GENERAL NEWS

Tax help available at Siuslaw Public Library

Tax time is here and once again AARP will provide free tax preparation service for senior citizens and low-income taxpayers.
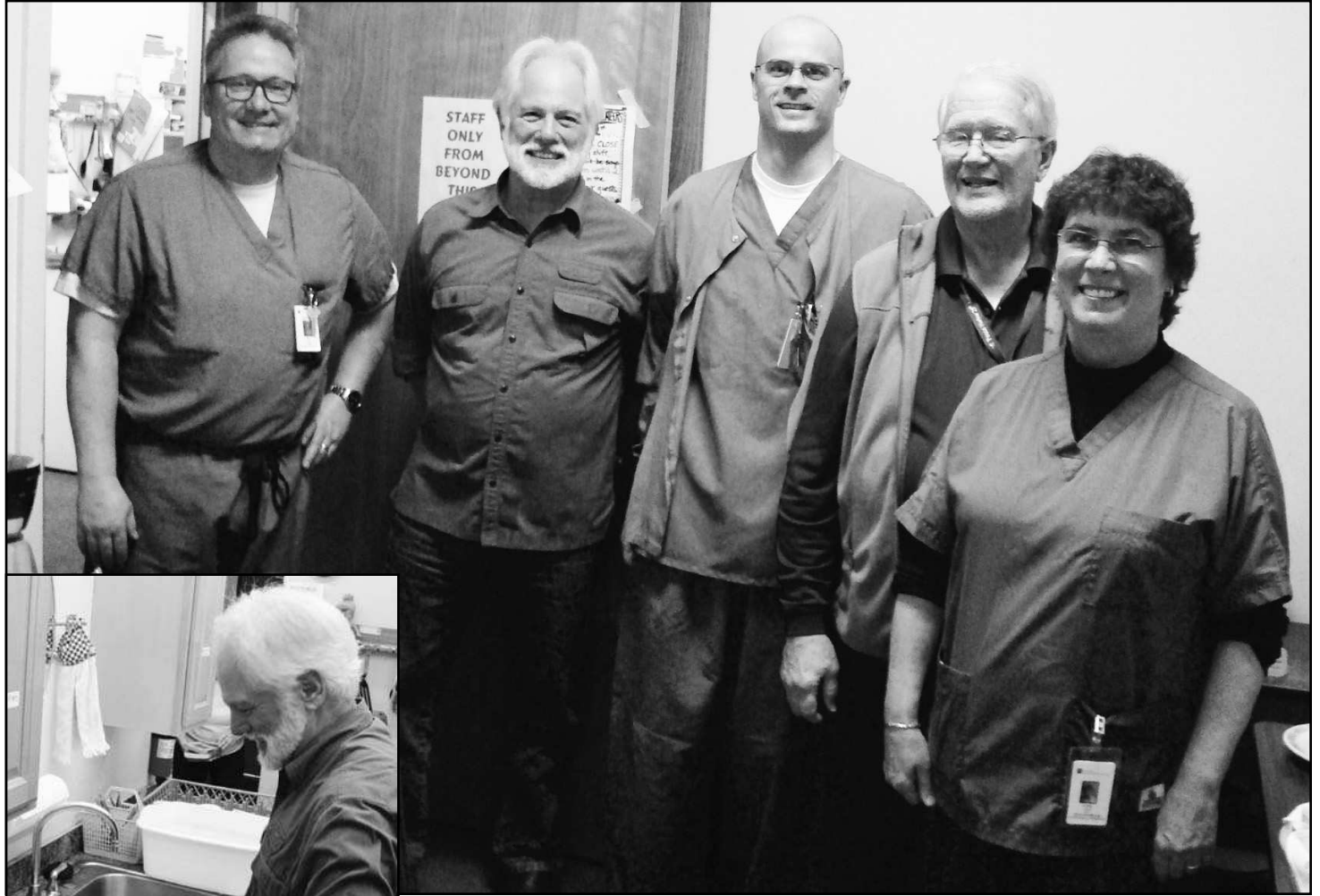
This service will be available every Monday and Thursday (including holidays) from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. starting Feb. 1 until April 14 in the Bromley Room of the Siuslaw Public Library. In addition, this service will be available on Saturday, April 9.

The library is at 1460 Ninth St. in Florence.

Please bring your return from last year (including tax documents), a photo ID and Social Security card(s) in addition to your 2015 tax information. Parking is available in the lot across the street from Cross Road Assembly of God Church.

Note that there may be days when it is necessary to limit the number of taxpayers.

Nurse Anesthetists offer helping hands

PHOTOS BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

Members of PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center's Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA), Bill Prosser, Bill Dietrich, Dustin Degman, Dwain Watkins and Linda Harrah stopped by Helping Hands Coalition, at 1339 Rhododendron Drive Wednesday, Jan. 27, to help serve free lunches to Florence's indigent community. They also cleaned dishes and sorted clothing during their two hours volunteering as a community service outreach to celebrate National CRNA week. The five CRNA nurses have a combined 127 years of experience.

For the Love of Animals benefit set for Feb. 12

On Friday, Feb. 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Florence Events Center, there will be a reception to benefit the Florence Area Humane Society (FAHS).

All pets are welcome on a leash, or carried in your arms.

Admission is free.

All that is asked is that attendees bring a package or can of dog or cat food to donate.

There will be a Valentine-themed photo booth where visitors can have their pet's photo taken for just $5, and it will be developed immediately.

There will also be compli-

mentary refreshments and raffle tickets sold to win an oil portrait of your pet by artist John Leasure.

The drawing will take place at 2 p.m. that day.

While enjoying the event, Gallery One will feature photographs of animals up for adop-

tion at the FAHS, as well as artwork creations of animals by local artists.

The event is sponsored by the nonprofit Friends of FEC, the FEC Gallery Committee,and the FAHS.

All proceeds from this reception will go to the FAHS.

Olson featured artist at Old Town Coffee

Gene Olson will be the exhibiting "Artist of the Month" for February at the Old Town Coffee Company.

The subject centers around boats that plied the waters of the Siuslaw River, especially at its entrance, and includes the 100-year-old "Otter," as well as the Coast Guard 47-footer, tow boats and fishing boats.

Olson holds a bachelor's degree in art and a master's degree in art education from Portland State University.

He taught in the Beaverton School District and for the pre-architecture program at the University of Portland before moving on to the position of Cultural and Events Director for the City of Concord, Calif.

Olson has donated paintings to the Siuslaw School District,

COURTESY PHOTO

"Fisherman's Delight" oil painting by Gene Olson

Siuslaw Pioneer Museum and the Coast Village Community Center. His work has been pur-

chased by the Navy Postgraduate School and the Monterey Museum.

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
JANUARY 30	JANUARY 31	FEBRUARY 1	FEBRUARY 2	FEBRUARY 3	FEBRUARY 4	FEBRUARY 5
Mostly Cloudy, Showers	Mostly Cloudy, Showers	Mostly Cloudy, Showers	Mostly Cloudy, a Little Rain	Mostly Cloudy, a Little Rain	Showers Possible, in the pm	Rain and Drizzle Possible
48°F 37°F	47°F 36°F	48°F 42°F	50°F 46°F	51°F 48°F	53°F 42°F	56°F 38°F