wolpoff (below)

### SIUSLAW EIGHTH-GRADER'S ART CHOSEN FOR EUGENE DISPLAY

BY JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

"Disassociation," an acrylic abstract work by Siuslaw eighth-grade student Rose Kapelka-Wolpoff, was chosen as one of 56 works of art from students throughout Oregon to be displayed at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art (JSMA) on the University of Oregon campus.

More than 380 submissions were received by the museum. The theme for this year's competition was "Last night I had the strangest dream." The display features works from students in first through 12th

grades. All submissions had to be original works created in the last year.

Each student submitted an artist's statement to accompany their work. Kapelka-Wolpoff's read: "A few weeks ago I had the strangest dream. The dream itself was of space and clocks but the feeling that came with it was much more abstract."

"I used acrylic paint on watercolor paper," Kapelka-Wolpoff said.



PHOTO BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

"My mom traced my profile, then I cut it out and painted it red and attached it to the painting. I didn't actually have a dream about blue spots, but hey, you can't prove I didn't."

Lisa Abia-Smith, JSMA director of education, said,

"The way Kapelka-Wolpoff was able to execute the work is impressive, particularly for an eighth-grader. The strong composition and use of color combined

with the spattering technique is reminiscent of Jackson Pollock."

Kapelka-Wolpoff entered the competition Jan. 30. The following month, the museum informed her that "Disassociation" had been chosen for display.

Her painting may be viewed at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, 1430 Johnson Lane in Eugene, until May 17. The public is invited to celebrate the artists at a reception Saturday, May 16, at 11 a.m.

The museum is not the only place Kapelka-Wolpoff's work is currently being displayed.

"My father's refrigerator actually has quite a few of my works on it," she said.

## Great 'eggspectations' at local Easter activities

BY CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

Saturday, April 4, will be an "egg-stra" special day for area youth. Easter egg hunts in Florence, Mapleton and Yachats offer spring outings for families.

At 10 a.m., children up to 10 years old are invited to Miller Park to hunt for thousands of eggs. The annual Florence Community Easter

Egg Hunt is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Florence and Siuslaw High School Interact Club.

Eggs will be stuffed with candy, toys and prizes. There also will be a special golden egg, containing a surprise grand prize. Children should bring their baskets and arrive before the start time.

Also at 10 a.m., Yachats Community Presbyterian Church and Yachats Youth

and Family Activities Program host an Easter egg hunt at 360 W. Seventh St. in Yachats.

Children should bring baskets to this fun event. Adults can call 541-547-3400 for more information.

In Mapleton, the Mapleton Lions Club holds its annual Easter Egg Hunt and Games starting at noon at Mapleton Junior High School Athletic Field. Children ranging from

infants to fifth-graders may attend with their families.

Events will include: the Easter egg hunt, a bunny hop to the Easter Bunny for children in pre-school and kindergarten, an egg and spoon race for first- and second-graders, a three-legged race and egg and spoon race for third- and fourth-graders and an egg toss for fifth-graders.

The Mapleton Lions Club

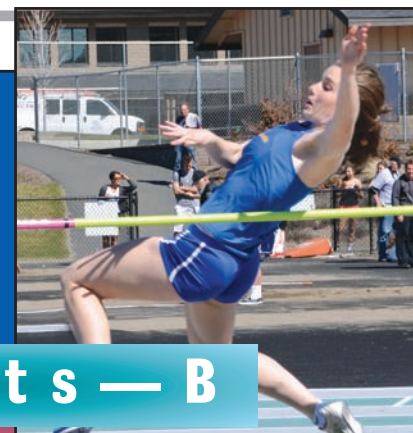
also will host an Easter pancake breakfast on Sunday, April 5, from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.

One more Easter Egg Hunt will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Regency Florence. The community is invited to 1951 E. 21st St. for fun for the whole family.

The hunt includes special prize eggs and a coloring contest. Call 541-997-8436 for more information.

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Sports — B

