

Siuslaw News

Sports & Recreation

Sports

Calendar

- Dec. 27**
 - SHS girls BB host Reedsport 5:30 p.m.
 - SHS Boys BB host Reedsport 7 p.m.
- Jan. 4**
 - SHS girls BB at Mazama Sky-Em Crossover Inv.
 - SHS boys BB at Mazama Sky-Em Crossover Inv.
 - MHS boys BB at McKenzie 5:30 p.m.
 - MHS girls BB at McKenzie 7 p.m.

Tide Tables	
Entrance Siuslaw River	
High Tide	Low Tide
Dec. 26	
2:59am / 7.2	8:31am / 2.8
2:14pm / 8.0	9:09pm / -0.9
Dec. 27	
3:50am / 7.3	9:34am / 2.7
3:14pm / 7.3	10:01pm / -0.2
Dec. 28	
4:43am / 7.4	10:45am / 2.5
4:22pm / 6.5	10:54pm / 0.6
Dec. 29	
5:37am / 7.5	12:00am / 2.2
5:39pm / 6.0	11:52pm / 1.3
Dec. 30	
6:31am / 7.7	1:14am / 1.7
7:03pm / 5.6	
Dec. 31	
7:24am / 7.8	12:53am / 2.0
8:24pm / 5.6	2:21pm / 1.1
Jan. 1	
8:14am / 8.0	1:52am / 2.5
9:35pm / 5.8	3:18pm / 0.5

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148 Maple St.
Florence
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Whale Watching Week begins tomorrow

Gray whales are on the move south again this December and Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) is celebrating the migration with the annual Whale Watching Week from Thursday, Dec. 27, to Monday, Dec. 31. Volunteers from the Whale Watching Spoken Here program will be stationed at 24 sites along the Oregon coast during the event. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day, they'll offer whale watching tips and facts about the animals. A map of the 24 volunteer whale watch sites can be found on whalespo-



The peak of Gray whale migration along the coast begins tomorrow and lasts through Dec. 31.

ken.org.

Every winter, an estimated 20,000 Gray whales migrate south from Alaska to the warm calving lagoons off the coast of Baja, Mexico. Whale Watching Week coincides with the highest frequency of whales swimming down the coast; roughly 30 whales pass by per

See **WHALE 3B**



Mapleton Freshman AJ Moso enters the court as senior brother Evan Moso (right) claps.

SAILORS SET COURSE FOR HEART OF LEAGUE SEASON

By NED HICKSON
Siuslaw News

The Mapleton Sailors wrapped up their final non-league match-up last week as they headed into the heart of the Mountain West League season. Wednesday, the Sailors hosted Crow for a MWL game before heading to Reedsport the following night for the last non-league match-up of the season. Against the Cougars, the Mapleton boys kept things close for most of the game until the final stretch, when Crow was able to extend its lead to pick up a 41-30 league win on the Mapleton hardwood, dropping the Sailors to 0-2 in the MWL. That same night, the Lady Sailors were still searching for their first win of the season but were unable to find it



Mapleton sophomore Emily Stevens takes advantage of a fastbreak opportunity.

against the Lady Cougars, who claimed the win, 39-18. Thursday, neither Sailors team was able to nab a win against high-scoring Braves teams. In the boys match-up, Senior Evan Moso led Mapleton with 7 points in a 62-18 loss to Reedsport. The Lady had some success early, holding Reedsport to just 4 points in the second period. But the Braves came back strong in the third and fourth period for a 49-19 win. Senior Erin Michaels led the girls with 10 points, along with 4 rebounds and 2 steals. Freshman Evangelina Spradling had 5 blocked shots and two points to go with 4 rebounds. The Sailors will return to the hardwood Jan. 4 on the road at McKenzie.

PHOTOS BY NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

On the Bite

A WEEKLY
FISHING REPORT FOR THE
LOCAL REGION
www.dfw.state.or.us/RR

MID COAST LAKES: Stocking of mid coast lakes stopped in early June, but fishing for warmwater species can still be good in several area lakes, including Ollala Reservoir, Mercer Lake, Siltcoos Lake and Tahkenitch Lake.

SIUSLAW RIVER: *Fall Chinook, winter steelhead* Winter steelhead fishing opened on Dec. 1 and fish will start entering the Siuslaw system throughout the month of December. No good reports yet but things should be changing this week with warmer weather and rain in the forecast. Hatchery fish in the Siuslaw system return to Whitaker Creek (Siuslaw) and Green Creek (Lake Creek). Fishing should start to pick up soon with each rise in the river levels. Bobber fishing with bait/jigs, drift fishing, and casting lures are good techniques to catch a Siuslaw winter steelhead.

Steelhead fishing remains open in the closed Chinook areas of the Siuslaw and Lake Creek. Due to lower than expected returns and conservation concerns, fall Chinook fishing on the Siuslaw remains closed upstream of the Tiernan boat ramp (downstream of Mapleton). Below the deadline the bag limit for fall Chinook is reduced to one adult Chinook per day and a limit of 3 through the remainder of the season. Chinook fishing continues to be slow in the open area. All wild coho must be released for the 2018 fall salmon season. Lake Creek, a tributary of the Siuslaw River, is closed for the 2018 fall salmon season. Trout fishing in streams will reopen May 22, 2019.

ALSEA RIVER: *Fall Chinook, winter steelhead* Winter steelhead fishing has begun on the Alsea River. The popular North Fork Alsea fishery opened on Dec. 1. Fishing has been slow so far, the river is low and clear and water temperatures have dropped with the cold nights and east winds. During these conditions, the lower Alsea can be good as fish slow

See **FISHING 3B**

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