

STATE  
BOUND

SPORTS — B



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Monday, Oct. 31

Local Red Cross  
volunteers aid  
hurricane victims

3 Florence residents help  
with emergency food  
distribution

BY JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

Three area Red Cross volunteers traveled to the east coast earlier this month to help with emergency food distribution in the wake of Hurricane Matthew.

Pat and Sue Beckham drove a Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) from Eugene to South Carolina. Linda Stent and Jillian Bohrer, a volunteer from Portland, were originally assigned to drive another ERV from Portland to Mobile, S. C.

“We made it almost to Sacramento before we had to turn around and return to Portland because of mechanical issues with the ERV,” Stent said. “We then received a new assignment and flew out to Wilmington, North Carolina.”

They arrived in Wilmington on Oct. 11, two days after Matthew turned off shore.

“We ended up being ‘stationed’ in Fair Bluff, N. C., a small town that was hit hard by flooding,” Stent said.

“Houses were still with water in them, there was no electricity in most of the town and businesses were closed. There was no place in town to obtain hot food except for our truck. If a house had its electricity restored, often the food in the refrigerator was spoiled,” she added.

According to Stent, the town was under a dusk-to-dawn curfew.

“Anyone entering the town had to pass through a National Guard checkpoint and show proof of residency,” Stent said.

In addition to the hot lunches and dinners, Stent and Bohrer distributed out of the back of the Red Cross ERV, the Salvation Army set

See **RED CROSS** 11A



COURTESY PHOTO

Linda Stent, one of three Florence-area Red Cross volunteers, accepts a container of hot meals from a Southern Baptist Convention volunteer for distribution to victims of Hurricane Matthew in the North Carolina town of North Bluff.



Mapleton  
students look  
BEYOND

High school students in the new “Beyond Me” program keep environments tidy and learn how to work in a group.

12 seniors lead Mapleton High School’s New “Beyond Me” program to give back to community

BY MARK BRENNAN  
Siuslaw News

Students at Mapleton High School are getting an opportunity to participate in a new school program that will not only count towards completing their degree requirements, but also enhance their school and their community.

The program is called “Beyond Me” and, according to Mapleton High School Principal Brenda

Moyer, it is designed to increase participation for not only students, but also all staff members at the high school.

She said, “Everybody here is involved, from the administrative assistant that sits at the front desk, to all the aides and all the teachers, including myself. We are all assigned to a group.”

The program is multi-dimen-

sional and requires students to complete a total of 50 hours of service in three different areas. The seniors in each group are considered group leaders and are charged with overseeing the completion of tasks in their areas of interest.

“It’s not just about their environment. It’s about leadership, ownership and school pride.”  
— Principal Brenda Moyer

According to Moyer, the seniors are accepting the new responsibilities with enthusiasm.

“There are 12 groups because we have 12 seniors, so each group is assigned what we call an environment, and they take care of that environment,” Moyer said.

The “environment” that each group chooses has to be cleaned and maintained as part of the program requirements.

See **BEYOND** 11A

BE READY DISASTER PREPAREDNESS EXPO

Expo next Saturday at the Florence Events Center helps coast residents prepare for the worst

BY MARK BRENNAN  
Siuslaw News

The recent focus in the local community on preparation and preparedness for a natural disaster continues next Saturday with a free informational expo at the Florence Events Center.

The Oregon Coast Be Ready Disaster Preparedness Expo will be presented Nov. 5 and will feature Mykel Hawke from the Travel Channel series “Lost Survivors,” along with state and local preparedness experts.

One of Florence’s most important community organizations in the field of preparedness is the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT seeks to assist Florence residents in the preparations necessary to deal with problems when they arise.

According to CERT director Frank Nulty, the goal of the organi-



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Community Emergency Response Team  
Leader Frank Nulty

zation is simple.

“We are here to help residents get prepared for the things that are a potential emergency for us. Once you know what the hazards are in your particular community, then you can go ahead and prepare for

those hazards,” he said.

Recognizing specific local dangers and putting a plan in place before a disaster occurs is essential to effective response, according to Nulty.

He said, “It really has to do with

who’s going to be there to help you, and that’s probably going to be your neighbors. We encourage folks to have one or two neighbors that are CERT qualified.”

Nulty added that he conducts CERT certification classes twice a year, and is currently finishing up this fall’s classes.

“Having a CERT member as part of your neighborhood team will help when it comes time to actually say, Hey, a big disaster occurred, what do we do and who does what and when do they do it,” said Nulty, who pointed out that in addition to expo headliner Hawke, state officials would also be making presentations.

Nulty added that the information shared at the expo will be important for residents and public officials and encouraged all to attend the event.

See **BE READY** 11A

Motorcycle, car crash near Sutton Lake proves fatal

Oregon State Police report says speed, rain contribute to deadly collision

A speeding motorcyclist died Wednesday after colliding with a 2012 Hyundai sedan at the intersection of Highway 101 and Sutton Lake Road, north of Florence at about 2 p.m. Wednesday.

Florence resident Blaine Kahle was driving the sedan and was uninjured.

The 19-year-old motorcyclist, identified as Ryan W. Petersmann from Laramie Wyo., was pronounced deceased at the scene.

According to an Oregon State Police (OSP)

report, Kahle came to a stop at the Sutton Lake Road stop sign, and then proceeded to turn south onto Highway 101 when the accident occurred.

The motorcycle struck the sedan as it pulled onto the highway, which caused Petersmann to eject from the motorcycle.

A preliminary investigation by OSP revealed Petersmann’s 1984 Honda motorcycle was traveling northbound on Highway 101 at a high rate of speed, using the center turn lane to pass other vehicles just prior to the crash.

OSP reported that witnesses stated the motorcycle did not have a headlight, had been traveling at a high rate of speed and that there was limited visibility at the time of the crash, due to rain.

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue and Western Lane Ambulance responded to the incident.

Fire Marshal Sean Barrett said, “Drive cautiously this time of year. Don’t be in a hurry.”

No further information will be released at this time.



OREGON STATE POLICE PHOTO

A Wyoming man died Wednesday after his motorcycle collided with a sedan on Highway 101 near Sutton Lake Road.