



VIKS SET PACE FOR DISTRICT MEET

SPORTS — B

Meet this year's Rhody Parade Grand Marshal

Look for a special feature on Dr. Al Brauer in Saturday's edition



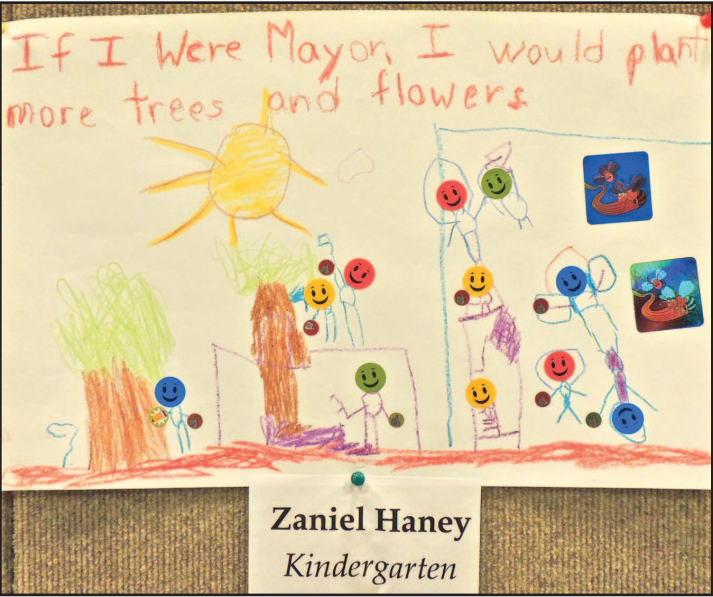
Siuslaw News

128TH YEAR | ISSUE NO. 37

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

CITY COUNCIL WELCOMES CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



Meeting features 'If I Were Mayor' contest winners, councilor elections

By Chantelle Meyer
Siuslaw News

“This presentation is rather dear to my heart,” said Florence Mayor Joe Henry at the start of the May 7 Florence City Council meeting.

He welcomed people to the meeting at the Florence Events Center to hear about the winners of Oregon Mayors Association’s “If I Were Mayor” contest, among other topics covered by city staff and community members.

“We have attempted over time to com-

municate with our schools to help young people get more interested and involved in government,” Henry said. “We promoted the state-wide ‘If I Were Mayor’ contest through the schools and the Boys and Girls Club. This year we had about 65 entrants, all told. ... This was really a heart-warming experience to go and visit with these young people.”

Students in kindergarten through grade five were encouraged to create a poster with “creative ideas about what you would do as mayor” and students grades six through eight were invited to write a 500-1,000-word essay. Statewide, high schoolers were able to create a digital media presentation, but Florence did not receive any submissions.

City Manager Erin Reynolds joined Henry in handing winners their awards — a one-day pass to the Davis Shows Carnival NW during the Rhododendron Festival and a Hydro Flask water bottle.

“This was really hard because there were some great posters,” Reynolds said. “We were pretty impressed.”

The “If I Were Mayor” poster contest winners were:

- Kindergartener Zaniel Haney
- First-grader McKenna Jones
- Second-grader Gunner Durgan
- Third-grader Christian Knapp
- Fourth-graders Ayden Bailey, Jacob Mann and Katelynn Masterman
- Fifth-grader Nicole Shelton

See CIVICS 7A

ELECTION 2018

May 15 Primary Election features local, state and federal races

District 1 commissioner candidates offer insight into plans for position

The May 15 Primary Election is in full swing, with a long list of commissioner, gubernatorial and state representatives listed on the ballot. While the majority of races are primaries, divided into Democratic and Republican ballots, this election will also determine the role of Lane County Commissioner for the Siuslaw region and a host of judicial candidates.

This year, no measures for the Siuslaw region are being offered, with ballot measures city, county and statewide expected to be included in the November election.

What follows is a look at the candidates running, including an in-depth look at the commissioner race for Lane County District 1, an area encompassing the western edge of Eugene and west to the coast, north to Junction City, south to Lorane, and the communities of Veneta, Elmira, Walton, Mapleton, Dunes City and Florence.

Three candidates are running for the Western Lane County Commissioner position: current Commissioner Jay Bozievich, Nora Kent and Beverly Hills. The Siuslaw News reached out to the candidates with a series of questions regarding their views on the Siuslaw region, the challenges it faces and their plans.

Hills, a longtime Lane County Health and Human Services office assistant, did not respond to emails for comment.

See CANDIDATES 8A

Changes to Oregon ‘Bottle Bill’ missed in recycling confusion

Types of beverage containers eligible for redemption increase, as does value

By Mark Brennan
Siuslaw News

People in the Siuslaw region have had to adjust to new recycling procedures over the last six months which have eliminated plastic, of all types, from the recycling stream.

These changes to what items and materials can be recycled have caused significant confusion for residents and Lane County employees.

In the meantime, one of the main changes to Oregon law regarding recycling has flown somewhat under the radar during changes surrounding plastic recycling.

Starting on Jan. 1, the types of containers accepted for recycling was expanded to include all beverage containers — including plastic, glass and metal between 4 ounces and 3 liters — except distilled liquor, wine, dairy or plant-based milk and infant formula.

The changes were initially approved in July 2017 in what is commonly known as the “Bottle Bill,” which added a number of container types to what can be accepted at

retail recycling centers and at the Florence Transfer Station.

This means that common beverages such as coffee, tea, energy and sports drinks, hard cider and all types of juice containers now qualify for redemption.

Consumers can return all of these types of containers to stores and redemption centers and receive the 10-cent refund value for each container returned.

The passage of HB 1157 more than four decades ago was the first time that individuals could receive money for returning a beverage container to retail distributors anywhere in the country. At that time, the bill was seen as a model for other states to follow to reduce roadside litter and to more readily reuse natural resources.

In 2016, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission announced that the redemption value for beverage containers would be increased to 10 cents in April 2017.

See BOTTLE 9A



Huntington hired as port manager

One-time commissioner, interim manager is chosen to run Port of Siuslaw

After an executive session at the Port of Siuslaw on Monday, former port commissioner David Huntington was hired on as the permanent Port of Siuslaw manager.

Huntington has been serving as the port’s interim manager since March.

The board of commissioner’s vote to choose Huntington was 4-0 in favor.

“I feel great about the position,” Huntington said. “I know it’s a huge responsibility and I look forward to working with the board and moving forward in a positive direction.”

Huntington’s hiring arrives after a months-long search for a new manager. In March, after a number of applicants had submitted their names for the position, including Huntington, port commissioners felt they were at an impasse on who to permanently hire. Huntington was hired on a temporary basis as interim director until the commissioners could decide on a candidate.

It’s not a decision that the commissioners wanted to rush. With a district that covers more than 700 square miles and a position that deals with multiple city, county, state and federal agencies, the learning curve for the port manager can be steep.

And there are massive projects on the horizon for the port — including dredging the marina, completing erosion repairs, installing security gates in the west marina, replacing fuel lines and repairing or removing the blue storage buildings on the property.

It is for these reasons that the commissioners put the decision on hold.

See PORT 7A

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Kid Scoop B5
Library Tidings A5

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THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

Full Forecast, A3

TODAY

58 50

THURSDAY

56 45

FRIDAY

61 47

SATURDAY

72 55

Siuslaw News

2 SECTIONS | 18 PAGES

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NEW BROKER

Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Northwest Real Estate,

ANNETTE PRATER.

Annette grew up in Florence and has live here for many years. Put on your raincoat and boots and lets go exploring! See what Florence and our surrounding areas has to offer you. Like sand? We got it! Like Waves? Check out our surf! Are you into boating? Grab a kayak or a boat and go for a float on one of our lakes (we've got 17).

Annette is looking forward to working with you!

Come meet her at her

OPEN HOUSE

Friday May 11th

1pm-3pm.

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Florence, Oregon

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NORTHWEST KNOWLEDGE

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