

# VIKS VOLLEYBALL MOVES FORWARD

SPORTS — B



# Siuslaw welcomes exchange student

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# Siuslaw News

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FLORENCE, OREGON

## SCHOOLS

### Principals Forum focuses on school safety Tuesday

BY MARK BRENNAN  
Siuslaw News

The Siuslaw School District is inviting all interested residents to attend a free Principals Forum on Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 6 p.m. to discuss the issue of safety in area schools. The forum will be held in the Siuslaw Middle School commons, 2525 Oak St.

The forum is presented by the district and Florence Community PTA.

Siuslaw School principals Andy Marohl and Michael Harklerode and Vice Principal Corky Franklin will be outlining the steps the district is taking on a number of safety issues, including natural disasters and intruder threats.

Florence Community PTA President Tiffany Holdahl said, "The goal of the Principals Forum is to gather questions from our community pertaining to safety and security in our schools, and to have administrators share what they are doing to bolster safety."

The event will begin with a complimentary dinner for participants followed by the forum at 6:30 p.m.

The forum will be hosted by Florence Mayor Joe Henry.

"This is an important conversation to be having and a top concern for parents and school staff," Holdahl said.



BM1 DAN NIELSEN/U.S. COAST GUARD

Active-duty U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River personnel are honored during the Coast Guard Appreciation Dinner.

## Semper Paratus — Always Ready

Appreciation dinner honors Coast Guard's nearly 100 years on the Siuslaw River

In honor of its sustained relationship with the U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River for the past 99 years, the City of Florence will soon apply for the prestigious Coast Guard City designation.

The proposal was made earlier this year, and, at that time, an appreciation dinner was one of the ways suggested to honor the Florence area's only active-duty military unit in town.

Florence Mayor Joe Henry agreed to spearhead the effort and the Oregon Coast Military Museum agreed to host Florence's first Coast Guard Appreciation Dinner.

Representatives from the city, Port of Siuslaw, veterans groups, Daughter of American Revolution, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and Station Siuslaw River banded together to form a dinner committee and plans were made over the next months.

On the evening of Oct. 7, those plans came to fruition with a well attended, semi-formal dinner affair held at the Florence Events Center.



BY DEBORAH HELDT CORDONE  
For the Siuslaw News

JONATHAN YODER/ U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARIST

Senior Chief Petty Officer Tim Tregoning, officer in charge of Station Siuslaw River, addresses the 250 dinner participants.

Every Station Siuslaw River active-duty member received personally addressed invitations, as did active auxiliary members.

received a specially designed challenge coin upon arrival. The newly

minted and colorful coin had the Coast Guard logo on one side with Station Siuslaw River and the City of Florence logo on the other, along with the event date.

The program included the station's color guard team, an upscale banquet catered by Pavilion Catering, live music, speakers and dancing. Speakers for the event included Mayor Henry, Commander Charles Guerrero from Sector North Bend, Senior Chief Petty Officer Tim Tregoning from Station Siuslaw River and retired Brigadier General Norm Hoffman, who is also the Flotilla 52 Commander.

See **GUARD 7A**

## Great Shakeout prepares region

'Duck, cover, hold' Thursday with earthquake drill

BY JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

The City of Florence, local organizations and individuals will practice "Duck, Cover and Hold" during the "Great Shakeout" earthquake preparedness drill at 10:20 a.m. on Oct. 20.

The worldwide drill, now in its eighth year, is held on the third Thursday in October.

City of Florence Project Manager Megan Messmer said, "Our Public Works Department has been participating for several years and City Hall started participating last year."

The exercise is coordinated with Federal Emergency Management Agency and Oregon Emergency Management (OEM).

"The goal is to have large organizations have their people, at a designated time, pretend that an earthquake has happened and to go through the drill. It is a coordinated way for as many people as possible to drill for an earthquake," Messmer said.

Individuals are also encouraged to conduct their own preparedness drill at home.

The drill consists of three elements.

• **DROP** — Get on the ground since the shaking will make it difficult to walk and keep moving objects from hitting or hurting you.

• **COVER** — Get under the cover of a sturdy table or desk and use one arm to cover your head to keep falling materials from hitting or hurting you.

• **HOLD ON** to a table leg to keep the cover object from moving away from you and to steady yourself.

See **DRILL 7A**

## Siuslaw Valley conducts early morning rescue

Thick brush hampers rescue attempt of three lost north of Florence Monday

BY JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

late evening beach walk took a dangerous turn as three transients attempted to return to their car through thick brush near Carl G. Washburne State Park around 1 a.m. Monday, Oct. 10.

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) Fire Marshall Sean Barrett said, "Our duty chief, Chief Jim Langborg, got a call from the dispatch center saying, 'There is someone missing, they don't know where they are and they can't get out.'"

Three people from out of the area were lost off the trails near the park. A 17-year-old youth, the son one of the other two people, was able to crawl through about 200 to 300 yards of heavy brush to reach the car and his cell phone. He then called for help.

According to Barrett, Oregon

State Police (OSP) first received the call at 1:05 a.m. Monday morning.

Langborg and an OSP officer were the first responders to the 911 call made by the teenager.

The state park is outside the SVFR district response area, but the department still chose to help in the rescue.

"At about 2:48 a.m. the chief decided he needed more help. He could hear the people screaming out there but could not get to them through the brush. We responded with a total of 14 people on scene," Barrett said.

While one crew used chainsaws and other implements to cut a path through the brush to reach the two stranded people, another crew searched for a possible alternative way in.

Langborg said, "It took our volunteers about two and a half hours to cut their way into them. It taxed a lot of different skill sets. There

were some medical components to it, there were some rescue components to it and some wild-land firefighting components, using the saws and those types of skills."

Barrett said hypothermia was a concern.

"They were cold and wet," he said. "They weren't hypothermic, yet, but they were miserable. The crew got blankets to them to warm them up and then started bringing them back out. The trail was only about half cut when the firemen brought them out."

Langborg said one of the victims was carried out in a specialized Stokes carrier.

"The adult male was treated on scene and then released and the female was transported to the hospital. The son was fine," Langborg said.

He added, "When you go out and hike, you should take your survival kit with you, you should have your cell phone with you and

you should know where you are going. If you don't and things go wrong, they can go really wrong. These folks were lucky our volunteers were there to rescue them."

The rescue was completed at 5:54 a.m.

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue, Western Lane Ambulance District, local public works, Oregon Department of Transportation, Florence Police Department, Central Lincoln PUD and the U.S. Coast Guard will be busy responding to storm conditions along the coast this weekend.

City of Florence Public Works is already at work clearing debris and checking known problem areas.

The city's website has information on how citizens can report storm related issues at [ci.florence.or.us/publicworks/report-storm-related-issues](http://ci.florence.or.us/publicworks/report-storm-related-issues).