

April Community Voices

INSIDE — A5



SEAcost continues season

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VOL. 129, NO. 30

NEWS & VIEWS THAT DEFINE OUR COMMUNITY

FLORENCE, OREGON

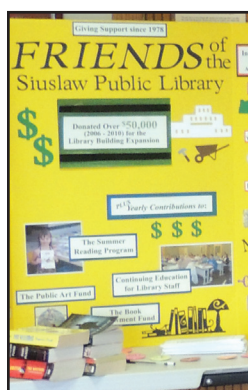
WEATHER



Steady rain with a high of 51 and a low tonight of 42.

Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY



Friends of Library celebrate National Library Week
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SPORTS



Siuslaw opens league play
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NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

'Heartbeat of our community'



Florence Area Community Coalition celebrates volunteers

BY JARED ANDERSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

The Florence Area Community Coalition (FACC) held its annual volunteer appreciation event on Wednesday to honor the hundreds of volunteers and dozens of organizations who share their time and resources in the Siuslaw region.

"We are so thankful for your work as volunteers, for your work in supervising volunteers and giving opportunities and for all the things that you do for Florence," said FACC board member Greg Wood. "For all the good that you've done this past year for other folk, for the goals you've met and the gracious gifts you've given, we are here to say thank you to each

and every one of you." FACC reported that there were 608 volunteers associated with groups such as Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue, the Friends of the Siuslaw Public Library, the Friends of the Florence Events Center, Florence Food Share, Siuslaw Outreach Services and dozens of other organizations.
See COMMUNITY page 9A

'Experiencing the world through volunteering'

Part II: Students consider leaving a legacy in the area

BY JARED ANDERSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

"The main thing is, it's never too late to start volunteering," said Nic Wilkinson, a senior at Siuslaw High School. "I know a lot of people who would be like, 'I've never done this before, and so I'm not going to be good at it, so I'm not going to do it.' Just start whenever. If you ever even have the minor thought of volunteering, just go out and do it. There are so many opportunities."

Wilkinson, along with seniors Samantha Scheer and Audrey Lowder and sophomore Allison Huff, talked about volunteering in honor of National Volunteer Week, which kicked off April 7. In part I of this series, the group described a list of organizations they work with: Rotary Interact, Soroptimist Key Club, Kiwanis Builders Club.

It's a lot of work. Be-

tween volunteering, employment and school work, one could guess that burnout for the teens is inevitable. But really, it was the opposite for the group. In fact, if it was not for volunteering, they wouldn't get anything done.

"When I have more free time, I tend to not do homework," Allison said. "So, on Mondays and Wednesdays when I tutor, I'll sit out on a table over there. And if nobody comes, I'll be doing our homework. If I don't have anything going on, then I won't be doing anything. And I'll just procrastinate everything."

It's also helped them learn the importance of time management.

See TEENS page 10A

Siuslaw School Board seeks one more member

Appointee will serve through end of school year

Just weeks after filling one open position on the Siuslaw School District Board of Directors, the board is again looking for someone to

serve on the board. At the April 10 school board meeting, the directors accepted a letter of resignation from Director Tammy Butler, who held position 5. The board voted to fill the position through an application process, similar to the process completed this month with Director Bob Sneddon.

Applications, available at www.siuslaw.k12.or.us, must be completed and submitted by 5 p.m. on Monday, April 15. At a special board meeting on Wednesday, April 17, the board will interview applicants with the intention of filling the position at that time.

At the start of Wednesday's meeting, Board Chair Suzanne Mann-Heintz welcomed the community, special guests and Sneddon as the newest member of the board.

"Mr. Sneddon was appointed to fill the vacancy from the resignation of Eric Rines. We went through a process where we took applications, the board had a special meeting to interview candidates and we selected Mr. Sneddon as our new board member to fill out the rest of Mr. Rines' term, which actually only goes until June of this year," Mann-Heintz said.

See BOARD page 11A

Dunes City restricts animal feeding, discusses water meters and decides against social media

BY JARED ANDERSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

The Dunes City Council addressed a wide variety of issues in its monthly city council meeting on Wednesday, including passing an ordinance prohibiting feeding wildlife, discussing the purchase of upgraded water meters and debating the efficacy of social media.

The meeting began with the passage of an ordinance prohibiting the feeding of wild animals. The city had received multiple complaints over the past year regarding a burgeoning deer population, and evidence that citizens were worsening the situation by leaving food out specifically for the deer.

"No person shall knowingly place, deposit, distribute, store or scatter food, garbage or any other attractant so as to knowingly constitute a lure, attraction or enticement for deer, raccoon, bear, cougar, coyote, and/or wolf," the ordinance read, which was passed unanimously by the council.

Next on the agenda was an offer to donate land to the city. The parcel, which is only .11 acres, is located near Camp Baker.

"I don't want to accept it without knowing we have a use for it," Mayor Robert Forsythe said, pointing out that the cost for upkeep of the property could cost the city more than it was worth.

"The only thing I can think of is a



COURTESY PHOTO

Dunes City addresses citizen complaints by enacting an ordinance to restrict the feeding of wild animals.

spot to offer for a cell tower," Dunes City Administrator/Recorder Jamie Mills said. "There are not houses down there. The closest thing to it is the Boy Scout Camp. There is no road to get to this lot."

Councilor Susan Snow was concerned that if a cell phone tower was installed, that it could hamper neighboring lots. Regulations require a setback distance for towers, typically one foot for every foot of height of the tower. While there is currently no built property directly surrounding the lot, a tower could hamper land owners' ability to build structures.

However, cell phone service in

the area is limited and could benefit from a tower.

"I think we had information from one of the last meetings that the Boy Scout Camp is in the dead zone for radios and phones," Councilor Sheldon Meyer said. "Something that would enhance the ability for them to make contact if a kid were in trouble. Seems to me a really good use of that piece of property, if it can be used."

Before accepting the donation, the council agreed to investigate if a cell phone tower could be built there, and if it would negatively affect surrounding lots.

See DUNES CITY page 11A

A SAMPLING OF HOMES FOR SALE IN FLORENCE...



4862 OCEANA DRIVE
\$275,000 #11802 MLS#19272989

One Owner Beauty. This 1344 SF 3 bed 2 bath beauty located close to the beach area on secluded flag lot is truly great! This "good cents" home has clean, comfortable, & well-maintained interior & exterior. Two decks off of master & living/dining room lead to the backyard. Home has attached double garage, newer roof, & has been recently repainted. Owner-initiated whole house inspections in advance. Don't miss out on this beauty.



2151 ROYAL ST GEORGES DRIVE
\$385,000 #11772 MLS#19236733

New construction. Now completed! 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home in Sandpines West. Large lot with a cedar fencing. Open great room, quartz counters in the kitchen and bathrooms, stainless kitchen appliances (washer & dryer included) and a custom master suite w/french doors to covered patio. Vaulted ceilings, ductless heat pump and much more.



5033 KELSIE CT.
\$495,000 #11809 MLS#19063421

'MOVE-IN' READY HOME in Heceta South development. Large 1489 square foot shop with RV garage on ground level. Above is a wonderful 1896 SF custom home. Beautifully landscaped yard, open kitchen & floor plan. Views of forested wilderness and wonderful natural vegetation for privacy.

"We're next to the Bridge" 100 Hwy. 101

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