

IN BRIEF

Dems host Stiles

The Florence Area Democratic Club will meet today, April 4, at 11 a.m., in the Port of Siuslaw meeting room. Guest speaker will be Sharon Stiles of the Lane Community College Board of Education.

Everyone is welcome.

Lutherans present Easter egg hunt

New Life Lutheran of Florence, at 21st and Spruce streets, will have a festive Easter egg hunt for Sunday's school youth after the 10:30 a.m. Easter worship service.

For more information, contact Pastor Lori Blake at 541-997-8113.

Ready to quit smoking?

The American Lung Association's "Freedom From Smoking" program provides options, resources and support to quit smoking.

PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center is starting its next smoking cessation series Monday, April 6, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Contact Karl Logan at 541-902-6300 ext. 5635 for more information or to register for this class.

Grants

from 1A

The foundation manages current assets of \$5 million, which consist of Designated Funds, assets that are established by donors to support certain organizations; Field of Interest Funds, donors who set a criteria of a particular area of community service that they want the grant distributed to; and General Funds, which are flexible resources the foundation can apply to address changing community needs.

The complete list of 2015 WLCF Grant recipients includes:

- Bright Beginnings Pre-K, social studies, for growth and development: \$900
- CROW, "Once Upon a Mattress" musical: \$2,000
- DanceAbility International, DanceAbility in Florence: \$1,500
- Deadwood Creek Services, Inc., Clerestory window restoration: \$5,000
- Deadwood Pioneer Cemetery, Deadwood Cemetery records: \$2,680
- Florence STEP, Chillers for STEP Egg to Fry program: \$5,400



COURTESY PHOTO

This year's Western Lane Community Foundation grant recipients

- Florence Area Humane Society (two grants), metal storage unit: \$2,500; and computer replacements: \$2,600
- Florence Evangelical Church, summer camp scholarships: \$750
- Florence Food Share, generator: \$9,700
- Florence Regional Arts Alliance, public outdoor art: \$2,500
- Florence Senior Center Inc., Senior Center addition: \$1,500
- Friends of the Florence Events Center, Florence Festival of Books website: \$750
- Helping Hands Coalition, voucher program: \$6,500
- Mapleton School District (two grants), documentary education movies: \$1,000; picnic tables, \$1,000
- Parenting Now!, parent/child memory book: \$350
- PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center, Light Up A Life fundraiser: \$1,000
- Seacoast Entertainment, youth access to the performing arts: \$1,000
- Siuslaw Elementary School (eight grants), fourth/fifth Reading Club: \$230; Easi-Speak USB recorder: \$350; Reading Club: \$500; Math Reads: \$560; under-the-desk pedals: \$575; third grade student planners: \$671; projector, Easi-Speak USB, talk board: \$1,050; Mimio boards for kindergarten: \$3,020
- Siuslaw High School (two grants), student Atlases of the World: \$312; video production class: \$2,500
- Siuslaw High School ASPIRE: \$900
- Siuslaw Public Library, ASQ-3 Station: \$620
- Siuslaw School District 97J (four grants), Siuslaw Salmon/Watershed raincoats: \$365; instruments/curriculum music K-5: \$413; MATE ROV Program: \$2,700; Lego Robotics Program: \$6,500
- Siuslaw Watershed Council, kayak trips: \$800
- Siuslaw Pioneer Museum, Morris Moorhead Grant payment for museum building, \$20,000.

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Child

from 1A

Sunday, April 26, has been designated National Blue Sunday and, according to Anderson, many Florence-area churches have agreed to

address the topic of child abuse on that day.

"Neighbors need to look to neighbors," Anderson said. "Offer your hand, because you might have a parenting strategy, you might have a skill that the other person doesn't have.

That could be the difference between their children staying and getting the help they need. Maybe it is the stress of not having a job, or not being able to get to Food Share, which creates this whole umbrella of horrible things that happen to

our children.

"Look to your right and left. If it doesn't feel right, offer a helping hand. Be a community person."

For more information, call Lynn Anderson at 541-997-5458.

Film

from 1A

"Finding these discs re-introduced me to a bygone era, when watching films at home wasn't taken for granted," Sisson said. "You have to flip the disc part way through, like an LP."

He said the forced intermissions are "more rewarding than annoying. Watching 'Star

Wars' on CED provides me with a sense of being transported to 1978."

According to Sisson, Radio Corporation of America (RCA) brought radio into the homes of Americans, sold millions of records and introduced the world to commercial television.

"When RCA unveiled the SelectaVision VideoDisc system," Sisson explained, "nobody expected these discs would earn the distinction of being the last physical media conceived, designed and produced in the United States. When this format was introduced, watching a favorite

movie at home remained a magical experience. Their rise and fall is part of the story of 'The Last American Media.'

"We're talking about the birth of mass communications, the shift to a global economy, the love and preservation of cinema, and our continually changing media culture," Sisson added.

Sisson's previous directorial works include music videos, commercials, short narrative films, web-based media, short documentaries and live concert performances. He said nostalgia isn't the only reason he is making a documentary about a dead format.

"It's all about connecting with people. I want to remind viewers of a time when sharing movies didn't refer to digital interactions," he said.

Siuslaw High School alumni Omar Alaniz will join Sisson as assistant and partner for "The Last American Media."

The film will be shot on location in museums, archives, homes, record stores and thrift shops across the country. Sisson will shoot with a Canon 7d in addition to Super 8, iPhones and GoPro cameras. He is using Kickstarter to crowd-fund the project. If the film is successfully funded, Sisson expects to deliver the final cut before October.

To learn more about the film project, contact Sean Sisson at lastamericanmedia@gmail.com, or call 541-999-5990.

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