

Sophomore Memoir

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 STUDENT

School has finally let out! But before I dramatically celebrate a survival of another school year, I want to reflect on the most memorable moments of my sophomore school year at Siuslaw High School. This year marked my 12th year in the Siuslaw School District, as I am moving on to my junior year and the 11th grade.

Let's start off at the early days of the first month of school. As the summer season closes, days become shorter, and back-to-school sales are going on everywhere. You then get the sick feeling of going back to school and having to listen to many boring lectures for days on end.

When the first day of school arrives, you may wake up late, or you may be nagged to get up at 6:30 a.m. to go back to school.

My first month of school wasn't boring, but it wasn't interesting either. The classes I had were English II, World Studies, Geometry, Cinema Studies, Culinary Arts I, Leadership and Biology.

After getting to know all my teachers, my focus then slowly shifted from summer memories to school focus. I did my best to be a good student, as I turn in

assignments on time and showing up every single day. At the end of October, I was doing fairly well, as I had mostly "As" in my report card.

I remember one day, when I thought I was getting sick but went to school anyway. I try to look forward to school, and I actually do. When most students feel even a little sick, the most common thing is to stay at home. However that was not the case for me, as I still went to school. I felt really proud of myself, as I have shown that not even feeling like I was getting sick could hold me back from attending school.

Then we reached the crossroads of two semesters. The first semester shows the things that you have done to see what you can do, while in the second lies the opportunities that await you from these decisions and actions.

I had most of the same classes as the first semester, except I now have Creative Arts I instead of Culinary Arts I.

Unfortunately, this also means that parents are going to check your grades in each class, and you could potentially get punished for having a bad grade. For me, any grade with a "C" or below raises a red flag for me. Yes, I know a "C" is passing, but "C" means average. I don't want to be average. I want to be an exceeding student.

Nearing the end of semester one, I still had mostly "As" in my classes, only

having a "B" in English II and Culinary Arts I. Then, a family emergency happened, which caused my grades to drastically drop. All of my teachers understood what had happened, and most told me not to worry about schoolwork. In an email one teacher sent, they said, "Family comes first."

Despite that reassurance, when I came back to school, not only was I stressed out from the family emergency, but I had a lot of catching up to do. Thankfully, our school has something known as extended semesters. I decided to take advantage of the opportunity and my teachers gave me an extended semester.

However, even as an extremely hard-working student — now working twice or even three times as hard to keep up with my classes — it was hard to keep up with all of them.

Then, a miracle happened.

It started off with my English II teacher. He told me not to worry about the missing work and readjust my focus to what we were currently doing. Slowly, one by one, the rest of my teachers told me that I had shown great potential ending the semester. After receiving those messages, I felt a huge amount of respect had been given to me. I had shown tons of potential to these teachers and went on to end the semester with all "As." It was thanks

Summer Vacation

to potential I've shown, my hard work and my teachers' understanding.

Then we reached the end of the school year and Florence's annual Rhododendron Festival.

Usually I like to think of Rhody Days as a sign of summer release. The feeling I get from Rhody Days is a summer feeling. When the carnival leaves, I always think I have the power and motivation to finish off the school year strong.

The last days of school have been creeping up quicker than I thought, and not only are the last days of school coming, but finals as well. This also creates a scramble of chaos for us students as we try to have fun and study at the same time — Which probably will never work.

However, we can all agree that the beginning of summer vacation will be fun, whether passing a class or not. For me, I tried to hold my focus on ending the year on a 4.0 GPA. Just recently, all of my grades were "As" — possibly enough to have another first, with a 4.0 GPA for both semesters.

I began 2018 with a wish to end the school year with a 4.0. However, I don't believe in wishing for stuff; rather, I go and get it by working hard for it.

And now it is summer.

In my opinion, summer vacation is a time to relax as much as possible. Some of my peers have gotten jobs, and so have I, as I help my parents at our restaurant, International C-Food Market (ICM) in Historic Old Town Florence.

There are also a couple of things I look forward to this summer. Besides watching a NASCAR race each Sunday, I look forward to being a "Minion" for one of CROW's summer camps in July; possibly being an intern for the Florence Air Academy in August; and, the biggest thing for me, participating in a leadership camp this June, the Camp Rotary Youth Leadership Academy.

As summer vacation begins, I sit at my desk, daydreaming about the good times I'll have in this off-school season.

Now that I have shared some school memories, school's out!



PHOTOS BY JO BEAUDREAU

More art to ‘look over’ in Old Town

Florence Public Art Committee welcomed the city's newest installations of public art to the Siuslaw River Bridge Interpretive Center last week. Sculptor Jesse Swickard, of Sherwood, Ore., created both "Sitting Wave Part II," a bench with a wave-watching theme, and "West Coast Overlook," a tall standing sculpture.

"Overlook was inspired by bird activity at the beach when taking walks," Swickard said. "They always seem to be perched up on something — always on the lookout."

His work has appeared at exhibits in Portland, Bend and Salem.

Members of the City of Florence, community members from the Siuslaw region, area dignitaries and Public Art Committee members unveiled the pieces, which are part of the city's Art Exposed public art gallery.



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1619 2nd St – Nice corner lot located in the Old Town residential area, with zoning that allows for commercial uses! A short walk to shops, restaurants, and the boardwalk on the Siuslaw River. All city services available. This lot is cleared, level and ready for you to build. **\$87,500.** #2841-18034298

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Siuslaw News

9am-3pm
Greentrees West
Huge Sale

Years of accumulation. Antiques from the 1800s including French provincial couch and chair, buffet, curio cabinets, wooden double bed frame, cedar chest, Grandfather clock, secretary drop front desks, kitchen table w/ chairs, parlor chairs, antique harvesting equipment (hames, oxen harness, etc.) stone bird baths, wicker furniture, couch, rocking chair, double mattresses, Avon & doll collections, Christmas, tools, kitchen, knickknack and much more. Check out craigslist and Facebook. See you there @ Estate prepared by Linda Wilcox Visa & Master Card accepted.

Multi-Family Sale
Fri.-Sat. 6/22-6/23
8am-3pm
2293 Willow Street

Sat.-Sun. 6/23-6/24
9am-5pm
4825 Treewood Drive

Grand dining room table w/6-chairs, Lenox China, Vintage thumbprint glassware, dog supplies-gates, ramp & stairs etc., small appliances, collectibles.

Moving Sale
6/22-Till Gone?
10888 East Mapleton Road

Years of collectibles. Too much stuff to move. Mahogany hutch, 5pt. elk horns, wood shipper, 2-Budweiser racing car hood replicas, guitar w/2-amps & microphone w/stand. Tons of misc!



Cindy Wobbe Estate Sales

TWO ESTATE SALES!

1136 Maple, Florence - Friday ONLY, 6/22, 9am-3pm

Liquidating small estate on behalf of trustee. 2000 watt generator, Tri-fecta trike, Townie bike, rustic log furniture, DVD/VHS movies, collectables, antique furniture, dressers, flat screen TV, Victorian settee, lots of interesting odds and ends and quality household items. **FRIDAY ONLY** - it all has to go!

2275 E. 10th, Florence - 6/22-23, 9am-3pm

Estate of Sue Roberts on behalf of Executor. Quality electric recliner, firewood racks, antiques & mid-century furniture, original artwork of local artists, full bed, linens and lots of household items, flat screen TV, china/crystal/collectibles, yard art, potted plants, outdoor ceramic pots, washer & dryer, medical equipment.

Everything must go!
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