

**PIRATES
SINK SAILORS**

SPORTS — B



Letters
to Santa

SPECIAL SECTION — C



Siuslaw News

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON



PHOTOS BY CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Siuslaw High School Rotary Interact students volunteer with Soroptimist International of Florence and other community members Saturday to load up baskets of food for about 400 local families.

Bringing the holidays home

Soroptimist of Florence continues Christmas Basket tradition

By CHANTELLE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Soroptimist International of Florence completed another year of its annual Christmas Basket and Toy Giveaway on Saturday.

Donations from the community helped the club provide holiday dinners to 400 families. Extra food was donated to Florence Food Share.

"It's a lot of hard work leading up to the events each



year, but the end result is so gratifying," said Michelle Fraley, one of the toy drive

chairwomen.

Each Christmas Basket included the ingredients to

make a holiday dinner: fresh and canned vegetables, fruit, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce and either a turkey or chicken, depending on family size. The baskets also contained crackers, peanut butter, milk, eggs and other staples.

Cars lined Siuslaw Middle School's driveway before the event.

Volunteers from community groups worked with the Soroptimist members.

See **BASKETS 7A**

Siuslaw News wishes you a

MERRY
Christmas

The Siuslaw News office will close at noon on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, and New Year's Eve, Dec. 31. The office will be closed Christmas Day, Dec. 25, and New Year's Day, Jan. 1. All news items are due Monday, Dec. 28, by noon for the Dec. 30 and Jan. 2 issues.

HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY HOLIDAY!

Area preps for continued flood, landslide threats



COURTESY PHOTO

Two landslides closed an eight-mile segment of Big Creek Road, north of Florence, Monday.

By CHANTELLE MEYER
Siuslaw News

While the rain continues to fall, bringing record-breaking precipitation in some places, the central Oregon coast is experiencing a continued threat of landslides and flooding.

A landslide last week on Mercer Lake Road that killed a 70-year-old woman and her dog prompted Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR), Lane County Sheriff's Office and Lane County Public Works to educate the community about the continuing danger of landslides in the area.

See **STORM 7A**

Elks to host free Christmas dinner

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Florence Elks Lodge No. 1858 will hold its eighth annual Elks Community Appreciation Dinner on Friday, Dec. 25, from 12 to 3 p.m. at the lodge, 1686 12th St.

According to Elks spokesman Howard Ziebell, the Elks served more than 800 dinners to local residents last year and are preparing to serve at least that many this year.

See **DINNER 6A**

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BLACK
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