

# STEM night comes to Siuslaw Middle School

*Science, technology, engineering and math are focus of tomorrow evening's event open to community*

BY JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) will be the focus tomorrow from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Siuslaw

Middle School gymnasium. Students, parents, grandparents and friends are all invited.

"The Oregon Coast STEM Hub, located at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport, will bring a trailer

full of hands-on science and engineering activities for the community to engage in. Whether it is engineering a sailboat to try and get it to go as far as possible, or examples of alternative energy," said Siuslaw School District STEM coordinator and seventh-grade science teacher Andy Marohl.

This is the first year the district has been involved in STEM, and Marohl is hoping to see the program expand to grades three through 12.

STEM night is not just another science fair, according to Marohl.

"Rather than coming to admire students' work," he said, "STEM is about families coming together and experiencing what students may have the opportunity to do in the classroom. It is designed to help cre-

ate excitement and enthusiasm for STEM-based programs."

In addition to STEM night, two current STEM projects have Marohl's seventh-grade science classes busy, thanks to grants from Western Lane Community Foundation.

Marohl's class has been working on completing a Marine Advanced Technology Education Remotely Operated Vehicles (MATE ROV) program in time to participate in an underwater robotics competition this Saturday in North Bend.

"It is essentially an underwater robotic program," Marohl explained. "My students have been working hard all this quarter, learning how to solder. They soldered circuit boards together, which run switches that control three motors

mounted on robots made out of PVC pipe.

"They are working at accomplishing missions underwater. For example, the theme for the competition is Science and Industry in the Arctic. We simulate an ice sheet and the robot has to go out and scrape biological samples from beneath the ice sheet that are simulated by ping-pong balls. The robots have to go underwater, retrieve the ping-pong balls from under simulated ice."

Marohl hopes to take eight students to the competition.

Another science project is Lego Robotics. Students use kits to engineer their own robots that they program with a computer. The robots are designed to run autonomously to accomplish specific missions on a grid layout.

One of the Western Lane Community Foundation grants was also used to purchase a 13-workstation computer lab with a projector, printer and document camera.

With the STEM program and continued support from the foundation, Marohl sees a bright future for Siuslaw students.

"Siuslaw STEM seeks to provide a challenging learning environment, which maximizes individual potential and ensures students are well equipped to meet the challenges in the 21st century," Marohl said. "We believe in increasing student engagement through STEM activities and programs to gain deeper understanding and raise achievement levels on state assessments and to prepare kids for a competitive world market."

**Happy 102nd Birthday Laura Connell**

Elderberry Square RCF resident Laura Connell celebrated her 102nd birthday surrounded by more than 30 relatives and friends. Congratulations Laura!!!

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## Peace Harbor hosts benefit concert April 24

A free benefit concert to raise funds for the PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center Emergency Department, "Leave A Legacy: Save A Life" campaign, will be held at the Florence Events Center on Friday, April 24, at 7 p.m.

A suggested tax-deductible donation is \$25.

Tickets will be available at the door and performers will include:

Larry Pattis, an accomplished guitarist who was named one of the top acoustic

artists of the decade by the International Acoustic Music Awards; C. Daniel Boling, an award-winning singer-songwriter; Mike and Carleen McCornack, who have impressed audiences for more than 40 years with their harmo-

nious vocals and acoustic instrumental accompaniments; and the New Folksters, a group of folk singers (Hal Weiner, Beverly Schriver, Keith Barr and Ken Luse) from Eugene who combine strong harmony with instrumentals.

## Pool from 1A

Hesse does not see the Coastal Fitness and Aquatic Center pool in Florence problematic for the SWIM project.

"When you think about recreational opportunities for

youth and families," she said, "the pool at Coastal Fitness is wonderful, but nobody wants to see 75 kids swimming around that pool. And there is no room for families to sit and watch their kids. The Mapleton pool has bleacher areas around the sides."

During tomorrow's meeting, the SWIM board will offer details on what the proposed repairs and upgrades will cost, as well as estimates on how long it will take to apply for and receive grant funds.

Board member Zach Ruhl said, "The SWIM board feels

that even if we got started tomorrow, we have probably a three-year cycle, maybe longer to apply for and receive grants."

For more information, call Lauren Hesse at 541-268-6943 or email her at stang-hesse@msn.com.

## Birthday from 1A

When she retired, she was the executive chef at the Federal Reserve building in Portland.

Maxine grew up in Kelso, Wash., and lived with her grandparents at Washington Hotel. They had an old Model T Ford. She graduated high school in 1934 with honors. Her grandfather was good

with numbers and taught her how to keep the books at the hotel.

"I grew up in a man's world," she said. "I had a good foundation in math and I enjoyed it because I thought a lot of him."

Her grandmother taught her how to sew. Over her life, she cooked at a soup kitchen in Gresham and was proud of her excellent penmanship.

"I spent 25 years on the PTA.

Larry always said he got his best grades the year I was president of the PTA," she said.

Of her three sons, only Larry survives. She has 10 grandchildren in New York, Las Vegas and Portland.

While Maxine said her health is "pretty good," she doesn't know how many more birthdays she wants to reach.

She said, "You get old, you don't have any more friends. But I wouldn't want to leave

Larry, so I guess I have to stick around."

The Marringers are a tight-knit family that worked in businesses together and stayed close through family illnesses.

"One thing I hate right now is I'm losing my memory. I think that some things you remember because you keep repeating and telling them. I can still remember some of my teachers — the good ones," she said.

## Fair from 1A

In preparation for the event, Florence Mayor Joe Henry proclaimed April 17 through 19 as "Let's Get Healthier, Florence, Weekend" at the April 6 city council meeting.

"We were thrilled," said Community Health Fair head organizer Linda Lydick. "To

have Mayor Henry recognize our event and encourage everyone's attendance and participation means so much to our committee. It added an extra degree of significance to the hard work of our volunteers, to all our exhibitors and seminar leaders and to the participants in the 5K."

The annual Community Health Fair is presented as a community service by the Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church and is underwritten in part by a generous contribution from the Korando Dental Group.

"We appreciate how this event brings together various ideas and different people to

improve the overall health of our community," said Dr. Charles Korando. "People need to know what all is available in our community so they are empowered to make informed decisions to make their life better and healthier."

He added, "Linda Lydick and her team from the Seventh-day Adventist Church do a great job of bringing all these people together to show what products and services are available in this area to help remedy, and even reverse, many preventable diseases. Their message is one of better living for a fulfilling life of health and hope now, and for the future. We believe in what

they're doing and are honored to support it."

Organizers wish to thank the exhibitors, seminar presenters, sponsors and attendees who made the event a success.

"This was a tremendous three days," Lydick said. "It was truly a community effort, thanks to coverage by Siuslaw News and KCST/KCFM, and help from the Bridgewater Restaurant, Nature's Corner Restaurant, Fresh Harvest Bakery, Coastal Fitness, Korando Dental Group, Florence Events Center staff and volunteers, Siuslaw Valley Fire Department and the Western Lane Ambulance District."

**Lloyd & Emma Dunn**

were married in Marcola, Oregon on April 23rd, 1952

Lloyd and Emma have four children, eleven Grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren.

They are still very much in love!

**Happy 63rd Anniversary Mom & Dad**

From Your Loving Daughter Sherry