

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE FLORENCE SENIOR CENTER WILL OPEN STARTING

June 7th, 2021

We welcome you all back and hope to see new faces as well.

ALL AGES WELCOME


Card games, yoga, line dancing, billiards, Cribbage, chair exercise.
Bingo starts up June 10 11:00 am and 12:30 pm

We will practice mask wearing and social distancing.

9 am to 4 pm Monday thru Friday
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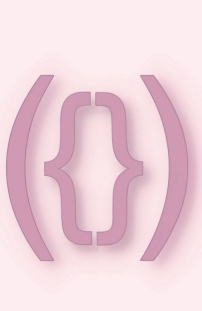
Siuslaw News
NEWS & VIEWS THAT DEFINE OUR COMMUNITY
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FLORENCE, OREGON

WEATHER



Mostly sunny with a high of 62 and a low of 51.
Full forecast on A3

COMMUNITY



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SPORTS



Return of sand racing
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Memorial Day Services honor the fallen



Florence veterans resume local Memorial Day traditions

STORY & PHOTOS
BY MARK BRENNAN
SIUSLAW NEWS

Memorial Day was recognized locally in a number of ways on Monday, May 31, by members of the public and veterans' groups.

The day began with an early morning ceremony at the Sunset Pioneer Cemetery, which in-

cluded members of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 3232, American Legion Post 59 and the Florence Chapter of Disabled Veterans of America.

The veterans lowered the service flags of the U.S. Coast Guard, Marines, Army, Navy and Air Force to half-staff in remembrance of the ultimate sacrifice paid by many who served.

U.S. President Joseph Biden

and Oregon Gov. Kate Brown released statements recognizing Memorial Day and asked that all federal and state buildings fly flags at half-staff in recognition.

While most of 2020's Memorial Day events were cancelled, modifications were instituted this year which made gathering to honor the deceased safer and easier.

See MEMORIAL page 8A

Boys and Girls Club prepares for summer of learning, fun

Golf tournament, grants help fund summer program

BY CHANTELE MEYER
SIUSLAW NEWS

For several months now, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Lane County (BGCWLC) has been getting ready for summer 2021. Not only will this see the return of the Fore! Kids Golf Classic, it will see a summer program filled with materials for kids in the Elementary Program and Teen Center.

"This year, more than ever, the summer programs are so important to the mental well-being of children, as well as their academic achievement," said BGCWLC Board Member Chuck Trent. "What we're trying to do this year is make sure that all of our club kids have the opportunity to get caught up."

Summer activities kick off on Saturday, June 5, with the club's annual golf tournament fundraiser at Florence Golf Links, 1201 35th St. Then, the summer program lasts from June 21 to Aug. 13.

"The golf tournament is really important for us because that's a big part of our funding for the summer program," Trent said.

The fundraiser, along with two grants, are also making this summer extra special. First, BGCWLC received a grant from the State of Oregon to fund the club's summer learning programs.

See CLUB page 5A

Youth learn heavy equipment skills

Program gives Camp Florence hands-on construction equipment training

Camp Florence Youth Transitional Facility is a work study program which provides education and training to youth who are preparing to transition into the community from state oversight. One of the main ways the students prepare to accomplish this often-daunting task is to educate themselves, either by learning a skilled trade or by returning to a more formal educational setting.

Currently a number of Camp Florence residents are participating in classes which will train them to operate various types of heavy equipment used in construction.

There is a demand for technically trained people in many areas related to the construction industry and this opportunity to learn a highly paid profession, with nearly unlimited growth potential, has been embraced by a number of young men at the camp.

Kenny English, assistant director at Camp Florence, was on hand for a training session last week across from the Florence Events center, provided by the City of Florence for



STORY & PHOTOS
BY MARK BRENNAN
SIUSLAW NEWS

Camp Florence participants got the chance to move dirt and debris around a City of Florence site on Quince Street as part of their training in heavy equipment operation.

the training. He was encouraged by the session.

"Six young men from Camp Flor-

ence were selected to participate in a heavy equipment operation course brought to us by Baker Technical

Institute," he said. "Participants learned and practiced their skills"

See TRAINING page 6A

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