

**LCSO** from page 1A

The miles of mountains of sand provide unique opportunities for hiking, photography, horseback riding and camping, but one of the area's most popular tourist activities is off road vehicle use.

Nearly half of the land in the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area is open for off-highway vehicles (OHV's). There are three main riding areas available to visitors: From the South Jetty, just north of Florence to the Siltcoos in the north area of the dunes; Umpqua Dunes near Winchester Bay; and from Spinreel to Horsefall, a route that is a few miles north of Coos Bay.

The South Jetty to Siltcoos run is located less than a mile from Florence. This is one of the ODNRA's

most popular riding areas and can be accessed from South Jetty Road on the northern end, and Siltcoos Beach Access Road from the south end.

Many OHV's that utilize this location gather at the South Jetty Staging Area to begin their trip into the ODNRA.

This is also where the Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) is offering an OHV safety training class on Saturday, August 25, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The class will be offered in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation and the United States Forest Service and will focus on safe riding procedures and offer courtesy vehicle sound checks, rider fit checks and answer general questions about OHV safe-

ty.

As part of the Lane County Sheriff's Office commitment to public safety, the sheriff's office maintains a full-time deputy position assigned to patrol the Florence area dunes of the ODNRA.

State, county and U.S. Forest Service law enforcement personnel patrol the dunes area and enforce permit and riding regulations.

OHV permits are required by the state when riding on state land and the State of Oregon administers those permits and the regulations overseeing their use.

Permits can be obtained from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and authorized permit agents.

If you have a registration from another state, it may be valid in Or-

gon for a limited time.

In addition to the OHV permit issued by the State of Oregon for your vehicle, the Siuslaw National Forest also requires recreation permits for most campgrounds and day use staging areas. Check the specific area where you will be riding for details.

According to state regulations, there are three classes of off-highway vehicles. They are described as follows:

**Class I OHV (ATV)** — A motorized, off-highway vehicle 50" wide or less that weighs 800 pounds or less, travels on 3 or 4 tires, and has a saddle or seats.

**Class II OHV (sandrail, Jeep)** — A motor vehicle capable of off-highway travel that weighs more than 800 pounds.

**Class III OHV (motorcycle)** — An off-highway motorcycle weighing 600 pounds or less.

Rules for riding in the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area require riders to display red or orange flags measuring 8" x 12" at a height of nine feet above the ground on all vehicles.

Helmets are required for riders in certain age ranges, and other regulations apply as well.

Detailed information about the riding rules, trails and other services at the dunes can be obtained from the Oregon Dunes Visitor Center in Reedsport or by visiting the website for the Siuslaw National Forest.

**BUS** from page 1A

"We're very proud and happy to be doing this," Haring said. "We bought the company four years ago, and we've been working on it since the second we bought it. To get it finally started is amazing."

The route is scheduled to take 50 minutes from city to city.

This isn't the first time the route has been announced, with service originally planned to begin July 1 in 2017, but contract bids and route planning continued to delay the project.

Earlier this year, plans had been put in place to open the route with yet another July 1 start day, but the project was again delayed, this time due to difficulties procuring a bus for the route.

"They ordered a brand-new bus, and it's getting built, but it

wasn't ready by July 1," Haring said.

In fact, the official bus is still being worked on. Instead of facing another batch of delays, the company decided to use a temporary bus to ensure a September opening.

"We'll be getting a permanent bus once it's ready in a few months," Haring said. "It's a bigger deal than I ever thought it was."

While there are currently three stops planned for the route, things could change by next year as this is only a pilot program.

"Since it's a pilot program, we need good ridership to keep this going longer," Haring said. "I know people want it, but if they don't in high numbers the first year, it's possible we'll lose it in the first year. People need to use it if they want to keep it." But Haring is hopeful that

the route will be a success, especially considering a recent rise in use of the Rhody Express.

"It's gotten a lot busier," Haring said. "We have way more riders than we did a year ago. It's going really well."

The Florence-Yachats Connector route will be timed with the Rhody Express, allowing riders to connect from the Yachats route to all points Florence.

The Yachats route is hoping to encourage ridership by keeping rates low, with a one-way ticket costing \$2.50, and a round trip for \$5.

Haring hopes that as interest builds for the route, so will suggestions to improve it. With periodic surveys, as well as the ability to comment on the company's Facebook page, Haring encourages everyone to voice their opinions on how

the route is run and where it will stop.

Suggestions, along with questions regarding the route, can also be called into the company at 541-997-8520.

The pickup/drop-off locations are as follows:

- Florence: Grocery Outlet Market located at 2066 Highway 101
- Carl G. Washburne State Park

- Yachats: Little Log Church at 3rd and Pontiac

- Florence to Yachats schedule:

- Grocery Outlet to Washburne: 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 5:45 p.m.

- Washburne to Yachats: 8:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.

- Yachats arrive: 8:50 a.m., 11:50 a.m. 2:50 p.m. and 6:35 p.m.

- Yachats to Florence schedule:

- Yachats to Washburne: 9 a.m., noon, 3 p.m. and 6:45 p.m.

- Washburne to Florence: 9:20 a.m., 12:20 p.m., 3:20 p.m. and 7:05 p.m.

- Florence arrive: 9:50 a.m., 12:50 p.m., 3:50 p.m. and 7:35 p.m.

**CONCEALED CARRY PERMIT CLASS**

**MULTI-STATE**

September 5th  
1pm & 6pm  
Florence Event Center  
715 Quince St.

Walk-in's welcome.

Multi-State: \$80.00  
Valid in Washington  
Oregon Included No Fee  
Oregon Only: \$45.00

Shaun Curtain 360-921-2071  
or email: FirearmTrainingNW@gmail.com | www.FirearmTrainingNW.com

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**Sign Up For Fall/ Winter Leagues!**

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We have plenty of leagues for men, women, kids and social leagues. League Bowling begins after Labor Day Weekend!

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**Florence Food Share**  
Ask us about volunteer opportunities.  
2190 Spruce Street • P.O.Box 2514  
Florence, Oregon 97439  
(541) 997-9110  
info@florencesfoodshare.org

**Florence Van Fans**  
We are looking for new volunteers to join our team and help out with new ideas and support. Van Fan volunteers raise money to help keep the busses running 5 days a week transporting cancer patients from Florence to Eugene. Our success is because of our volunteers. Please help us help others by volunteering your time. Meet 1st Wednesday of every month  
Shorewood Senior Living Luncheon Meeting (8.50)  
1451 Spruce St  
541-991-3209 or sgelmstedt@gmail.com

**Habitat for Humanity**  
Florence Habitat for Humanity ReStore is a place to put your talents to work. From customer service to furniture repair, we offer volunteer opportunities geared toward individual interests and skills. By giving your time, you help Florence Habitat ReStore do more to support building projects that benefit families in our community.  
2016 Hwy 101 or email volunteer@florenehabitat.org  
Store hours 9am – 5pm Monday- Saturday 541-997-5834  
www.facebook.com/restoreflorence

**Meals on Wheels and Cafe 60**  
Meals on Wheels are available to people over the age of 60 who cannot get out much due to illness or advanced age and who are not eating properly, regardless of income. Cafe 60 is available for those who prefer to make new friends in a dining room setting.  
1570 Kingwood, PO Box 2313, Florence  
541-997-5673  
lanesenior meals.org

**Peace Harbor Volunteers**  
Join the Peace Harbor Hospital Volunteers, you will find an area of interest in a caring organization.  
400 9th Street, Florence  
541-997-8412 ext. 2218

**Us Too Florence**  
Saving men one PSA test at a time. "Someone to talk to...who understands!"  
541-997-6626  
maribob@oregonfast.net  
www.ustooflorence.org

**To include your organization in this directory, please call us @ 541-997-3441**