

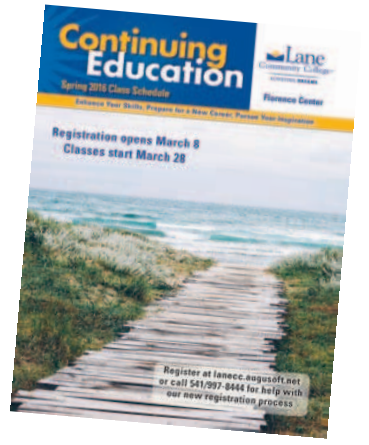
VIKING WARM-UPS

SPORTS — B



LCC CLASS SCHEDULE

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

HEALTH

Disease outbreak on decline at Siuslaw schools

Number of new cases drops dramatically after sanitizing guideline implemented

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

The number of reported cases of hand-foot-and-mouth disease at Siuslaw schools has dropped from more than 30 last week to seven this week, according to district Superintendent Ethel Angal on Friday.

“We continue to follow Lane County Public Health Department guidelines for sanitizing the classrooms and common areas,” Angal said. “More frequent hand washing continues to be practiced at school.”

The elementary school sent a notice home with students on Feb. 19 advising parents of the initial outbreak of the contagious virus and how to identify the symptoms.

According to the department, the virus causes sore throat and fever, with rashes on hands and feet that may turn into blisters. Parents should make sure students are fever free for 24 hours and have no new blisters for 48 hours before returning to school.

If parents suspect their child is infected, they should contact their primary care provider, keep their child at home and comfortable, follow sanitizing guidelines at home and practice more frequent hand washing.

“We will continue to monitor any new cases, in cooperation with our partners at Peace Health,” Angal said.

HOME & GARDEN SHOW

SPRING FEVER



PHOTOS BY NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

L aurel Bay Garden’s “Marche de Jardin” creates the feeling of a French afternoon at this weekend’s Florence Home and Garden Show at the Florence Events Center. As you enter, say hello to members of the Florence Garden Club (top), longtime supporters of the Home and Garden Show. With exhibits, displays and vendors both indoors and out, this event is one 20-year tradition you won’t want to miss. The Home and Garden Show continues today from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, March 6, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$2 for adults and \$1 for children 12 and under, or get in free today from 4 to 6 p.m.

Indian Creek debate continues next week

U.S. Forest Service seeking more input regarding proposed restoration project

By JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

MAPLETON — The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) will hold a follow-up meeting for up river residents on proposed changes to road access and other landscape management issues on the Indian Creek Watershed at 6 p.m., Thursday, March 10, at Mapleton High School.

The proposed restoration project would affect the 30,800-acre Indian Creek Watershed, about 14 miles northeast of Florence.

A lively exchange occurred during a Jan. 21 meeting between up river residents and USFS representatives over concerns of road closures, timber management and herbicide use.

Deputy District Ranger Carl Bauer received pushback from the crowd of about 100 local residents as he attempted to explain the Forest Service proposals.

The proposal includes laying 900 logs across Indian Creek to enhance salmon and steelhead smolt survival, planting trees, repairing and maintaining 87 miles of national forest system roads, eliminating approximately 15 miles of existing forest service roads, decommissioning 10.5 miles of forest service roads and removing invasive species from a part of the watershed.

See **MEETING 7A**

Fire destroys historic house in Old Town

Siuslaw firefighters work for 6 hours to extinguish flames at vacant home

By CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue worked for six hours Thursday morning to extinguish a fire at a vacant century-old residence in Old Town.

Neighbors were awakened early Thursday morning, at about 2 a.m., by a fire at 1515 Second St., off Nopal Street in Old Town.

“Firefighters were there and spraying water within five to seven minutes,” said Fire Marshal Sean Barrett.

Engines from Old Town Station No. 2 did not even turn on their sirens due to the proximity of the fire to the station at 243 Laurel St.



PHOTO BY KEN MCDUGAL

Firefighters battle Thursday’s early morning fire that engulfed a 112-year-old house.

It took 17 firefighters until approximately 8 a.m. to extinguish the fire. Afterward, smoke continued to rise from a hot spot created by the home’s tin roof. Firefighters arrived from all but one station, along with six engines and one ladder truck.

See **FIRE 7A**

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