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Greater Florence Area
Business
Quarterly
INSIDE — A9-A10

Siuslaw News
NEWS &
VIEWS THAT
DEFINE OUR
COMMUNITY
VOL. 131, NO. 29
APRIL 10, 2021
FLORENCE, OREGON

WEATHER



Partly sunny
with a high of 48
and a low of 36.
Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY



Local groups plan
events
INSIDE — A3

SPORTS



Softball returns
INSIDE — B

RECORDS

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comics every
Saturday
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Vets rally 'round flagpole, local family

Community offers support, fundraising after tragedy



Local veterans and community members met at Clawson's Wheelhouse on Monday to hold a fundraiser for a restaurant employee and her family. The event doubled as the chance to celebrate the restaurant's new flagpole and the flying of the American flag.

STORY & PHOTOS
BY MARK BRENNAN
SIUSLAW NEWS

The owners and clientele of local restaurant Clawson's Wheelhouse held a fundraising breakfast April 5 to help defray costs associated with the tragic suicide of Siuslaw High School junior Adam Price late last month.

Adam's mother, Jaime Price, is a waitress at Clawson's. Her son's

death has reminded the community that the dangers presented by the COVID-19 pandemic extend beyond the virus itself and older members of the community. The impacts of isolation experienced by many is still being felt and analyzed.

But though the reasons for Adam's death by suicide may have been amplified by the isolation associated with the pandemic, the roots of his anger and pain stretch

back well before 2020 and, unfortunately, stem from an all-too-common source: domestic abuse.

"Adam had been through hell because of his dad, and Adam had made it back. It was almost like a miracle," said Jaime, who was forthcoming with her thoughts on the possible motivations behind her son's death. "All of us [in the family] are survivors of domestic abuse. Adam had spent a lot of time with his dad and, for a long time, he

tried to be like him" Jaime continued. "But he realized he was different than his father and didn't want to be like that. Deep down, he was a really good kid — but he was just so hurt that it was tough for him for so long."

In many ways, young people have been more impacted by the isolation and lack of social contact with peers and educators than adult family members. That is particularly

See SUPPORT page 5A

Safe Families, 90by30 partner to prevent child abuse

The 90by30 Child Abuse Prevention Program of Lane County has the aspirational goal of reducing child abuse and neglect by 90 percent by the year 2030. When west Lane County communities were surveyed in 2014, nearly 90 percent of respondents said the goal was important and the responsibility of the whole community.

Given this directive, a growing number of stalwart community volunteers have been working to implement "preventive strategies" throughout the Siuslaw region, with each of the strategies backed by research that demonstrates effectiveness.

"If a community has enough of these preventive strategies in place, parents will feel more supported, will know how to access resources in times of difficulty, and will be less apt to hurt or neglect their children," said Suzanne Mann-Heintz, director of the 90by30 program. "It's like building a safety net for children to keep them from falling into the sea of adversities that can take them down."

One of the newest strategies is the development of Host Home Teams using the model employed



COURTESY PHOTO

Blue pinwheel gardens are sprouting all over western Lane County as businesses, homes, nonprofits and more vow to prevent child abuse.

by Safe Families for Children. Safe Families is an international program based on the mandate "to care for the most vulnerable amongst us." West Lane Safe Families for Children was officially formed in February of 2021 in collaboration with Safe Shelter for Siuslaw Students; Safe Families for Children of Lane County became a partner with 90by30 in July 2020.

The Host Home Teams model provides a structure for taking

care of children in times of need.

Arrangements can be short-term or long-term; maybe a single parent is having surgery and needs someone to care for their children for a few weeks; maybe a parent becomes homeless and needs their children to be cared for while they take steps to find a home; maybe a working parent needs childcare but can't afford it or find a provider; or maybe a teenager can't

See PREVENT page 7A

Improving mental health in Lane County

Prevention Lane addresses suicide, wellbeing in western Lane County

BY CHANTELE MEYER
SIUSLAW NEWS

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the talking points has been concerns about mental health. With so many people working from home and students enrolling in comprehensive distance learning, how were people coping with isolation and stress?

Roger Brubaker, MPH, Senior Community Health Analyst with Prevention Lane, is one of the people following research on how the past year has impacted people's mental health in Lane County.

As a branch of Lane County Public Health (LCPH), Prevention Lane's mission is to lead efforts to plan, promote and create the optimal social environmental conditions

See HEALTH page 6A

Earth Day Porch Parade. Restore Our Earth.

Decorate your front porch or yard or business. Pick up an Earth Day sign at Beaux Arts, Silver Lining or Austentatious for only \$3, OT 2/\$5! Decorate your mailbox with flowers, fill a wheelbarrow with plants, create animals with recycled materials, put roadside trash clean-up in a bag with a smiley face, paint an old pallet, hang bird feeders, make a ladder planter. Use what you have! Be Creative! Certificate awards go to the Most Imaginative Use of Upcycled Materials, Best Child Created, Best Group Entry, Best Theme Related. Send name and address to florenceoregonearthday or teenasan67@gmail.com.

