

STEM from 1A

"STEM is a focus for us and many other districts because it incorporates multiple disciplines in projects. Students see the connections between math and science in the applications of engineering and technology," Grzeskowiak said. "STEM projects help students round out a comprehensive learning activity which includes communication, critical thinking and presentation skills."

One of the more interesting aspects of the evening was the genuinely good time that adults and students seemed to be having.

The gym was filled with long tables. Several types of STEM related puzzles, examples and demonstrations were placed end to end and next to each other to encourage students and parents to actually pick up and hold the materials or experiments.

"This is the fun stuff. Learning how things work, how parts fit together and how to solve challenges and puzzles are all very important to development," said Harklerode. "However, they are very diffi-

cult for us to fit into a packed curriculum and nights like this allow us to capitalize on a kid's sense of wonder."

STEM curriculum is important, but the money to pay for this type of event comes from an endangered federal grant program.

The 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant is the source of funding for all district after school programs for the past nine years.

Unfortunately, the current administration has proposed eliminating all federal funding for after school programs to the tune of 1.2 billion dollars.

This money currently supports after school learning assistance, evening meal programs for students in need and events like last weeks Science Night.

The cuts to after school learning programs are just part of the administration's proposed reductions to the budget for the Department of Education, which, if enacted, would total more than 9 billion dollars less for next year.

Lisa Utz, special programs director for the district, is concerned with the proposed reductions and hopes the fund-

ing for this type of event can be replaced if the current proposed budget reductions to the Department of Education are passed.

"This program only has one more year of grant funding, it is funded by a 21st Century grant for after school programs. They provided the funds to bring the STEM trailer to the gym, which has all the interactive activities in it," Utz said. "A lot of people have probably heard of this grant because of the executive order to cut them. So we are trying to lobby for their continued funding, so we can continue our after school programs and events like Science Night."

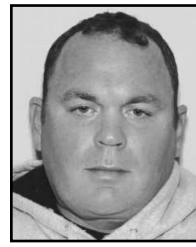
On a related note, Siuslaw Middle School will be having a STE(A)M Fair during Rhody Days, with the addition of "Art." The fair will be setup in the gym and open to the public from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There will be hands-on activities for people to engage in while they tour the student project displays.

There will also be prizes for those who complete all of the activities.

Investigation from 1A

In describing the events that led up to Brickey's death,



David Brickey

Perlow said, "Brickey had been disruptive the entire time he had been in jail. He was particularly disruptive the morning he was to be released. Officer Larson went to Mr. Brickey's cell, No. 10, to tell him, 'You're going to be released today.' Larson went into the cell and was attacked. He was beaten unconscious."

"Officer Sansom heard Larson's cries for help and ran down the hallway to Mr. Brickey's cell. She entered the cell, then backed out to get her Taser."

"Both Officer Larson and Officer Sansom were severely assaulted. Inmates in the jail were calling for help for the officers and for an ambulance to be called because they believed those two officers were going to be killed."

The entire event was captured in a disturbing in-house jail video that shot one frame every three seconds, creating a jerky recreation of the brutal attacks described by Perlow.

According to Perlow, Larson was lying unresponsive on the floor of Brickey's cell outside of the camera's view. Brickey chased down and assaulted Sansom as she tried unsuccessfully to Taser him.

"She was badly beaten. Her head was slammed against the concrete floor and her head was stomped at that point."

"She runs to get help and Mr. Brickey chased her into the booking area," Perlow said. "He was holding her by her hair and punching her as Sergeant Ott and Commander Pitcher came in after hearing her cries."

Pitcher and Ott can be seen on the video attempting to Taser and subdue Brickey, while Sansom tries to go back into the cell and attend to

Larson.

"Sergeant Ott and Commander Pitcher tried to physically constrain Brickey. Tasers had been deployed but were ineffective. After an approximate three-minute struggle, Ott and Pitcher were able to subdue Brickey with handcuffs and ankle restraints," Perlow said.

"Brickey was not hog tied, he was not physically restrained in any way that would impair his ability to breathe," she added.

When paramedics arrived, they began treating the two badly beaten officers. Then, according to Perlow, Ott noticed that Brickey, who had quieted down, was unresponsive.

"Ott began performing C a r d i o p u l m o n a r y Resuscitation (CPR) on Brickey," Perlow said. "Then the medics were summoned over. Brickey had a pulse at that time, but when he was transported to the hospital, he succumbed. CPR was performed for another 30 minutes before Brickey was pronounced dead at the hospital."

According to Perlow, an autopsy was performed and showed there were no serious injuries on Brickey from the altercation. It did find that Brickey had an enlarged heart and had a severe blockage in one of the arteries leading from his heart.

"The final results of the autopsy will not be returned from the medical examiner until the full toxicology report is received," Perlow said.

"There were no injuries on Mr. Brickey that would have caused his death. My assumption is that he suffered a coronary episode as a result of exerting tremendous energy while assaulting the two officers and running through the jail," she added.

IDFIT team member and Springfield Police Detective David Grice said, "There is nothing to give us any sort of motive. We know that from May 4, when he was booked into the Florence jail, until the moment that he was going to be released, he had been



Officer Ken Larson



Officer Stephanie Sansom

disruptive. There was a thread of bad behavior from him from minute one."

Perlow said Brickey had prior arrests in Montana and California on assault charges before moving to Florence in March. Since March, Brickey has had several run-ins with Florence police.

Florence Police Chief Tom Turner said, "The two officers have been released from the hospital but unfortunately they still have to make visits to the hospital. The head injuries are difficult to deal with. We are very thankful that they are alive and survived this event. They are on administrative leave for as long as it takes to recover."

Grice said the eight-day delay in announcing the name of the deceased was that it took time to locate and contact Brickey's family members in California.

Turner said, "I am so thankful that the officers survived this and that makes a great deal of this better than it could have been. We look forward to getting these officers back up to speed and back to work."

Being short-staffed during the busiest weekend of the year is also a concern for Turner.

"We are dealing with this as well as can be expected. This is a small operation. We have to immediately gear up for the Rhododendron Festival this weekend, which is our busiest weekend of the year," he said.

Turner said the department could feel the support of the local community.

"It is always wonderful to work in a supportive community. It has been a very unique and difficult situation, but we are persevering," he said.

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Coast Guard from 1A

acting with Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops, playing with Siuslaw Youth Soccer Association and being involved with Scouts and additional sports and programs, Coast Guard members and their families are vital community members.

"During the parade, it's good to show who we are — that we're out here," Tregoning said.

Station Siuslaw River opened in 1917, with the first officer in charge reporting that December. Over the years, it has protected the Siuslaw River bar as a U.S. Lifesaving

Service, as an outpost and as a full station.

The station's current buildings were built in the 1970s. Tregoning plans to hold an open house at the station sometime later this year.

Tregoning said Rhody Days kicks off summer activities for Station Siuslaw River.

"Now that Rhody Days is here, and now that halibut openers are happening, we're in summer mode," Tregoning said. "We're going to get more involved in the public affairs side."

A full summer includes safe boating classes; interagency training with area EMTs, police and hospitals; the Law Enforcement Torch Run; and increased training.

"We're trying to promote the interagency support," Tregoning said.

This includes working with Lane County Sheriff's office to learn area lakes better to help prevent the loss of summer recreationists.

For Tregoning, Rhody Days starts a summer of fun with his wife, Amy, and their children Jon and Berkley.

"Every year I participate in the motorcycle run and the kids love the carnival. I like going out and checking the car show. I only get to see one aspect of the parade, but it is definitely worthwhile," he said. "The recognition for the Coast Guard is overwhelming when we go through the parade."

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