



# STEELHEAD EDUCATION

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# Festival parade award results

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# Siuslaw News

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## ELECTION

# Voters reject vehicle fee

### Tuesday's results also show many newcomers elected to local boards

BY CHANTELLE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

Many new faces will occupy local boards and commissions after Lane County announced Tuesday evening the results of the May 19 Special Election.

Lane County has 206,370 registered voters, but only about 35 percent cast ballots, with 71,717 received by the 8 p.m. deadline on Tuesday.

The big news is that the Lane County Vehicle Registration Fee did not pass. Despite support from Lane County Commissioner Jay Bozievich, Florence City Council and other county cities, Measure 20-231 failed with 46,925 votes against, or 66 percent. Only 23,855 voters were for the fee, or 34 percent.

"We appreciate the thoughtful evaluation that Lane County voters gave this important issue," said Bozievich. "Our goal from the start of this conversation has been to articulate the facts and give voters a choice."

The mandatory fee would have put money into county and city roads now that revenue sources to maintain and build roadways have dried up.

Other options have included a gas tax, which failed on the ballot last November.

"We need a balanced approach that includes stabilizing our expenses and identifying appropriate local revenue to support critical local services," Bozievich said.

Locally, Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) had one of the most contested races on the ballot.

For director position 3, Tony Phillips won with 2,649 votes, or 72 percent. He beat incumbent Rob Ward.

Director position 4 will now be filled by John Carnahan. He won with 64 percent of the votes cast, beating incumbent Cindy Spinner, 31 percent, and Ave Bernard, about 5 percent of the votes.

For director position 5, Woody Woodbury narrowly beat longtime incumbent Steve Olienyk. Woodbury received 1,894 votes, or 52 percent. Olienyk received 1,715 votes, or about 48 percent.

Three positions on the Mapleton Fire Department board of directors will remain with the three incumbents, Carol Baxter, Guy Hansen and Ann Miller, who all ran unopposed.

Swishhome-Deadwood Rural Fire Protection District also keeps its incumbents, Harvey McGlothlin and Glen Davies. A vacant third position will be filled by appointment.

See **RESULTS** 7A

# POD PLAY

### Orcas make surprise visit to Old Town

PHOTOS BY VERN DIPIETRO  
For the Siuslaw News



**V**isitors to the 108th Rhododendron Festival last weekend received quite the surprise when a pod of about six orcas swam down the Siuslaw River. On Sunday afternoon, the killer whales swam past the Siuslaw River Bridge in Florence, looped around and went back toward the sea. There appeared to be four adults and two calves, all with the distinct markings of orcas. According to the Orca Network, orcas sometimes swim in Oregon river mouths. The pod provided a nice photo opportunity for those who stayed in Old Town after the parade ended.

# Port rate increases shot down by board

### Commissioners must balance budget before July to avoid closure

BY JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

Port of Siuslaw commissioners declined to adopt two of four rate increase resolutions previously approved by the budget committee as part of the port's operating budget for the 2015 fiscal year.

A lively discussion between port board members, including input from interested community members, preceded the voting at the May 20 meeting.

Prior to the discussion and voting, port certified public accountant Bill Trotter gave a brief overview of the financial condition of the port.

"The (port's) operating revenue has increased since 2010, however, operating expenses have kept pace," Trotter said. "You derive a lot of your revenues from fees."

Trotter went on to say that the port's current financial situation was stable, but that he suggested incremental fee increases to keep ahead of depreciation expenses.

See **PORT** 7A

# County sheriffs ensure peaceful Rhody Days

BY CHANTELLE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) deputies conducted saturation patrols in the Florence area during the 108th annual Rhododendron Festival over the weekend.

Funding for these patrols was provided through the Oregon State Sheriff's Association and Oregon Department of Transportation through three grants totalling \$20,000. This funding makes possible the LCSO's participation in state and national campaigns to reduce traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities on Lane County roads.

Without grant funding from these organizations, LCSO would not have been able to staff deputies in Florence for the event. These patrols emphasized seat belt violations, speed-related incidents and driving under the influence of intoxication (DUI) detection and enforcement.

According to LCSO's festival statistics, there were 230 incidents over the weekend that resulted in traffic citations, warnings or arrests.

These included two felony possession of stolen vehicle arrests, one warrant arrest, two DUI arrests, one driving while suspended citation, two minor in possession of alcohol citations, 40 speeding citations, six seat belt citations, three lack of insurance citations and 28 miscellaneous moving violation citations.