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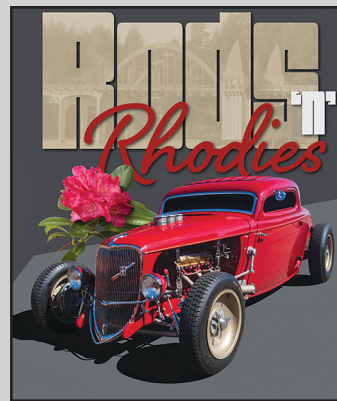
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**Siuslaw News**  
NEWS & VIEWS THAT DEFINE OUR COMMUNITY  
VOL. 131, NO. 72  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2021  
FLORENCE, OREGON

**WEATHER**



Partly sunny with a high of 64 and a low of 51.  
Full forecast on A3

**COMMUNITY**



City, FEC offer free meal at Miller Park  
INSIDE — A3

**SPORTS**



Bowling alley closes in Florence  
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**RECORDS**

Obituaries & response logs  
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**KIDS CORNER**

Activities for kids  
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Listings & notices  
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## Market continues to grow through fourth season

BY MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

The Florence Farmers Market continues to grow as its fourth surprisingly successful season winds down. The market has established itself among Florence consumers as a place where they can go to purchase locally grown, healthy produce and food stuffs.

This year, the market has successfully incorporated state masking and social distancing regulations while operating their normal hours, from 3 to 6 p.m. on Tuesday afternoons from May to October.

During the first year of the pandemic, Florence Farmers Market safely provided the local community with an outdoor location to get fresh produce, baked goods, meats, eggs,



COURTESY PHOTO

(From left) Florence Farmers Market Board President Mary Shaw and Market Manager Lia Rousset show the large capacity that the market's new wagons can carry.

fish and prepared foods. Last year's drive-through model was able to return to an in-person market this summer.

According to Market Manager Lia Rousset and Board President Mary Shaw the weekly average attendance during the peak season has been 500 shoppers.

Funding from Western Lane Community Foundation also supported the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) for the season. This program helps supplement monthly food budgets of families with low-income to buy the food they need to maintain good health. The market has been able to increase the buying power of the program through Double Up Food Bucks.

See MARKET page 6A

## Oregon to redistrict due to population increase

BY MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

The completion of the 2020 census and the analysis of the data gathered from across the nation, and in Oregon, will be used for a number of purposes, including distribution of federal and state funds, assistance to the disadvantaged and, perhaps most impactfully, the redrawing of congressional districts.

The process of redistricting is constitutionally mandated and the deadlines for incorporating the new population data was extended due to the difficulties presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The process of publicly discussing redistricting began on Friday, Sept. 3, when the Oregon Legislature released an initial redistricting draft plan. On that day, the state also held a statewide virtual forum to begin the process of determining accurate voter representation for the next 10 years.

Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution stipulates  
See DISTRICT page 5A

## LABOR DAY 2021



PHOTOS BY MARK BRENNAN/SIUSLAW NEWS



Monday, Sept. 6, was Labor Day. In Florence, local Kiwanians and volunteers put out flags in honor of the contributions and achievements of American workers. Visitors kept local merchants busy, even while some restaurants and businesses were closed. In addition, new seating at the Port of Siuslaw docks is now open outside Novelli's Seafood.

## 'We're going to be listening'

Siuslaw School Board prepares for public comment

BY CHANTELE MEYER  
SIUSLAW NEWS

A special meeting of the Siuslaw School District Board of Directors will be held Wednesday night specifically to accept public comment. This meeting was rescheduled from Sept. 1 and moved to better accommodate in-person and written comments.

Siuslaw School Board Chair Bob Sneddon said, "It was intended to be a postponement, because we were concerned about the dramatic increase in COVID cases. So that's why we're doing it outside."

The meeting will be held at the Hans Peterson Memorial Field/South Grandstands, 2525 Oak St., on Sept. 8, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Masks will be required for in-person attendance, and the event will be livestreamed through YouTube  
See MEETING page 5A

## Siuslaw welcomes new school district staff for 2021-22

BY CHANTELE MEYER  
SIUSLAW NEWS

On Sept. 1, Siuslaw School District held an all-staff meeting to kick off the 2021-22 school year, which began Tuesday with the first day back for sixth and ninth graders. The first day of school for the entire district is today, Sept. 8, with kindergarten starting Sept. 9.

The staff members gathered at the Siuslaw High School Grandstands on the football field.

At the all-staff meeting, Siuslaw

Superintendent Andrew Grzeskowiak introduced some changes to the administrations of some of the buildings. This year, the Siuslaw Elementary principal will be Amy Flora, who joins Vice Principal Leonard Ulrich. The leadership at Siuslaw Middle will remain the same, with Principal Andy Marohl and Assistant Principal Nathan Green. Siuslaw High School gained Principal Michael Harklerode and Assistant Principal Bev Scott, who join Assistant Principal Garth Gerot.

"There's a bit of hope at the

school," Grzeskowiak said. "It is normal operations for the first time in a year and a half, having most everybody back together, and really moving forward. We've got some great new staff coming on across all the buildings. It's going to be a positive year. I think having everybody here, every day, is going to be good."

Other new staff members are also joining the district.

**Siuslaw Elementary New Staff**

- Angela Leverich, third grade teacher

- Savannah Miller, first grade teacher
- Chris Newlan, second grade teacher
- Julie Steyding, licensed clinical social worker
- Jessica Vasquez, kindergarten teacher
- Alexandria Wachtel, first grade teacher
- Wendy York, secretary
- Janette Sapienza, secretary
- Kristopher Keppol, educational aide

See STAFF page 8A

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