

Gem Walkers set jaunt for next week

The Coastal Gems Volkswalkers will host a group walk Tuesday, April 5.

The group will be repeating the Three Loops walk in Depoe Bay. Those who want to carpool to Depoe Bay can meet at the Commons in Yachats at 9 a.m., or be at the Sea Hag in Depoe Bay at 10:15 a.m. to register.

The 10K walk is rated 2B because of uneven footing on the forest path and a couple of minor hills. Walkers can mix and match the three loops to create a shorter walk. The route would be difficult for strollers and wheelchairs.

As always, leashed pets are welcome on walks, but be sure to bring water and clean up materials. A sturdy 6-foot leash, not the retractable type, is required.

For more information or directions, call Maryann Brown in Waldport at 541-961-4279 or Gene and Linda Williamson in Seal Rock at 541-563-6721.

Visit the online at www.yachatscoastalgems.org.



NED HICKSON/SUSLAW NEWS

Siuslaw junior catcher Nikki Launius had an RBI double against Harrisburg during last Friday's doubleheader at Reedsport.

Viks from 1B

that kept them away from the mercy rule.

The Eagles had 11 hits in the game to go with 11 runs,

including four in the second inning that put them ahead 5-1. The Viks battled back, scoring another run in the fourth inning with an RBI from junior catcher Nikki Launius.

Harrisburg went on to score

in all but one inning to win it, 11-2.

Yesterday, Siuslaw was on the road at Elmira for a non-league game with the Falcons (after press deadlines). However, Siuslaw will host

three games later this week, beginning Thursday against Sutherlin. Game time is at 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, the Viks' non-league season continues with a doubleheader at home against

Junction City, beginning at noon.

Siuslaw will wrap up its non-league season next week at Tillamook before kicking off the Far West League season at Marshfield on Friday, April 8.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Mikaela Siegel



Competing individually, the Siuslaw senior scored 3,229 points to finish third at last week's Bend Heptathlon. Siegel won the 800 meters and the 100 meter hurdles outright, and finished second in the long jump.

Honorable Mention Anna Stonelake

The Viking softball player was two-for-two at the plate with a pair of sacrifices and one RBI in Friday's 5-4 loss to the Reedsport Braves.

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Dunes from 1B

The commitment is for only half a day and all volunteers will receive a free T-shirt.

Again this year, Dunes City

will award a \$250 donation to the organization that provides the most volunteers. The organization can be a civic club, athletic club, homeowners association or similar type of group.

Be sure to include your organiza-

nization's name when registering to volunteer. If your group has the most volunteers present on race day, your group will be awarded with a \$250 check.

Volunteers are needed between about 6 a.m. and 1

p.m. on race day.

Anyone who has a few hours to spare and wants to be part of this exciting event, call Dunes City Hall at 541-997-3338 to register as a volunteer.

You can also register online

with the event organizer, Best in the West Events, at www.oregondunestriathlon.com. Just click on the "Volunteer" tab and then the "Registration" button.

Fishing from 1B

water is high.

YAQUINA RIVER: Steelhead

The winter steelhead fishery is slow in the Big Elk. Casting lures or bobbers fishing are the best techniques for this river.

COOS COUNTY LAKES AND PONDS: Trout

Empire Lakes is scheduled for stocking this week with legal size rainbow trout. Empire Lakes has already been stocked with legal size trout this month along with Johnson Mill Pond, Powers Pond, Bradley Lake, and Saunders Lakes.

The daily trout bag limit in these lakes is five trout per day with only one trout over 20 inches. Anglers are catching trout on spinners or by fishing

Powerbait.

COOS RIVER BASIN: Dungeness crab, steelhead, bay clams

Steelhead angling is open in the Coos Basin until April 30. Currently the water levels in the Coos Basin steelhead rivers are up and muddy. There are still a few steelhead around but most anglers have put away their gear for the season. Anglers are catching steelhead drift fishing corkies or eggs. Jigs fished under a bobber area also catching several steelhead. Anglers fishing the South Fork Coos River above Dellwood will need a permit from Weyerhaeuser, which they can pick up at the Dellwood office.

TENMILE BASIN: Trout, steelhead

Streams in the Tenmile Basin are now closed for trout

fishing until May 22. Tenmile Lakes is open all year for trout but trout fishing has been slow.

Steelhead angling is open in the Tenmile Basin until April 30. Steelhead fishing has been slow in Tenmile Creek and Eel Creek.

The best fishing has been near the mouth of Saunders Creek and Eel Creek. In the Tenmile Basin 1 additional hatchery steelhead may be retained per day for a total aggregate of 3 adult fish harvested daily.

UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: Steelhead

The South Umpqua is currently open to adipose fin-clipped steelhead harvest, and winter steelhead fishing will improve as water levels recede. There are still excellent hatchery steelhead harvest opportunities on the South Umpqua especially around Stanton Park in Canyonville.

WINCHESTER BAY: Bottomfish, perch

Fishing for bottomfish in the

Triangle and South jetty has been successful.

PACIFIC OCEAN AND BEACHES: Bottomfish, Dungeness crab, surf perch

Recreational harvest of crab is open along the entire Oregon Coast. It is still recommended you discard the crab viscera (guts/butter) before cooking.

A few anglers fishing the beaches near Coos Bay have been catching retail surf perch. The ocean has been very rough lately so picking days with lower swells is key to catching fish. Sand shrimp or Berkley Gulp sand worms have been working the best for bait.

Recreational ocean salmon fishing from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt. runs through April 30.

The season is open for all salmon except coho salmon. Anglers are allowed two salmon per day with a minimum size for Chinook at 24 inches or larger.

Fishing for bottom fish is open to fishing at all-depths. Fishing for black rockfish and lingcod continues to be very good from Charleston to Bandon when the ocean is calm enough for anglers to get out on the water.

The marine fish daily bag limit is seven fish and a separate daily limit for lingcod (two).

Anglers can only keep 3 blue rockfish and 1 canary rockfish as part of their daily limit and there will be no harvest of China, quillback, or copper rockfish.

RETENTION OF CABEZON IS PROHIBITED THROUGH JUNE 30.

Retention of cabezon is prohibited through June 30. Recommended dates for the sport halibut fishery are available on the ODFW sport halibut webpage. Dates will be

finalized by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission dates at its meeting on April 22.

• SURFPERCH

This is a diverse group of fish that provides a variety of angling opportunities. Spring is traditionally the time when marine perch species like Pile Perch and Walleye Perch are found in numbers in Oregon estuaries; Striped Seaperch are found year-round in rocky areas like jetties; and ocean surf is the place to find Redtail Surfperch and Silver Perch. For details on how to catch these guys, see Surfperch Fishing (pdf).

The bag limit for surfperch is generous at 15 per day.

However, a lot remains unknown about the status of surfperch populations off the Oregon Coast, so, as usual, take only what you will use.

• SHELLFISH

A couple of regulations were inadvertently left out of the 2016 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulation booklet.

1) The daily bag limit for shrimp (edible) is 20 lb. in the shell; may be taken by traps, pots or rings.

2) Each digger of razor clams (as with all clams) must have his or her own container, must dig his or her own clams, and may not possess more than one limit of clams while in the digging area (except under an Oregon Disabilities Hunting and Fishing Permit).

Current shellfish harvest closures in the ocean and bays due to elevated levels of domoic acid as of Mar. 7:

- Razor clams: Closed south of Tillamook Head
- Bay clams: Open coast-wide
- Crabs: Open coastwide
- Mussels: Open coastwide

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