

Fore! Kids Golf Classic to celebrate 20 years

The 20th annual Fore! Kids Golf Classic will tee off Saturday, June 3, at Ocean Dunes Golf Links in Florence. Sponsored by Three Rivers Casino Resort, the tournament's proceeds will help fund after-school programs and educational programs that give positive guidance and real-life skills for youth.

The event hosts golfers and typically sells out several days in advance. For those wishing to register individually, as a pair or as a foursome, organizers recommend signing up right away.

The \$89 per-player entry fee includes golf cart, hot dogs, beverages, awards, barbecue, and more.

Check-in for pre-registered participants, and on-site registration for remaining slots, begins at 9 a.m., with a shotgun start at 10:30 a.m.

Two of the Hole-in-One prizes include a Pebble Beach Golf Vacation and a 2017 Ford F150. Entrants can also participate in a Million Dollar Shoot Out Challenge and a \$5,000 putting contest.

Entry forms are available at Ocean Dunes Golf Links, 3345



NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

Participants in last year's Fore! Kids Golf Classic begin a shotgun start, which gets underway at 10:30 a.m.

Munsel Lake Rd., and also at Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center, 290 Highway 101; the Boys and Girls Club, 1501 Airport Rd.; or by emailing nancy@nancypear.com.

The annual helicopter golf ball drop fundraiser for the

club happens at 10 a.m. at Ocean Dunes on tournament day. The prize for the ball closest to the hole is \$1,500.

A prize for the ball furthest from the hole will be \$777, sponsored by Three Rivers Casino Resort. Only 750 golf balls will be sold.

The numbered golf balls are \$10 each, 3 for \$25, 7 for \$50 or 15 for \$100.

Call the B&G Club for details at 541-902-0304.

More than 500 youth are served by the Boys and Girls Club of Florence each year.

"One young man from a single-parent home, whose mother was at work until early evening, is a member of the club," said board president Michael Pearson. "He was not eating well and failing school. We enrolled him in the homework assistance program and gave him a nutritious meal each afternoon."

"He is now passing all of his classes and even getting As in math and science. This was all made possible by proceeds that came from the Fore! Kids Golf Classic and helicopter golf ball drop fundraiser events."

All proceeds of these two events support after-school programs, athletic programs, SMART Girls, Passport To Manhood, Money Matters and more for youth in grades K-12.

For registration information, call 541-902-0304 or visit www.bgcwlc.org.

Local stables offering Adult Riding Club

With the success of its recent Adult Riding Club, C&M Stables will continue the program with a new summer session.

The program includes a 2-hour ride during each of the months of June, July and August. The 2-hour rides will follow the trail and beach, with a 30-minute orientation before the first ride.

Members who are interested in learning how to groom and saddle their horses as a part of the experience are welcome to come 30 minutes before each ride.

C&M Stables will provide members with the tools necessary and offer instruction on

how it is done.

For some, grooming and saddling are some of the best parts of riding.

There will also be a fall Riding Club session beginning in September that will run through December.

More information about the fall session will be available in August.

The Riding Club is open to riders age 18 years or older, and no previous riding experience is necessary.

For more information or to sign up for the summer Adult Riding Club, stop by C&M Stables, 90241 Highway 101, north of Florence, or call 541-997-7540.

...need a friend?

Meet Merlin

Do you believe in magic? One look at me and I'll have you under my spell. My name is Merlin and I am a little shy around people, but if you're patient and wait for me I will come around and let you pet my fluffy self. I like to play. When the laser light comes out that's when I let loose; I really go for it. Mostly I like to just hang around, literally. I love cat trees and just kicking back and letting my hair down. I am great with other cats. They often look to me for comfort and support or for just a cool dude to hang with. And that I am.



If you would like to meet Merlin or any of his friends, please visit us at:

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ODF provides tips during 'Wildfire Awareness' month

May is Wildfire Awareness month and the ideal time to reduce the excess vegetation around your home that could pose a wildfire threat.

As you begin spring clean-up, the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal urge you to consider chipping or recycling your yard debris.

If burning is the only option to dispose of woody material, fire officials urge landowners to follow safe burning practices.

"If you burn debris, use common sense and follow safety rules," said State Fire Marshal Jim Walker. "This can prevent most wildfires caused by burning debris and keep lives and property safe."

Escaped debris burns are the leading human cause of wildfire in Oregon, particularly in the spring and fall when people think it is safe and permissible to burn.

In 2016, backyard debris burns that escaped control resulted in 143 wildfires burning 145 acres at a cost of nearly \$225,000 to suppress.

"On a windy day, a debris burn can easily escape control and spread rapidly if not closely watched," said Walker.

A burn pile is less likely to escape control if these simple safety tips are followed:

- Call before you burn — Burning regulations are not the same in all areas and can vary with weather and fuel conditions.

- If you're planning to burn, check with your local ODF district, fire protective association, or air protection authority to learn if there are any current burning restrictions in effect, and whether a permit is required.

- Know the weather forecast — Never burn on dry or windy days. These conditions make it easy for open burning to spread out of control.

- Clear a 10-foot radius around your pile — Also make sure there are no tree branches or power lines above.

- Keep your burn pile small — A large burn may cast hot embers long distances. Small piles, 4x4 feet, are recommended.

- Add debris in small amounts as existing material is consumed.

- Always have water and fire tools on site — When burning, have a charged water hose, bucket of water, and shovel and dirt nearby to extinguish the

fire. Drown the pile with water, stir the coals, and drown again, repeating until the fire is dead out. Stay with the fire until it is completely out.

Monitoring a debris burn continually from start to finish until dead out is required by state law, to ensure that any escaped sparks or embers can be extinguished quickly.

Go back and recheck old burn piles, as they can retain heat for several weeks and then rekindle when the weather warms and wind begins to blow.

- Never use gasoline or other accelerants (flammable or combustible liquids) to start or increase your open fire. Every year, 10 to 15 percent of all burn injuries treated at the Oregon Burn Center in Portland are the result of backyard debris burning.

- Burn only yard debris —

State regulations prohibit the open burning of any material that creates dense smoke or noxious odors.

- Escaped debris burns are costly — State law requires the proper clearing, building, attending and extinguishing of open fires any time of year.

A first-time citation carries a \$110 fine. If your debris burn spreads out of control, you are responsible for the cost of fire suppression and very likely the damage to neighboring properties.

This can range from a few hundred to tens of thousands of dollars.

More tips on wildfire prevention, including campfire safety, use of motorized equipment, and fire-resistant landscaping can be found on Keep Oregon Green's website at www.keepporeongreen.org

Heceta Head Lightstation seeks guides for season

The Heceta Head Lightstation and Keeper's House needs tour guides.

Tours get under way at the Keeper's house Memorial Day weekend and continue through Labor Day. Tours occur daily (except Wednesdays) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tours during special events and by appointment occur throughout the year.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Misty Anderson at misty@hecetalighthouse.com or call 866-547-3696.



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