

Community News

A NOTE TO MY TEACHERS

BY RAMIRO RAMIREZ, JR.
SIUSLAW HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR

It was just like any other year. New year. New teachers. New classes. New methods. New formulas. New textbooks. New quizzes. New — OK you get the point. All my classes were good in one way or another. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 outbreak had to emerge and ruin almost everything.

It hasn't hit me yet, but it certainly has hit many. It has gotten to the point where we now have to practice social distancing and stay indoors for a majority of our days. Because of this, no more scho — oh wait there's online classes. Oh well.

I am let off a little bit easier than other students because I'm a high school senior, but there is one thing that some students may miss about school. Our teachers.

One thing I've always done in high school is write a little thank you note on a card with some pictures relating to the class I've taken with my teachers. However, I'm going to do things a little different this year.

To all my teachers who taught me this year, thank you.

I know it's a bit awkward to go public on this one, but I know I can make this work. I'll start off with my P.E. Teacher. You have been a thoughtful teacher when it came to the class. You always invited us to participate, no matter our skill level. One of the core things you may have shown us was to have fun. Forget about the competitive nature and thoughts of having to complete exercises. Just go out there, and have fun.

Go at your own pace, but not at a pace where you're comfortable.

Next is the English teacher who taught me through WR 115, WR 121, and WR 122. Your easygoing yet paced attitude and teaching has made studying English more relaxing. The prompts have been able to give us freedoms to write because, well, we do have freedom to write whatever our thoughts are. You have even introduced me to a special song that to this day, I still think about every January.

Fourth period was my College Algebra and College Trigonometry teacher. You are probably one of the most impressive teachers I've ever been a student to. You seem to enjoy things in life and try to make the most of it. You're an active teacher thanks to your role as a coach in the middle school cross country team. Your jokes can manage to make someone's day better. Even if it isn't a great joke, the important thing is that it has made the person's happiness level go up. You also are very caring of the students, willing to set aside some time to help any of us if we get stuck on a problem. It was so nice to be a student of yours.

Next is my Economics and Government teacher. While I haven't experienced what a full year is like with you, what matters was the time in your class. To me, you are what a final year teacher should be. A yearlong test to see if a student is ready to graduate. No extensions unless the student has talked to you and agreed on a certain date to turn in the assignment. Making tests a real test of knowledge and not a test of patterns. Building on the new knowledge on top of the old knowledge. Knowing every game

a last-year student could play and setting them straight. And while all that is there, there is still a side of you that is enjoyable, and good to have a chat with. The projects you gave us were not made to intimidate us, but to have fun with it. I will miss you as your student.

Then there's my AVID Advisor. Thank you thank you thank you for smiling through the entire time. Even though there were some rough patches, you always got back up and smiled because you try to make high school not as painful on the mind as it is. It's something that a freshman teacher should have. I didn't get to experience a full year with you, but what matters most is that I got enough of what I got. Thank you for being a teacher who smiles.

Lastly, there's my Leadership teacher and advisor. First of all, I think you're doing a good job as an advisor. Being in this class has allowed me to share, learn, and grow my skills as a leader. Going on to the future, I am still willing to learn how to be a better leader. Even if there are any setbacks, failures are what make us better.

And there you have it. A little 'Thank You' note to all the teachers from this school year, but I'm not forgetting my past teachers as well. Whether you still teach here or not, I thank you for giving your time to help me grow into the person I am. I may be out of the classroom for now, but I don't need to be surrounded by four walls and sitting at a desk to learn. Plus, I've got college coming up. But college is a whole different story.

To all the teachers who taught us at Siu-slaw, thank you.

Habitat holds drive-thru can bottle, collection

Florence Habitat for Humanity ReStore volunteers help gather donations for the Bottle and Can Drive Thru event, held May 8 and 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The social distance friendly fundraiser saw Habitat helpers unloading hundreds of bottles and cans from drive-up donors at the back of the Habitat Restore while a garage sale was held in the front parking lot. For more info, visit www.florencehabitat.org.



JARED ANDERSON/
SIUSLAW NEWS

Local employee recognized as Banner Bank's Best



Two Oregon Banner Bank employees have been selected to receive the Banner's Best award. This award represents the highest level of recognition within the company and the recipients are truly Banner's best.

Locally, Blake Beatson, Senior Personal Banker of the Florence Branch, received the **Blake Beatson, Senior Personal Banker of Banner Bank in Florence**

Banner's Best award for surpassing his individual professional goals in 2019, demonstrating excellence within his respective professions, and exemplifying outstanding service to clients, community and fellow colleagues.

"During challenging times, and perhaps especially during such times, it's important to honor those who exemplify our value proposition of be-

ing connected, knowledgeable, responsive," said Mark Grescovich, Banner Bank President and CEO. "It is my pleasure to recognize our Banner's Best employees for delivering outstanding service to our clients, communities and one-another."

Fewer than four percent of all Banner employees receive this award. Recipients are selected by members of executive leadership.

State issues emergency order for health insurance companies

The Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services issued a new emergency order for health insurance companies during the COVID-19 outbreak.

The order requires health insurance companies to:

- Provide at least a 60-day grace period to pay any past due premiums

- Pay claims for any covered services during the first 30 days of the grace period

- Extend all deadlines for reporting claims and other communications, and provide members with communication options that meet physical distancing standards

"It is encouraging to see the

state's health insurers step up to support both their customers and health care providers during this time," said Andrew Stolli, insurance commissioner and DCBS acting director. "Providing grace periods and paying claims will provide peace of mind for Oregonians and help health care providers get paid

for these essential services when they need it the most."

The order enables Oregonians to continue receiving health insurance coverage and have their claims paid. It also ensures health care providers receive payment for the services they are diligently providing their patients as the COVID-19 outbreak continues to disrupt everyone's daily lives and the state's ordinary course of business.

The order is in effect through June 3 and can be extended.

Oregonians who have a self-insured plan should check with their employer about their coverage options.

Call the Division of Financial Regulation's advocacy team at 888-877-4894 (toll-free) or visit dfr.oregon.gov.

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAY 9	MAY 10	MAY 11	MAY 12	MAY 13	MAY 14	MAY 15
Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Showers	Light Rain	Showers	AM Showers	Showers
64°F 50°F	63°F 50°F	58°F 50°F	57°F 49°F	57°F 49°F	59°F 50°F	62°F 51°F

Health is our #1 Priority!

At Shervin's we are taking extra precaution in order to ensure that our customers and staff are kept safe and healthy during this quickly changing situation.

1 Car Sanitation – All cars are wiped down with a sanitizer before and after the service. We wipe down any areas in the interior where employees have touched, such as door handles, the steering wheel, keys, shifters and power window panels.

2 Hand Sanitation - Our staff will continue to wash their hands throughout the day and change gloves after each car they service.

3 Give Customers Options - We will pick up and deliver your vehicle to your home. You may also drop your key in our secure mailbox for drop-offs to avoid or minimize contact.

4 Employee Illness is Serious - We are encouraging employees not to shake hands. We are practicing "personal distancing" and encouraging employees to stay home if they feel under the weather.

5 Wipe Down High Touch Points - We wipe/spray counters, credit card machines, door handles, phone handles, kitchen areas, and chair arms and tables in waiting area multiple times a day.

We continue to be focused and committed to working with each of you to ensure we continue to meet and exceed your expectations. We are here for you.

We thank you for your business and more importantly, your friendship. Please be safe and exercise extra precaution during this challenging time.



SHERVIN'S
Tire & Automotive
541-997-8052
4515 Hwy 101, Florence, OR

Watch
"In Search of the Lord's Way"
Sunday, 7:30 AM
KMTR Cable Channel 12
Western Lane Translator Channel 16.2
Then visit the
Florence church of Christ
1833 Tamarack
Florence, Oregon

and experience the joy and simplicity of
pre-denominational New Testament Worship. (Romans 16:16)

Bible Study: Sunday, 10:00 am
Worship: Sunday, 11:00 am

www.churchofchristflorence.org

Cindy Wobbe

ESTATE SALES & LIQUIDATIONS

Our next
ONLINE ESTATE SALE
starts **Wednesday, May 13, 2pm**

Featuring an exceptional collection of
Pacific Northwest First Nations Alaskan
Artwork and Lot #4 from the Ternyik Estate.

Visit our website for the sale album link,
or sign-up to receive email notification as soon as
the sale goes live.

Visit: www.CindyWobbeEstates.com
Local delivery / Curbside pick-up

WWW.CINDYWOBBEESTATES.COM
RING 541.999-0126

Doing Good.
Giving Back.

Do you part and volunteer today to help support
these organizations in our community.

Florence Food Share provides food to those who are hungry in our community. If you have four hours a week available, we are in need of volunteers to staff our Front Desk and also act as Guides as clients walk through the pantry. Please call our volunteer coordinator, Sarah Lovejoy, @ 541-997-9110 (Monday – Friday, before noon) to learn more about volunteering. info@florencefoodshare.org 2190 Spruce Street.

Florence Habitat for Humanity®

Bored? Looking for social distancing activities?
We have social distancing volunteer opportunities available.
Give us a call 541-902-9227

Assisting those in need in our Community.
Free Hot Meals Mon-Wed-Fri
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

HELPING HANDS COALITION
New Location: Community Baptist Church
4590 Hwy. 101, Florence (Across from Fred Meyer)
Call 541-997-5057 to Volunteer

There are many opportunities to volunteer and a variety of skills and talents are always in need.
Volunteer interest forms may be found online, at the shelter and at our Thrift Shop on Bay Street.

www.oregoncoasthumanesociety.org/volunteer/

Join the Peace Harbor Hospital Volunteers.
You will find an area of interest in a caring organization.

Peace Harbor Volunteers
400 9th Street, Florence, OR 97439
541-997-8412 ext. 2218

Us TOO FLORENCE
PROSTATE CANCER
EDUCATION & SUPPORT
www.ustoooflorence.org

Saving men one
PSA test at a time.
541-997-6626
maribob@oregonfast.net
Someone to talk to... who understands!

To include your organization
in this directory, please call us
@ 541-997-3441

Western Lane Fire & EMS
Mental Health Mobile Crisis Response

Join Our Team!

Hiring dependable, compassionate Community Support Team members to provide crisis intervention & emergency mental health support. Some experience in counseling, emergency response or related work; good driving record; and clear criminal background required. On-call a min of three 24-hr shifts/mo + meetings. Training provided. On-call stipend, hourly pay and monthly cell stipend.

Visit svfr.org for info or call (541) 997-3212.