

# Rotary names middle school Student of the Quarter



COURTESY PHOTO

On Feb. 9, the Florence Rotary Club presented Siuslaw Middle School (SMS) student Brea Blankenship with an award for being chosen as Student of the Quarter. Blankenship was nominated by staff members at the middle school. Pictured are (from left): SMS teacher Hilary Roach, Student of the Quarter Blankenship and Rotary President Crystal Farnsworth.

# NEW PORT MANAGER MEETS, GREETS



PHOTO BY JACK DAVIS/SUSLAW NEWS

More than 70 people turned out to meet and mingle with new Port of Siuslaw Manager Steven Leskin (center wearing tie) at the Florence Events Center on Feb. 12. Leskin signed a five-year contract with the port that began Feb. 1.

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# Buy cookies, Rhody pins to support local youth

It's Girl Scout cookie time and the official Rhody Days pins are now available.

"Both causes are worthy of our attention and support," says Vicki Ambrosio, owner of Twin Lakes Store. "I was a Girl Scout through my sophomore year in high school. The lessons and experience it gave me have been invaluable in my adult life. My step-daughter was a Rhody Princess one year and again — the lessons and grace she gained from that experience

have been noticeable.

"I highly encourage the community to support and get involved with these youth."

You can find Rhody pins at many local businesses. In addition, Girls Scouts will have tables set up in town.

Twin Lakes Store, three miles north of Florence on Highway 101, has boxes of cookies on hand from local Girl Scout Naveah Benson, Troop 11752 and Rhody Pins from Taylor Coolidge.

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# Learn about the Siuslaw School Garden Monday

Interested in helping area youth learn more about gardening? Come to the group meeting Monday, Feb. 29, at 3:15 p.m. in the Siuslaw Public Library conference room, 1460 Ninth St., to find out how to be involved.

The Siuslaw School Garden is at the Siuslaw Elementary School, where there are currently 18 garden beds. The plan is to expand the project with a greenhouse and drip irriga-

tion this spring.

Volunteers are needed to help with work in the garden, one-time projects, working with the students, grant writing and community education.

The garden gives students an opportunity to learn more about plant life cycles, composting, healthy eating, stress relief and community projects, as well as providing an opportunity to bring their academic studies outside.

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