

**School** from 1A

According to Halpin, parents and grandparents enjoyed being able to build a project with the students, which is another part of Common Core. She said it gets parents more involved.

“Geography and history are

coming back in Common Core. With OAKS, the emphasis was on reading, math and science. Now, we have a lot of social studies coming back in,” Halpin said. “I actually had two kids go up over spring break and visit Fort Clatsop, and they came back and shared what they saw.”

**Chief** from 1A

“I look forward to returning to Florence,” Turner said. “I’m really enthused and can’t wait to get there.”

Turner originally wanted to live and work in Florence. His career sent him to Eugene, but he and his family often vacationed in Florence.

He is a native Oregonian and a graduate from Churchill High School in Eugene.

He began his career as a reserve officer for Eugene in 1981. In 1982, he accepted a full-time position with the Lane County Sheriff’s Office in Florence as a resident deputy.

As a result of budget cuts, he left Florence and became a police officer with the Eugene Police Department.

For the next 23 years, Turner served Eugene as a police officer, police agent, sergeant and lieutenant.

He returned to the Lane County Sheriff’s Office in 2006 and was appointed to the position of sheriff in January 2011.

As Lane County sheriff, Turner was the chief executive officer for a full-service law enforcement agency with more than 350 employees and 600 volunteers.

The Lane County Board of Commissioners is currently seeking to fill the sheriff position.

Now that the contract is signed, Turner will begin the process of transitioning to Florence. He hopes to find a house in the area and enroll his 12-year-old son in school by the 2015-2016 school year.

“My wife and son are exuberant about the move,” he said. “I’m glad I have such easy-going kids. My son isn’t hesitant at all.”

Turner’s two older daughters will remain in Eugene, where they attend Lane Community College and the University of Oregon.

Florence will introduce Turner to the community at a meet and greet event on Tuesday, May 5, at Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., from 4 to 6 p.m.

Community members are encouraged to attend.

**Camp Florence wins poetry contest again**

On Saturday, April 4, at Kenneth B. Gallery, 18 entrants presented poems on topics varying from falling in love with a second grade teacher, to the birthing experience as seen by the child.

Robert White, 22, of Camp Florence, won with his poem “Power,” following on the heels of last month’s winner, Noah Schultz, also from Camp Florence.

As before, this was a standing room only event and every poem delivered an amazing and deeply rich experience for the entire audience.

White has been writing poetry for two years, and “Power” was his first poem. The winning poem appeared in an anthology “Writing Around Portland.”

“This poem came from being incarcerated,” said White. “I want people to know that we are human beings who are growing and developing. Although we are incarcerated, we are continuing to evolve as we take power from our situation.”



PHOTO BY RACHELLE MASIN  
**Robert White recites his winning poetry entry.**

White will leave Camp Florence in July and move to Eugene. Within a year, he hopes to be enrolled at the University of Oregon.

He is presently taking glasses at LCC Florence and majoring in Human Development and Urban Development.

Next month’s contest will be held Saturday, May 2, at the Kenneth B Gallery.

Preregistration is available online at [www.kennethbgallery.com](http://www.kennethbgallery.com).

On May 2, poets can register at the door at 3 p.m.

Poetry readings begin at 4 p.m.

All poems must be original and presented by the author for no longer than three minutes in length. Entrance fee is \$10, and a \$5 donation is suggested for the audience.

Additional information is available at [www.kennethbgallery.com](http://www.kennethbgallery.com), or by calling Karen Brown at 541-997-7335. Kenneth B Gallery is located at 1458 First St., in Old Town Florence.

**Mapleton** from 1A

“It helps to bridge the achievement gap between wealthier schools and those that have a higher poverty level,” Moyer continued.

“For example, note-taking. If we can have consistency between all the teachers in note-taking, when the kids get out of high school, they will be able to take proper notes during

college lectures,” she said.

In addition to college preparedness training, AVID has a post-graduation readiness component for students who do not plan to attend college. The program helps students be workforce ready with instructions in preparing resumes and how to gain skill sets.

Moyer said another component of AVID is parent outreach.

“The whole college applica-

tion process can be daunting,” she said. “We help parents to support their kids. We make the parents a part of the process.”

Mapleton Elementary School has been involved in the AVID program for three years. It was funded through Title funds.

“We will be doing the program in grades seven through 12 next year, so next year we are going to be K-12 AVID,”

Moyer said.

In addition to covering the cost of attending the AVID training, the grant earmarked more than \$10,000 worth of additional AVID expenses, including district director training, data analysis training and the acquisition of an AVID library.

Mapleton School District Business Manager Maria McEldowney corroborated with Moyer to write the grant.

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**Port** from 1A

She said that if there had been small incremental annual increases, the port wouldn’t need a large increase now.

“I feel that we should do what the staff has recommended,” Rickard said.

“The reason we are selling more water and electricity, is because we have more occupants,” explained commissioner Terry Duman. “When private business runs out of money, they do one of two things. They either sell assets or they reduce their overhead. We don’t raise our rates. That’s not going to increase our business. All we are going to do is drive people away.”

Duman said the current port rates were in the mid-range of what other facilities charge.

“We are already medium priced,” he said. “I like where we are in this scale. The tax base to the port increases, that’s how the port gets the extra money.”

Port Manager Bob Forsythe



PHOTO BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

**David Huntington takes the oath of office pledge from Port of Siuslaw Assistant Administrator Dina McClure as Commission President Ron Caputo looks on. Huntington will serve the remaining two months of former commissioner Bill Fleenor’s position No. 4 term, before officially running for the position in May.**

said that out of a \$1.6 million budget, the port receives approximately \$220,000 per year from taxes, and the tax base has remained unchanged for years.

Caputo said the port would

need the rate increases to pay for improvements, such as adding a second restroom to the campground this summer.

“We have to increase our rates or cut back somewhere,” he said.

In addition to the second restroom, Rickard said bulkhead repairs and dredging are projects the port needs but has no money to complete.

“We have been just treating water for a long time,” she said.

The commission will continue to review the proposed rate increases at the May meeting.

Commissioners also voted to reduce advanced campground reservations from two years to nine months. This eliminates the accounting carry-forward problem caused by reservations paid more than one year in advance of when they would be used.

Port Administrative Assistant Dina McClure said the policy change would not affect current reservations that are on the books through 2017.

Regarding the December Members, the council decided to grandfather in the 36 current members, but not to offer the program to new members. Members will be allowed their specific campsites each year. The special December Member perks will be non-transferable and commissioners agreed that attrition would eventually eliminate the program.

During his report to the commissioners, Forsythe said HB 3104 was passed by the Oregon House of Representatives on Monday.

The bill, co-sponsored by Forsythe and Fleenor, and submitted by State Rep. Caddy McKeown, proposes to change ORS 777 to allow ports to partner with telecommunication companies to install high-speed fiber optic networks on port property.

Forsythe said that because the bill passed unanimously in the house and has the support of the telecommunications industry, he expects it to become law in July.

“This could mean a significant amount of revenue to the port,” Forsythe said.

Fleenor said the anticipated passage of the bill was the conflict of interest that prompted his resignation as port commissioner.

At the end of the meeting, Rickard said, “I would like to thank Bill Fleenor for the service he has done for this commission.”

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