



Cyclists prepare for May 5 Oregon Coast Gravel Epic

The sixth annual Oregon Coast Gravel Epic on Saturday, May 5, is either a 60- or 37-mile race, with half on roadways and half on gravel. Competitors should bring a bike with 32 mm tires minimum and a hardtail MTB. The race runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and pre-registration is encouraged at www.oregontriplecrown.com. Meet at 265 NW Hemlock St. in Waldport. The Oregon Coast Gravel Epic is presented by Oregon Coast Bank and planned by Mudslinger Events Oregon Outdoor Recreation.

SPRING DANCE SHOWCASE FEATURES AREA TALENT

Dancers of all ages will take the stage on May 11 as CROW (Children's Repertory of Oregon Workshops) presents a mixed genre Spring Dance Showcase at 7 p.m. at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

"This is an opportunity for the talented youth and adults in our dance community to show off their amazing skill, while inspiring and educating the general public and generations of future dancers," said Melanie Heard, CROW's artistic director and director of CROW's Flight Dance Team. "Dance is my first love and will always hold a very special place in my heart."

Heard's artistic background stems from the genre of classical ballet, and she studied with the Joffrey Trainee Program, Kirov's Universal Ballet School, Ballet West and Houston Ballet in her youth. She is committed to bringing that same level of dance professionalism to Florence, and is excited about the future of dance.

The Spring Dance Showcase will feature new works by Flight, CROW's new dance team, as well as class performances by CROW's Youth Ballet and Hip Hop classes,



CROW Flight Dance Team and soloists will perform May 11 at the Florence Events Center.

taught and choreographed by Mackenzie Calvert and Cara Beere.

In addition, local dance celebrities such as Angela Palmer and Jennifer Marus are slated to dazzle audiences, and CROW is excited to welcome Kumu Iwalani and dancers for a taste of hula.

There will also be a piano solo by local high-schooler Ramiro Ramirez. To keep it fresh, there will be several mesmerizing solo dance performances by Ramirez and his sister Isabella, Elyse Stewart, Alex Fuller and Victoria Schlager. Last but not least, the "Tip Top Tappers," Heard's adult and teen tap dance class, will perform two exciting and entertaining tap numbers.

Adult tickets are \$12 and student/senior

tickets are \$10. All proceeds from the show support the dance education program, including costumes and scholarships for youth to attend future dance classes and workshops.

For tickets to the Spring Dance Showcase, visit the FEC Box Office, or call 541-997-1994. Tickets can be purchased online at eventcenter.org.

Additional information is available at www.crowkids.com.

Open auditions for CROW's Flight Dance team will be held on Saturday, June 9, at 10 a.m. at the CROW Center for the Performing Arts, 3120 Highway 101. No experience is required, and dancers must be 10+ by that date to audition.

Florence Area

DINING

1. 1285 RESTOBAR
1285 Bay Street
Florence, OR
(541) 902-8338
www.1285restobar.com

2. A&W FAMILY RESTAURANT
17th & Hwy. 101
Florence, OR
(541) 997-8124

3. SURFSIDE RESTAURANT AT DRIFTWOOD SHORES RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER
88416 1st Avenue
Florence, OR
(541) 997-8263
1-800-422-5091

4. INTERNATIONAL C-FOOD MARKET
1498 Bay Street
Old Town Florence
(541) 997-9646

5. The Grill & Lounge at Sandpines
1201 35th Street at Kingwood, Florence
Highway 101 & 35 St.
541-997-4623

6. Bridgewater Fish House and Zebra Bar
1297 Bay Street
Old Town Florence
541-997-1133
bridgewaterfishhouse.com

LODGING

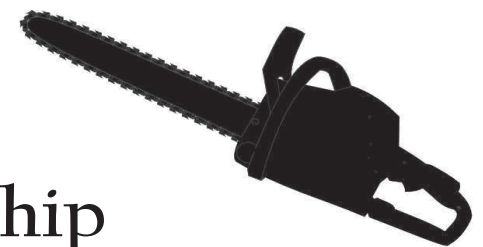
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