

Honor from 1A

According to City of Florence Project Manager Megan Messmer, this rare distinction is given out at the mayor's behest.

This was Henry's first presentation of the award.

Spilde said, "I leave LCC in the hands of a great board, an awesome leadership team, outstanding faculty and staff and a community that supports it. I trust you will give our new president, Dr. Marge Hamilton, the kind of support that you have given me over the years."

She said she looks forward to returning to Florence as "citizen Spilde."

During the Scholarship Night, new LCC Florence Center Dean Russ Pierson emceed the event, honoring more than 14 students who

received scholarships for academic excellence, enrollment in certain programs and community involvement. More than \$27,000 was awarded that night, and Pierson said additional scholarships may be awarded throughout June.

He said the event was both "happy and sad" for him.

"I am happy to have the distinct privilege of introducing our president, Mary Spilde, but I am so sad that this will be my last opportunity to do so here in Florence," Pierson said.

Spilde joined the college in 2001 to continue the legacy of LCC's founder, Dale Parnell, who believed in keeping community colleges "within reach" for students — geographically, psychologically, academically and financially.

In addition, Spilde said supportive communities, such as Florence, encourage stu-

dents to keep their "education within reach" with scholarships.

"We know how much these scholarships mean to our students. Yes, it's about the money that allows our students to work less and study more, but more importantly, it makes higher education within reach psychologically. What a scholarship says is that people are willing to be generous enough to invest in our students and that they believe in their ability to be successful," she said.

Area businesses, nonprofits and individuals created scholarships to assist students pursuing degrees in healthcare, education, trades, technology and more.

The LCC student speaker was Kim Erickson, Vice President and Manager of Residential Lending at Oregon Pacific Bank.

She emphasized that LCC allowed her to build her life in Florence, the city she chooses to call home.

"I've accomplished everything I ever wanted to without ever having to leave our small town," she said. "I support everything that LCC stands for."

Through the lessons she learned at LCC and the mentorship she received along the way, Erickson has made a place for herself and her family.

"My boss has told me that I have turned into a community leader, and it's something I never thought would be possible," she said.

Erickson told the students that everything she has achieved is possible for those who accept support from the community.

LCC Florence Center's summer schedule has been announced, and registration opens Tuesday, June 13. The term begins June 27 and includes writing classes, Outward Ventures field trips, a chance to go clamming, health and wellness sessions and more.

For more information, visit lanecc.edu/ce, stop by campus at 3149 Oak St. or call 541-997-8444.

Exhibit features cartoonist

The Gallery Above The Silver Lining Boutique will be hosting the Second Saturday Gallery Tour today, with a champagne and hors d'oeuvre reception for exceptional cartoonist and artist, Don, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Don will actually be drawing and composing his new cartoons during the reception for all watch the creative process unfold.

A card table will be set up and ready for his humor to be turned into finished cartoons right before visitors' eyes.

"His drawings not only enliven your spirit, but your mouth and cheeks hurt from laughing so much," said gallery owner Kimberly Fleenor. "I continually hear laughter pouring down from the upstairs Gallery Above."

Don's freelance work has been recognized by The New Yorker Magazine, Mad Magazine, Marvel Comics and Hallmark Cards.

"He is just one of the reasons that makes Florence such an exceptional place to reside," said Fleenor.

Don is all about the ability to make people laugh at life and themselves.

He has said that he likes to

draw cartoons because he wants to bring happiness and laughter to all who see his work.

Don's subject matter depicts normal everyday life from The New Yorker and Mad Magazine genre to current American life today.

"His captions are perfectly placed, suited and written for each drawing. His characters are reminiscent of the cartoons from all of our childhoods," Fleenor said.

The cartoon captioning contest is going strong and all are welcome to participate.

The winner will receive a gift certificate from LoveJoy's Restaurant or Tearoom or from the Silver Lining Boutique.

"We look forward to sharing this unique artistic show, complete with champagne, coffee and appetizers for all art enthusiasts and anybody who enjoys a good laugh," Fleenor said. "I guarantee you will feel better and more lighthearted after participating in this show."

"Life is great and so is Don's artwork."

The Gallery Above the Silver Lining Boutique is at 2217 Highway 101.

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June 13th

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Board from 1A

The second major item of consideration for the board was the discussion of a local option levy. The need for the levy was reinforced by the earlier PIVOT presentation and the discussion of the issue was brief. A motion to prepare the option for November consideration by the public was passed unanimously.

The board ended the special meeting and reconvened

to recognize five district staff members who are retiring this school year. These include Ron Rommel, Alice Holden, Pam Mead, Diane McPheeters and Carolyn Daniels.

A change to the agenda was then suggested and passed, allowing for the "Public Participation" component of the meeting to take place immediately.

Three individuals, representing approximately 40 students, family members and community members, then

spoke to the board, most expressing displeasure with the current policies regarding student alcohol use off campus and the perceived uneven imposition of penalties for dress code violations.

These speakers all urged the board to re-examine the district's policies regarding these issues.

They also submitted a petition containing more than 200 signatures.

Siuslaw School Board did not take action at this time.

Conviction from 1A

Florence Police Commander John Pitcher said, "The original investigation started here. Detective Sgt. Brandon Ott then contacted Deschutes County Sheriff's Office because of information uncovered during the investigation."

Doreen Cater pleaded guilty to 112 counts related to the charges and was sentenced to 500 months in prison. Eighteen of the counts originated from the Florence investigation and 94 originated in Deschutes County.

Gregory Carter pleaded guilty to 96 counts and was sentenced to 550 months in prison. Eighteen of the counts originated from the Florence investigation and 78 originated in Deschutes County.

According to Pitcher, most of the Lane and Deschutes County convictions will be served consecutively to reach the total months to be served.

Pitcher said, "Instead of having trials in both counties, the Deschutes County and Lane County cases were consolidated to go through the Lane County Circuit Court."

The couple will receive credit for the 18 months served while awaiting trial, but will not be eligible for early release.

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