

Disposal from 1A

“I am pushing for it, but it is costly,” Bi-Mart pharmacy manager Joanne Whitney said.

Both Bi-Mart and the City of Florence suggest following the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) website under Guidelines for Drug Disposal on how to dispose of unused medications, other than needles or inhalers.

According to the FDA, all labels should be removed or made illegible. Medications should then be crushed or dissolved in water, emptied into a sealable container or zip-lock bag, mixed with coffee grounds or cat litter and disposed in the trash. The key element in proper drug disposal is to know what

type of pharmaceutical is being disposed.

“We have a company that will do disposals for approximately \$3 for the envelope,” said Shane Turner, Fred Meyer pharmacy manager. “They will take anything that is non-controlled (other than needles). No pain medications or anxiety medications.”

The City of Florence requests that no medications be flushed down the sink or toilet, even though the FDA approves of disposing of controlled substances in this manner.

“The preferred way the EPA and FDA recommend disposing of controlled substances, such as pain medications, is to flush them down the toilet,” Turner said. “All others must be dis-

posed of in your normal trash, preferably in coffee grounds or cat litter to discourage children and animals from getting into them.

“Flushing pain medications became a big issue a while back on the news. It was kind of blown out of proportion. The actual levels weren’t enough to do anything or even trigger allergies,” he added.

According to Turner, antibiotics should never be flushed because bacteria are used in waste disposal treatment and “the antibiotics can disrupt the process of cleaning,” he said.

Lane County Transfer and Recycling (LCTR) will take needles that are in sharps disposal containers. According to Valtraud Burnett of LCTR, the company has needle disposal containers available on site.

LCTR also offers hazardous waste disposal in the spring and fall. Burnett suggests that all medications be emptied from containers and mixed together before taking them to the hazardous waste disposal site.

LCTR, 2820 N. Rhododendron Drive, is open Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; phone 541-997-6243.

Read from 1A

As many as 75 volunteers have helped on each sale.

“We think it’s wonderful that Taylor’s been doing this for 10 years,” said Florence Food Share Executive Director Norma Barton.

“We’re grateful for him and all of his work.

“He’s been a great part of the community.”

The community has been a big factor in Graham’s efforts as well.

“My favorite moments are always the people that come out every year,” he said. “It was a really great environment to work around all those people that came to help.”

He also is grateful to the community for supporting the sale and local people in need.

Since getting older, it has been harder for him to keep the sale going.

“The last few years, the Florence Food Share has taken over because I’ve been so busy with school and work,” Graham said.

He will graduate from Siuslaw High in June.



Florence Food Share board member Lori Blake reads to children during one of the story times at the final Read for the Need fundraiser at the Florence Events Center last weekend, May 22-23.

“Next year, I’m going with Rotary on an exchange to Colombia for a year. When I return home, I’ll probably go to Oregon State University or Oregon Institute of Technology for business,” he said.

This year’s Read for the Need featured story times and a free book for children.

Extra books from the sale were donated to St. Vincent de Paul’s in Florence.

“We had 10 years together. It’s been a long run,” Graham said.

Barton said, “We wish him all the luck in the world and we know he’ll be successful in whatever he does.”

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Camp from 1A

“We live in an area where there are so many natural resources. We teach them about the environment and how to take care of it,” McNeill added.

The campers were broken down into three groups, learning different field studies each day.

One group participated in water and soil studies, including testing different sources of water to see if it is safe to drink, studying different layers of soil and sediment and learning how soil is eroded by water.

The second group learned

about maps and survival. They were taught to use compasses with maps and how to build shelters in the wild.

The third group studied wildlife. Part of the field study exercise was to examine owl pellets. These pellets are made up of the parts of prey the owls cannot digest so they regurgitate what appear to be pellets.

By picking the pellets apart, the students discovered what kind of animals the owl has eaten.

Craig and Janette Childers from Bay Street Grille catered all the meals. A typical breakfast included bacon and eggs. One of the more popular lunches was grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato soup. Spaghetti was a dinner favorite. On Wednesday night, the students got to make their own tinfoil dinners, cooked over open fires. S’mores were a nightly after-dinner treat.

The fifth- and sixth-grade campers weren’t the only ones to benefit from the outdoor school experience.

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