

GEAR UP FOR TRIATHLON

SPORTS — B



SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT

SPECIAL SECTION — C



Siuslaw News

126TH YEAR | ISSUE NO. 31

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

SHREK THE MUSICAL, JR.

It's not easy being green



PHOTOS BY JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS



Shrek (played by Jacob TERNYIK) reveals himself to Princess Fiona (Lacey Seeley) for the first time as Donkey (Cameron Utz) looks on during one of two free performances of “Shrek the Musical, Jr.,” presented by Children’s Repertory of Oregon Workshops (CROW), for hundreds of local elementary school students Thursday at the Florence Events Center. CROW’s “Shrek” opened yesterday to the public and continues for three more shows this weekend, today at 2 and 7 p.m. and tomorrow at 2 p.m. Go online to eventcenter.org for tickets and more details.

Florence Chamber selects new director

Bettina Hannigan fills exec role vacated in February

BY CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Florence Area Chamber of Commerce announced the selection of Florence resident Bettina Hannigan as its new executive director. Hannigan began the position on Wednesday.



Bettina Hannigan

“We are happy to welcome Bettina to the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce,” said Chamber Board President Jenna Bartlett. “We are certain with her experience and expertise that we will continue to serve our membership well, help them prosper and grow their businesses and meet our overall goal to build business and have a positive impact on the quality of life in Florence.”

The 11-member board selected Hannigan after a search that began when former director Cal Applebee announced his retirement in November. Chamber Events Coordinator Sherri Bollinger stepped in as interim director in February.

“Hannigan brings over 25 years of successful and diversified marketing, communications, sales, operational and business management leadership to her new position,” Bartlett said.

Hannigan’s diverse resume shows managing roles, business ownership, a variety of skills and a dislike of “sitting around.”

“Having extensive experience with local and small businesses equips me to work directly with different areas to bring productivity, satisfaction and promotion of each business and its value,” Hannigan said.

She has lived in the Florence area since February 2014. Although she and her husband came here to retire, Hannigan has stayed busy working with the Florence Area Humane Society, Relay For Life and Siuslaw Outreach Services.

“Strategic planning, budgets, finance advocacy and events are all areas I excel in. Retirement is not suiting my go-to personality, and both my husband and I felt that this would be an excellent opportunity for me to work and to give back to our community,” Hannigan said.

See **FIRE 9A**

See **CHAMBER 9A**

Red Cross, firefighters respond to house fire

BY CHANTELE MEYER
Siuslaw News

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue and American Red Cross responded to a house fire April 11 in the 2000 block of 19th Street at 12:40 p.m.

Fire Chief Jim Langborg said the fire began in a closed, unoccupied bedroom sometime after noon.

“Some type of candle ignited the contents of the room. Good thing the bedroom door was closed,” Langborg said. Because of the building’s sound design, the majority of the heat dam-

age was contained inside the room.

“The tight building construction meant the fire consumed most of the oxygen in the room. It basically burned itself out,” he said.

See **FIRE 9A**

See **CHAMBER 9A**

SIUSLAW SCHOOL BOND MEASURE GAINS CITY SUPPORT

Council backs project after hearing superintendent’s presentation

BY JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Florence City Council unanimously voted to support Siuslaw School District’s \$36.9 million bond measure for a new high school facility during its April 4 meeting.

Siuslaw School Board member Eric Rines requested the city’s formal support at the meeting, following a March 21 presentation to the board by district Superintendent Ethel Angal.

According to Rines, Angal could not request the city’s support during her presentation because her role as

superintendent requires her to only explain the facts of the bond measure and tell the reasons why the district needed the funds. She cannot be an advocate or request support.

Prior to the vote, Florence Mayor Joe Henry said, “As many of you probably know, I am basically opposed to most provisional taxes, but I have given a lot of soul searching to the school bond and for a number of reasons I have to say I support it.”

Henry gave several reasons for his support of the measure: student safety, the potential for economic growth that the new facility could create and higher graduation rates.

He cited recent reports that the high school building would most likely not survive even a moderate earthquake.

“Based on the reports and recommendations by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, our school is basically not safe. And, for a few extra dol-

lars a month, if our school was to have a major catastrophe and some students were injured, I would have problems with my conscience,” Henry said.

According to information provided by the district, the high school facility, completed in 1970, does not meet current seismic, energy, fire safety and Americans with Disabilities Act compliance codes.

See **BOND 9A**

INSIDE Classifieds B7 Religion A5
Coastal Events A10 SideShow B6
Home Improvement C Sports B
Opinion A4 Word on the Street A7

THIS WEEK'S WEATHER
Full Forecast, A3

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