

# Community News

## Ellis Island Day goes virtual at Siuslaw Middle School

Heather Wiggins, Social Studies teacher at Siuslaw Middle School, has partnered with the acting troupe "Living Voices" of Seattle for the last six years to bring a unique and memorable educational experience to her eighth-grade students. The 2021 event was sponsored by the Florence Elks Lodge #1858 and produced by FACE (Florence Arts, Culture and Entertainment).

Living Voices' "Ellis Island — The New American" program has been held at SMS each February since 2015, with three live presentations attended by every eighth-grade student in the morning. The interactive event allows each student to experience the live reenacting as the immigrant experience, circa 1912, and engage in the ensuing question and answer session.

Wiggins then devotes the students' afternoon with their own reenactment of arrival at Ellis Island, with students taking on the name and persona of an actual immigrant, while other students act as immigration officials, nurses and

**In 2019, Heather Wiggins and her Siuslaw Middle School students were able to get dressed up to participate in Living Voices' presentation.**

policemen to set up their own "reenacted Ellis Island."

"The New American" tells the story of the fictional Bridget Fitzgerald from a poor farm family in rural Ireland. The Fitzgeralds can barely scratch out a living, and in 1912 her father sends Bridget to America in hopes she will be able to send back enough money to save their home.

Bridget travels in steerage on a steamship headed for New York. At Ellis Island, she is tagged and numbered along with thousands of immigrants and crammed into a huge, noisy facility. After a barrage of tests and a long list of confusing and embarrassing questions, Bridget is passed through and taken to Manhattan, where she begins work at a sweatshop.

Through many challenges, and after studying for and passing



SIUSLAW NEWS FILE PHOTO

the citizenship exam, Bridget fully embraced her new homeland. Through it all, students learn what American liberty and opportunity mean to people around the world.

The story is presented as a live reenactment by Rachael McClinton, one of the founders of Living Voices. Using a multimedia program, she becomes Bridget Fitzgerald and makes her story come alive. After the story closes, the students are encouraged to walk through major points of the saga,

ask questions, and think critically about what immigration to America means — then and now.

That was Ellis Island Day at Siuslaw from 2015 to 2020, before the pandemic.

In 2021, with students taking classes almost entirely in their homes, it seemed that this year's eighth graders — the class of 2025 — would miss out on this unique day. But thanks to technology, ingenuity and the hard work of the reenactors and many others, Ellis Island Day went on ... virtually.

The event was held as a two-day event via Zoom Webinar, with the reenactment portion shown to students on their home Chromebooks. The following day, actresses conducted live Question & Answer sessions with each class.

Siuslaw School District Tech Specialist Chris Rowbotham ran the middle school technical aspects. The school does not use Zoom meetings for daily teaching, so this required flexibility and adopting a learning curve. Plus, students could "raise their hand" in a Zoom meet-

ing. The Zoom webinar features were helpful, especially in the Q&A with questions posted anonymously. Students in their four regular class periods had their own Q&A and discussion sessions.

"With just a few minor glitches, the two days went very well," said Wiggins. "The students were able to watch the recorded segment on Wednesday and ask questions of the actresses on Thursday."

For a West Coast perspective, prior to Ellis Island Day, Wiggins conducted a short session on immigration through Angel Island in San Francisco Bay (1910-1940).

The FACE Team sent special thanks to the Elks Lodge #1858 for sponsoring this event in its seventh year. Kudos also went to Rowbotham for making the Zoom meeting work almost seamlessly; Wiggins for keeping the students engaged; SMS Principal Andy Marohl; and SEAcost, which helped launch the event in 2015.

For more information on FACE, contact the Florence Events Center.

**Getting rid of 'Huh?' for over 20 years**

Call today to schedule an appointment.  
**541.991.4475**

**HEARING ASSOCIATES of Florence**

HearingAssociatesofFlorence.com FLORENCE • 1901 Hwy 101, Ste A

Scott C. Anderson, Au.D.  
Steven G. Anderson, Au.D.

**SHERWOOD ISLAND RD, FLORENCE**

**\$299,000**  
Listing #1015/20688422  
• 5.74 acres!  
• Filtered lake views  
• Utilities available

3 tax lots and over 5 1/2 acres! Septic approval already on file, electricity and water available. Come build your dream home with filtered lake views!

**WEST COAST REAL ESTATE SERVICES, INC.**

We Are Your "West Coast Team"

1870 HWY 126, SUITE A  
PO BOX 3040  
FLORENCE, OR 97439

CALL US AT: 541-997-7653  
OR TOLL FREE: 866-967-7653

WWW.WCRESI.COM

## Windermere rallies to help Lane County amid pandemic

During a year marked by challenge, local real estate brokers, staff and owners with Windermere Real Estate/Lane County did their part in answering the call to help the less fortunate in local communities.

Through the Windermere Foundation, a total of \$18,900 was given to charities in Lane County that support low-income children and families in 2020.

Windermere also pivoted its traditional volunteer campaigns throughout the year to address the most immediate needs of the community, including raising money for wildfire relief efforts and hosting a virtual winter necessity fundraiser.

The \$18,900 in donations from the Windermere Foundation benefited charities throughout Eugene, Florence and Vida. Among them were the Boys and Girls Clubs of Western

Lane County, Crossroads Church, Kids First, CASA of Lane County, WomenSpace, Food for Lane County and Florence Food Share.

Moreover, when fires ravaged local communities, brokers from Windermere Real Estate/Lane County raised an additional \$14,005 in just 48 hours to benefit relief efforts, including the local American Red Cross. More than monetary donations, brokers also spent countless hours volunteering at evacuation shelters, providing emergency supplies and meals, and offering their homes to displaced people and animals.

When Windermere's annual Community Service Day was cancelled — a 35-year-old tradition where owners, brokers and staff volunteer in their local neighborhoods on the same day each June — local volunteers decided to

spread out their efforts so as not to lose the spirit of community service while keeping everyone safe.

Windermere brokers spent three consecutive Fridays in August volunteering for the Food for Lane County GrassRoots Garden, helping with whatever the greatest need was, including pulling weeds and general upkeep/maintenance.

With more than 2.5 acres, volunteers had ample space to social distance while helping the nonprofit with their mission.

In addition, rather than cancel its Share the Warmth campaign — an annual winter tradition that has benefited local neighborhoods through donations of coats, blankets and other items for nearly two decades — Windermere hosted a virtual fundraiser to help local charities purchase winter necessities

for community members in need. Beneficiaries in Lane County included Siuslaw Outreach Services and Whiteaker Community Dinners.

Windermere Real Estate/Lane County is part of the larger Windermere Foundation, serving the Western U.S. since 1989. Along with launching its own fundraising activities and providing personal donations, brokers donate a portion of every commission to the Windermere Foundation for every home bought or sold through Windermere. To date, Windermere has raised more than \$43 million in donations, supporting programs and organizations that provide shelter, clothing, children's programs, emergency assistance and other services to those in need.

For more information, visit [www.windermere.com](http://www.windermere.com).

## Free weekly online parenting classes offered beginning March 22

The phrase "Babies don't come with instructions" has often been said when it comes to parenting.

In spite of the old adage, every first-time parent wants to do their best to

provide the love and nurturing that babies need.

For that reason, Safe Shelter for Siuslaw Students and West Lane County Safe Families for Children are offering an online parenting course for families and caregivers of babies and toddlers, ages birth to 3.

The course is called "Start Strong" and will be presented by renowned author and educator Dr. Becky Bailey, founder of Conscious Discipline. This e-Learning

experience addresses the needs of the adults first, then addresses the needs of the child during the critical early years of development.

The ability to recognize and manage both mild and toxic stress is an adult prerequisite for equipping the next generation to do the same. The way we respond to the needs of infants and toddlers will help or inhibit them from forming healthy life patterns.

Classes will be offered on

Mondays at 7:30 p.m., beginning March 22.

Costs for the course are paid by a generous grant from The Ford Family Foundation; there are no fees for participants.

Preregistration is required to access class materials and sign on information.

To pre-register, contact Suzanne Mann-Heintz at 541-590-0779 or email her at [Suzanne@safeshelterforsiuslawstudents.org](mailto:Suzanne@safeshelterforsiuslawstudents.org).

**CITY LIGHTS CINEMAS**

\$9.50 | \$8.50 Sen/Student/Military | \$8 Mats - 1st Show | \$7.50 Child | \$6.50 Members | Performing Arts: \$17/\$13/\$10

March 12 - 18	FRI 12	SAT 13	SUN 14	MON 15	TUE 16	WED 17	THU 18
<b>CHAOS WALKING</b> - Daisy Ridley, Tom Holland PG-13 108 MIN - A dystopian world where there are no women and all living creatures can hear each other's thoughts in a stream of images, words, & sounds called Noise.	1:15 PM 4:15 PM 7:15 PM	1:15 PM 4:15 PM 7:15 PM	1:15 PM 4:15 PM	12:45 PM 7:15 PM	12:45 PM 7:15 PM	12:45 PM 7:15 PM	12:45 PM 7:15 PM
<b>THE COURIER</b> - Benedict Cumberbatch PG-13 111 MIN - "A satisfying good [film]—a story that's at its best when it colors outside the black and white (or Communist red, as it were) lines of war and hones in on the real, fallible men and women who fight it, one quiet inglorious step at a time." EW							7:00 PM
<b>NEWS OF THE WORLD</b> - PG-13 118 MIN "Paul Greengrass and Tom Hanks have given us something truly special with their latest collaboration: a film that is engaging and challenging but also just makes you feel good."	12:45 PM 3:45 PM 6:45 PM	12:45 PM 3:45 PM 6:45 PM	12:45 PM 3:45 PM	12:00 PM 6:30 PM	12:00 PM 6:30 PM	12:00 PM 6:30 PM	12:00 PM
<b>NOMADLAND</b> - Winner of 4 Golden Globes Best Picture, Director, Actress & Screenplay! R 108 MIN - "Nomadland will almost physically take you places. It's a beautiful, absolutely gorgeous motion picture." Uproxx	1:00 PM 4:00 PM 7:00 PM	1:00 PM 4:00 PM 7:00 PM	1:00 PM 4:00 PM	12:15 PM 6:45 PM	12:15 PM 6:45 PM	12:15 PM 6:45 PM	12:15 PM 6:45 PM
<b>RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON</b> - PG 117 MIN "On its own gorgeously depicted terms, this film sticks the landing as a celebration of hope, a manifestation of what unfettered trust in our shared humanity could look like." Slant	1:30 PM 4:30 PM 7:30 PM	1:30 PM 4:30 PM 7:30 PM	1:30 PM 4:30 PM	12:30 PM 7:00 PM	12:30 PM 7:00 PM	12:30 PM 7:00 PM	12:30 PM 6:30 PM

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>MARCH 13</b>	<b>MARCH 14</b>	<b>MARCH 15</b>	<b>MARCH 16</b>	<b>MARCH 17</b>	<b>MARCH 18</b>	<b>MARCH 19</b>
Partly Cloudy	Rain	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Showers	Showers
54°F 44°F	49°F 37°F	50°F 37°F	55°F 40°F	56°F 45°F	55°F 45°F	53°F 43°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

**CITY LIGHTS @HOME**

**COMING SOON**

**PERFUMES**

**THE FOOD CLUB**

COMING SOON

@Home is Virtual Cinema: Visit our website for more info on our new @HOME platform - see great films, support CLC.  
Box Office opens 30 min. prior to 1st Film | 1930 HWY 101 | [www.citylightscinemas.com](http://www.citylightscinemas.com) | Times: 541-305-0014