

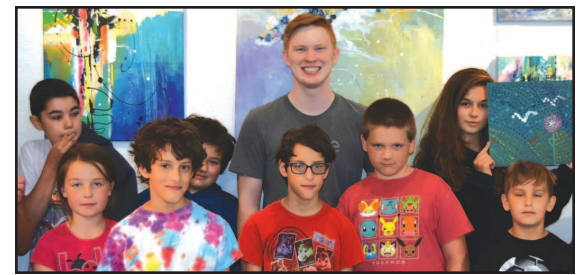
HALL OF FAME

SPORTS — B



Youth and the arts

INSIDE — A3



Siuslaw News

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

Are the kids still alright?

Part one of a three-part series examining teen alcohol use in Florence.

BY JARED ANDERSON
Siuslaw News

Drinking was her claim to fame.

Nicole, as she prefers to be called, was terrified of drugs. It was just after the Nancy Reagan era and her “just say no” campaign. Pee Wee Herman held up a vial of crack cocaine on Saturday morning television commercials, saying, “Doing crack isn’t just wrong, you could be dead wrong.”

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program was in full swing when Nicole was in high school. It was in 80 percent of grade schools, but the results were mixed. A 2004 National Institute of Health meta-analysis concluded, “Our study supports previous findings indicating that D.A.R.E. is ineffective.”

Nicole was in the D.A.R.E. program. It certainly made illegal drugs unappealing, not to mention she had personal experience to turn her off; her father manufactured illicit drugs.

But alcohol?

“We had D.A.R.E. when I was in high school, but it focused on drugs,” Nicole said. “Because alcohol is legal. It was always ‘when you drink,’ not ‘if,’ but when you drink, just don’t get into a car with someone else that is drinking. It was normal.”

So, when Nicole was 15, she started drinking. “I had a really good friend who was going into a sorority. We went to a party and that’s what everybody was doing.” A party like that is usually uncharted waters for a 15-year-old, and Nicole didn’t want to get busted and kicked out of the party.

“I didn’t want them to see that I wasn’t drinking,” she said. “I never had peer pressure, it just seemed to be the social norm. And I didn’t have somebody saying ‘you shouldn’t drink.’”

And so she drank that night, and the next. “I always drank more than anyone else, and faster than everyone else,” Nicole said. “And I used to pride myself with the fact that I could

See DRINKING 7A



Totality Cool (almost)

COURTESY PHOTO/OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Florence didn’t experience a total eclipse, but the 97.3-percent experience was still exciting for most.

Different generations ruminate on the science, philosophy of Monday’s eclipse

Florence residents Avie and Janice Welsh sat side by side on the Florence pier, eclipse glasses in hand, periodically gazing at the heavens. Waiting.

Avie, age 8, had a notebook open in her lap. The front page was filled with time stamped drawings of the sun: 9:30, 9:45, 10:00, etc. At each time, Avie penciled in the phases of the eclipse.

BY JARED ANDERSON
Siuslaw News

“We’re doing some observations,” Avie said. “Which way it’s going to be coming from and how it looks. It’s going to change from each direction like the moon does. Except it’s going to be the sun. And I’m writing the times.”

Avie said that she was here with her grandmother, Janice, to discover the science of the solar system, but also create a journal for the ages.

“I can have this for the rest of my life. And when I want to know about the solar eclipse another time, I can just look in my book,” she said, and smiled at her drawings as Janice looked on.

“The eclipse is really special to Avie and I because this is the first in the lifetime for me, and the first in the lifetime for Avie,” Janice said. “We’re sharing that together, our first in a lifetime solar eclipse. I’ve heard it can be a wonderful, almost spiritu-



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Four-year-old Zed Clark (left) and his sister Jade, 5, watch Monday’s eclipse from the Boardwalk.

al experience.”

“Avie loves science,” she continued. “We’re interested in nature and how the world works. This is a perfect time for us to enjoy nature and how the solar system works and discover how it really happens.”

Avie wasn’t the only young science lover on the boardwalk on the morning of Aug. 21. Just a few feet away from her was Ryder Yell, a young boy about the same age as Avie.

When asked about the eclipse, Yell said, “I have a lot of questions.”

1. “When is it going to 100 percent?”

2. “What made this eclipse happen?”

3. “When did the first eclipse ever happen?”

Answers:

1. 10:15 a.m., though it was only 97.3 percent totality.

2. It happens when the moon passes between the Earth’s view of the sun.

3. The moon is 4.53 billion years old, so the first eclipse probably happened around that time, give or take.

The scientific questions were fairly easy to answer, but the broader philosophical questions the eclipse posed were more elusive.

Specifically, why is the eclipse such an important event to humanity?

For David Rick, who was traveling from San Diego, this was his third eclipse in his life. He sees the eclipse as a moment of reflection.

“It’s always a special feeling in the air when they come by,” he said. “The energy changes, the lights changes. It makes you think about how small we are in the overall scheme of things and how small we are in the universe.”

“Kids get involved and new generations get to enjoy the planetary systems and learn new things,” he continued. “It’s cyclical.”

See ECLIPSE 7A

Boardwalk Market creates it’s own identity

Open most weekends, the market continues to grow and draw more customers

BY MARK BRENNAN
Siuslaw News

This summer has been a busy one for Florence merchants as visitors flock to the Oregon Coast for everything from eclipse viewing, to escaping the heat of the Willamette Valley or the crowds in Portland.

The steady stream of tourists has also been one of the factors that has led to a strong season for the Boardwalk Weekend Market.

Located along the boardwalk, facing the south bank of the Siuslaw River, the market provides an outdoor shopping experience for residents and tourists from May to October. The choices available to shoppers vary each week, depending on the individuals that show up to vend.

According to market manager Linda Molina Fillman, the market has experienced it’s best season in years.

“Things are going excellently this season. We have more vendors than we have ever had before and there are some changes this year. We have some food vendors, new booths and we will have music during the day, on some of the busy weekends.”

Fillman has been managing the market for the past three seasons. Adding food and music to the mix is part of the market’s overall approach to increase gift options for visitors and tourists. The hope is the increase will provide more opportunities for local artists and craftspeople.

“Every weekend we have new vendors signing up with different items. In the past, the food vendors were not allowed,” said Fillman.

This year, people can come and sell food as long as they have a temporary restaurant license from the Health Department. If they make the food at home, it has to be done in a certified kitchen. Food trucks can also participate but need to be patient.

“Just until we can find a spot for them to set up,” Fillman said.

See MARKET 7A

COOL PLACES TO VISIT THIS SUMMER

SPECIAL FEATURE:

This summer we are highlighting unique spots that make the central Oregon coast one of the coolest places to live and play. New locations will be featured each month.

Cottage Grove’s many covered bridges

Cottage Grove, Ore. | www.cottagegrove.org

AT A GLANCE: Cottage Grove is known as the “Covered Bridge Capital of Oregon,” with six of Lane County’s covered bridges nearby.

Tour the bridges via the Covered Bridge Tour Route and the Covered Bridges Scenic Bikeway, which follows the Row River Trail.

In addition, Cottage Grove hosts the annual free Oregon Covered Bridge Festival on Oct. 5

at Bohemia Park.

The festival, started by the Oregon Covered Bridge Society, features guided covered bridge tours, an art and craft show, food, a beer garden, quilts, a pumpkin-tossing contest, kids activities, bike rides and music.

This festival makes a perfect day trip to learn Lane County history and have fun.



SIUSLAW NEWS FILE PHOTO

Currin Bridge

Hot 100

RADIO AUCTION

Bidding Starts - Fri, Aug, 25 at 9:15am

List of Auction Items on Page A12

GET YOUR BID # NOW
541-997-9136

INSIDE Classifieds B6
Community A3
Kid Scoop B5
Library Tidings A5

Opinion A4
Records A2
Sports B
Weather Data A2

THIS WEEK'S WEATHER
Full Forecast, A3

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