

Dave's
RE-CORNER

Most people have heard of the 3Rs of environmentally friendly behavior-

REDUCE is to use less of something. Use less water, turn off lights, use both sides of a paper.

REUSE is to use an item again. Refill a water bottle, reuse a container and buy reusable bags.

RECYCLE is to make new items from old ones; recycle bottles, glass, paper, cans, plastic, cardboard & more.



Tip

Choose filtered water over bottled.

Save money as you wean yourself off your disposable water bottle habit — a practice that collectively results in more than 38 billion disposable plastic bottles deposited in the landfill each year in the United States.

Look in the Siuslaw News every Saturday for tips and ideas on how you can be more environmentally conscious, while not slowing you down or impacting your wallet.

Quiz (answer will be in next Saturday's edition)

If you paint old chairs to make them look new you are ...

A) reducing. B) reusing. C) recycling.

Did you Know?

People in the U.S. make up 5% of the world's population but use 25% of the world's resources and generate 30% of its garbage.*



Water

from 1A

middle and elementary school kitchens.

“We submitted 20 samples. Fourteen of the 20 showed no detectable lead in the threshold. The other six that showed any traces of lead were way below the 5 ppb level that means you have to start any sort of mitigation.”

Grzeskowiak said that levels between five and 20 ppb require custodians to run each water source for five minutes in the morning before students come to school to clear out lead that may have accumulated overnight.

“We don’t even have to run around and turn faucets on, which is amazing considering what other districts have had,” Grzeskowiak said. “I think a lot of it has to do with the quality of water we get from the city; not corroding our pipes.”

Training

from 1A

Larson began to look at ways to train and improve the Siuslaw Valley “family.”

“When I started a year ago, I went with a back-to-basics approach. Tuesday drills started with simple pull and pre-connects, putting out fires, connecting with fire hydrants and even breaking it down further — how to put your turnouts on, or how to breathe SCBA air (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus). Now we’re advancing towards getting everybody to the same level,” Larson said. “It’s been a big time commitment for everybody, but it’s definitely a visible difference. We’ve put in a lot of hours sharpening their skills.”

According to Larson, the goal is to double the number of

volunteer firefighters.

“We’re still looking for firefighters. We have room for 20, but could go up to 30 in the next volunteer recruitment academy,” he said. “Training begins Nov. 5 and will be about 17 days long. Students will graduate right before Thanksgiving.”

People interested in getting their Firefighter 1 certificate and are over age 18 can sign up now through Friday, Oct. 21.

The Firefighter 1 certificate trains firefighters to be able to enter burning buildings by themselves, without a mentor. They wear yellow helmets, as opposed to entry level firefighters, who wear a black helmet.

“We get a pretty wide range of people who are interested. I’ll go through the application process with them. It should be pretty fast-paced,” he said.

The training will run weekdays from 5 to 9 and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

“It’s a commitment to get trained, but you’ll be giving back to your community and it stays with you forever,” he said.

Larson added that the cer-

tificate doesn’t expire as long as the person keeps up with training. The certificate will also transfer if people leave the area.

If people are willing to put in the time, Larson is willing help them get through the course.

“In my last academy, I had two firefighters who made it all the way through the training, but didn’t pass the final test,” he said. “I’ve been working with both of them, and they should graduate this month.”

Siuslaw Valley’s FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant will help recruit, train and retain firefighters in the Siuslaw Valley, Mapleton and Swisshome/Deadwood Fire Districts.

The person hired with the \$651,114 grant, awarded to the region in August, will work with Larson.

Siuslaw Valley Fire Chief Jim Langborg said, “This is a regional grant for Siuslaw Valley, Mapleton and Swisshome/Deadwood. We will utilize the grant to augment the work Jeff is already doing.”

The grant includes enough funds to create a new regional position, Langborg said.

The fire districts will work together to set goals and select the person to fill the position.

Langborg said they plan to have everything in place before Larson conducts the November recruit academy.

Larson is also working with Western Lane Ambulance District and Lane Community College to bring an emergency medical technician (EMT) course to Florence.

The course will begin in January and targets people who want more than just a basic training in emergency medical care.

“You’ll be trained to handle traumas, basic medical calls, some airway stuff, shock and even more severe injuries,” Larson said. “You’ll be giving back to the community. In Florence, our community is growing and there is going to be more instances where you could help.”

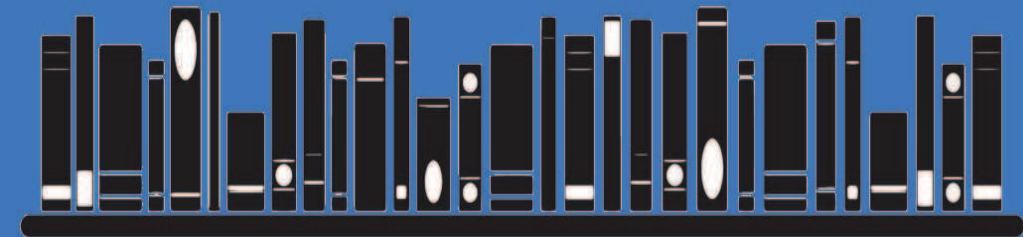
For more information on volunteering or joining an upcoming course, go to SVFR.org or stop by the main station at 2625 Highway 101.

Patriot Day potluck picnic



COURTESY PHOTO

Perfect weather and tasty pot luck dishes complimented the Patriot Day Picnic on 9/11 for the Republican Club of Florence. The Meeting Hall at Woahink hosted not only the barbecue, but an informative talk by Teri Grier, candidate for Oregon House District 9. A discussion followed about the unfortunate vandalism of political signs. Consensus was to stay calm and just keep replacing the signs.



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