## Learn how to break down walls in genealogy searches

The focus for the Siuslaw Genealogy Society this year is breaking down brick walls without wearing a hardhat or using a sledgehammer. No matter how accomplished a person is as a genealogist they will eventually hit a roadblock in their

The Wednesday, March 20, meeting will feature two webinars to help in this exploration. "Ancestry DNA: How it can help with genealogy brick walls" and "10 Top Tips for How to Bust Through Your Genealogy Brick Wall" with professional genealogist Lisa Louise Cooke will provide information to aid in any genealogist's quest.

Make this the year that you provide connections, learn where you came from, find information for your children, inform your health choices and encourage compassion.

Stories handed down from one generation to the next about something an ancestor did can be inspiring. Family history is what makes a name and series of dates on a page into a living, breathing, person. Knowing that heart disease runs in a family can encourage those a person cares about to seek advice from doctors about how to avoid it. Families that have a genetically heritable disease in their genes can encourage younger generations to get tested for it.

Children who know that their ancestors were immigrants may feel compassion towards their classmates who are recent immigrants. Kids who know which countries their ancestors came from may feel for the people who live in that country today and who are in dire situations. Knowing this family history can help anyone find common ground with people who aren't part of their family tree.

All are welcome to attend the March 20 meeting at 7 p.m. in the Bromley Room of Siuslaw Public Library, at 1460 Ninth St. The program is followed by a brief refreshment break and the business meeting. More information is available at siuslawgenealogy.org.

## Florence Unitarians come to the aid of SOS

On March 11, Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellow- vested in the ship (FUUF) member Jennifer success of our French presented a check in the clients," Teter amount of \$2,175 to Siuslaw said. "We want Outreach Services (SOS) Exec- our clients to utive Director Bob Teter.

Every year, the FUUF con- survive." gregation selects four to six local community service groups in which they want to support der assistance, and donate to for two or three help with utilmonths at a time. This particular donation was collected for empowerment, SOS each Sunday, from January veteran's assisthrough February.

SOS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit gency vouchers organization which began serv- that offer help ing Western Lane County in with 1986. The mission of SOS is to provide compassionate, respect- laundry, transportation, people in need.

thrive, not just

SOS provides protective orities, women's tance and emershelter, fuel, showers,

preful and confidential support to scriptions, clothing and house-more information on SOS. hold items.



SOS Executive Director Bob Teter receives a check from FUUF member Jennifer French this week.

Visit www.florencesos.org for about FUUF, visit www. florenceuuf.org or stop by 87738 information Highway 101.

## Take a stroll through the Humboldt **Botanical Gardens with the Walshes**

The March 19 meeting of the first, as president of the local Siuslaw Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society (ARS) will be entertaining and Director. educational. Tim and June Walsh have been involved with the Humboldt Botanical Gardens in Humboldt County, Calif., since its inception in 1991. directors for the newly formed garden.

Tim didn't have a chance. He became completely immersed

chapter, then as treasurer of the ARS; and now as the District 5

Hands-on knowledge of the gardens and enthusiasm for sharing that knowledge is Tim's

Meetings are held at the Pres-He was on the first board of byterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3996 Highway 101, in Florence. As always, the meeting is open Once the rhody bug bit him, to the public. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for coffee, cookies and elbow rubbing with the in the species Rhododendron; meeting starting at 7 p.m.

## Tour Fivemile restoration, volunteer with Siuslaw Watershed on March 23

community is invited for a tour of road decommissioning. of a valley-wide restoration project where Fivemile Creek meets are invited to join in planting Bell Creek, the largest tributary native plants in Phase 4 of the to Tahkenitch Lake. This is a project to help restore watermulti-phase, multi-year project, shed function. There will be restoring watershed function refreshments and hot drinks in and floodplain connection. In the barn that serves as the native sum, the project occurs in four plant nursery. phases spanning 10 years (2012-2022) and includes four miles of the site, so the group will meet stream reconstruction, five miles at 9:30 a.m. and caravan to the of large wood placement, 112 project site together from the acres of re-grading and native East Woahink Lake Day Use

On Saturday, March 23, the the valley bottoms, and six miles

Following the tour, volunteers

There is limited parking at plant community restoration in Area. Register at siuslaw.org.

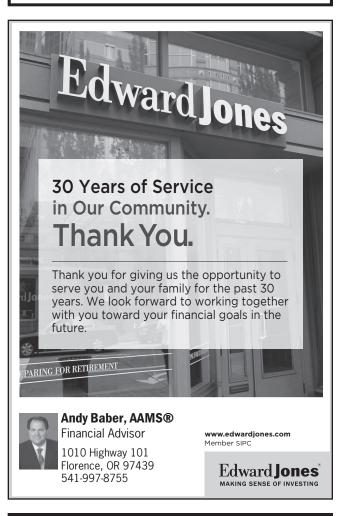


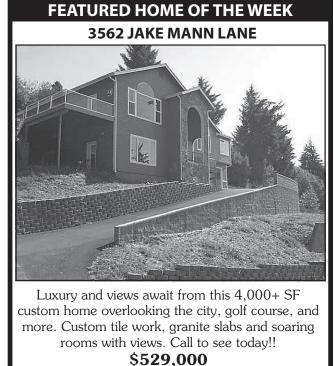


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