



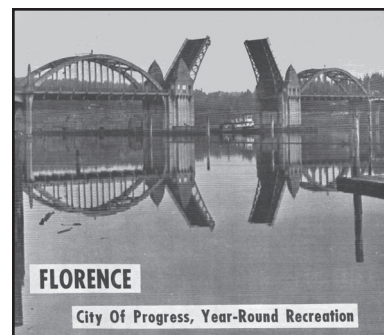


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SIUSLAW NEWS:
A LOOK BACK AT
130 YEARS
INSIDE — A7

Regional fire crews battle 500-acre fire near Mapleton



STORY & PHOTOS
BY NED HICKSON
SIUSLAW NEWS

Sweet Creek fire blazes on for fourth day; cause still under investigation

This past Sunday (Aug. 30) afternoon, Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) firefighters, along with Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO), Western Lane Ambulance and firefighters from Mapleton, Swisshome/Deadwood and Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue, responded to reports of multiple wildfires along a three-mile stretch of Sweet Creek Road near

Mapleton. As of today, fire crews remain engaged with what has been named the Sweet Creek Milepost 2 Fire. Initially reported as a number of separate fires, the blaze merged into a single 500-acre wildfire near Hadsell Creek Road, prompting multiple levels of evacuation notices for area residents. Sunday evening, LCSO issued a

Level 3 (Go immediately) evacuation for residents of Hadsell Creek Road, and a Level 2 (Get Set - Be ready to leave) evacuation orders for other Sweet Creek Road residents. By evening, several homes in the Hadsell Creek area had been evacuated, displacing a number of families. Temporary housing was made available by the Red Cross. By Monday evening, A Level 1

evacuation notice had also been issued for Bernhardt Creek Road and Duncan Island Road due to the fire danger. As of Tuesday morning, the fire remained 0 percent contained but fire crews providing structural protection to the 138 homes in the area had reported no losses.

See FIRE page 6A

LRAPA rates Florence's air quality as 'good'

County levels remain healthy despite Sweet Creek Fire

BY CHANTELE MEYER
SIUSLAW NEWS

Area residents left their homes Tuesday morning to the smell of smoke and hazy skies as smoke from the 500-acre Sweet Creek Fire near Mapleton traveled downriver to Florence.

According to Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA), which monitors air quality across the county, Florence's air quality remains in the "good" range.

On Tuesday, LRAPA Public Affairs Manager Travis Knudsen said, "Right now, air quality across all of Lane County, and even out farther to the west getting into the Florence area, is still good. ... It's been there fairly consistently over the last couple of days, which is fortunate considering the proximity to the Sweet Creek Fire and some of the smoke that has kind of started to pick up in the air."

He said that although the smoke is smellable in the air, air quality has not degraded.

LRAPA reports air quality through its Oregon 24-Hour Air Quality Index Map on www.lrapa.org. Current air quality is displayed See SMOKE page 6A

Boys & Girls Club seeks to help kids keep 'PACE'

BY MARK BRENNAN
SIUSLAW NEWS

The Boys and Girls clubs of Western Lane County (BGC) is stepping up to fill part of the void left by shortened class hours and limited class sizes at the Siuslaw School District.

BGC Executive Director Chuck Trent said he and his staff want to support the district's distance learning plan and are set to begin on-site learning that incorporates guidelines and curriculum from the Siuslaw School District. There are minimal fees required for student attendance. The first day of school is scheduled for Monday, Sept. 14, with the

week of Sept. 8 to 11 focusing on technology orientation, training and distribution for school district students and teachers. BGC's program will begin that same day. "We know that schools starting the year with distance learning pos-

es a challenge for working families. In collaboration with the distance learning plans that the Siuslaw School District is implementing, we have created the Prepare Kids for Academic Success Through Collaboration and Enrichment — or

PACE," Trent said "PACE is an all-day program that will allow our staff to help children with their distance learning activities in the morning while engaging in traditional club activities in the afternoon." According to Trent, the club has a very limited number of spaces available for interested families and encourages those wanting to enroll their children to call and check on availability as soon as possible.

"We will prioritize families that need five days a week of care," said Trent. "A family that may not need all five days is welcome to sign up, but the club will not discount the weekly rate." See CLUB page 7A

"We strongly encourage families to contact both state and federal elected officials to help garner support for relief funding. Your voice needs to be heard loud and strong." — Boys and Girls clubs of Western Lane County Executive Director Chuck Trent

Candidates file for November General Election

BY MARK BRENNAN
SIUSLAW NEWS

The deadline for filing to run in the Nov. 3, 2020, General Election or drop from the election officially ended Aug. 29. Lane County Elections and the Oregon Secretary of State have begun listing candidates and measures that will be included in the election. As of Sept. 1, the individuals running in the Nov. 3 Election in Florence are as follows:

- City of Florence Mayor: two-year term.
- Joe Henry, incumbent
- Jo Beaudreau
- City of Florence Councilor: There are two open positions for four-year terms, with voters being asked to select two candidates for the positions.
- Maggie Bagon
- Bill Meyer
- Sally Wantz
- * NOTE: Candidate Dan Lofy withdrew his candidacy as of Aug. 25.

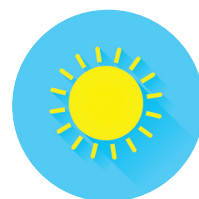
In addition, there is also currently an opening on the Florence City Council following the Aug. 17 resignation of former Councilor Geraldine Prociw. The process for filling that open position will not be part of the Nov. 3 election. Instead, the Florence City Council and city staff are currently considering how to fill the empty seat on the five-person council.

- Dunes City

Dunes City Council has several terms ending, including the mayor and three councilors. The Dunes See ELECTION page 6A

Siuslaw News
NEWS & VIEWS THAT DEFINE OUR COMMUNITY
VOL. 130, NO. 70
FLORENCE, OREGON

WEATHER



Sunny with a high of 74 and a low tonight of 53.
Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY



Weekend art show benefits First Step
INSIDE — A3

LIFESTYLE



10th annual Siuslaw Open
INSIDE — B

RECORDS
Obituaries & response logs
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NEW: TV GUIDE
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KIDS CORNER
Activities for kids
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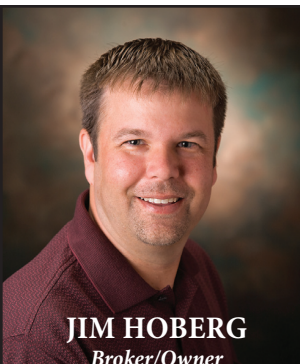
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