

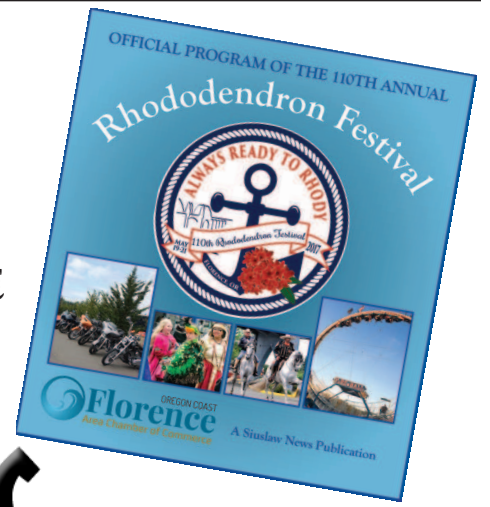
# ATHLETES PREPARE FOR STATE

SPORTS — B



# Rhododendron Festival

OFFICIAL PROGRAM INSIDE



# Siuslaw News

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON



JACK DAVIS/SIUSLAW NEWS

**Florence Police Chief Tom Turner and District Attorney Patricia Perlow detail the account of inmate David Brickey's May 8 attack on two Florence police officers, who were released from the hospital last week.**

## County investigation finds Florence police action justified on May 8

During a press conference held at the Lane County District Attorney's office in Eugene Tuesday, District Attorney Patricia Perlow announced that the Interagency Deadly Force Investigation Team (IDFIT) determined that there was no use of deadly force by Florence Police Department officers during an altercation at the Florence Municipal Jail May 8.

BY JACK DAVIS  
Siuslaw News

The investigation was brought about by

an incident that occurred at the jail, which left 40-year-old inmate David Brickey dead and 24-year veteran Florence Police Officer Ken Larson and one-year veteran Corrections Officer Stephanie Sansom hospitalized with serious injuries and concussions. Both have been released.

Perlow said, "The investigation concluded that there was absolutely no use of deadly force by Florence police officers. The investigation has also revealed that had there been a use of deadly force, it would have been justified under these circum-

stances."

The IDFIT was made up of representatives from Oregon State Police, Lane County Sheriff's Office and Eugene, Springfield and Cottage Grove police departments.

According to Perlow, the 5-foot 9-inch, 260 pound Brickey was an inmate in the Florence jail. He had been booked in on disorderly conduct on May 4 and was to be released May 8.

See **INVESTIGATION 7A**

## Rhododendron Festival features Station Siuslaw River as parade grand marshals

In honor of U.S. Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River's 100 years on the Oregon coast and Florence's bid to become a Coast Guard City, Florence Area Chamber of Commerce named the local station as the grand marshals of this year's Rhododendron Festival Grand Floral Parade on Sunday, May 21.

BY CHANTELE MEYER  
Siuslaw News

"It is certainly an honor," said Master Chief Tim Tregoning, officer in charge of Station Siuslaw River. "It definitely helps us feel part of the community and like we're at home while we're assigned here."

"Coasties" at Station Siuslaw River show their involvement with the Florence community each year by participating in Rhody Days events. As grand marshals, they will have even more of a presence with the color guard, a 29-foot response boat, parade walkers and the involvement of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 52.

According to Tregoning, he wants to keep the festivities open for all members of "the Coast Guard family."

"One of the things I try to push is the family element. A big part of our Coasties feeling at home when they get to Florence is the inclusion of their entire family in this community," he said.

From serving as volunteer firefighters with Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue, dancing and

See **COAST GUARD 7A**

## FIFTH ANNUAL OREGON DUNES TRIATHLON & DUATHLON



# BEST IN THE WEST

**Q**uincy Gill races through the finish line Saturday during the fifth annual Oregon Dunes Triathlon & Duathlon in Dunes City. "Quincy won the sprint duathlon for the fifth year in a row, and that was after setting up the bike course Saturday morning before he went out and raced," said event organizer Blair Bronson, owner of Best of the West Events. According to Bronson, there were just under 300 participants in this year's event. "For how wet and miserable it was, it went really well. It was tough on the participants, because the weather was so bad. But we had 58 first-time participants and racers ranged in age from 10 to 76 years old," he said. Visit [oregondunestriathlon.com](http://oregondunestriathlon.com) for race results. For more race photos, see page B3.

MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

## 'The teaching of the future'

Students explore STEM with demonstrations, hands-on exhibits at Science Night

BY MARK BRENNAN  
Siuslaw News

**S**iuslaw School District had an impressive turnout for last Wednesday's Science Night at Siuslaw Elementary School. Dozens of parents, students and teachers attended the evening activities that highlighted and explained different aspects of the natural and man made world.

Siuslaw Elementary Principal Mike Harklerode, said the turnout for "Science Night" was very good and the energy among the participants was high.

"It was a huge success. More than 300 people attended. Kids of all ages were thoroughly engaged in the activities in the gym," he said. "Student projects were on display in another part of the building for parents to see how different elements of science inquiry and engineering come together."

Science Night was a combina-

tion of exhibition and participation as some students presented science projects and all had the opportunity for hands on fun in the scientifically retrofitted school gymnasium.

Siuslaw School District's emphasis on the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) in the education of students is one of the main reasons for Science Night.

Benjamin Wells, STEM coordinator for the elementary school, sees the evening as another step in an ongoing effort by the district.

"This is a STEM event, which is super important because it is something that we have been working on bringing more into our schools for about 10 years now," Wells said. "We've been following the next generation science standards and lesson plans and we are trying to implement them more and more. It is the teaching of the future and we are



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Students and parents turn out in higher numbers than expected for May 10's Science Night at Siuslaw Elementary School. Siuslaw Middle School will hold a STEAM Fair this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

onboard with that."

The importance of the STEM curriculum, and the many pluses that it brings to local students, is

echoed by District Superintendent Andy Grzeskowiak.

See **STEM 7A**

## ELECTION Looking for election results?

Readers looking for results from the May 16 Special Election can find them in Saturday's issue of the Siuslaw News or today on TheSiuslawNews.com.

The results were made public last night beginning at 8 p.m., after the paper's print deadline, but vote tallies will be updated online at TheSiuslawNews.com.

Lane County Elections will continue to provide updates on the results until all ballots are processed.

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