

## Florence area can prepare for earthquakes and emergencies with WLEOG, not worry

By CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

A series of small earthquakes struck a fault about 6 miles deep and 300 miles off the coast of Oregon over the weekend and beginning of this week, yet there was no cause for worry.

According to U.S. Geological Survey, the first magnitude 5.8 temblor was centered in the Pacific nearly 300 miles west of Newport in an active seismic area.

The quakes ranged from magnitude 3.9 to 5.9, not the

size to trigger a tsunami.

The City of Florence ran its monthly siren protocol test tone on Friday, May 29, a coincidence that alarmed some residents.

According to the city's website, "The test tone will be activated on the last Friday of each month. It will last for a few minutes, beginning at 11 a.m."

It also features instructions for the case of an actual earthquake emergency.

One of the key things to do will be to turn your radio to KCST 106.9 FM, the emer-

gency broadcast station, for more information.

Western Lane Emergency Operations Group (WLEOG) offers many tips to prepare for emergencies ranging from power-outages to the Cascadia-subduction event that could bring the biggest tsunami in 300 years to the Oregon coast.

WLEOG's main goal is to increase preparedness for both responding agencies and the public.

"We have traditionally advised that families take the proper measures to be prepared in case of a natural disaster. This includes creating an Emergency Kit with food and water for at least 10 days.

"This Emergency Kit should be individually tailored to meet the basic survival needs of your family for at least a week and easily accessible if evacuation is required," said City of Florence representative Megan Messmer.

For more information on emergency preparedness, go to [www.wleog.org](http://www.wleog.org) and [ci.florence.or.us](http://ci.florence.or.us).

## Outdoor from 1A

"This experience could not be replicated in the classroom," Wells continued. "No matter how hard you tried you couldn't get this kind of magic in a classroom. During the camp, they are blending and bonding so nicely.

"It's one thing to say, be respectful, be a nice guy, don't be a bully, but its another to give them opportunities to really learn about each other and to grow," he added.

Community involvement has been another important aspect of the program.

The U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Forest Service, Oregon State Police Volunteers, Three Rivers Casino Resort, Siuslaw Tribal members, Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue, Salmon Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) and the STEM hub from Newport, as well as others, volunteered time, materials, equipment and personnel to support the program.

The students were broken down into smaller groups that combined boys and girls of both grades.

"We carefully put these groups together," Wells explained, "separating all the kids from their well-known friends. We separated siblings. We really tried and get the kids in a group where they could be themselves.

"A lot of times when you are with your friends you are locked into a type of behavior. We tried to shake that up, to get to the heart of growing as a human being, leaning about each other and respecting each other.

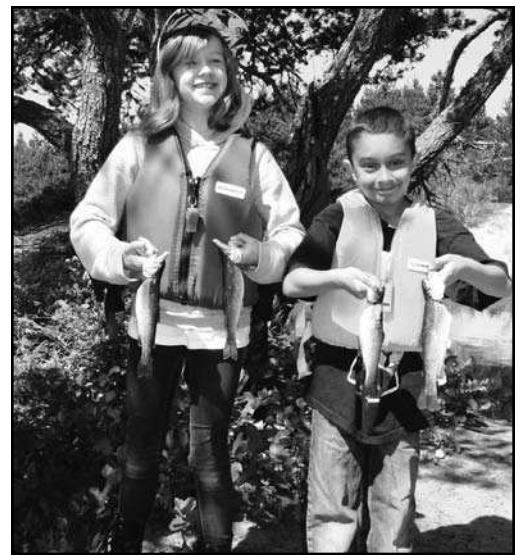
The four-day day camp ran from Tuesday, June 2, to Friday,



Students fishing in Cleawox Lake made quite the catch: the largest measured 17-1/2 inches.

June 5, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Students were transported to and from the camp, located on Cleawox Lake, by district school buses.

Next year, Wells hopes to be able to include one over-night stay at Camp Cleawox as part of the program.



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## It's the Bee's knees



PHOTO BY CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Last Resort Players prep for their show, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," which opens Friday, June 12, at 7 p.m. and runs for two weekends at the Florence Events Center. For tickets, go to [eventcenter.org](http://eventcenter.org) or call 541-997-1994.

## Drivers from 1A

Waite also volunteers at the Siuslaw Pioneer Museum, does genealogy and belongs to the Daughters of the American Revolution.

"When I became supervisor," Huntington said, "I started doing ride-alongs to evaluate the drivers. I rode with her on her kindergarten route. It was a real eye opener for me. She actually taught the kids things to keep their attention and keep them occupied.

"She would say things like, OK, things are getting too noisy. We are going to be quiet now, and all the kids got quiet. You never saw such cooperation on a bus, especially with kindergarten kids."

After 33 years behind a wheel, Westlund had some advice for parents of the kids she spent so much time with.

"Parents ought to listen to their kids more," she said. "Don't be their friend, be their parent. Be their friend when they graduate. Then you can be their pal."

And Westlund's number one piece of parental advice: "No means no, not maybe."



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