



KCST 'Athletes of the Year'

A Restrospective of 2019-20

INSIDE — C

SOS provides additional monetary support

Organization seeks to help with COVID-related bills

BY MARK BRENNAN
SIUSLAW NEWS

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the lives of many area residents. While there are signs that the economy will recover and many who have lost jobs, or have been surviving on reduced wag-

es, might soon be fully employed, hundreds of area residents have been left unemployed and unable to pay for basic necessities.

The federal government has passed multiple financial support packages, but not all of the monies allocated have been distributed to those most in need. And while money approved and allocated for distribution to those effected is forthcoming, primarily through the CARE Act, there is often a time lag or other issues that impact

those that need help from receiving it in a timely manner.

Siuslaw Outreach Services (SOS) is the area's frontline responder for individuals and families in crisis, serving the area in that capacity since 1986. During that time, the social services organization has established itself as an effective advocate for the challenged and disadvantaged in the local community.

SOS has recently received COVID related financial support

for area residents, and according to Executive Director Bob Teter, the nonprofit is prepared to provide financial assistance during this extremely difficult time.

"In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, SOS has once again stepped up. While many human services agencies closed their doors and sent workers home in March, SOS remained vigilant in continuing to aid," Teter said.

See SUPPORT page 5A

Siuslaw News
NEWS & VIEWS THAT DEFINE OUR COMMUNITY
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WEATHER



Partly sunny with a high of 63 and a low tonight of 47.
Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY



Lane County Master Gardeners keep it growing
INSIDE — A3

LIFESTYLE



Kiwanis honors 2020 Senior Class
INSIDE — B

RECORDS

Obituaries & response logs
Inside — A2

NEW: TV GUIDE

Inside — B3-B4

KIDS CORNER

Activities for kids
Inside — B5

CLASSIFIEDS

Listings and notices
Inside — B6

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3 SECTIONS | 20 PAGES
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ALERT

OHA confirms first Florence COVID-19 case

BY NED HICKSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

Two weeks after the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) announced it would be reporting confirmed cases of novel coronavirus COVID-19 by zip code, the agency has confirmed the first case of the virus in Florence. Due to the way the OHA is reporting cases based on community size — with smaller communities being listed by a ratio of 1-9 rather than the individual number cases — the OHA map shows the 97439 zip code with "1 to 9" confirmed cases as of Tuesday morning, June 2.

Lane County has a total of 9 new COVID-19 cases reported by Lane County Public Health (LCPH), all centered in the Eugene-Springfield area, with five of those new cases affecting individuals in their 40s, one of whom has been hospitalized but reportedly

See CASE page 5A



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Christmas in June, a local effort to assist in financially supporting area residents during the COVID-19 pandemic, began on Monday, June 1. The project was conceived and initiated by former pilot and active community member Sam Spayd (pictured above with Nicki Lorenz and Cherry Holmes) and is focused on providing grants to those negatively impacted by the pandemic. The program is asking community members who have the financial means to contribute to Christmas in June by donating at collection sites at Fred Meyer, BI-Mart and Grocery Outlet. Spayd is also looking for individuals to help at collection sites and with networking. To contribute to or apply for aid, contact Spayd at 541-991-6139.

'Deserving of recognition'

Regional Scholarship Ceremony honors Siuslaw, Mapleton students

The annual Siuslaw Regional Scholarship Awards Ceremony was presented Saturday night,

as dozens of awards were given to local students from various organizations both regional and statewide. For the first time the ceremony, hosted by the Siuslaw School District, was presented live via video.

"I want to thank you all for taking the time as we gather to acknowledge the achievements of tonight's honored seniors, and support their education and

See SCHOLARSHIPS page 5A

Mapleton business class adapts to new technology

Teacher and student weigh in on future of Siuslaw's economy

BY JARED ANDERSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

Just as Mapleton High School teacher Juline Walker was getting into her Introduction to Business class at the beginning of the semester, the pandemic shut the schools down. While there have been downsides to the virtual classes, Walker believes that there have also been positives.

"I think the students have seen their teachers have to adapt to a new format and see us learning new technologies," Walker said. "The reality is, whatever career they go into, whether it's business or the medical field or finance, they're going to have to adapt and stay current on newer technologies and information. I think students learning these skills of adapting and being flexible are going to be transferable skills they're going to take with them beyond high school as well."

But one of the biggest questions that was raised during the time was

what the future will look like for her students in the world of business.

"I think it is definitely making them think about business in a different way than how they were thinking about it in the beginning of the year," Walker said.

From record unemployment to dire predictions by some economists, students like 10th grader Opal Burruss have taken the opportunity to think about what the job market will look like when they graduate.

"I'm not sure about that," she said. "The job market is so broad, and within areas there will be more jobs than others. I think right now, there's a lot less jobs than tourism jobs. There's still jobs in technology. It really depends on where you look at the job market."

It's a conversation that leads to some big questions about the future of the region, from how an isolated economy like Mapleton and the Siuslaw region as a whole can grow, and what students like Burruss have

to prepare for in an uncertain world.

Walker's class has multiple goals, starting with teaching students the basics of business.

"It's really cool, we've been doing various business things," Burruss said. "We've been learning the basics of what's been happening in the business world, and how you set up a business, and what a nonprofit is. All the basic knowledge stuff"

They talked about investing in the future and marketing, both how to implement it and how to understand it to become a wiser customer. "It's understanding how advertising is affecting us, even in our day to day decisions," Walker said.

And it also exists to help the Mapleton and Siuslaw economy grow.

"A lot of the other businesses we see in our area are small business owners, whether they're working construction or finance or restaurants," Walker said. "Having some of those skills I think is really valuable for students who might want to

See BUSINESS page 6A

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