



ON TO STATE

SPORTS — B



What did the voters decide?

May 15 election result coverage this Saturday

Siuslaw News

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

Rendezvous with the 2018 Festival Court

Rhody Court Senior Princesses



Princess Thelma Gentry



Princess Lainey Goss



Princess Alex Saindon



Princess Andrea Sanchez-Hernandez



Princess Denielle VanWinkle

Senior Princes



Prince Trent Reavis

Rhody Court Junior Princesses



First Grade Princess Aleeya Thomas



Second Grade Princess Jasmine Krause



Third Grade Princess Abigail Galvan-Mendez



Fourth Grade Princess Kylee Stinger



Fifth Grade Princess Brittney Adams



Prince Colby Waters

See COURT page A5

Stamp Out Hunger benefits Florence Food Share

By MARK BRENNAN
SIUSLAW NEWS

The largest one-day food drive in the nation took place on May 12, and Florence residents participated in a big way.

The United States Postal Service conducts a high-profile collection effort on the second Saturday of May each year. The program is spearheaded annually by the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), with help from independent rural carriers.

Florence Postmaster Lisa Herbert said the collection of food from residents was well supported and carriers were pleased to be able to contribute to the goal of lessening hunger in the local community.

"We are all really happy that the food drive was a success, as everyone works so hard to make it happen. We have 12 routes that were all out delivering mail

See DRIVE page A10

Dunes City Triathlon and Duathlon sets records

Both professional and amateur athletes participate in annual event

By JARED ANDERSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

A total of 250 athletes of all ages arrived in Dunes City on Saturday to run, bike and swim their way to the finish line of the sixth annual Oregon Dunes Triathlon and Duathlon.

"It seems that the triathlon gets better every year," said Dunes City Councilor Sheldon Meyer, who handed out medals to finishing athletes at the end of the race. "From my vantage point, there are more and more positive comments each year. It is better organized and ran smoother than before."

The event, which was hosted by Dunes City and Best in the West and sponsored by Three Rivers Casino Resort, had athletes as young as 11 years old, and four racers over 70.

The event was separated into two events — the triathlon, which includes swimming, cycling and running, and the duathlon, which has cycling and



JARED ANDERSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

two running courses.

The triathlon began in Woahink lake, where sprint participants swam .5 miles and Olympic participants swam .93 miles.

Next on the course was the bike race, which snaked through the scenic country streets of Dunes City. The course covered 24.8 miles for the Olympic contenders and 12.4 miles for the sprinters.

Finally, the athletes ran on foot through Jessie M. Honeyman State Park, with Olympic runners traversing

6.2 miles, and sprinters running 3.1 miles.

The course ended with a sprint up a tall dune, where participants were greeted by a cheering crowd and the finish time.

Two new course records were set on the Olympic course, with Shannon Coates finishing the race with a 2:34:38 time, compared to 2:38:21 in 2015, and Stephen Campbell finishing the race 2:13:47, compared to 2:16:38

in 2015. "It was a beautiful day on the Oregon Coast and we could not have asked for better conditions or volunteers," said race director Blair Bronson and owner of Best in the West Events. "We had a very successful event and a huge part of that is thanks to the hard work and support of volunteers and sponsors. Thank you to all who came out and helped make this event a huge success."

See more photos of the event on page B4.

Filling in the gaps of student scholarships

New program helps students with difficult home lives afford college

By JARED ANDERSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

A new scholarship program named Students for a Better World is opening up to high school juniors and senior in Siuslaw and Mapleton school districts. While the concept of a scholarship in the region is nothing new, with dozens of generous groups and foundations in the area offering financial assistance to youth for higher education, Students for a Better World looks to fill in the gaps for those who have difficulty applying for assistance.

Along the way, the program lays bare prejudices in scholarship programs which may inadvertently perpetuate income inequality and further depress

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THIS WEEK'S WEATHER
Full Forecast, A3

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11th Rhododendron Festival

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