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Siuslaw News

128TH YEAR | ISSUE NO. 36 SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890 FLORENCE, OREGON

OCHS board hires interim executive director

Barbara Butzer selected to advise board, lead organization into future

BY MARK BRENNAN
Siuslaw News

The Oregon Coast Humane Society (OCHS) continues to implement major changes to the structure and manner in which operations at the local 501(c)3 nonprofit are conducted.

This week, Board President Jack Hannigan announced a significant new hire that takes effect on Tuesday.

"We have hired Barbara Butzer as interim executive director. Barbara was hired through the Nonprofit Association of Oregon," Hannigan said. "She will take over the management of the shelter and assist in the search for a permanent executive director and shelter manager. She will also advise the board on all things nonprofit, teach the directors Robert's Rules of Order, develop a budget and help in creating job descriptions."

He explained that the decision to hire a temporary executive director was prompted by the results of an Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) inquiry undertaken by the department last year.

"DOJ recommended we hire an interim executive director while searching for a permanent executive director," Hannigan said.

See **INTERIM 7A**



Florence can finally ask, 'What'Cha Brewing?'

Jerry's Place becomes first legal, local brewpub

COURTESY PHOTO



After numerous unsuccessful attempts, Florence will soon have a brewpub to call its very own.

BY JARED ANDERSON
Siuslaw News

Karl and Janet Engel, owners of Jerry's Place, have received approval from city, state and federal agencies to begin brewing and serving beer on premises.

The Engels have just celebrated the one year anniversary of their purchase of the popular local pub, located at 88274 Rhododendron Drive, and are pleased to have received the go ahead to start serving their handcrafted brews to the public.

They said they have found the process of gaining approval from the various oversight agencies of the city, state and federal government to brew and serve beer less daunting than anticipated.

"The city doesn't require any special permits but we did need a federal license and a state license. We started the process in September,

working with the feds, and we had to jump through some hoops with the (Alcohol and) Tobacco Trade Bureau, but we received approval in February," Karl said. "Working with the state was pretty simple because we had already passed our background checks when we bought the bar."

The Engels originally came to Florence when Karl was hired to manage Spruce Point, a position he held for a couple of years and a position that Janet now occupies.

The couple moved to a house on Rhododendron Drive and enjoyed taking walks along the busy street where Jerry's is located.

"We were in the habit of walking there for dinner, and we watched the 'For Sale' signs go up and then sit idly for months and months," Karl said. "That's when Janet started working on me to buy Jerry's Place."

The couple spent some time coming up with a long-term strategy for Jerry's in the eventuality they decided to move ahead with the purchase.

See **BREW 8A**

SWIMMING UP STREAM

Watershed's new director goes over Siuslaw's history, future of salmon

BY JARED ANDERSON
Siuslaw News

It was the name "Siuslaw" that brought the Siuslaw Watershed Council's (SWC) new Executive Director Eli Tome to the area.

Growing up in Pennsylvania in a small town in Appalachia, Tome was used to a completely different environment when it came to rivers, which were downstream of coal mining plants.

"Our streams were orange, not a lot of aquatic life," he



said. "It's interesting growing up with a river that's not healthy."

The only thing he knew about Oregon was the children's video game "Oregon Trail," but when he first flew to Oregon, he fell in love.

See **SIUSLAW 9A**

Mapleton Proud: In its 2nd year

The Mapleton Pride Clean Up Challenge is beginning its second year this morning as teams from across the Siuslaw region compete to beautify the town.

BY JARED ANDERSON
Siuslaw News

The event starts at 9 a.m., when teams will be assembled to help weed, pick up trash and plant new flowers along the Highway 126 corridor, running from Mapleton Food and Fuel to the rail yard.

At noon, the volunteers will be treated to a free taco lunch at Mapleton Food and Fuel. At that time, the collected trash will be reviewed and the team with the most trash will get two free tacos at Rosa's Mexican Restaurant in Florence.

"It's about connecting the community with the businesses down here," event coordinator Terri Johnston said. "It's just being part of something."

Beyond the main cleanup, volunteers will do other beautification projects.

"We're also bringing a tractor," Harden said. "The grass and the weeds have encroached the

sidewalk between the riverbank and downtown. So we're bringing a tractor to scrape that."

The event is the brainchild of Johnston and Karen Harden, president of Mapleton Food Share.

The two had been working with students in the Mapleton School District Beyond Me program, which Johnston also coordinates. That program requires Mapleton junior high students to complete 40 hours of community service a year and high school students 50 hours. Last year, the program provided over 3,000 hours of community service to the area.

"And students enjoy it," Johnston said. "It is a requirement, but they do enjoy it."


It was when Johnston and Harden were working with students volunteering in the community garden that they came up with the idea for the event.

"Karen and I were with the students and got to talking about how we were going to clean up this town, and then it evolved from there."


See **PRIDE 7A**

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Jim Hoberg is a Florence native, and has been working in Real Estate since 1989. He has served as a Principal Broker for 29 years. He has obtained several designations that require continuing education, which keeps him on the cutting edge of the industry and he is constantly looking for ways to expand his areas of expertise. Jim enjoys helping people find solutions to their real estate needs and discovering why Florence is such a great place to live.

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