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# BROWNIE RUN

SPORTS — B



# Siuslaw News

128TH YEAR | ISSUE NO. 84

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON



## Produce aplenty

**T**he final 2018 Florence Farmer's Market was held this past Tuesday in bright sunshine, with plenty of fall produce available for shoppers. The first season of the centrally located, multi-farm food market has brought positive feedback this year, as evidenced by the crowds that were waiting to purchase items. According to market organizers with the Siuslaw Vision, the Florence Farmers Market will return next May for its second season. Farmers and vendors interested in selling their products at the market should call 541-902-2425 or email [contact@florencefarmersmarket.org](mailto:contact@florencefarmersmarket.org) for information.

PHOTOS BY MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS



## NOV. 6 GENERAL ELECTION

### 'Communities across Oregon are struggling with a housing crisis'

*Measure 102 could pave way for additional affordable housing funds*

**Oregon Measure 102 — Amends Constitution: Allows local bonds for financing affordable housing with nongovernmental entities. Requires voter approval, annual audits.**

Creating communities where people can find adequate housing is hardly controversial. Public and private entities alike strive to combat what has been called Oregon's "housing crisis," yet a lasting solution remains elusive.

According to the Oregon Center for Public Policy, half of all renters in Oregon spend more than 30 percent of their income on rent and utilities — what the Department of Housing and Urban Development defines as being "cost-burdened." This burden results in other basics such as nutrition and child care falling by the wayside as those in the most dire circumstances turn to the streets.

While affordable housing efforts exist throughout the state, some complain that these efforts are hampered by not having access to the resources they need — and the source of the problem lies in Oregon law.

As it currently stands, Section 9 of Article XI in the Oregon Constitution prevents county and municipal governments from raising money for, investing in or loaning credit to companies and

*See MEASURE page 7A*

## Meet Dunes City's candidates

*Dunes City's 3 councilors and mayor run unopposed*

Like its larger neighbor Florence, Dunes City has four candidates running for position on the Dunes City Council. However, each of Dunes City's candidates are running unopposed for their same positions.

According to Dunes City Recorder Jamie Mills, three of the council's seven positions are running, along with Mayor Bob Forsythe. These include councilors Sheldon Meyer, Susan Snow and Duke Wells, who each will run for a four-year term. The mayor is a two-year term.

*See DUNES CITY page 5A*

## Siuslaw Valley's interim chief begins service

*New Chief Director Steve Able signs contract to serve through June 2019*

BY MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

Interim Chief Director Steve Able officially began his tenure as leader of Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) on Oct. 10.

Able was selected by a unanimous vote of the SVFR Board of Directors at a special meeting earlier this month to succeed Jim Langborg, who had tendered his resignation. Able attended his first board meeting as chief on Oct. 17.

Able has spent the majority of his life as a firefighter, starting out as a volunteer firefighter in Alaska before pursuing a career in the broader field of fire services after serving in the U.S. Coast Guard in the early 1970s.

Able began what was to become his life's work as a student at Chemeketa Community College

in Salem, Ore., where he received an associate's degree in fire protection. He was a volunteer firefighter at Chemeketa before returning in 1989 to become a fire protection instructor.

Chemeketa Community College continues to offer Fire and EMT classes, certification and training, building on early work done by Able, and the college is at the forefront of educational preparation for first responders.

In the mid-1980s, Able began working at the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal as Deputy State Fire Marshal, eventually becoming the State Fire Training Coordinator.

His responsibilities as coordinator included the development and delivery of firefighter and fire officer training courses statewide. He also created the state's first "Model



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

**Interim Chief Steve Able joins Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue after a long career in fire services across the western United States.**

Training Guide" for firefighters.

Able's preparation for the management and administrative aspects of his career have included educational stops at both Eastern and Western Oregon Universities, where he worked towards a

bachelor's degree in fire administration.

A long list of certifications from the states of Oregon, Washington and Arizona include successfully completed training in Hazardous

*See INTERIM page 8A*

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**THIS WEEK'S WEATHER**  
Full Forecast, A3

**TODAY**  
63 46

**SUNDAY**  
60 54

**MONDAY**  
66 48

**TUESDAY**  
58 38

SIUSLAW NEWS  
2 SECTIONS | 18 PAGES  
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*Together, No Child Will Go Hungry*

[www.foodbackpackforkids.com](http://www.foodbackpackforkids.com)

### Food Backpack for Kids 1st Matching Funds Campaign

September 1st through November 30th, 2018

Our Matching Funds Campaign to raise \$40,000 from our community is in full swing!

The following sponsors have pledged to match all donations given by the community up to \$40,000! Oregon Pacific Bank, Peace Harbor Hospital, two Anonymous Donors, River Roasters, the David & Linda Lauch Trust and Florence Kiwanis. We also thank Western Lane Community Foundation for their generous grant.

The estimated cost of feeding one child during the school year is \$70 a month/\$630 for 9 months.

Every donation makes a positive difference to a child! Participating in our matching funds campaign doubles your donation... Thank you!

Please send your tax deductible check to Food Backpack for Kids, P.O. Box 3347, Florence, OR 97439 Thank you!

Contact us online at [www.foodbackpackforkids.com](http://www.foodbackpackforkids.com) support@foodbackpackforkids.com  
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