

LADY VIKS TAKE 1ST

SPORTS — B



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Siuslaw News

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FLORENCE, OREGON

RENOVATION TO HELP BRIDGE SPAN YEARS

ODOT begins repairs, weather-proof coating to last next two decades

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Construction signs are now up in Old Town — “Bridge Work Ahead” — following the start of a major renovation project by Oregon Department of Transportation on the Siuslaw River Bridge this week, and Bay Street is where it will all begin.

For the next five to six months, the small ODOT parking lot next to the river under the bridge will be

closed and there will be some one-lane closures intermittently — but businesses on Bay Street will suffer only minor inconvenience.

Evan Stuart, a project manager for Hamilton Construction Co., the general contractor on the project, said, “We should be in and out of Bay Street by the beginning of spring.”

He assured the audience at the Sept. 9 bridge open house that crews and equipment will not block access to any busi-

ness or park on Bay Street and that they will maintain pedestrian access.

“The impact to the city will be tough at first, because we’re starting in the north end,” ODOT spokesman Rick Little said. “But that impact decreases as we move across the river.”

According to their timeline, crews should be out of Bay Street by the Rhododendron Festival in May.

“We won’t be there during your next summer tourism

season, as we’ll be across the river,” Little said.

Hamilton crews will begin at the north end of the bridge, working on dry land until they move to a barge in the river. Then they will create a containment structure that hangs from the bridge.

The structure will not only protect workers as they repair and reconstruct the bridge, but also muffle the sound of construction and equipment.



CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Crews from ODOT and Hamilton Construction Co. began renovations this week on the Siuslaw River Bridge. Their work will increase as the project gets underway over the next few months.

See **BRIDGE 7A**

City manager ‘outstanding,’ says council

6-month performance review of Erin Reynolds credits her leadership

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Florence City Council recently met to review City Manager Erin Reynolds after six months in her new position.

Reynolds began working for the City of Florence four years ago. She was the city’s finance director up until March 1, when she became city manager.

Florence Mayor Joe Henry said, “After summarizing all the comments from each of the councilors, her evaluation was basically outstanding.”

“I think we’re very fortunate to have Erin’s commitment to this city,” said Councilor Joshua Greene. “She’s inspirational to everybody, volunteers and staff alike. Thank you.”

Henry went on to say, “The recognition that she received was primarily driven by the team that she has created within the city staff.”

See **MANAGER 7A**

BOOTS ON THE GROUND



PHOTOS BY CHANTELE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Mo’s donates school supplies

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Representatives of Mo’s Restaurant dropped off more than \$1,200 worth of school supplies and backpacks last week to Siuslaw Elementary School.

“Throughout the summer at Mo’s we have a table that is called the ‘Motivation for Kids’ table. Every year, we pick an organization and the money from people sitting at that table goes toward that organization,” said Mo’s Manager Rachel Williams. “This summer we decided to use it to raise school supplies for Siuslaw Elementary School students.”

Twelve backpacks were purchased and filled with school supplies and \$18 to be used for field trips or any other class-related expenses.

See **SCHOOL 7A**



Siuslaw firefighters ‘Fill the Boot’ in muscular dystrophy fundraiser

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue firefighters spent last Friday and Saturday walking the corner of Highways 101 and 126 to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association “Fill the Boot” campaign. The 14 volunteers raised \$12,294 for the campaign.

BLACK
YELLOW
MAGENTA
CYAN