

# Siuslaw News Sports & Recreation

## EMERALDS REACH PLAYOFFS FOR FIRST TIME IN FIVE YEARS

EUGENE — The Eugene Emeralds have clinched a playoff berth in the Northwest League by winning the first half title in the South Division. This marks the first time the Ems have made the playoffs since 2011.

The Northwest League season is split in two halves and the winner of each half secures a spot in the playoffs. The first playoff game at PK Park will be Game 2 of the semi final series, scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 8, at 7:05 p.m., with the potential for a Game 3 on Friday, Sept. 9.

Emeralds playoff tickets will go on sale at 10 a.m. on Monday, July 25. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Toyota Ticket Office on MLK outside the stadium and online at the Emeralds Website. The Ems have been in a championship drought since

the 1975 season, but a resurgence of talent has arrived in Eugene after the team switched its affiliation to the Chicago Cubs. The Ems pitching staff has a combined ERA of 3.33, which leads the Northwest League. The Ems also lead the league in

home runs with 19 and are second in runs scored. The Eugene Emeralds are the short-season Class A team of the Chicago Cubs. In 2015, six of the top 30 Cubs prospects spent time in Eugene including Ian Happ, Donnie Dewees and Eloy Jimenez.

With 61 years of history in Eugene, the Emeralds are the longest tenured and only founding member remaining in the Northwest League. For more information, visit [www.EmeraldsBaseball.com](http://www.EmeraldsBaseball.com) or call the office at 541-342-5367.

### SPORTS Calendar

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Aug. 5-8**  
• SIUSLAW FOOTBALL CAMP  
3 TO 5 P.M.  
AT SHS

**Aug. 6**  
• COOL AT COAST  
ROTARY GOLF  
10 A.M.  
OCEAN DUNES

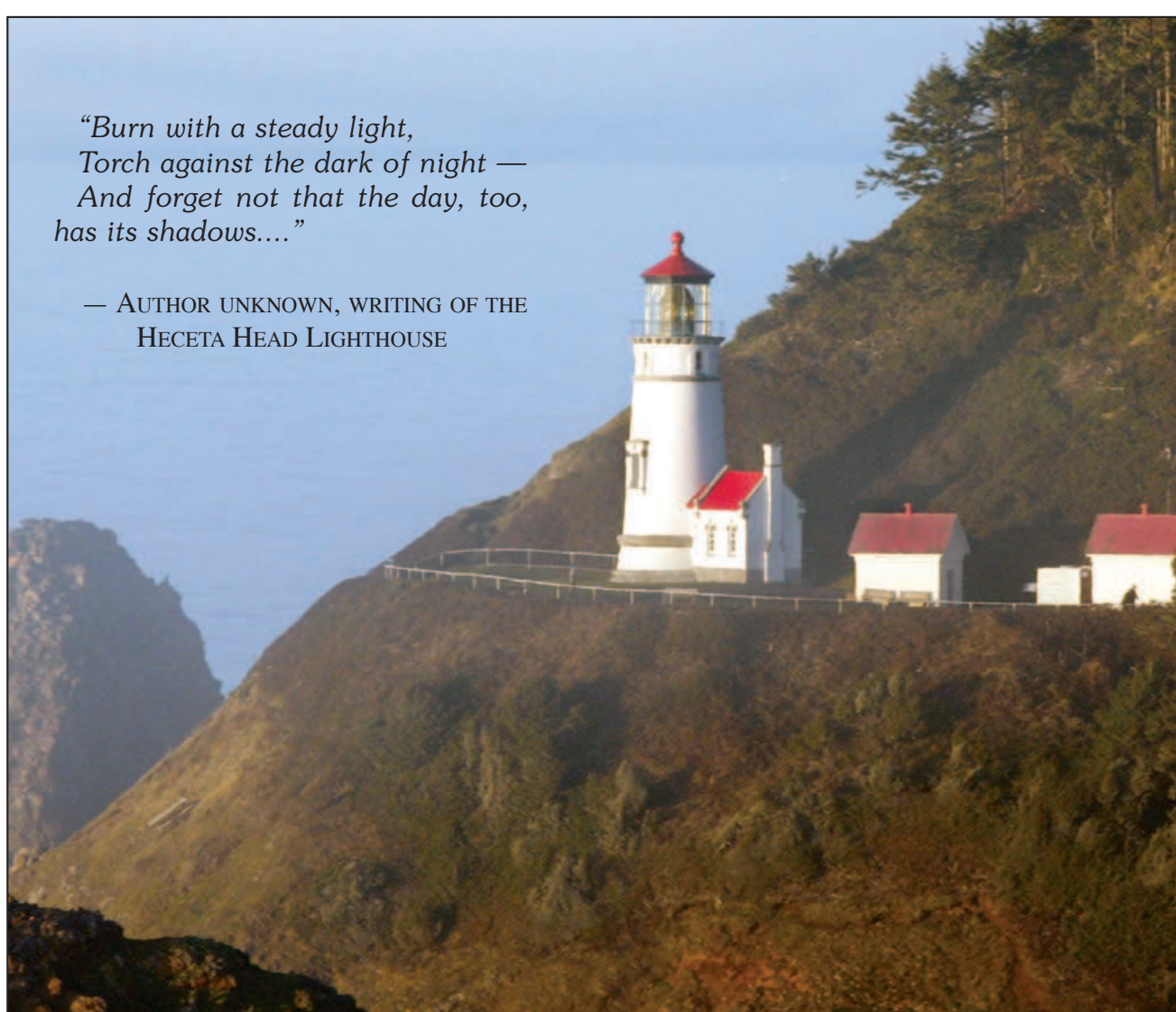
**Aug. 19**  
• SHS HALL OF FAME  
INDUCTION CEREMONY  
5:30 P.M.  
AT THREE RIVERS CASINO RESORT

**TIDE TABLE**  
Entrance Siuslaw River

High Tide	Low Tide
<b>July 23</b> 2:34am / 7.0 3:45pm / 6.7	9:15am / -0.9 9:40pm / 1.5
<b>July 24</b> 3:24pm / 6.6 4:27pm / 6.9	9:56am / -0.4 10:36pm / 1.3
<b>July 25</b> 4:21am / 6.0 5:13pm / 7.0	10:41am / 0.2 11:40am / 1.1
<b>July 26</b> 5:28am / 5.5 6:04pm / 7.2	11:31am / 0.9
<b>July 27</b> 6:45am / 5.1 7:00pm / 7.3	12:49am / 0.8 12:29pm / 1.5
<b>July 28</b> 8:09am / 4.9 7:59pm / 7.4	2:00am / 0.4 1:35pm / 2.0
<b>July 29</b> 9:29am / 5.1 8:59pm / 7.6	3:08am / -0.1 2:46pm / 2.3

**SIUSLAW NEWS**  
148 Maple St.  
Florence  
541-997-3441

## TIME'S SILENT SENTINEL



*“Burn with a steady light,  
Torch against the dark of night —  
And forget not that the day, too,  
has its shadows....”*

— AUTHOR UNKNOWN, WRITING OF THE  
HECETA HEAD LIGHTHOUSE

NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

For 122 years, the Heceta Head Lighthouse has stood resolutely overlooking its charge along the Oregon coast.

Perhaps it's the need to connect with something that remains solid and virtually unchanged even as the world changes around it that draws us like inquisitive fireflies to the rotating beam of our lighthouses. Braced against both time and nature, there are few icons along the coast representing a stronger image of resoluteness and unwavering loyalty. In some ways, they're our fathers — strong, silent types offering safe passage through troubled waters, and whose momentary beam both inspires and comforts in the span of a lazy wink.

Long before “Lighthouse Week” was established in Oregon in 1997, people have been coming to visit these silent sentinels along the coast. Last year alone, more than 45,000 visitors climbed the gravelled path leading up to Heceta Head Lighthouse, averaging 200 people per day. This year has been no different — and, in fact, will more than likely surpass last year's figures. Altogether, there are eight beacons still perched along Oregon's coastline, the intention of which was to allow each distinctive beam to meet and cross with the other so that ships would never be without sight of light during their passage. While global positioning devices and high-tech warning systems have

essentially made lighthouses obsolete in terms of stark necessity, the fact that six out-of-the-eight remain in operation hints that our connection with them runs deeper than surface logic and thoughts of efficiency. In June 2000, when Heceta's beam was extinguished because of mechanical failure after 106 years of continued service, a grass roots campaign began spreading throughout Florence and beyond with the help of fishermen, community leaders and local citizens who demanded that the light be reignited — a notion that even kindled the support of U.S. House Rep. Peter DeFazio who, a year later, attended the rededication ceremony when the lighthouse resumed operation.

“There's just something about them,” said Debra Bender, a ranger with Oregon State Parks who helped oversee operations at the lighthouse. “It's like stepping back in time and connecting with history. It's still there, still working, and you can see it, feel it — and at night, it's really beautiful.” Which is why, on an overcast Thursday evening, two dozen or so people made the short trip from nearby Washburne State Campground for a chance to see the Heceta Head Lighthouse at night. Even though it wasn't a planned tour, it only took a few hours to get the word out via a small note attached to the park's activities

board, and a little word of mouth. After a brief introduction of the area, two dozen flashlights suddenly illuminated the darkened path as the group began making its way uphill toward the beacon. Coming up on the old lightkeeper's house, everyone saw the rotating shafts of light for the first time as eight sequential beams swept over the surrounding trees, across the shoreline, and 21 miles out to sea in a one-of-a-kind pattern repeated once every 10 seconds. “Whoa!” was the response from one young boy, as well as a few adults, as the group continued up the road. Gradually, the 65-foot high silhouette of Heceta Lighthouse came into view at the peak of the hill, which crests 205 feet above the crashing waves. Because of a growing mist, the light refracting through tiny droplets in the air created a halo effect around the revolving turret of light emanating through eight panels of glass lens. Four volunteers had already arrived and taken their places at various points throughout the tour, all of whom came on short notice to help educate the group of curious folks drawn to the light. Inside, volunteers explained the history of the structure, which was named after a Portuguese sea captain named Don Bruno De Heceta, who happened

See **HECETA 4B**

## Volunteers needed to identify marine life

YACHATS — The public is invited to help track marine biodiversity at Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve during two BioBlitz events, Aug. 3 and 4, hosted by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Audubon Society of Portland, Oregon Marine Reserves Partnership and U.S. Forest Service. Both events are from 7:30 a.m. to noon. The Aug. 3 event is at Yachats Ocean Road State Natural Site, just south of

the bridge in Yachats; the Aug. 4 event is at Stonefield Beach State Recreation Site, seven miles south of Yachats. Participants should meet in the parking lot and bring waterproof shoes, raincoat, binoculars, water and snacks. Participants will take a walk at low tide to help identify the plants, animals and other organisms in the rocky intertidal habitat along sections of the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve, a protected research area that covers 14.1 square

miles of ocean habitat between Yachats and Florence. Data collected will be used to document the rich biodiversity of the area. For information on the events, contact state Natural Resources Specialist Celeste Lebo at 541-563-8505 or 541-272-9008 or email her at [celeste.lebo@oregon.gov](mailto:celeste.lebo@oregon.gov). Information on the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve is at [www.oregon-marinereserves.org/cape-perpetua](http://www.oregon-marinereserves.org/cape-perpetua).

## On the Bite

A WEEKLY FISHING REPORT FOR THE LOCAL REGION  
[www.dfw.state.or.us/RR](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/RR)

**MID COAST LAKES:** Rainbow trout stocking is complete along the mid coast. Holdover trout will be available in most lakes through the summer. Fishing for the various warm water fish species is good this time of year as fish move to the shallows for spawning. There are numerous lakes in the Florence area that can provide good opportunity.

**SIUSLAW RIVER:** *Cutthroat* For cutthroat trout, casting small spinners, spoons or fly fishing streamers or dry flies can be very effective. Angling for all species in streams above tidewater is restricted to artificial flies and lures until Sept. 1. Casting small spinners, spoons or fly fishing streamers or dry flies can be very effective.

**ALSEA RIVER:** *Cutthroat* The Alsea River is open for cutthroat trout, casting small spinners, spoons or fly fishing streamers or dry flies can be very effective. Bait is not allowed above the head of tide until Sept. 1.

**SILETZ RIVER:** *Steelhead, cutthroat* Steelhead fishing is fair. This run typically peaks by early July. Casting spinners, drifting bait or using a bobber and jig can be effective. Cover water and fish small and simple as the river conditions are low and clear. For cutthroat trout, casting small spinners, spoons or fly fishing streamers or dry flies can be very effective.

**WILSON RIVER:** *Steelhead, Chinook, cutthroat* Fishing for steelhead and spring Chinook is slow. The water is low and clear, so use lighter gear and target the deeper holding areas. Trout angling should be fair.

**YAQUINA RIVER:** *Cutthroat* For cutthroat trout casting small spinners, spoons or fly fishing streamers or dry flies can be very effective. Angling for all species in streams above tidewater is restricted to artificial flies and lures until Sept. 1. **COOS COUNTY LAKES AND PONDS:** *Trout, warmwater fish* There are trout available for kids in the Millicoma

See **FISHING 4B**

BLACK  
YELLOW  
MAGENTA  
CYAN