



SAILORS LAND FALCONS

SPORTS — B

“Thank you, Carter!”

INSIDE — A3



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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

POLICY UPDATE

Major changes in recycling take effect

Local waste management companies will no longer accept any plastic containers

By MARK BRENNAN
Siuslaw News

The City of Florence’s Environmental Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) met Tuesday at Florence City Hall for a meeting that may prove to be one of the most significant in the group’s history.

The change that was discussed at the EMAC meeting will take effect immediately and will dramatically change the recycling rules for all consumers in the area.

Beginning today, all plastic waste and aseptic beverage cartons will no longer be accepted by local waste management companies Central Coast Disposal and Florence Sanitation and Recycling.

The rationale for the change was detailed by EMAC ad-hoc committee member Dave Twombly, owner of Central Coast Disposal.

Twombly shared with EMAC the notification given to the World Trade Organization by China, which states that, beginning next year, the world’s largest recycler will be radically changing the materials it will accept for recycling.

“As of Jan. 1, China is only going to accept pure recycling, which means that it has to be less than .03 percent of impurities. So basically, three impure parts per thousand per

See **RECYCLE 7A**

Arts & Humanities Month



Mayor Joe Henry to read proclamation at Florence City Hall Monday

October is a special month, with more than 52 nationally-recognized “month of” themes. Some are serious, such as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and some are more fun, such as National Arts & Humanities Month and even Popcorn Poppin’ Month. The Public Art Committee (pictured above with “Totem Pole,” one of Florence’s newest public art installations at Gallagher’s Park) invites the community to attend Monday night’s Florence City Council meeting to show support of arts in the area. Other arts and humanities events this month include Siuslaw Public Library’s demARTS on Saturday, Oct. 14.

CHANTELLE MEYER/SIUSLAW NEWS

Florence Community Suppers serves up new year

Multi-ministry program looks to provide Wednesday night meals for all

The second annual Florence Community Suppers program had its inaugural meal on

By JARED ANDERSON
Siuslaw News

Wednesday, Oct. 4, as a free three-course meal

was served to the public at the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw. The weekly suppers, which are open to anyone regardless of belief, finds all types of ages and socioeconomic status coming to share the homemade meals.

“Last year we had crowds of 50-plus with people from all across the spectrum,” Presbyterian Church Pastor Greg Wood said. “Single families, seniors, people just passing through, church peo-

ple, non-church people, people with homes and the homeless. We had all types of people come in.”

The program first began last year when the Florence Area Community Coalition related stories of families running out of food at the end of each month.

“Many of the area churches were already serving dinners on Wednesday nights, which led to the ministries coming together to create the program,” Wood said. “We couldn’t afford to do it every week, so we had each ministry do one night a month.”

Four ministries banded together to start the program, with each church serving meals once every

four weeks. The ministries include St. Andrews Episcopal, New Life Lutheran, Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw and Florence United Methodist Church.

Last year’s program ran September through May, and Wood hopes that this year’s program will run just as long, if not longer.

“We run until the funds or the food runs out,” Wood said.

The program is funded through donations.

The dinner styles run the gamut, from lasagna and pasta to casseroles and chicken dishes. Vegetarian options are also available.

See **SUPPER 7A**

Annual Dive for a Cure to be held at Woahink

Eugene Skin Divers’ fundraising event hopes to add to the more than \$300,000 previously raised

The 10th annual Dive for a Cure fundraiser will be held at the day use area at Woahink Lake on Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Dive for a Cure was envisioned and initiated by Eugene Skin Divers Supply. The event has raised more than \$300,000 for the ongoing fight against cancer.

By MARK BRENNAN
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Diana Hollingshead, co-owner of Eugene Skin Divers Supply and the coordinator of Dive for a Cure, feels the program’s growth is due to its inclusive nature.

“I feel like this is an important event since it brings the entire community, divers, non-divers and families together for a common goal of raising money to fund cancer research — something that has touched all of us,” Hollingshead said. “The event is held at Woahink Lake since it is a fantastic place to have a diving event due to being able to accommodate all levels of divers, from beginning divers to those that are highly proficient.”

Dive for a Cure has grown significantly in the last decade and now includes several above water games, a keynote speaker and a family barbecue.

The highlight of the day’s fun, at least for the participating divers, will be the underwater Poker Run.

There will also be the added incentive for participants of free gourmet burgers for lunch, courtesy of Eugene’s Burger on the Run.

Burger on the Run has been involved with Dive for a Cure since its inception. Spokesperson Kelly O’Brien said the company is pleased to assist in the fundraiser.

“I am a diver, as are all the gals that are on the coordinating team,” O’Brien said. “We all enjoy getting together year round to plan this, which is our big event, as well as other event throughout the year. One does not have to be a diver to participate.”

She said the burger truck would be providing hamburgers, potato salad, watermelon, chips and cookies.

“We enjoy participating because 100 percent of the money goes to OHSU (Oregon Health and Science University). None of the money is used to offset costs,” O’Brien said.

There are some additional reasons to attend the Dive

for a Cure, beyond the fun and food, according to Hollingshead.

There will also be the opportunity to come away with items donated by local businesses.

“Everyone and anyone is welcome to attend. We have a very large silent auction with a selection of trips, artwork and other fun stuff,” Hollingshead said.

Although the event is one week away, Dive for a Cure is still accepting donations for the auction.

See **DIVE 7A**



Millennials in Siuslaw — Part III

Millennials struggle to find friendship, love in “retirement community”

By JARED ANDERSON
Siuslaw News

(Editor’s Note: This is the final part of a series looking at trends surrounding millennials and their needs as they decide to stay in, come to or leave the Siuslaw region.)

Dan Lokic is looking for friends.

The 25-year-old, who was recently hired as the City of Florence’s management analyst, moved to the area six weeks ago and is looking for someone his own age to hang out with. He’s not having much luck.

“It’s definitely challenging to meet young people here,” he said. “I haven’t found the avenue which I should take to meet young folk. I don’t know where they are or what they do.”

That’s not to say he hasn’t tried. Like many other millennials coming from larger cities, Lokic looked to Old Town Florence for life after work. However, he ran into a snag.

“They close early,” he said.

Lokic, who has a degree in regional planning, thinks Florence has done a great job in creating a livable, walkable downtown.

“Young people want to stay out a little later and it’s a challenge for people who want to go out on a Friday night if everything closes at 10 o’clock,” he said. “What can you do? You have to stay at home.”

Lokic’s predicament is one faced by many millennials here, and it goes beyond just a Friday night outing. From difficulties in meeting other people their own age to dating, the Siuslaw region can sometimes be a formidable place for younger generations.

If the region were simply looking to remain a “retirement community,” these difficulties could be written off. In fact, Lokic was prepared for this when he moved here.

“I don’t have a core group of friends yet, but it’s something that I expected. I think it’s a good opportunity for personal development when you have to have your own fun and figure things out,” he said.

But as city planners push for greater job opportunities, affordable housing and a more robust tourism industry to attract new residents, finding ways to socialize may become more and more important, particularly for younger generations.

For Lokic, the issue begins with coffee.

“Back in Eugene, I loved coffee shops. I loved going to work there or to just hang out. In the afternoon, after 5 or 6 p.m., I’d go in have a tea or something. I’d love to do that here, but when I get out of work, I haven’t found any coffee shops that are open. A place that I can sit and relax with Wi-Fi. So, I just go home and make a cup of tea to hang out there,” he said.

Lokic points out that this has been the only issue he’s had with Florence — he loves the community —

See **MILLENNIALS 6A**