



Katie Frankowicz/The Daily Astorian

Visitors to Oswald West State Park pause on a rocky shoreline within the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve.

## Researchers still learning about Cape Falcon Marine Reserve

One of five in Oregon

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ  
*The Daily Astorian*

State researchers have used volunteer fishermen, underwater cameras and scuba divers to uncover the lives of the creatures who call Cape Falcon Marine Reserve home.

Cape Falcon, located between Arch Cape and Manzanita, is the newest of the state's five marine reserves — protected areas off the Oregon Coast that include sites like Cape Perpetua south of Newport and Redfish Rocks south of Bandon.

Monitoring work began in Cape Falcon in 2014 and restrictions on fishing and development did not go into effect until 2016.

There are still a lot of unknowns, from how different species use the rocky reefs and soft bottom habitat in the reserve to what the long-term effects of protecting the area might be.

The state is in the middle of developing a management plan, the last of Oregon's marine reserves to get a plan.

State resources are tight, but the plan will include both state and community priorities for the protected marine site. It is hoped



Katie Frankowicz/The Daily Astorian

Lindsay Aylesworth, ecological research project leader for the state's marine reserves program, prepares video equipment during a tour last spring at Cape Falcon.

### CAPE FALCON MARINE RESERVE

A Nature Matters lecture on marine reserves is scheduled for Thursday at Fort George Brewery's Lovell Showroom. Doors open at 6 p.m.

the plan will help attract outside research interests and resources for work the state does not have the capacity to do.

"Frankly what we want is for (the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) to have more capacity because all the things

they are doing are great, but they have very limited funding and staffing for all of these big things," said Nadia Gardner, a local volunteer with the Friends of Cape Falcon Marine Reserve. It's one reason why the group exists, she said.

The group coordinates volunteer efforts like annual seabird surveys with the Audubon Society of Portland. Last year, the group led a small boat tour to give people a chance to see the reserve from the water.

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## Warrenton teen dies from the flu

By EDWARD STRATTON  
*The Daily Astorian*

Locals are grieving after the loss of Timothy Pior, 15, a Warrenton High School freshman who died Sunday from complications related to the flu.

Hundreds gathered at Gateway Community Church on Sunday to honor Pior, who was active in athletics and theater. He is survived by his mother and father, Jonathan and Candy Pior; siblings, Elizabeth, Nicolas, Victoria, Alexandria and Josiah; and grandparents, Weldon and Dorothy Pior.

Pior participated in wrestling, football and soccer, as well as the high school's choir department. He was well-known in local acting circles, most recently playing Tevye in the high school's production of "Fiddler on the Roof." He also acted with the Peninsula Association of Performing Artists.

Matthew Kelley, a representative for the family, told KATU the family is heartbroken but heartened by the community support. No one in the family thought the illness would turn deadly, he said.

"We'd been talking the night before about making plans to go to the movies the next day or two when he was feeling better," Kelley told KATU.

The family will hold a public service for Pior at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Warrenton High School gymnasium.

The family has created a GoFundMe page in Pior's honor. Donations will go toward Pior's passions, including high school athletics, the choir and local arts groups. For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/timpior](http://tinyurl.com/timpior)

## Seaside might ban plastic bags

Ban also under discussion in Gearhart

By R.J. MARX  
*The Daily Astorian*

SEASIDE — Seaside Brewing Co. owner Jimmy Griffin has already made the switch. He's now one of the restaurants on the North Coast to voluntarily use paper straws and biodegradable to-go containers.

Griffin was among more than two dozen supporters of a single-use plastic bag ban in Seaside. At Monday's City Council meeting, he was joined by advocates from Seaside and around Clatsop County, who described a threat to ocean wildlife and habitat.

Marc Ward, the co-founder of Sea Turtles Forever, a nonprofit which conducts monitoring of endangered sea turtles and researches the effects of marine debris in the Pacific Ocean, said the situation is dire.

"Our culture is changing slowly," Ward said. "The slight inconvenience somebody might have by having to bring their own bag is outweighed by the dire situation on a global level."

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## Cannabis cafes could be coming

A bill is being debated in Salem

By KRISTIAN FODEN-VENCIL  
*Oregon Public Broadcasting*

Jeremy Robbins broke his neck in a bicycle accident 20 years ago. He's in a wheelchair and has been prescribed cannabis for chronic pain and spasms.

The trouble is, he lives in public housing, which means he's not allowed to smoke his medicine at home.

"I just don't understand how come there isn't

a space provided where me and a lot of other folks like me can go, and we can imbibe in this medicine and also have a community where we can support each other," Robbins said.

He told a public hearing in Salem that the state is being inconsistent — allowing bars all over the place, but not cannabis cafes.

Oregon cannabis businesses are trying to normalize the use of their product with Senate Bill 639 in Salem this session.

The initial effort would have allowed customers to consume cannabis at cafes, including by smoking it, but

that is already changing.

The push to allow cannabis consumption has come from marijuana patients, like Robbins, as well as businesses interested in filling a niche.

Buying cannabis has been legal in Oregon for years now. But unless a consumer owns their own home, there's hardly anywhere legal to smoke it.

Not in a park, not on a public street and not in most rental housing.

Sara Kemple manages The Dispensary on 52nd, a cannabis shop in

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Kristian Foden-Vencil/Oregon Public Broadcasting

Sara Kemple manages The Dispensary on 52nd, a cannabis shop in southeast Portland. She says tourists come to Oregon to try marijuana and leave sadly disappointed because there's hardly anywhere they can legally smoke.

