



Items displayed inside the museum.

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the documentary will also inform those in attendance about the health of oceans, how ocean currents affect the global climate, and the impact of pollution on oceanic ecosystems and wildlife.

Moreover, the film is narrated by Sylvia Earle, a marine biologist and National Geographic explorer-in-residence.

“Dr. Earle drives home the message of the importance of the ocean’s health to our entire planet and the damage we as humans are doing with our plastic wastes,” Anderson said. “She also, however, is just as quick to say that we can reverse the damage with easy-to-do actions.”

The seating in the 3D theater is at reduced capacity to ensure viewers are socially distanced but showtimes are frequent.

“Our theater is intimate, so we do adjust the availability depending on our county’s state mandated COVID restrictions,” Anderson said. “It is first come, first seated, but the film runs at the top of every hour.”

The forthcoming exhibit “Shipwrecks!” is one that was featured at the museum in the past. Smith said the museum used to have an area set aside for shipwrecks that

have happened along the Oregon Coast.

However, the materials were taken out of the space to make room for the “Mapping the Pacific Coast” exhibit, which is still ongoing. Now, after nearly 10 years, “Shipwrecks!” is making a comeback. This time, it’s here to stay.

“I had always told myself that someday we were going to revisit shipwrecks because it’s a prominent theme,” Smith said.

One of the featured shipwrecks include the Peter Iredale, an iron-hulled ship that ran aground on Clatsop Spit Fort on Oct. 25, 1906. Remains of the wreckage are visible on shore at low tide.

The exhibit will also showcase artifacts from the Exxon Valdez oil tanker to address the environmental impact that some shipwrecks have on the ocean and its wildlife. Although the wreck and oil spill took place along the southeastern coast of the U.S., Smith said there’s a lot to be learned from the incident, as well as other shipwrecks altogether.

“We have to dig through the archives, dig through newspaper reporting and talk to people who grew up hearing stories about this and that,” Smith said. “It’s a very human story, not just about a bunch of rusty ships.”



The pond at the Barbey Maritime Center.

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