

## Siuslaw Outreach Services advocate wins ‘PASSION’ Award

SOS Advocate and Volunteer Coordinator Lori Oltman was recently the recipient of the coveted P.A.S.S.I.O.N. Award for 2019. This award is presented to the outstanding advocate of the year for the entire state of Oregon. Oltman was presented the award at the annual Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence (OCADSV) Conference in Sunriver this past spring. Passion not only describes Oltman's work ethic, but each letter represents the values of those in the field of DV/SA advocacy. P-perseverance; A-advocacy; S-sensitivity; S-strength; I-integrity; O-optimism; N-nurturance. “Oltman demonstrates all these things in her work,” said SOS Executive Director Bob Teter. Oltman said she was very surprised when OCADSV Executive Director, Vanessa Timmons, read Oltman's name and asked her to join her on the stage. The moment was made extra special for Oltman because her daughter and granddaughter were also attending the event. As Oltman made her way



Lori Oltman

to the stage, Timmons read a portion of her nomination that had been submitted by Teter. In it, Teter noted Oltman's dedicated service and efforts to stay current

on subjects that are important to her clients. Oltman said she was both shocked and deeply honored to be recognized for her efforts to care for her clients and support her team of dedicated staff and volunteers at Siuslaw Outreach Services. When news of her prestigious award was shared with staff and volunteers at SOS, several expressed it was well deserved and they were not at all surprised. Oltman's dedication to her work for the community is well known within the Siuslaw Outreach Services.

## CS2 Savannah Leffler advances to Specialist

Culinary Specialist Savannah Leffler advanced to Culinary Specialist Second Class during an advancement ceremony at Coast Guard Station Siuslaw River on July 1, 2019. CS2 Leffler, originally from Enosburgh, Vt., has served in the Coast Guard for almost three years. She is working towards becoming a Special Aide

and dreams of becoming an Officer someday. CS2 Leffler's grandparents, Judy and Alan Bacon, traveled from Richland, Wash., to attend the ceremony. There are several working components at Station Siuslaw River to make each day run well, including what is prepared in the galley by the Culinary Specialists.



PHOTO BY DEBORAH HELDT CORDONE

From left: Chris Moxley, CS2 Savannah Leffler and grandmother Judy Bacon.

## Ada Grange awards scholarships to SHS seniors

Linda Pugh recently presented Ada Grange's Harley Huff Sr. Memorial Scholarships in the amount of \$500 to Siuslaw seniors (from left) Madison Reynolds, Samantha Scheer and Grace Hammonds for their service to the Florence community.



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# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## Business Planning

Your business should not be put on the back-burner when instituting an emergency preparedness plan. If you are responsible for employees it is your job to make sure your staff members are equipped with the knowledge and capabilities to protect themselves in the face of a disaster.

Simply knowing what to do won't cut it. Your employees need regular training and reminders of standard operating procedures related to your company's emergency plan.

### WHY TEST YOUR PLAN?

Putting your plan to the test will help you find out if it is ready to stand up to a high-stress emergency. Don't think of your test in terms of pass or fail, but focus on improving your plan piece by piece for a more effective comprehensive program. There may be simple fixes you are overlooking that can make your plan a bit more stable, which can make all of the difference in a dangerous situation.

### HOW TO TEST YOUR PLAN

Testing doesn't have to mean full-blown exercises in which you simulate every possible emergency situation. You have a business to run, and putting that much time into executing "mock" disasters probably isn't an effective use of time. Set brief, regular meetings instead. Elicit feedback from your staff to improve your plans, while continually reinforcing their knowledge of procedures, systems and equipment. Keeping an open dialogue on emergency planning also can make sure everyone is on the same page.

### ARE YOU READY?

Ready Rating is a free American Red Cross service that helps businesses, schools and organizations become prepared for disasters. Members of the program are privy to extensive resources, tools and expert advice that can help them improve their ability to withstand disaster while

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