



Ned Hickson

The four years I covered Shiloh Sundstrom during his time as a Mapleton athlete remain among my favorites. Not because he was a particularly extraordinary athlete, but because he was most definitely an extraordi-

nary person, the kind that makes you feel good just to be near him because he not only carried that positive energy and warmth with him, but shared it with everyone he came into contact with. Even after Shiloh graduated and moved on to Oregon State University, his seasonal returns to Bowerman Field to assist his dad, longtime Sailors' track coach Johnny

Sundstrom, remained something I always looked forward to. It was my opportunity to be in his energetic and positive presence while catching up on what he'd been doing. I discovered early on that, much like talking with Johnny, it was impossible not to smile while talking with this young man. In his eyes was a genuine enthusiasm and warmth that

was infectious in the same way a favorite song makes you want to sing along; it's something that makes you feel good in your soul. As a father, it was easy to see the pride reflected on Johnny's face for his son — and another highlight of each spring for me. Talking with them together, Johnny beneath his white cowboy hat and Shiloh usually behind a scruffy beard, are

some of my favorite conversations. Again, not because they were particularly heady or introspective discussions, but because talking with them together on a sunny afternoon with spring in the air always left me feeling appreciative — for what I get to do, and the people who make it special. My father always told me you can tell just about every-

thing you need to know about a man from his handshake, unless it's from a politician. Every conversation with Shiloh always began and ended with a strong, eager handshake. The kind of handshake that told me all I needed to know about him. It's a handshake I will deeply miss come spring. And a handshake I'll always remember...

Community Chorus seeks permanent music director

The Community Chorus of Florence Oregon (CCFO) is seeking a permanent chorus director. Position applications will be accepted through Thursday, Dec. 31. Interviews and directing auditions will be held in early January with the position officially beginning

Monday, Jan. 18. The contracted position includes a stipend per rehearsal and performance. The CCFO performs two concerts each year: the first Sunday in May and the second Sunday of December. For more information about CCFO, visit www.communitychorusflorenceoregon.org.

Applicants must send a resume, two letters of reference and proof of a degree in music to CCFO, P.O. Box 824, Florence, OR 97439 or to merzmusic@hotmail.com. For more information, call 541-902-8567.

SPEAK YOUR PEACE —
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR
EDITOR@THESIUSLAWNEWS.COM

High school seniors invited to financial aid night Dec. 14

Siuslaw High School (SHS) ASPIRE is holding a Financial Aid Night on Monday, Dec. 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the SHS library. The event will be open to all area high school seniors and their parents, including students who are homeschooled or from Mapleton High School. Lane Community College will provide current updates on filing for federal and state funds and the Oregon Promise. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the key to opening financial aid opportunities at any qualifying post-secondary program, from certificates to degrees. The FAFSA offers the PELL Grant, worth \$5,750,

as well as others such as the Oregon Opportunities Grant, worth \$2,100. It also manages student loans. The Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) application makes available over 400 scholarships including the Ford Foundation, which pays 90 percent of students' college costs. OSAC also manages Oregon Promise, where students with a grade point average of 2.5 or better who attend community colleges within 6 six months of graduation get help with their tuition. At the event, find out additional information and sample food prepared by the SHS culinary arts' catering program.

Thanks, Aplenty!

Thanksgiving is one of our favorite holidays because it gives us a chance to reflect on the many blessings we enjoy today including the friendship of people like you.

We thank you for your support this past year and wish you a very happy Thanksgiving.



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By donating toys for the children
recieving toy baskets from
Florence Soroptimist.

Please drop off unwrapped toys
by Dec. 15th so they may be
distributed on December 19th.

Please purchase toys for age group of
9-12 for boys and girls.

*We would like to thank those who have already
dropped toys off.*



 OPEN HOUSE Friday Dec 4, 2015 1:00-3:00pm 1210 Willow Ct Beautiful inside & out! You'll fall in love when you walk through the door 3 Bdrm, 2 Ba 1494 sq ft \$250,000 BH7115 ML#15642434	 NEW LISTING Beautiful in-town home w/ familyroom, separate garage w/shop area, covered Tigerwood deck & much more 3 Bdrm, 2 ½ Ba 1672 sq ft \$269,000 BH7140 ML#15373698	 FEATURED LISTING Country living, nice home w/open floor plan, fireplace, close to dunes & town. Deeded lake access w/dock & picnic area 3 Bdrm, 2 Ba 1759 sq ft \$375,000 BH7072 ML#15082305
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 FEATURED LISTING Spectacular views of the Siuslaw River \$250,000 BH7085 ML#15257774	 PRICE REDUCED Shelter Cover .34 acre lot 94. City water & sewer available. Common area offers Ocean & Riverfront views for your enjoyment. \$129,000 BH6136 ML#12164602	 FEATURED LISTING River views, close to town \$250,000 BH7084 ML#15396381