

# SN

## Sports & Recreation

### Calendar

#### June 29

• Cape Mnt. Trail Run  
9 a.m.  
Horse Cr. Campground

#### July 3

• Florence Softball  
5:30 p.m.  
ACC vs Welton (North)  
Beachcomber vs Lofy (South)  
7 p.m.  
Lofy vs Welton (North)  
Beachcomber vs ACC (South)

#### July 5

• SHS cheerleaders bottle and can drive at SHS 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Tide Tables

Entrance Siuslaw River

High Tide Low Tide

#### June 29

9:50am / 4.7 3:47am / 0.8  
9:28pm / 7.0 3:47:12pm / 2.3

#### June 30

10:51am / 5.0 4:34am / 0.1  
10:10pm / 7.3 4:03pm / 2.5

#### July 1

11:44am / 5.4 5:19am / -0.7  
10:52pm / 7.7 4:53pm / 2.6

#### July 2

12:33am / 5.8 6:02am / -1.2  
11:36pm / 8.0 5:41pm / 2.6

#### July 3

12:21am / 8.2 2:05am / 6.2  
7:29pm / -2.1 7:19pm / 2.4

#### July 4

1:08am / 8.2 8:14am / 2.1  
2:50pm / 6.3 8:10pm / 2.3

#### July 5

1:57am / 8.0 8:59am / -2.0  
3:37pm / 6.5 9:05pm / 2.2



## MASTERING THE SAND

PHOTOS BY NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

Florence's Jesse Austen competes in a past Sand Master Jam, which is part of the Dune Riders World Championship qualifier sandboarding competitions.

FLORENCE'S SAND MASTER PARK MAKES MOVE, GAINS MOMENTUM AS SPORT'S POPULARITY GROWS AT HOME AND ABROAD

By JARED ANDERSON  
Siuslaw News

“The key is to funnel as much air underneath the board as possible, and you do that by keeping your weight on the back foot so your tip is up,” Sand Master Park owner Lon Beale said. “In snowboarding, you get your weight forward to drive speed, but on sand, that takes a vacuum. Once you get up to 10-15 miles per hour, you’re riding on air. If you watch it in slow motion, it’s about an inch of air underneath the board. That’s probably the biggest factor to riding the board. As far as making the boards perform? I would say the base material is the most critical. It has to be something that’s harder than the sand. Otherwise, the sand is going to grip it and slow it down.”

The sandboards that Beale designs help with performance by keeping the nose up. “That way, it’s going to funnel air. The only way you can mess it up is lean forward. Some people do that, but we give them a basic instruction right here in our store. We go through all the basics: strapping, waxing, stopping, turning. It really starts them on the right foot.”

Beale and his team have been getting the U.S., and the entire world, on the right foot of sandboarding for decades. Sand Master Park was the very first sandboarding park in the U.S. when it opened in 2000, and has since become a mainstay for tourists in Florence.

“The busiest day we’ve ever



Professional and amateur sandboarding competitors climb the dunes at Honeyman State Park during the 2015 Sand Master Jam; riding the rail (below).

had was about 500 people,” Beale said. “But I would say, typically, it would be about 150 average, and we’re probably 300 a day during the summer. Yearly, about 20,000.”

Last year, the owners of the property Sand Master Park is located on made the decision to build tract housing on the site.

“Of course, it’s something Florence needs, and we support that,” Beale said. “But it forced us to look for a new location. We struggled. Finding a property that had dune access was the main thing.”

Beale was eventually able to find a place just a few lots south of the original park, next to Fred Meyer in Florence.

“The location is fantastic,” he said. “We’ve started developing that. It’s quite an effort because it’s been 19 years at our location. There’s a lot of stuff. We’re trying to whittle things down to our necessi-



ties to get to our new location. It’s not as big as we like, but we’re able to expand. We expect to double our size next year as needed.”

The original park is still open during the transition, which Beale wants people to know. But the real story is how he worked to bring the sport from a couple of Boy Scouts sledding down a dune

See SAND 2B

## TIME OUT

By Lloyd Little  
Retired teacher, coach and game official

With more than 55 years as an athlete, coach, parent and spectator, Lloyd Little has gained some insights and perspectives regarding athletics. Each week, he shares what he’s learned about sports from his multiple points of view.

### “I bet I can...”

These four words have floated around in my head for decades. I was a multiple sport athlete from 1957 until 1986. The skills I acquired through athletics gave me confidence. This, in turn, created a competitive mindset often overriding common sense.

The mantra “I bet I can” became a personal challenge. Each time I was successful in completing the bet, I found myself trusting my abilities even more. Unfortunately, the moments I remember the best were mostly the *unsuccessful* moments:

“I bet I can fly my bike higher off our dirt mound,” formed in the Dunn Rolling Trailer Park. I did achieve that — mostly — until the handle bars collapsed, my chest hitting the frame as I crashed onto the dirt. In another bicycle event (same, albeit slightly more bent, bike), “I bet I could beat my brother home from the Hermiston swimming pool.”

Wearing just my swimsuit, we raced for home. I turned the corner of the Pendleton Grain Growers building — and right into a tractor disc plow. Luckily, I sailed over the discs and collided with the tractor. My brother won and I wore bandages for days.

My next “I bet I can” moment came in 1975, when I

See LITTLE 2B

### ODFW REGIONAL FISHING REPORT

[www.dfw.state.or.us/RR](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/RR)

#### MID-COAST LAKES

Stocking of the mid-coast lakes began the first week of February and will continue into June. Check the stocking schedule online for dates and locations of stockings. These early stockings include: Alder and Dune Lake, Cleawox, Lost Lake, Munsel Lake, Thissel Pond, Mercer Lake, Big Creek Reservoirs, Ollala Reservoir and Devils Lake.

Warmwater fisheries are improving in several lakes around the Florence area including: Siltcoos, Tahkenitch, Mercer, and Munsel.

#### SILTCOOS & TAHKENITCH LAKES: Warmwater species

Warmwater fishing has been improving on Siltcoos and Tahkenitch lakes. The recent warm weather is warming up the water and getting the fish more active. We are now in the post spawn time of year, fish will start to move out the shallows and disperse throughout the lakes into a variety of habitats. Warmwater fishing will continue to be good through the summer and into the fall.

Siltcoos also gets stocked rainbow trout, check the stocking schedule for numbers and dates of stockings.

#### SIUSLAW RIVER: Cutthroat trout

Trout fishing in streams is open. Check the regulations for open areas and gear restrictions.

#### ALSEA RIVER: Cutthroat trout

See FISHING 3B

## THREE RIVERS CASINO TO HOST INAUGURAL ‘DARE TO CARE’ GOLF TOURNEY

Three Rivers Casino Resort will host the first-ever “Dare To Care” golf tournament Tuesday, Sept. 10, at the Ocean Dunes Golf Course in Florence.

All proceeds from the tournament will go to the Three Rivers Casino Resort Employee Emergency Assistance Fund.

“We have incredible employees at Three Rivers,” said Rich Colton, director of marketing for the casino. “This tournament is just one way we are working to make sure our employees are supported in the same way that they take care of all our guests who visit Three Rivers.”

The tournament is set to start at 11 a.m. Teams, partial teams and individuals can sign up using the entry form online at [www.threeriverscasino.com](http://www.threeriverscasino.com).

Partial teams and individuals will be put into full teams by the tournament committee prior to the start of the tournament.

In addition to the tournament, participants will receive gift bags and can enter into a 50/50 raffle.

For more information about the tournament, course details and tournament entry information, visit [www.threeriverscasino.com](http://www.threeriverscasino.com).