

GIVING A HOOT



JARED ANDERSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

“Keep Oregon Green,’ ‘Give-a-hoot, Don’t Pollute,’ all that’s been lost,” said Raymond Block. “I’m trying to bring that back.” Block, who lives in Coos County, has been traversing the local coastal regions for the last year picking up trash on the side of the road in an effort to raise awareness of trash pollution. “The last three miles into Florence, I got three bags of trash a mile. It was disgusting.” Block showed a bag full of gloves, plastic, flattened cans, towels, flares, lunch bags, bungies and diapers taken from the side of the road to prove the point. “I’m doing this so people can have something to connect with,” Block said. He hopes this inspires others to take up the cause, saying, “Connect with nature, take care of it, and love it.” And most importantly, clean up their trash.

Toastmasters receive coveted award



COURTESY PHOTO

Distinguished Toastmasters award winners: Back row (from left) Jim Wolak and Geoff Wilson. Front row (from left) Anne Machalek, Cathy French and Jim Perry

The Siuslaw Tale Spinners are privileged to have five members who have completed all requirements to be awarded Distinguished Toastmasters, including recently deceased member Geoff Wilson. He touched many lives and will be warmly remembered.

Of the millions of Toastmasters throughout the world, less than one percent make it to become Distinguished Toastmasters.

To climb the ladder to the top, one must complete two parallel tracks involving communication and leadership.

The communication track had four levels — Competent Communicator, Advanced

Communicator Bronze, Advanced Communicator Silver and Advanced Communicator Gold.

Each level involves delivering ten speeches on diverse topics in addition to other projects such as conducting a Youth Leadership Program and coaching a new member.

The leadership track has three levels, namely Competent Leader, Advanced Leader Bronze and Advanced Leader Silver. They involve completing 10 leadership projects, serving as a club officer, district officer, conducting leadership programs and serving as a club sponsor or coach.

The Siuslaw Tale Spinners is

honored to have so many members who have made it to the top. Several more are nearing that goal.

If you are truly interested in a challenge, attend a Toastmasters meeting to see for yourself what fun you can have as you advance your speaking, listening and leadership skills.

The Tale Spinners meet at the Siuslaw Port office on the first and third Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and at the Siuslaw Fire & Rescue Station on Highway 101 on the second and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:05 to 12:55 p.m.

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