



# NEW SCHOOL RECORD

SPORTS — B

What is Florence doing to address food waste?

This Saturday, a look at local programs working to reduce hunger by reducing the food we waste



# Siuslaw News

128TH YEAR | ISSUE NO. 31

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

## HUMANE SOCIETY MEMBERS ELECT NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Oregon Department of Justice oversees OCHS election to replace board, establish new protocols and procedures*

BY MARK BRENNAN  
Siuslaw News

The Oregon Coast Humane Society (OCHS) in Florence has a new Board of Directors as of Monday night.

Members of the organization voted in seven new people to replace the previously seated directors, all of whom resigned under advisement

from the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ), declining to run for any of the open seats on the board.

The election was conducted under the supervision of the DOJ, which determined at the end of 2017 that some directors presiding over the OCHS had been seated illegitimately.

OCHS, as a registered (501)(c)3 nonprofit, falls

under the oversight of the DOJ, which worked with the attorneys to put in place a process for quickly conducting a legitimately structured election for directors.

Florence Attorney Jane Hanawalt was selected by the DOJ to coordinate and oversee the election process locally.

“Oregon Department of

Justice officials met with me [Monday], after 4 p.m., which was the deadline for receipt of ballots,” Hanawalt said. “We counted and verified the eligibility of ballots. Over 180 ballots were received and the new board members are Dolly Brock, Bonnie Compton, Sandra Davidson, Jack Hannigan, Jerry Hatcher, Shauna Robbers and Judy

Roth.” The initial complaints against the humane society last year also included member reports of animal mistreatment and the improper handling of organizational resources and personnel.

There were also concerns relayed to the DOJ regarding financial accountability and the professionalism of indi-

viduals involved at all levels of OCHS.

These complaints were assessed by the DOJ and led to the agency requesting financial records, emails and board related communications from the OCHS, going back in some instances to 2001.

See **DIRECTORS 9A**

## Harbor Vista annexed into Florence

*City provides services to Lane County, which will continue to maintain park, roads*

On Monday, Florence City Council approved Ordinances No. 2 and 3, 2018, approving the annexation of Harbor Vista Campground, 87658 Harbor Vista Drive,

and establishing its new zoning assignments. This was done following a public hearing and the approval of Florence Planning Commission.

City of Florence Planning Director Wendy FarleyCampbell presented information on the two hearings. The petition for annexation was submitted by Lane County Administrator Steve Mokrohisky on behalf of the Lane County Board of Commissioners.

“The applicant applied for the petition for annexation for Harbor Vista Campground in order to connect to sewer services, and those are in the process of being extended,” FarleyCampbell said.

Work on the Harbor Vista Campground Sewer Collection System Project began in February, with plans to be complete by Memorial Day in May.

On March 27, Florence Planning Commission held the first evidentiary hearing on the ordinances, with written and oral public comment. The April 16 city council meeting was the final evidentiary hearing.

According to the staff report, annexations require consent in writing from more than half of the owners of the land on or before the date of the hearing.

“One hundred percent of the property owners owning all of the land and all of the assessed value consented to annexation prior to the council hearing date,” the report stated.

“The other criteria applicable to annexation is, basically, can the property be served? We don’t want to bring things in that we can’t serve,” FarleyCampbell said. “The big one for the county is sewer. The campground needs sewer services — badly. Sewer will be provided through the existing pressure that’s in Rhododendron Drive, and they will be connecting via a gravity system within their own development, from there connecting to a regional pump station and into Rhododendron Drive.”

Florence Public Works Director Mike Miller submitted referral comments on the services aspect of the annexation.

“The city currently has excess capacity to accommodate the sewer needs of this area,” Miller wrote. “Without going into great detail, it is the policy of the city of Florence to provide sanitary sewer service to any property within the city’s wastewater service area. ... Staff believes that the proposed project will provide opportunities for other surrounding homeowners who desire sanitary sewer service from the city.”

See **HARBOR VISTA 6A**

## SHS prom this weekend comes with warning

*Crashed vehicle points out dangers of drinking and driving*

BY MARK BRENNAN  
Siuslaw News

Siuslaw High School’s Prom will be held at the Florence Events Center on Saturday, April 21, from 8 to 11 p.m.

Siuslaw School District and Florence Police Department’s concern for student safety during this time of celebration led to the placement of a destroyed vehicle at the entrance to the high school as a reminder of the deadly toll underage drinking takes each year.

Mothers against Drunk Driving (MADD) reports that more than 4,300 people are killed each year due to teen alcohol use, more than all other drugs combined.

MADD also shows the unsettling statistic that one in four car crashes involving teenagers involves an underage drunk driver.

These numbers are the reason Siuslaw High School Principal Kerri Tatum felt the placement of the damaged truck at the high school entrance might serve as a reminder, difficult as it is to see, of the deadly dangers associated with underage teen drinking.

“We wanted to put the truck in front of the high school because that is a very visible place,” Tatum said. “We talk to the kids about safe driving and making good choices. This is a very big visual of what could happen.”



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

This crushed vehicle was placed at the entrance to Siuslaw High School to remind students of the dangers of underage drunk driving. The high school will hold its prom Saturday at the FEC.

The vehicle also has a Florence police banner stating, “Drive to arrive. Don’t drink and drive.”

Unfortunately, drunk driving is still the number one cause of death on American roadways, accounting for more than 13,000 deaths each year.

Tatum is aware of these numbers and hopes the visual impact of the destroyed truck will remind everyone, not just students, of the dangers associated with drunk

driving.

“We are trying to be proactive in reteaching expectations. This was a great way to put it out there, not just to our students, but to our public,” she said.

Information gathered by MADD shows that every 51 minutes someone is killed by a drunk driver.

“This is a very exciting time for our kids, but we want them all to come back to school the following

Monday,” Tatum said. “We also have graduations coming up, spring sports finishing up and summer around the corner. All of these things lead to kids feeling like they can let go a little.”

Students are encouraged to car-pool, take a taxi and avoid alcohol.

Mapleton High School will hold its prom on Friday, April 27, at the Best Western Pier Point Inn in Florence.



## Pros and cons of gun laws across the world

BY JARED ANDERSON  
Siuslaw News

“There are countries that have only the tiniest fraction of gun deaths that we have because they’ve taken steps to make sure they don’t proliferate

## THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO KEEP AND BEAR ARMS: PART IV

and don’t get into the wrong hands,” said a gun reform demonstrator at the Florence March for Our Lives support march last month. “In Australia, they did a gun buyback and that was their last mass shooting. After their last mass shooting, they had a law that essentially recalled virtually all weapons.”

The debate over gun laws in America often turns to how other countries handle the issue, with either side pointing to a country that most mirrors their political belief in hopes to sway opinion. If it works there, the argument goes, then it can work here.

But are the laws implemented in other countries really as helpful

as people say? This article seeks to look at how they compare in relation to the U.S.’s gun laws and gun culture by looking at the effectiveness of weapons bans, buyback programs and gun free zones.

In addition, what are the responsibilities of gun owners in America in relation to these laws?

Part IV of this series will examine gun laws in other countries, starting with Australia.

### Australia and Switzerland

In 1996, a man killed 35 people and wounded 18 at the tourist town of Port Arthur using an AR-15 rifle. That was the second mass shooting that year, following a

rampage killing in Hillcrest, Queensland, where a man killed six members of his family.

Just 12 days after the incident, the government introduced sweeping gun control legislation that would ban importation, ownership, sale, resale, transfer, possession, manufacture or use of all self-loading center-fire rifles, all self-loading and pump action shotguns and all self-loading rimfire rifles.

There was a compensatory buy-back scheme, where Australians sold 640,000 prohibited firearms to the government, and voluntarily surrendered another 60,000.

See **SPECIAL SERIES 7A**