

Mapleton

March is mad for higher education

March Madness is in full swing at Mapleton Elementary School. As part of our AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program at MES, our mindset is not "if you go to college," it is "when you go to college."

During the month of March, students had the opportunity to learn about many different colleges, universities, trade schools and educational opportunities beyond high school. They then made college pennants to represent where they would like to go to further their education after they graduate.

As a celebration of higher education, we hung all the pennants in our elementary gym. —Submitted by Carrie McNeill



Students made college pennants for their preferred schools, both in and out of the state.

Zumba dance discovery

Mapleton 4-H Club members are continuing their discovery of dance in March and April through instruction in Zumbatomics. Starting March 10 under the skilled instruction of parent Stephanie McNutt, nine members enjoyed nearly an hour of rigorous movement and smiles in four sessions of the dance and exercise activity.

Since some of the group had previously practiced Zumba through the Mapleton School District LEAF program, peers

helped the new ones loosen up and enjoy fun dance moves and lively music.

Twelve-year-old Alhana, the club's Activities Chair, is eager to become certified herself as an instructor, so she modeled the dance steps up front next to McNutt.

Meanwhile, Cloverbud Junior Leader Elyssa modeled the learning process by dancing with the club members.

Mapleton 4-H Club is nearly at its maximum size this year.

The success of the Swimming Project Club has brought several Mapleton youth to ask about joining as well.

Our club wants to welcome new members next fall, but we can only expand if there is another adult in the community willing and able to become a 4-H trained leader through a background check process. You may call Lauren Hesse at 541-268-6943 to get more information. —Submitted by Lauren Hesse

Mapleton 4-H a 'perfect fit' for students

BY JAID MCNUTT
Mapleton Elementary School

I am a fifth-grader taking swimming with Mapleton 4-H. We go to Florence Coastal Fitness to swim.

Swimming lessons are not just about having fun, but are also about learning how to

swim well so you can have even more fun.

When I first took swimming lessons, I thought it was a perfect fit for me because I liked swimming and so do most people. While I was taking swimming lessons, my teacher's name was Bob. He is a pretty good swimming instructor, and

is also fun. We learned how to blow bubbles under water, swimming techniques and other stuff.

There are two swimming groups. One is for beginners, and the other is called FINS. I think it would be very fun there for kids, and even other people too.

Florence Community PTA

PTA sponsors Scholastic Book Fair Diner

Book Fair Diner raises \$4,000 out of fairs tot al \$9,400

Dr. Seuss' birthday is always celebrated in a big way in the Siuslaw School District, and the Florence Community PTA joins right in on the action with the Book Fair Diner at the elementary school.

On March 2, PTA hosted the seventh annual Book Fair Diner to coincide with Siuslaw Elementary School's (SES) Scholastic Book Fair.

Around 300 free hot dog dinners were served to families prior to their shopping for books and gifts in the library.

The evening gives families a chance to get out, enjoy a meal together, and share enthusiasm about books and reading.

Book sales reached \$4,000 at the Book Fair that evening, contributing to nearly \$9,400



COURTESY PHOTOS

More than 200 people enjoyed hot dog dinners at the seventh annual Book Fair Diner.

SES library and classrooms earn 50 to 60 percent of the proceeds towards the purchase of new books.

This year's diner coordinator, Crystal Osburn, employed the help of friends and family, as well as students from the fourth to sixth grades.

in sales for the week, from Feb. 29 to March 4.



"Thank yous" go out to Jason, Danner and Diane Osburn; Vanessa Buss; Diane McCalmont and Jamie Gorder.

Greeters, servers and bussers included Sylas Gorder, Henry Rankin, Kenji Tanikawa, Jane Lacouture, Odin Smith, Cate Waggoner and Alyssa Fox.

Showing their support of this event and our schools by way of donations, discounts or equipment were local companies Safeway, Dave Bitner at Siuslaw Food Services and Steve Gates of Frito Lay.

—Submitted by Diane McCalmont

One more year to collect Labels for Education

Florence Community PTA received a great many labels this month in the Siuslaw Elementary School Collection box.

PTA decided to use the proceeds from the labels for art supplies for wonderful volunteer art teacher Becky Holbrook.

The Labels for Education Program is slowly winding down, and will end next year.

PTA invites all to turn in labels stashed in kitchen drawers and from other places. The sooner it can order art supplies the better, as the label program has paired down its catalog items.

The PTA encourages people to turn in their Campbell's, Swanson's, Spaghetti-Os, Pace, Pepperidge Farm, V-8 and Bic labels, with UPCs, so it can order products for area schools before the program closes down after the 2016-17 school year.

There are collection boxes in the Siuslaw Public Library and the Siuslaw Elementary School Office.

Thank you for supporting this program.

The Labels for Education program allows the Florence Area PTA to accumulate points that can be redeemed for various educational products for the Siuslaw School District.

Before recycling packaging, look for the Labels for Education logo and clip the UPC code.

You'll find these labels on a huge variety of products, including Pace, Campbell's, Pepperidge Farm, Bic, Prego, Swanson's, V8 and more.

Send the label to your child's teacher anytime or deposit at collection boxes at the Siuslaw Public Library in Florence and in the Siuslaw Elementary School Office.

—Submitted by Button Watkins

Scholarships

The following scholarships have deadlines on Friday, April 15. Students at both Siuslaw and Mapleton high schools should check with school counselors for applications and information on these scholarships and more:

- Florence Community PTA

will be offering four \$500 scholarships to SHS students. Download an application from www.florencepta.org and mail to Florence Community PTA, P.O. Box 1140, Florence, OR 97439.

- Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue has two \$1,000 scholar-

ships available for SHS students. Call 541-997-3212 for more information.

- Soroptimist International Club has three awards up to \$3,000. For more information, contact 541-902-9815 or mimi.teachout@opbc.com.

- Western Lane Community Foundation offers 15 scholarships to area students ranging from \$500 to \$2,500. Mail applications to P.O. Box 1589, Florence, OR 97439. Go to www.wlcfonline.org for more information.

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SUBMISSIONS WELCOME

Be a part of School Zone, a newsletter about the Siuslaw and Mapleton school districts.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month.

Call or email Siuslaw News Editor Ryan Cronk at 541-902-3520 or editor@thesiuslawnews.com.

Look for ... KID SCOOP

Kid Scoop runs every Wednesday during the school year in the Siuslaw News and features educational stories and fun activities for families.

The activity page is part of the Siuslaw News' Newspapers In Education program, in which teachers from Siuslaw and Mapleton school districts may request copies of the local paper to use as curriculum in their classroom. Call 541-997-3441 for more info.