

Hall of Fame inductees

SPORTS — B



RELAY FOR LIFE 2015

PROGRAM INSIDE



Siuslaw News

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

HEROIC SPLASH



PHOTOS BY CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

"Batman" takes a turn on the waterslide provided by Siuslaw Public Library at last week's children's summer reading program finale.

'Every Hero' has a good time

Library summer reading program ends with 'fun in the sun' in Mapleton, Florence

BY CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Siuslaw Public Library wrapped up its children's summer reading program, "Every Hero Has a Story," last week in Mapleton and Florence.

The July 29-30 event provided lunch and a free book for every child present, about 300 participants in total.

Library Director Meg Spencer said, "We had an additional 100 kids and teens sign up for the summer reading program this year compared to last year. There were 831 participants at last count."

Children's Librarian Gayle Waiss said the library measures the finale's attendance mostly through how much food they serve.

"It's hard to get a headcount," Waiss said. Volunteers and library staff served hot dogs,

chips and fresh-cut watermelon with pudding for dessert. There was also plenty of water and juice packs.

The Friends of the Siuslaw Public Library (FOL) also teamed up with the library to provide a free book for every child.

According to FOL and Siuslaw Public Library board member Susy Lacer, who is also a Florence City Councilor, the free books numbered in the hundreds.

Four tables featured board books, early readers, chapter books and young adult books.

One middle school student said, "It's like book heaven. Look at all the books!"

See **LIBRARY 6A**

Children's Librarian Gayle Waiss poses with a fellow "Incredible Hulk" during the superhero-themed finale in Florence.



Co-op gallery celebrates 10 years

Community invited to Backstreet Gallery's anniversary party

BY JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Backstreet Gallery, an artist-owned co-operative in Florence, will celebrate its 10-year anniversary Friday, Aug. 7, from 6 to 8 p.m.

The public is invited to join in the festivities that include food, beverages and cupcakes. In addition, guitarist Michael Anderson will provide music. Small art pieces created by the co-op's artists will be raffled off throughout the event.

The gallery, at 1421 Bay St., has featured the works of more than 50 local artists over its 10-year history. Currently, the co-op has 24 members and several consignment artists.

In 2005, a group of local artists pooled their resources to create a co-operative gallery.

"Bill Durst became president and filed as a co-operative corporation," co-op secretary Kathryn Damon-Dawson said. "Jennifer French and Sally Wantz found a good deal on a house at 327 Laurel St. We rolled up our sleeves and altered the five rooms into gallery space."

The old real estate adage, "location is everything," was true for Backstreet Gallery's first location, which was located on a backstreet away from other shops, restaurants and tourist attractions.

According to Damon-Dawson, "In the first four years, out-of-towners seldom crossed the threshold."

Even though rent would be triple what they were paying on the Laurel Street location, gallery members voted to move the gallery to Bay Street in 2009. The move paid off.

"Within the first three hours of opening on Bay Street, more customers arrived than during an entire month at Laurel Street," co-op member Geraldine McMahan said.

In addition to being a showplace for co-op members' artwork, Backstreet Gallery hosts a number of art-focused events.

See **GALLERY 6A**

COOL PLACES TO VISIT THIS SUMMER

SPECIAL FEATURE: This summer we are highlighting unique spots that make the central Oregon coast one of the coolest places to live and play. A new location will be featured each week.

Darlingtonia State Natural Site

Mercer Lake Road, Florence | 541-997-3851

AT A GLANCE: There are few places along the coast like Darlingtonia State Natural Site, the only Oregon state park dedicated to the protection of a single plant species.

Located on Mercer Lake Road just after the turnoff from Highway 101 north of Florence, this 18-acre botanical park is home to the darlingtonia californica, also known as cobra lilies or pitcher plants. The rare plant is



COURTESY PHOTO

carnivorous and lures insects with its sweet nectar, then traps them with the stiff hairs and sticky wax in its knobby head.

A boardwalk starts right at the site's parking lot but instantly transports you to dense woods and wetlands. A couple of trails, one paved and one unpaved, are ideal for easy walks through a lush assortment of vegetation, including rhododendrons and spruce, cedar and shore pine trees.



INDOOR/OUTDOOR

- SIGNS & BANNERS
- VEHICLE GRAPHICS
- VINYL LETTERING
- STICKERS & CLINGS
- WINDOW GRAPHICS
- YARD SIGNS

Gaughty professional signs at an affordable price.

997-8148

LOCATED AT: The Shippin' Shack
On the corner of 6th Street & Highway 101

INSIDE

Classifieds	B5	Opinion	A4
Courts	A10	Police	A2
In Brief	A11	Sports	B
Library Tidings	A5	Weather Data	A2



SIUSLAW NEWS
125TH YEAR | ISSUE No. 62
COPYRIGHT 2015

