

LADY VIKS
BATTLE BILLIES

SPORTS — B



Peace Harbor
gains new artwork

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Siuslaw News

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

10TH ANNUAL RODS ‘N’ RHODIES



Only the classics

Over a dozen vehicles lined the Three Rivers Casino Resort parking lot Friday as their owners registered for Florence’s 10th annual Rods ‘n’ Rhodies Invitational Car Show, which will be revving into town all weekend. The event, organized by the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, showcases dozens of high-end hot rods with a classic cruise, vendor fair, poker walk, costume contests, a screening of “American Graffiti” at City Lights Cinemas and the fifth annual Community-wide Garage Sale. The festival runs through Sunday, Sept. 10. For more information, visit FlorenceChamber.com.

EMAC recommends banning foam containers

Environmental committee wants all Florence businesses to switch to biodegradable

City of Florence’s Environmental Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) met Tuesday at Florence City Hall to discuss findings from a recent survey regarding the use of products containing

By MARK BRENNAN
Siuslaw News

Polystyrene Foam (PSF).

PSFs are composed primarily of benzene based polymers, which the Center for Disease Control and the EPA have identified as a carcinogen to humans.

PSF is the primary material used in many of the take-out containers used in local restaurants. It is also a material used in the production of inexpensive coolers, ice chests, buoys and waterboards.

Unfortunately, because of the nature of PSF, it breaks down easily and contaminates the area where it is deposited. Foam can then enter the food chain of fish, birds and wildlife — possibly ending up on through the chain and on your dinner table.

An extensive online effort to elicit public opinions on the use and potential replacement of PSFs

was put in place on the city’s website earlier this year.

The total number of respondents to the survey was 397, of which 73.8 percent identified themselves as residents, 10.1 percent as business owners and 16.1 percent as “other.”

The main question posed in the survey was, “Should Florence prohibit foam take-out containers in favor of biodegradable or recyclable alternatives?”

In their responses, 86.6 percent of people said “yes” and 13.4 percent said “no” to this proposed shift in policy.

The survey also asked respondents if they would be willing to pay slightly more for non-PSF containers. The response was similar, with 83.8 percent of people saying they would be willing to do so, and 16.2 percent saying they would not.

During the meeting, members of EMAC discussed the possibility of a major change in local regulations.

See **FOAM** 8A



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

These plastic and white foam take out containers were spotted at low tide on the north bank of the Siuslaw River on this week. These products could be banned from use if the City Council enacts the recommendations from EMAC.

See **PARKS** 7A

SIUSLAW SCHOOL DISTRICT PROVIDES UPDATED INFO ABOUT ‘TWILIGHT’

The after-school academic support programs will be cut dramatically for 2018, but will continue for all grade levels

By MARK BRENNAN
Siuslaw News

In a follow-up to an article that appeared last week (Sept. 2), the Siuslaw School District released additional information regarding the “Twilight” programs being offered this semester by the school district.

The information clarifies changes made to the program following a dramatic 13.5 percent — or \$10 billion — reduction in the 2017 Department of Education budget. As

a result of the cuts, federal funding that was once available through 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) grants for after-school support programs, such as the local “Twilight” program, have been eliminated.

To keep the program available to local students, it will no longer be held at the middle and high schools. Instead, the district is offering a reduced schedule of academic support for middle and high school students by consolidating those services

into the elementary school.

According to Siuslaw School District, the reduction in overall grant funding for the after-school program has dropped from \$298,000 for 2016-17 to \$197,500 for the 2017-18 academic year.

This reduction of more than \$100,000 is the primary reason for the program scalebacks and consolidation put into place for the upcoming school year.

Another reason for that decision came from attendance figures for

2016, provided by the school district, which showed average daily Twilight attendance for Siuslaw Middle School was 20 students, with only nine students attending at Siuslaw High School.

By comparison, Siuslaw Elementary tallied daily attendance at 85 students for the program.

The current level of funding will allow the district to offer 12 hours of instructional programming for 36 weeks during the regular school year, and 16 hours each week during

the month-long summer school session.

This means that Siuslaw School District will be able to offer 496 hours of programming outside of the regular school day for the students in the district through the school year.

For students participating in Indian Education, the program is in the process of being rebuilt.

School district administrators have said they will share the finalized plan for this program when it becomes available.

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