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At the Boys & Girls Clubs of Western Lane County, we know that the future of our country rests with its children. Today's kids will become tomorrow's parents, workforce, and leaders. That's why we're proud that young people across Florence are building and planning their futures as members of our Clubs. Our community of staff, volunteers, parents, and supporters believe the promise of tomorrow begins today. Together, we give young people and Florence a sense of hope, a sense of opportunity, a sense that

Anything is Possible Because Great Futures Starts Here. Thank you for Giving the Gift of a Great Future.

Thank You To All The Teams Who Participated! See You Next Year!



PHOTOS BY ROGER BENNETT

Roger Bennett has plans to return to Zanzibar, the original "Spice Island."

Zanzibar from 1A

Often, they can only regulate building permits.

Paramount in Bennett's mind was working closely with the members of ZALGA to produce the constitution that will best reflect the group members' wishes.

"There is a current and very progressive trend in Tanzania right now — a desire to move to a more Democratic system of governing. Mostly by creating what we do here, a bottom up approach," Bennett said.

To most Americans, Zanzibar is an exotic sounding name of a dreamy, distant locale. Even just the word conjures up images of far away places and unusual cultural experiences.

In reality, Zanzibar is a semi-autonomous region of the country Tanzania, which is located on the East Coast of Africa. It is an archipelago of an idyllic island that lies about 20 miles off the coast of the African continent.

Bennett believes that the work that he was previously involved in with indigenous populations in Oregon and Washington was one of the reasons he was asked to assist here.

"Cultural sensitivity plays a large part in meeting and understanding others. That, and the ability to listen to what people are really saying," he said.



Zanzibar is made up of two small islands, Unguja and Pemba.

The country was the world's original "Spice Island," and the agricultural component of the Tanzanian economy continues to be strong, primarily in the production of cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon and what was once the most sought after of spices, black pepper.

The uglier side of the country's history shows a reliance on the slave trade and the sale of ivory.

The location and fertility of these two small islands offers a clear path to economic viability for Tanzania and the people of Zanzibar.

The shimmering turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean undulate along the islands spectacular mile-long white sand beaches.

"We spent time on both islands talking to the local authorities. We learned that the first thing they wanted was to have a unified voice in talking with the national government," Bennett said.

"They also wanted better training for local officials. As newly elected officials come on board, they don't know what their jobs are or how to do them effectively."

Bennett and associates finished the first stage of the foundation document creation project in Zanzibar two weeks ago.

He has been asked to return in the near future to confer with ZALGA, and to then assist in incorporating any needed or suggested changes into what will, most likely be the new constitution for Zanzibar.

Bennett is pleased with the work already done and feels the documents created accurately reflect the wishes of the people.

"When it came time to writing, the words were already there all I had to do was format them," Bennett stated. "And when they witness the fact that their words are what is written down, then they realize it really is their constitution and they start to own it at that point."

Dredging from 1A

To help with the project, the board voted unanimously to get on the schedule for the "Laura," a state run dredge that

helps ports along the Oregon coast. The tentative schedule will be the winter of 2018-19, allowing the Port of Siuslaw time to determine the funds and permits needed.

In other business, the port

passed a budget of just under \$1.5 million which, is now on file at the port office.

Also discussed was a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant, which had raised concerns among the commissioners regarding the project's boundaries, cost and the source of erosion.

No final decision on the grant was taken, with the board opting for an open session to discuss the issues.

LCC programs last all summer

Learn more about the region and yourself this summer as a student in Lane Community College Florence Center's Continuing Education program.

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