

LEAGUE from page 1A

Grundon has been navigating the challenges of promoting student participation in firearm related activities during a time of national attention directed at gun violence. He is confident that proper training can be a tool used to decrease shootings through education and understanding.

"I believe in the league's core values, which are: safety being the No. 1 concern, and then for the athletes to have fun and develop marksmanship — in that order," he said. "There are a lot of misconceptions and mixed emotions when it comes to instructing students about firearms."

By starting this program, Grundon said he hopes he can teach students the critical importance of safety and proper handling of firearms so that they can safely enjoy the wide variety of shooting sports.

On the other side, there has also been concern about the district even offering shooting as a team sport.

"We have received a lot of support from many in the community, mostly because there is a strong tradition of hunting and shooting in this area," Grundon said. "Our community is unique because a significant number of families are active hunters and have passed on this legacy/tradition onto their children."

There are a number of requirements students must meet in order to participate in the Siuslaw Clay Target League, all related to safety and parental approval.

"Currently, I have 21 students that are actively completing the requirements so



MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS

Sean Grundon, coach of the Siuslaw Clay Target League, demonstrates safety procedures to students.

that they can compete this season. Eleven students have completed the online safety course and the hands-on training day," Grundon said. "The program that I am trying to create is inclusive and is providing opportunities for athletes who would otherwise not be able to interact in a sports team setting for various reasons."

For example, one member of the team is at extreme risk due to COVID-19 concerns but, through the sport, has a place to interact with peers.

The recent wave of gun violence that has been sweeping the country includes Friday's shootings in Lexington, Ky., and Indianapolis, Ind. So far, this totals 45 mass shooting events in the past month.

On Friday, Gov. Kate Brown ordered all flags at Oregon public institutions to be flown at half-staff until sunset on April 20 to honor and remember the victims of the shootings.

Grundon acknowledges those situations. However, he believes education is key to reducing gun violence. For this reason, there are a number of procedures in place governing the transportation of firearms and

ammunition — neither of which are allowed in Siuslaw School District vehicles.

Only coaches or parents of participants can transport firearms or ammunition and students must travel to competitions in school vehicles.

"In addition, the coaching staff wants to hold a community training on how to safely have firearms in the home with children or grandchildren," Grundon said. "Numerous families that normally would not have had a firearm in the home pre-pandemic now do for various reasons. How many of those new firearm owners reside in the Florence area? Are those firearms stored safely? Are children and grandchild able to access those firearms?"

"These are some of the issues that I am currently talking with the School's Resource Officer to address with the community."

The Siuslaw Clay Target league will participate in its first match virtually this Monday.

For more information on the league, contact Coach Grundon at sgrundon@siuslaw.k12.or.us.

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THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
2705 Munsel Lake Road, All are welcome!
Zoom Worship Services: 10 AM & 11:30 AM Sunday.
Bishop Larry Farnsworth 541-999-1979

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4590 Hwy. 101, Across from Fred Meyer -- 997-7418
Sunday School, 9:30a.m. – Worship, 10:45
Wed. Prayer - 6:00 p.m. –
Wed. Ministries 1-8 Grade 7 p.m.

CROSS ROAD ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Corner of 10th & Maple- 541-997-3533
Sunday Services are 9am and 11am and on Facebook live and KCST at 11am
Wednesdays at 7pm
https://www.florencecrossroadag.org/church-online
Other platforms update after the service.
florencecrossroadag.org
office@florencecrossroadag.org

FLORENCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2nd & Ivy - 541-997-2961 - Non-Denominational
Service is on Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Service also streaming live at 10:00 am at florencechurch.com

FLORENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST
Pre-Denominational (Romans 16:16)
1833 Tamarack Street
(2 blocks east of Hwy. 101 on 18th St.)
Bible Study: Sunday 10 a.m.; Worship: Sunday 11 a.m.
www.churchofchristflorence.org

FLORENCE EVANGELICAL CHURCH
1318 Rhododendron Dr. • 541-997-2523
Sunday Service 11am (Children Sunday School)
Mid-Week Activities, all ages.

FLORENCE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
4445 Hwy 101 (South of Fred Meyer) – 997-3951
Worship on Saturday 10:30 A.M.
Adult/Children's Sabbath School 9:15 A.M.

FLORENCE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP
87738 Hwy 101 at Heceta Beach Road
RUUUU? All are welcome to explore the answer.
Until it is safe to meet in person, Sunday Worship Services are available 24/7 on our website: www.florenceuuf.org

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2nd & Kingwood • (541) 997-6025
Link to Sunday services at www.florenceunitedmethodist.org or find us on Facebook.

FOURSQUARE CHURCH
1624 Highway 101 (next to A&W) – 997-6337
Pastor George Pagel – Something for the entire family.
Sun. Services: 10:45 a.m.
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Website: florence4square.com

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN E.L.C.A.
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Pastor Jim Abbott, All are welcome.
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Please call our office for details.

Give us a call 541-997-3441 to get your updates or email to: mberg@thesiuslawnews.com



ROGER RANTA

Rotary
Rotary Club of Florence
Rotarian of the Month
ROGER RANTA

Bertrand Russell could have written the following in describing the principles of life Roger Ranta has led:
"The most valuable things in life are not measured in monetary terms. The really important things are not houses and land, stocks and bonds, automobiles and real state, but friendships, trust confidence, empathy, mercy, love and faith."



ROGER THE MARINE
Roger lived the Rotary Motto "Service Above Self" far before he became a Rotarian 25 years ago. He selflessly served our country as a United States Marine Major for 20 years ; most of those years as a helicopter pilot



ROGER THE PARENT

The other Rotarian Motto is "One Profits Most Who Serves Best". No one has profited more from service than Roger and his late beautiful and gracious wife Judy. They adopted , mentored and loved several children (many who were handicapped) that have gone on to wonderful, rich lives with families of their own. All one has to do is read Roger's Facebook Page to realize that the profit has come to Roger in the form of love and respect expressed by his adult children.

ROGER THE SINGER

Roger is a great singer. On your birthday, if you are a member of his church, a fellow Rotarian, relative or friend, you can expect a call from Roger singing Happy Birthday to you with his wonderful and rich voice. A voice that has inspired many in his congregation.

ROGER THE ENTERTAINER

To the left Roger is pictured as the Train Station Manager in the play *The Crash of The Cushman Cannonball* ; one of several performances Roger has given over the years.

