

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

SPORTS — B



COAST CENTRAL

A&E — INSIDE



Siuslaw News

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

Siuslaw Valley, Western Lane receive Oregon seismic grants

4 fire stations, ambulance building to be upgraded

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) was awarded four Seismic Rehabilitation Grants from the Oregon Business Development

BY JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Department —
Infrastructure Finance
Authority.

Western Lane Ambulance District (WLAD) also received one grant.

The grants, totaling \$729,555, will cover the seismic rehabilitation costs of four of the eight fire stations and the WLAD station.

SVFR/WLAD Director Jim Langborg said, "Each is technically a separate grant."

North Fork Fire Station will receive \$177,139; Clear Lake Fire Station will receive \$181,022; Sutton Fire Station will receive \$130,734; Canary Road Fire Station will receive \$101,386; and WLAD will receive \$139,274.

According to Langborg, the SVFR Main Station on Highway 101 was recently built with adequate seismic protection, so would not require seismic improvements.

See **SEISMIC 8A**

VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK

LIVING MEMORY



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Florence-area veterans Tony Cavarno, Steve Olienyk and Mike Bones meet with Siuslaw Elementary second-grade students on Thursday at Veteran's Memorial Park to share stories of service to the nation. Area veterans regularly meet with students and educators to pass on lessons learned in the military to younger generations. Veteran's Memorial Park is just beyond the Siuslaw River Bridge on Bay Street in Historic Old Town Florence. It is open all year.

FURA passes first biennial budget

Budget includes \$6.4 million to help fund ReVision Florence project

The Florence Urban Renewal Agency (FURA) budget committee approved the agency's first biennial budget for 2017-19

BY JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

in the amount of
\$9,421,074 during
the May 31 meeting
held at the Florence

Events Center.

The two-year budget begins July 1 and ends June 30, 2019.

Florence City Council decided to move the city from an annual budget to a biennial budget earlier this year.

The largest single budget item was \$6.4 million to complete the ReVision Florence streetscape and gateway project along Highway 101, from the Siuslaw Bridge to Ninth Street, and Highway 126, from the intersection with Highway 101 to Quince Street.

According to the budget message prepared by Florence City Manager Erin Reynolds, other budget items approved by the committee included:

See **FURA 8A**

Bones named Florence Tourism Ambassador



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Longtime volunteer is first recipient of new Travel Lane County award

Travel Lane County and the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce have announced that Florence resident Mike Bones has been

BY MARK BRENNAN
Siuslaw News

selected as the recipient of the 2017 Tourism Ambassador Award for Florence.

Bones has been a volunteer in the community for decades and has assisted in a variety of capacities at many local nonprofit organizations.

He is perhaps best known for his years of work as a Chamber Ambassador and for his horticulture work as a member of the Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society.

In the nomination letter sent to Travel Lane County, Chamber Board Member Annette Foglio was effusive in praising Bones.

"Mike's list of accomplishments and contributions in our city would require what his wife appropriately labels 'a huge wheelbarrow' to adequately hold his list," Foglio said.

See **AMBASSADOR 11A**

Florence woman wins big on 'Wheel of Fortune'

Longtime fan appears on the show, winning a cash prize and a trip

Area resident and lifelong game show enthusiast Tami West appeared last night on one of the country's most popular game shows, "Wheel of Fortune."

BY MARK BRENNAN
Siuslaw News

West is a fan of the genre and was excited last summer when she

saw a unique ad.

"Three Rivers Casino advertised that the 'Wheel Mobile' was coming to the casino. I knew right away I wanted to try and go," said West. "I've always watched the show, so ... we went."

West discovered that it was essentially an audition at the casino and put her name in for the two-day process.



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Tami West has watched the 'Wheel of Fortune' since it first started airing.

"You put your name in this big barrel and they draw them out six people at a time. You come up on stage and do a round of 'Wheel of Fortune,'" she said.

However, Saturday came and went and West's name never got called.

Not one to easily give up on an opportunity to fulfill a long-held dream, West decided to return Sunday and hope the results would turn out differently.

They did.

"There were a bunch of rounds the next day, and they kept pulling names and things kept winding down and winding down," recalled West. "Finally I saw that there were three name tags left in the barrel."

The show organizers called out the first name and it wasn't West. Fortunately for her, that person had already left.

See **WHEEL 11A**

Firefighters, Red Cross respond to mobile home fire

BY JACK DAVIS
Siuslaw News

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) responded to a reported mobile home fire May 31 in the 1600 block of Second Street.

Fire Chief Jim Langborg said, "We got a call about 12:43 p.m. for smoke coming from a mobile home. When we got there, we saw light smoke coming from cracks in the door and we could see smoke inside the windows."

According to Langborg, neighbors said there was no one in the residence, so firefighters had to force their way into the dwelling.

"We located a small kitchen fire," Langborg said. "We put it out, but due to the damage that

had gone on with the smoke, we contacted the Red Cross to make sure these people had a place to stay."

Langborg said the source of the fire was an oven that had been set to self-clean.

"According to the occupants, they had the oven set to self-clean mode and then left. I don't know the condition of that stove. We don't know if it was a mechanical failure of the oven, or if there was some debris that ignited during the cleaning process," Langborg said.

The American Red Cross Cascades Region said the fire affected one family, including one adult and two children. The Red Cross provided resources to help address the immediate basic needs of the family.



COURTESY PHOTO

Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue and the American Red Cross respond to a mobile home kitchen fire May 31 on Second Street in Florence. No injuries were reported.