

# GENERAL NEWS

## Rhododendrons to bloom at ARS Early Flower Show

The Early Rhododendron Flower Show will take place April 11 and 12. The flower show is sponsored by the Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. Both flower shows are held at the Florence Events Center and are judged. The show is open to the public —

without charge — as soon as judging is completed. The Siuslaw Chapter also has an outdoor plant sale during both shows. Doors open at noon to the public on Saturday and remain open until 5 p.m. On Sunday, viewing will be available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Rhody court speaks out



PHOTO BY CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Rhody Court Princesses Natalie Madden, Trista Lane and Courtney King, (front, holding banner), join Soroptimist International of Florence for their first speaking engagement featuring their platforms. The Senior Court will continue to present on topics like the arts, social responsibility, mentorship, self esteem and abuse at events leading up to the Rhododendron Court Scholarship Showcase at Florence Events Center on Wednesday, May 6, at 6:30 p.m.



### Community Easter Egg Hunt

at Miller Park Field Area  
18th and Oak Streets

**Saturday April 4th**  
10:00 A.M.  
Ages 1-10

*Come and enjoy the fun!*

Co-hosted by  
Siuslaw High School Interact Club, & The Rotary Club of Florence.



## SOLVE beach cleanup nets 62,500 pounds of debris

Oregon beaches are ready for summer after shedding close to 63,000 pounds on Saturday, March 28. That's when more than 5,000 volunteers helped clear the entire Oregon coast of trash at the annual SOLVE Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup.

An Oregon tradition for 30 years, the twice-annual coast-wide beach cleanups have seen nearly 240,000 SOLVE volunteers remove an estimated 3.2 million pounds of trash from our beaches since 1984.

"Oregon's beaches are a big part of who we are as

Oregonians," said Lisa Van Lannen, Oregon Parks Recreation Director. "The beach is for all of us, and caring for it has become a wonderful public tradition. We are grateful to SOLVE and to the thousands of citizens who give their time and energy to keeping our beaches clean."

The most common items found during the event were tiny bits of plastic, cigarette butts, fishing rope, glass bottles and plastic bottles.

Interesting items found by volunteers included a large dock washed up near Battle Rock, a discarded baby stroller in Seaside, 200 feet of fishing rope in Cannon Beach, a broken mailbox near Cape Lookout State Park, and a bayonet at Sunset Beach.

There were also many inspiring stories from across the coast. In Gold Beach, the Visitor Center partnered with the U.S. Forest Service for their first-ever community-led Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup event. A crew of 43 volunteers cleared nearly 1,500 pounds of litter off of five miles of beach, and a lucky few even collected prized glass blown floats.

At the Sand Lake Recreation Area, more than 100 members

of the Sand Lake Duners led the cleanup effort, helping to give back to the beaches they love.

Serving as beach captains since the 1980s, the Rockaway Beach Lions Club welcomed 140 volunteers with free lunch, including hot dogs and donations from the Metro Korean Lions Club. They cleared more than 3,500 pounds off the beach and road.

At Short Beach, a few brave volunteers hiked up and down hundreds of steps to pick up litter, while Netarts Oceanside Fire and Rescue hauled debris off nearby Bayocean Spit.

Many of the event's sponsors also joined in the effort.

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department coordinated over half of the 45 check-in sites, and helped haul thousands of pounds of trash. Local transfer stations and coastal counties once again generously donated their services up and down the coast.

Major Sponsor, Fred Meyer, brought more than 100 volunteers out to the Seaside cleanup and joined Media Sponsors K103fm and KOIN 6.

Fifty volunteers from The Standard, the event's Supporting Sponsor, joined the

Pelican Pub cleanup in Pacific City.

In addition, the nonprofit, Washed Ashore, took debris from several check-in sites. Due to their efforts, over 1,000 pounds of debris will be re-purposed and turned into educational art sculptures at their Bandon facility.

"The combined effort of all these partners has a tremendously positive impact on our beaches and coastal communities," said Maureen Fisher, CEO of SOLVE.

"Today, Oregonians from across the state chose to spend their Saturday protecting the health of our wildlife and beaches, and that is truly inspiring," she concluded.

The Spring Oregon Beach Cleanup is made possible by coordinating sponsors: Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and Local Coast Garbage and Recycling Haulers.

Major Sponsors included: Fred Meyer, and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Supporting sponsors were: Howard S. Wright — a Balfour Beatty Company, Northwest Natural, and The Standard.

Media Sponsors were K103fm and KOIN 6.

## New WLCF scholarship deadline is April 15

A new Roger and Sherrie McCorkle \$500 scholarship has been added to the list of 18 Western Lane Community

Foundation (WLCF) scholarships for a total of \$31,000 to be awarded this spring.

The scholarship program is

available to both Mapleton and Siuslaw high schools. The deadline for 2015 scholarship applications is April 15.

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
APRIL 1	APRIL 2	APRIL 3	APRIL 4	APRIL 5	APRIL 6	APRIL 7
Partly Sunny, Showers	Partly Sunny	Afternoon Rain	Mostly Cloudy, a Little Rain	Cloudy, Showers	Afternoon Showers, Partly Sunny	Rain
52°F 40°F	54°F 39°F	54°F 40°F	53°F 40°F	53°F 40°F	53°F 42°F	57°F 41°F

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# LET'S GET HOPPIN'!

**11th Annual EASTER EGG HUNT!**  
April 3-5



Search our store for hidden eggs filled with great savings. Find coupons for up to 20% off your purchase, great surprise gifts, or free flowers!

**THANK YOU** for making Free Potting Day a big success! We had a great response and will be able to make a donation of our custom blended potting soil to Siuslaw elementary school's garden project!

**JUST IN! NEW SPRING COLOR FOR YOUR GARDEN!**

Perennials and annuals throughout the nursery, and gorgeous spring home décor in our gift shop.

### Lisa's Avant Gardener Tip of the Week



Cut branches of spring blooming shrubs such as bridal wreath spirea and forsythia for indoor blooms.

Watch for red thread disease in lawns; treat this disease by using a fungicide and fertilizing your lawn.

Check your evergreens for Western Tent Caterpillar; cut off affected branches if possible and throw in the garbage...or spray with Bt.

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