

STUDENTS CREATE ART  
FOR GOOD CAUSE  
COMMUNITY — A3



LADY VIKS CHART  
NEW COURSE  
SPORTS — B



# Siuslaw News

128TH YEAR | ISSUE NO. 94

SERVING WESTERN LANE COUNTY SINCE 1890

FLORENCE, OREGON

## Line-up announced for Winter Music Fest

BY CHANTELE MEYER  
SIUSLAW NEWS

While winter and warm, cozy celebrations are just getting started, some Florence groups are preparing for midwinter events. In January, the 2019 Winter Music Festival will bring back crowd pleasers and debut new performers at the Florence Events Center (FEC). Featuring the Kiwanis Kids Concert, Friday Night Bluegrass, Americana and a variety of music, the festival returns for the 17th year Jan. 25 to 27, 2019.

“We’re very excited about our line-up,” said festival chairperson Rachel Pearson.

Continuing to keep the three-day music festival fresh and relevant has brought several changes in recent years, starting with shifting away from the single-genre focus of the original Winter Folk Festival to the more broad Winter Music Festival. Now, certain types of music are featured each day.

The Friends of the FEC underwrite the event and this year’s presenting sponsor is Sea Lion Caves.

Friends President Kirk Mlinek said, “For the second year in a row, we’re going to kick things off on Friday night with bluegrass. We had a very successful foray into that last year.”

Starting with the up and coming North Country Band, based in Seattle, Wash., the Friday Night Bluegrass will be headlined Chris Jones & The Night Drivers. Jones is a quadruple threat as a singer, songwriter, guitarist and broadcaster thanks to his role hosting SiriusXM’s Bluegrass Junction.

“We’re really thrilled to have Jones anchoring that evening,” Mlinek said. “He’ll be showing us some love by talking about the Winter Music Festival on Sirius XM.”

Saturday’s main headliner is John McEuen, who helped found the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band in 1966, and the String Wizards. McEuen will be performing as part of his “Will the Circle Be Unbroken” tour during the evening concert.

“Even if you don’t know John McEuen or the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, most people know the song ‘Will the Circle Be Unbroken,’” Pearson said. “While John might not be a household name, Nitty Gritty Dirt Band is a household name. They’ve been playing for more than 50 years and haven’t really lost it. ... They still have the spirit.”

McEuen plays in the evening

See MUSIC page 10A

## With all the trimmings



A short power outage early Thursday did not deter volunteers from the Florence Kiwanis’s Club from preparing and serving hundreds of local residents a complete Thanksgiving meal at no cost. The yearly event was held at Elks Lodge # 1858 and guests commented positively on the new ordering and table service provided by vol-

unteers. Members of Lodge #1858, The Florence Rotary Club, VFW Post #3232 and American Legion Post #59 were also on hand to assist with the popular community supper.

PHOTOS BY MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

## SVFR Board sets joint meeting

BY MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

The Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue (SVFR) Board of Directors met for its December meeting last Tuesday evening, with all directors in attendance. The meeting began with Recruitment and Retention Coordinator Pete Warren’s introduction of four new recruits from the most recent graduating class of ten to the board. SVFR Interim Chief Steve Abel handled the presentation of the monthly financial information to directors in place of Office Manager Dina McClure, who was not in attendance.

Director John Carnahan had some brief questions regarding the classification of expenditures for new dash cams and uniform upgrades. Carnahan was supportive of the effort to provide more fire-retardant utility uniforms for full-time firefighters, but voiced concern about specifying which account the funds for the expenditures would be taken from.

The directors then approved the total monthly expenditure amount of \$169,907.

Ultimately, Board President Ron Green responded positively to the financial report as did other directors.

“I appreciate the continued improvement in the financial reporting.”

See SVFR page 8A

## Community ‘Play Day’ part of creating regional vision

Siuslaw Vision will another opportunity community members to share fun and ideas

BY JARED ANDERSON  
SIUSLAW NEWS

The Siuslaw Vision will be hosting the second in a series of events featuring games open to all ages and aimed at bringing the Siuslaw region together. It will also be an opportunity to find out what the commu-

nity wants when it comes to parks and recreation — whether that be a dedicated recreational center, the reopening of past centers like the Mapleton pool, or any combination of ideas.

In what Siuslaw Vision is dubbing “Siuslaw Play Day 1.2,” the event, which will be held on Thurs-

day, Nov. 29, at the Mapleton Lions Club. It will host a variety of activities including giant board games, an opportunity to decorate (and eat) gingerbread cookies, a free pickleball clinic and other fun, community oriented activities.

“There’s definitely going to be a lot of games,” said Megan Spencer, Sius-

law Vision Keepers co-chair. “Giant Uno, with really big cards. There’s also giant Jenga, which is a lot of fun. If you’re really good, the Jenga gets up to six feet tall, but that takes some work. There’s possibly what we’re calling ‘fish out of water’ games

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THIS WEEK'S WEATHER  
Full Forecast, A3

TODAY  
53 40

SUNDAY  
59 49

MONDAY  
59 49

TUESDAY  
54 46

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2 SECTIONS | 24 PAGES  
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# LIGHT UP A LIFE

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At the Florence Events Center  
Saturday, December 8th,  
2018 2-3:30pm  
Free Admission. Refreshments served.

For more information call:  
**Peace Harbor Hospice**  
541.997.3418

2230 Kingwood St. Florence, OR 97439, www.peacehealth.org

