

New LIHEAP funds available at SOS

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Programs (LIHEAP) funds are now available at Siuslaw Outreach Services (SOS).

Lane County LIHEAP agencies were recently awarded additional dollars to help low income households with electric, propane or oil bills.

Those who did not receive LIHEAP funds between Nov.

1, 2014, and March 31, 2015, are encouraged to sign up for this program by contacting Siuslaw Outreach Services between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Call SOS at 541-997-2816 or visit the office at 1576 12th St. in Florence.

Names will be taken until funds run out, so sign-up today.

FLORENCE RESIDENTS TO SHARE STORIES, PHOTOS OF MONGOLIAN TRIP AT LIBRARY

The Siuslaw Public Library's Adult Summer Reading "Escape the Ordinary" program continues this month with a trip to the Asian continent. On Saturday, June 27, at 1 p.m., in the Bromley Room at the main library in Florence, local residents and frequent travelers, Vicki Sieber-Benson and Bill Benson, will share their photos and impressions of their three-week visit in 2014 to various parts of Mongolia, "Land of the Eternal Blue Sky."

Sieber-Benson and Benson have traveled to numerous continents, seen many amazing sights and met a wide variety of people.

The couple is often seen around town volunteering for many of the local nonprofits. Sieber-Benson, an attorney, is a member of the boards of directors of Food Share and Western Lane Community Foundation.

Benson is a dedicated volunteer at Siuslaw Public Library and occasional circulation clerk substitute. Not only are they passionate about this community, they are passionate about learning about other communities in the world, and plan a trip each year to a new and exciting destination. Last year their destination was Mongolia.

The couple made the long journey to Mongolia, a country



COURTESY PHOTO

Bill Benson and Vicki Sieber-Benson in Mongolia.

wedged between China and Russia, in July 2014 during the time of that country's Naadam holiday.

The holiday is a national festival that celebrates the country's manly sports: horseracing, wrestling and archery (women compete in archery only). The annual festival is celebrated in rural areas as well as in the more populated areas, the largest celebration taking place in the capital city of Ulaanbaatar.

The couple was able to experience both the capital city's colorful celebration and competitions as well as attend a

smaller festival in the Gobi Desert area.

They not only visited the city and the Great Gobi Desert, where they hiked in temperatures reaching nearly 120 degrees. They traveled to Gorky Terelj National Park and Lake Khovsgol, the second deepest lake in the world, located a mere 100 miles from Siberia.

Mongolia is one of the last places on earth where tourists can experience the self-sufficient nomadic lifestyle which Sieber-Benson and Benson did, staying in gers (yurts) while visiting herding families and sampling the unusual foods and

beverages on which the nomads subsist.

"The overriding lesson of the trip was that people can survive and be happy in wildly difficult climates and with little in the way of worldly possessions," said Sieber-Benson.

The couple took many photographs while touring Mongolia, photos that portray the happy and peaceful people they met as well as the varied landscapes they viewed. A sample of their spectacular photographs are currently on display in the library lobby.

They will share more of their stunning photos, talk about their experiences, and answer questions during their program, "Mongolia: Land of the Eternal Blue Sky," on Saturday, June 25.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to journey to an extraordinary land and its people. This program will appeal to the traveler, the armchair traveler, and anyone with a sense of wanderlust.

There is no charge to attend the event and this opportunity to travel vicariously to Mongolia is open to the public.

For more information about this program and the library's summer reading programs in general, visit the Siuslaw Public Library, call 541-997-3132 or visit www.siuslawlibrary.org.

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Planes, cars and more at Wings, Wheels

The sixth annual Wings and Wheels aircraft fly-in and car show will be Saturday, July 4,

at the Florence Municipal Airport. The event is produced by the Florence-Siuslaw Lions

Club and will feature nearly 20 local organizations, including the Florence Radio Controlled aircraft club, which will be flying throughout the day; The Florence Police Department; CERT; The Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue fire apparatus; the Central Oregon Coast British Car Club; the Central Oregon Military Vehicle Group and many more.

New this year will be a performance by The Old Time Fiddlers, along with two performances by the Florence Dance Guild. There will also be DJ music all day.

The Florence-Siuslaw Lions club and the Ada Grange will be providing food throughout the day.

Gates will open at 10 a.m. and a donation of \$2 per carload will be asked at the gate, with plenty of parking provided onsite at the airport. Members of the Siuslaw High School Wrestling team will be parking cars and will receive the proceeds from the donations collected.

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Pet Pageant PHOTO CONTEST

We're looking for the cutest critters to compete in our photo contest! Take a Shot at Our Petacular Grand Prize: The Winning pet will be the "Cover Pet" in our Summer special section, **the Ultimate Pet Guide** PLUS will win: **A PET'S WAG BAG**

* Prize may not include items from contest sponsors
* Pets that have won in the past are not eligible to win.

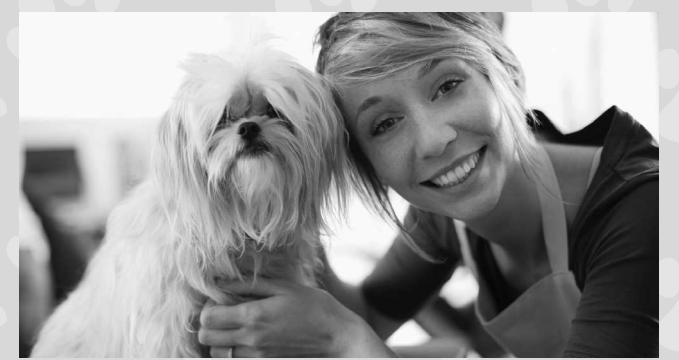
ENTER YOUR PET NOW! Until July 6th

Here's the Scoop on How to Enter...

1. Email your photo to classifieds@thesiuslawnews.com. There is a \$5 processing fee, we will call you for payment.
2. The most photogenic pet will be selected by our panel of judges.
3. All pets and the grand prize winner will be featured in the July 11th issue.
4. You may also enter by mail. Simply fill out this contest form, and send it and payment along with a labeled photo of your pet to:

Siuslaw News
148 Maple • P.O. Box 10
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Pet Photo Contest Mail-In Entry Form

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Pet's Name: _____
Pet's Breed: _____ Age: _____
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____ Check Enclosed Make Check Payable to: The Siuslaw News
____ V/MC/D# _____
exp. _____

PLEASE NOTE, IF YOU WISH TO HAVE YOUR PHOTO RETURNED, PLEASE INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE WITH YOUR ENTRY.