



COMMUNITY CALENDAR INSIDE - A6

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VOL. 129, NO. 92

NEWS &
VIEWS THAT
DEFINE OUR
COMMUNITY
FLORENCE, OREGON

WEATHER



Partly cloudy with a
high of 61 and a low
tonight of 45.

Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY



Chamber features
Rodger Bennett's
photography
INSIDE — A3

SPORTS



Reflecting on the
season
INSIDE — SPORTS

RECORDS

Obituaries &
emergency
response logs
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SIDE SHOW

Activities and
comics every
Saturday
Inside — B4

CLASSIFIEDS

Listings and public
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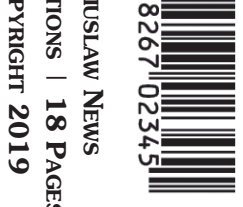
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Pollination conversation

Garden Club discusses pollinators and their importance

The Florence Garden Club's November speaker, Jennifer Ewing, spoke to the group last Wednesday about the importance of the pollination process. Ewing is a retired professional organic gardener that lectures on a wide array of garden and planting related topics. She has worked at the Siskiyou Rare Plant Nursery and one of the most notable of gardening publishing firms, Rodale Press.

The subject of pollination has always been part of the Garden Club's focus, but Ewing spoke about the process with a slightly different twist; she did not spend a lot of time talking about bees.

"We've got lots of other pollinators besides bees. We've got moths and bugs and birds, the wind and us. Just by walking through your garden and doing your garden chores, you are touching things that have pollen on them and you are spreading that pollen in the garden," Ewing said. "And be observant. Observation will teach you a much as reading a book. Plants will tell you what they need and by observing the pollinators in your garden you will learn what works and what doesn't work."

While much of the fruit and vegetables humans grow and eat are pollinated by honeybees, that is not the only way that future food can be pollinated — a concept that Ewing felt was important enough to expand upon.

"I really don't like to use the word pollination, the term I like is 'propagation.' And the more I got into this subject, the more I found out this is quite a big subject to try and understand. So, I want to give you the tools to understand what is going on with pollination and all kinds of pollinators," Ewing said. "I like to educate rather than just preach about which plant will at-



BY MARK BRENNAN
SIUSLAW NEWS

OPEN SOURCE PHOTO

Florence Garden Club's November meeting focused on unusual pollinators, such as this banded woolly bear caterpillar moth, photographed in Toledo, Ore.

tract which critter. I like to educate with a wider knowledge about what is happening in your garden."

Ewing began her presentation with a request wrapped inside a suggestion. She asked the many gardeners in attendance a simple favor.

"Pay attention to the other things in your garden, the things I like to call the 'creepy, crawly things' that are everywhere in your garden," Ewing said. "You can see things flutter and you can see other things happening and you can hear the noises the critters make. And sometimes, I can hear them landing on a plant and even start to munch on it."

There are even some plants that have developed a one-on-one pollination relationship with a pollinator. This relationship might be with a bee or another familiar pollinator, such as a moth or a hummingbird. But it could also be with an insect. Sometimes, the type of insect that lands on a plant in Ewing's garden is unknown to her.

"If I think the bug is not going to fly away immediately, I creep up on it get out my magnifying glass and study it. Then I go inside and pick out one of my identification books and look it up. I've educated myself on what it is and what it is doing to my plants."

See POLLINATOR page 9A

'We're preparing our students to take on careers'

Programs seek to connect youth with new vocational opportunities

BY CHANTELE MEYER
SIUSLAW NEWS

Siuslaw High School students are learning of the multiple ways to have a career through increased Career Technical Education (CTE) classes, partnering with Regional Accelerator and Innovation Network (RAIN) and a new Job Shadow Day coming in 2020.

To promote the school's CTE programs, Florence Area Chamber of Commerce is working with the high school on its first ever Chamber Business After Hours next week, Thursday, Nov. 21, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

According to Siuslaw High School Counselor Steve Moser, "It's kind of different than usual since we aren't a business, but the chamber is really supportive of us doing this Business After Hours."

Moser introduced the after-hours event during the Chamber Noon Forum on Thursday at Best Western Pier Point Inn.

"The idea behind having the Business After Hours at the high school is we really want to highlight our CTE offerings," he said.

These include the culinary and hospitality class, who will be making cookie dough for the annual Rotary Interact Cookie Platter fundraiser; the auto shop, manufacturing and welding technologies area; the creative arts and ceramics room; the school's health occupation students; and music and performing arts.

See CAREERS page 9A

Dunes City focuses talk on encroaching wildlife

BY JARED ANDERSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

Wildlife was the topic of a spirited discussion of the Dunes City Council on Wednesday night, while councilors are faced with the difficult decision on how to handle the population of deer, bears and cougars in the city. The council also discussed a possible trail in Westlake and a long-time controversy surrounding the city's acceptance of certain state revenues.

During last month's meeting, the council discussed a public nuisance complaint concerning the perceived rise in the deer population of the city. It was requested that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) be contacted to count the deer, and if there is an

overpopulation, find a solution. This could include a culling of the population — a controversial move that many residents and council members found objectionable.

"Feeding the deer is not helping them. It draws them closer to civilization where they can be harmed, it makes them a nuisance where they have to be dealt with, and I just hope that all of our citizens recognize that if we love deer, we shouldn't feed them."

— Robert Orr,
Dunes City Councilor

Regarding the deer count, Dunes City has contacted ODFW, who will be doing a deer inventory between now and the end of December.

"This process requires shining spotlights into yards late at night," City Administrator Jamie Mills said. "I have requested that I be notified of exact dates

so I can notify individuals included on our interested parties list in hopes of reducing the number of phone calls regarding intruders during those times. If you are not on

the interested parties list, please contact City Hall to be added."

Mills also announced that an ODFW representative would be holding a discussion during December's Dunes City council meeting, where the public could ask questions regarding the process. And during Wednesday night's public

comment section, it was clear that Dunes City residents had plenty to discuss.

"They are totally plaguing us," said resident Bonnie Lucas, one of the co-signers of the complaint.

"They didn't used to be so bad. There's a guy who comes across the bridge every morning who feeds them. We ask him and ask him not to feed them. He says, 'I love deer,' and keeps feeding them. And now the deer are becoming kind of aggressive."

In the complaint submitted by Lucas and others,

Lucas described sitting on her deck eating a couple of Triscuits when a buck came charging up the steps heading for the crackers.

"It could be a real problem if someone got hurt and knocked down by a deer. So please, help us," Lucas said.

The one thing that most in attendance at the meeting agreed on is that feeding the deer is a problem.

"Feeding the deer is not helping them," Councilor Robert Orr said. "It draws them closer to civilization where they can be harmed, it makes them a nuisance where they have to be dealt with, and I just hope that all of our citizens recognize that if we love deer, we shouldn't feed them."

But how to deal with an overabundance of deer was still up in the air.

See WILDLIFE page 8A

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