



STATE LEAPS AND BOUNDS

SPORTS — B



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Safe Boating Week
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Siuslaw News

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SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

'Operation Emerald Shield' tests responders, hospitals

Emergency agencies engage in active violence training on Oak Street Wednesday

BY MARK BRENNAN
SIUSLAW NEWS

The ongoing danger posed to communities from gun violence continues to thrust itself to the center of a highly-charged national discussion.

While people may disagree on what can or should be done to stem this deadly trend in American society, everyone agrees that communities and first responders everywhere should be prepared to confront and defeat an active shooter.

On Wednesday, May 23, Florence first responders, in coordination with PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Medical Center, will be conducting an integrated, multi-department exercise to prepare for an active violence emergency.

The Florence training is part of a larger county-wide series of staged events and informational workshops conducted to assist first responders in a larger scale scenario.

Western Lane Ambulance District (WLAD) Chief of Operations Matt House will be coordinating local participation in what has been named "Operation Emerald Shield."

See TRAINING page A6



REIGNING ROYALTY

2018 Queen Rhododendra Lainey Goss & King of the Coast Trent Reavis step into festival history

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
CHANTELLE MEYER
SIUSLAW NEWS

Members of the 2018 Rhody Court joined in a group hug on stage Thursday night as they congratulated King of the Coast Trent Reavis and Queen Rhododendra Lainey Goss. More than 330 people attended the Rhody Court Coronation at the Florence Events Center.



Reavis, along with Prince Colby Waters, made up the Senior Prince Court. Reavis is only the fourth King of the Coast since 2014, and he follows proudly in the footsteps of his family members who have previously been crowned queen.

Goss was joined by princesses Thelma Gentry, Alex Saindon and Andrea Sanchez-Hernandez, as well as first runner-up Princess Denielle VanWinkle, on the Senior Princess Court. The Queen Rhododendra title dates back to Florence's first Rhododendron Festival in 1908.

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Primary Election shows Bozievich will remain commissioner

STAFF REPORT
SIUSLAW NEWS

With the votes from Tuesday's Special Election now in, Lane County and Siuslaw region residents can expect to see Jay Bozievich return for another term as West Lane County Commissioner. He received 10,079 votes at 55.78 percent, compared to 6,970 votes at 38.57 percent for challenger Nora Kent, who lives in Deadwood. Candidate Beverly Hills received 978 votes and there were 42 write-in votes.

"I'm pleased to have earned the trust of the citizens in West Lane and humbled by their support once again," Bozievich said

See RESULTS page A6

'JEWEL OF A PARK' TO REOPEN ON MAY 24

With changes to the sewer system completed, Harbor Vista plans to expand outreach

BY JARED ANDERSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

Harbor Vista Park is reopening to the public on Thursday, May 24, after a several-month project connecting the park to the City of Florence sewer system.

"This is a jewel of a park," Friends of Harbor Vista Park coordinator Mike Allen said. "You get a huge number of people that come through the park that travel from all over the world. It's not a large park, but it's known for its camping and rhododendrons."

Originally, the park had worked off a septic system, but when the city acquired the property earlier this year, sewer lines were placed in half of the park's camping spaces.

"By having full hookups, people can stay longer — and we're already seeing that, with people staying up to 14 days," Harbor Vista Park Caretaker Mike Stewart said.

The project was only phase one of a two-part process, with the remaining sites expecting to hook up the sewer system in the future.

"It will probably be three to four years until we get to that," Lane County Park Ranger Dan Anderson said. "It's all done on paper, but it's funding."

This project is the first time the park has been closed since it was established in the 1960s.

"Everyone in town has been asking us when we're opening up, so that's encouraging," Stewart said.



JARED ANDERSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

Harbor Vista will reopen with a focus on community involvement.

What started out as a day-use park with tent camping areas has grown into full grown campground with 44 spaces.

"People really like it because the spots are scheduled," said Anderson.

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THIS WEEK'S WEATHER
Full Forecast, A3

TODAY
60 50

SUNDAY
59 48

MONDAY
65 49

TUESDAY
67 52

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