

## Salvation Army dinner Monday night

Everyone is invited to a gathering to thank and congratulate the volunteers and donors in Western Lane County who successfully raised nearly \$17,000 in the recent Red Kettle Campaign.

This was the first Red Kettle Campaign in many years in Western Lane County and by every measure was a huge success. The all-volunteer effort was led by Janet Snow, a first-year resident in Florence who has worked annually as a bell-ringer volunteer in the Fresno, Calif. area.

"We wanted to get together again to say thank you to our many friends and especially to The Siuslaw News and KCST-KCFM Radio for their tremendous support of this effort," says Snow. "We also wanted to be sure that our supporters knew that recently an anonymous donor arranged to match dollar-for-dollar everything we raised so that the total amount credited to the Red Kettle Campaign will be \$33,544."

Local volunteers, donors

and community leaders have met and discussed with officers and representatives of The Salvation Army to share their vision of how best The Salvation Army can have an ongoing, positive effect on the people in Western Lane County and help to meet their greatest needs.

A special quasi-endowment is being put together to provide a steady stream of moneys to be used in the local area each year. Local donors can contribute directly to that endowment.

The Salvation Army plans to have other events in Western Lane County before the next Red Kettle Campaign, which officially begins Thanksgiving Day and ends on Christmas Eve 2016. Darlings RV Resort and Marina at Siltcoos Lake will be holding a "Christmas in July" lighted boat parade near the weekend of July 4.

Others have proposed a dinner at Pop's BBQ Smokehouse with live music outdoors in Mapleton and a series of com-

munity support projects to help other organizations with their ministries to the homeless and hungry in Western Lane County.

Another series of "Canned Food Concerts" to benefit the Florence and Mapleton Food Share programs will be discussed.

Local restaurateurs Blaise Khufu and Melonie Rollins will be hosting a Making a Difference Dinner this Monday, April 4, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., at the Siuslaw Riverside Restaurant, 1340 Bay Street in Old Town Florence.

Seating is limited so call now to make your reservations by calling 541-991-3663.

Cost of the dinners will be \$20 each.

Anyone interested in being involved in support of The Salvation Army in Western Lane County can write P.O. Box 1041 Florence, OR 97439; or email: bill.olson@usw.salvationarmy.org.

## Rotary donates to Memory Care



COURTESY PHOTO

On Feb. 23, Rotary presented a check to Carol Krasel for \$400 to the Memory Loss Respite Center of Florence to provide funds to help pay for advertising to increase the participation in the program. The program provides four hours of respite care for caregivers of persons with memory loss on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. From left are: Rotary President-Elect Pat Riley, Carol Krasel and Rotary President Crystal Farnsworth.

## Taco feed to benefit Dela Mora scholarship

The Dela Mora family has announced it has established a new scholarship memorializing their son, Jose Dela Mora, and will be hosting a taco feed to support the fund on Sunday, April 3, beginning at noon.

The taco feed is being cooked by the Dela Moras, who own and operate Rosa's Mexican Restaurant. The benefit feed will be held at Crossroads Church, 1380 10th Street (across from the library), from noon until the food runs out.

Get six tacos for \$10.

The community is encouraged to attend. You can eat-in

or grab tacos to go.

Jose's Siuslaw senior classmates will be serving at the event.

The Jose Dela Mora scholarship was established spring 2016, the year Jose Dela Mora would have graduated from Siuslaw High School.

The scholarship was established to honor Jose's life and to memorialize the lives that he touched; Jose was tragically taken from this earth in a drowning accident.

Jose was a gifted wrestler and a talented artist. However, he was most known for his fun-loving character and kindness.

Everyone considered Jose their friend.

Two \$500 scholarships will be offered annually to students who have a passion for art or for wrestling, and who need support to pursue enrichment opportunities, college or vocational training.

Interested students can get the scholarship application in the counseling office at Siuslaw High School.

Donations to the scholarship fund can be made to the Jose Dela Mora Scholarship at Oregon Pacific Bank.

For information, contact Jennifer Waggoner at 541-520-1255.

## Laurel Bay Gardens offers free potting

Now that spring has arrived, local nursery, landscaping and gardening store Laurel Bay Gardens announced they are giving away their custom-blended GroMor potting soil during a "free potting day" on Saturday, April 2.

For every unit of potting soil Laurel Bay Gardens gives away to customers, they will donate a matching amount to the Siuslaw Middle School's garden project.

"One of our long standing slogans is, 'We're glad to get you growing,' and this is just one more way to prove it as we celebrate the start of spring," says Laurel Bay's Lisa Sedlacek.

"The public is welcome to bring or buy pots, and we'll fill them with potting soil and plant their flowers or vegetable starts," Sedlacek

explains. "Our potting soil is custom blended to our specifications to have nutrients from compost that help plants thrive in our coastal environment, with just the right amount of pumice to promote the proper amount of minerals and facilitate a proper balance between moisture retention and drainage."

Laurel Bay Gardens also has a wide variety of bedding plants and flowers on sale. Customers are encouraged to bring a friend and enjoy a free cup of Dutch Bros. coffee while Laurel Bay staff fill the pots and plant the flowers for them.

The event runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The school's garden project will also benefit. For every unit of potting soil Laurel Bay Gardens gives away to cus-

tomers on April 2, they will contribute the same amount to the students' garden.

"We want to help students learn how things grow, where their food comes from, and why the right soil and nutrients are important for successful gardening," says Sedlacek. "This is a great way to teach responsibility along with biology, botany, and nutrition. Plus, it's a lot of fun watching kids achieve something so practical as growing food. We're honored to be part of this important project."

Laurel Bay Gardens is at 88493 Highway 101, about three miles north of Florence.

For information call 541-997-5973 or visit www.LaurelBayGardens.com.



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**Creative Writing Workshops - Writers on the River with Catherine Rourke**  
Saturday April 16th, 9 am - 11 am  
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\$20/member, \$25/non-FRAA member  
To register, call 541-708-2120 or email [CJReditor@gmail.com](mailto:CJReditor@gmail.com)

Upcoming Spring classes: May 14th, June 11th 9 am - 11 am

**Painting with John Leasure**  
Saturdays (March 12 and 26, April 2, 9, 23, and 30)  
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Contact: [jleasure@hotmail.com](mailto:jleasure@hotmail.com) or 541-991-2754 for details and fees.

**Oil Painting with Michael Wood**  
Every Monday, 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm  
Contact: [fmwood@msn.com](mailto:fmwood@msn.com) for details, fees, and more information

For more information about classes, visit [fraaoregon.org](http://fraaoregon.org). To register for these classes, please call or visit FRAA at our art center on Maple Street.

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### What is your favorite April Fool's joke?



"Take the creamy center out of an Oreo cookie and replace it with toothpaste. Then put the cookies back together and giving them to people."

—HENRY, 6TH GRADE



"Put a rubberband around a faucet and when someone turns it on they get sprayed in the face."

—LILY, 6TH GRADE



"Put Saran Wrap around a doorway and somebody walks into it."

—AVERY, 6TH GRADE



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