

# SN

## Siuslaw News

### Community Shred Day!

**Protect your personal information and destroy your confidential documents!**

Saturday, October 23 | 10am to 1pm  
Florence Financial Center 1365 HWY 101

Business owners are asked to please wait to bring materials for shredding until the last hour of the event. Once the shred truck is full, Oregon Pacific Bank will be unable to accept any more documents.

We will also be accepting donations for Florence Food Share!

Siuslaw News  
NEWS & VIEWS THAT DEFINE OUR COMMUNITY  
VOL. 131, NO. 82  
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FLORENCE, OREGON

### WEATHER

Rain likely with a high of 56 and a low of 47.  
Full forecast on A3

### COMMUNITY



Siuslaw names Homecoming Royals  
INSIDE — A3

### SPORTS



Mapleton plays flag football  
INSIDE — B

**RECORDS**  
Obituaries & response logs  
Inside — A2

**TV GUIDE**  
Inside — B3-B4

**KIDS CORNER**  
Activities for kids  
Inside — B5

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
Listings & notices  
Inside — B6

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2 SECTIONS | 20 PAGES  
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# HOMETOWN HONOR

Siuslaw graduate joins local Honor Flight veterans in Washington, D.C.

BY CHANTELLE MEYER  
SIUSLAW NEWS

Claire Waggoner graduated from Siuslaw High School in 2017, earning in that time multiple titles, including Future First Citizen of Florence, Queen Rhododendra and Senior Class President. She also made her mark when she united the school district with local veterans with the first Veterans Day Assembly in November 2016.

Since then, Waggoner received her bachelor's degrees in political science and history from Oregon State University, managed a state senate campaign, moved to Washington, D.C., and works for U.S. Rep. Mike Garcia of California's 25th District as a press assistant. She recently wrote the first speech that Garcia read on the House floor.



Claire Waggoner was able to serve as a guardian for the South Willamette Valley Honor Flight in D.C. on Oct. 2 and 3.

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY CLAIRE WAGGONER



Living in D.C. also gave Waggoner the opportunity to connect back home. The first weekend in October, she was able to meet up with the South Willamette Valley Honor Flight and Florence-area veterans as they went on a tour of national memorials and monuments.

"I knew the Honor Flight was coming out that weekend. I had applied as a guardian right out of high school. ... I explained I worked with veterans quite a bit in high school in my hometown, and I would love to be just an extra set of hands on the pickup to drop off because I was already out there," Waggoner said.

She knew some of the local veterans, as some attended the same church she did growing up and one is a 1965 Mapleton High School graduate.  
See HONOR page 5A

# SWC hires director, new staff as it continues work

BY MARK BRENNAN  
SIUSLAW NEWS

The work of restoring damaged natural areas can be difficult and may take more than one season to complete. One of the most successful organizations in this area at revitalizing degraded locations is the Siuslaw Watershed Council (SWC).

The SWC is seeking to establish a new, redefined role in the wake of the pandemic. It is also engaged in the process of figuring out ways to continue to improve damaged or underperforming areas in the local watershed while operating under different expectations and shifting personnel needs.

In light of that, SWC announced a number of staff changes in the past few months.

Project Manager and SWC Outreach Coordinator Tim Moffett joined the staff in August. He will



Rosemary Pazdral

Caleb Mentzer

Kevin Whittaker

Tim Moffett

lend his skills and experience to focus on outreach and education.

He said the search to fill organizational openings was challenging.

"We had been searching intermittently for an executive director since the early stages of the pandemic. Mizu Burruss, a longtime project manager with SWC, filled the position in the meantime," Moffett said.

In late September, SWC hired Rosemary Pazdral as the new executive director.

Pazdral grew up on the head-

waters of the Siuslaw Rivers and recently completed work on her PhD in water hydrology from the Oregon State University.

"I am dedicated to stewarding land and water in the Oregon Coast Range through community partnership and science-informed management," Pazdral said. "I have previously worked on multi-stakeholder projects to restore floodplain hydrologic connectivity, field data collection in remote streams across the Pacific Northwest,"

See WATERSHED page 6A

# 'Engaging & empowering families & communities'

Florence Community PTA celebrates 30th anniversary

SUBMITTED BY  
DIANE MCCALMONT  
FLORENCE COMMUNITY PTA

The Florence Community Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is proud to announce the commemoration of their 30th year of supporting kids, families, and schools in Florence.

They were officially chartered under the umbrella of Oregon PTA on Oct. 29, 1991. On May 9, 2002, Florence PTA became incorporated and assumed the name of Florence Community PTA.

Oregon PTA is the oldest and largest network of parents in Oregon. They work at the local, state and national levels to support and improve Oregon schools and to advocate for the health and welfare of children. Oregon PTA consists of nine regions with approximately 200 local PTA units throughout the state.

The history of PTA goes back to 1897, when Alice McLellan Birney and Phoebe Apperson Hearst founded the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, with a mission to better the lives of children in education, health and safety. In 1926, Selena Sloan Butler formed the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers to advocate for children, especially African American children in segregated communities. Finally, on June 22, 1970, the two congresses signed a Declaration of Unification and officially became one association.

Today's PTA is a network of millions of families, students, teachers, administrators and business and community members dedicated to

See PTA page 8A

# Dogs have their day

## OCHS teams up with Jordan's Way for fundraiser

A national tour visiting every state stopped by Florence on Monday. Oregon Coast Humane Society (OCHS) hosted Jordan's Way, a 501(c)(3) dedicated to sharing meaningful animal welfare stories that inspire people to adopt.

According to OCHS Executive Director Elizabeth Thompson, "Jordan's Way actually reached out to us. We were nominated by several people and rescue groups throughout the country."

OCHS had at least a dozen nominations, some of which likely came through another fundraiser Thompson organized in August. That event featured Portland-based Moshov



STORY & PHOTOS  
BY CHANTELLE MEYER  
SIUSLAW NEWS

OCHS pets got special treats — often at the expense of people's dignity — during a special livestreamed Jordan's Way fundraiser on Monday. Kris Rotunda (right, with camera) hosted the event as part of a 50-state tour.

The Cat Rapper.

"He really put us on the map with people nationwide," Thompson said.

Jordan's Way has a soft spot for dogs. Founder Kris Rotunda named

See OCHS page 6A



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