

Gem Walkers jaunt set for Groundhog Day

Coastal Gems Volkswalkers invite everyone for a walk Tuesday, Feb. 2, Groundhog Day. February's walk will be the Lincoln City Town Route.

Those who want to carpool to Lincoln City can meet at the Commons in Yachats at 9 a.m., or at the Cozy Cove Resort in Lincoln City at 10:30 a.m.

The 10K walk is rated 2B for a couple of steep hills and one section without sidewalks.

There is also a 5K route for those who want a shorter walk.

As always, leashed pets are welcome on walks, but bring

water and clean up materials. Also, a sturdy 6-foot leash (not the retractable type) is required.

On Wednesday, Feb. 3, the group will hold its monthly meeting in conjunction with its annual "chocolate sharing" event. The meeting will be held at the home of the Gems' president in Yachats.

Chocolate sharing will begin at 5:30 p.m., with the club meeting at 6 p.m.

For more information or directions visit www.yachatscoastalgems.org.

ODFW asks halibut anglers to help set spring season

SALEM — The ODFW wants halibut anglers to weigh in on open dates for the 2016 spring all-depth sport halibut fishery in the Central Coast subarea.

And like last year, there are three ways to give feedback — attend a public meeting, participate via webinar or take an online survey.

The Central Oregon Coast Subarea extends from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mt., and includes most Oregon ports

except those in the Astoria area, Gold Beach, and Brookings.

The seasons for the Columbia River and Southern Oregon Subareas have already been established for this year.

"The sport halibut fishery is popular, so we want to ensure we hear from as many anglers as possible," said Lynn Mattes, halibut project leader for ODFW.

Participants in the process will help choose the number of

spring all-depth "fixed" and "back-up" dates, and the weeks in which those open dates occur.

The public meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 2, at the ODFW Newport office, 2040 SE Marine Science Drive.

Participants can join the meeting online at www.global.gotomeeting.com/join/620143213, or dial in at 1-408-650-3123 Access code: 620-143-213.

Anglers can offer input through an online survey, which will be available on the ODFW halibut webpage, www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/finfish/halibut/index.asp, from Feb. 2-7.

For more information, or to provide additional comments without attending the meeting, anglers should contact Mattes at 541-867-0300 ext. 237, or email him at lynn.mattes@state.or.us.

Fishing regulations available in ODFW 2016 guide

SALEM — Anglers this year may have noticed that Oregon's fishing regulations for 2016 are in a new magazine format publication, which is not only more colorful but simpler and easier to read.

Over the past year ODFW worked on streamlining and simplifying the angling regulations. ODFW has also expanded opportunities for trout and warmwater fishing and provided more consistent seasons and bag limits.

Anglers should notice plainer language and clearer descriptions of regulations. Content was also rearranged so that license information and fish ID photos are in the back

of the regulations. Updated full-color zone maps can be found at the end of each section.

Here are a few changes that anglers will see in the 2016 fishing regulations:

- Expanded year round opportunities across the state for trout. In most areas where there were April openers, these rivers were expanded to be open year round.

- Reduction in the number of special regulations or exceptions. One thing to be aware of is that some of the waters that you fish may no longer be listed under the exceptions. This means that they are now covered under the zone regula-

tions.

- Changes in fees. In 2016 there are fee increases on many angling licenses. This is the first time the fees have increased in six years. A new youth license was created.

For \$10, youth ages 12-17 will get a hunting, fishing, shellfish license and Columbia River Basin endorsement.

ODFW contracted with J.F. Griffin Media to publish this year's regulations. J.F. Griffin currently contracts with more than 20 other states to help create a consistent look and feel for fishing and hunting regulations.

They also provide an online version at www.eregulations.com/oregon/fishing

of the regulations that can be accessed from mobile devices, tablets and desktop computers. This version includes the latest corrections and clarification to a few regulations that were causing confusion.

"Read the zone regulations carefully as there have been some zone wide changes as well as some changes to the zone regulations exceptions," said Mike Gauvin, manager of ODFW's recreational fishing program. "As always, emergency or temporary rules may be adopted so please check the in season regulation updates by zone before you head out fishing."

B&G Club volunteer referees eligible for scholarships

The Boys and Girls Club of Western Lane County is looking for volunteers to help referee some of its K-6 grade basketball games.

There are four more dates

with 10 total time slots available per day. Those who volunteer will be eligible for a scholarship either this year or in the future.

Below is a list of dates and

times. Each time requires two different referees as there are two games going on at the same time.

• Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27.

Game times are 8:30 a.m.,

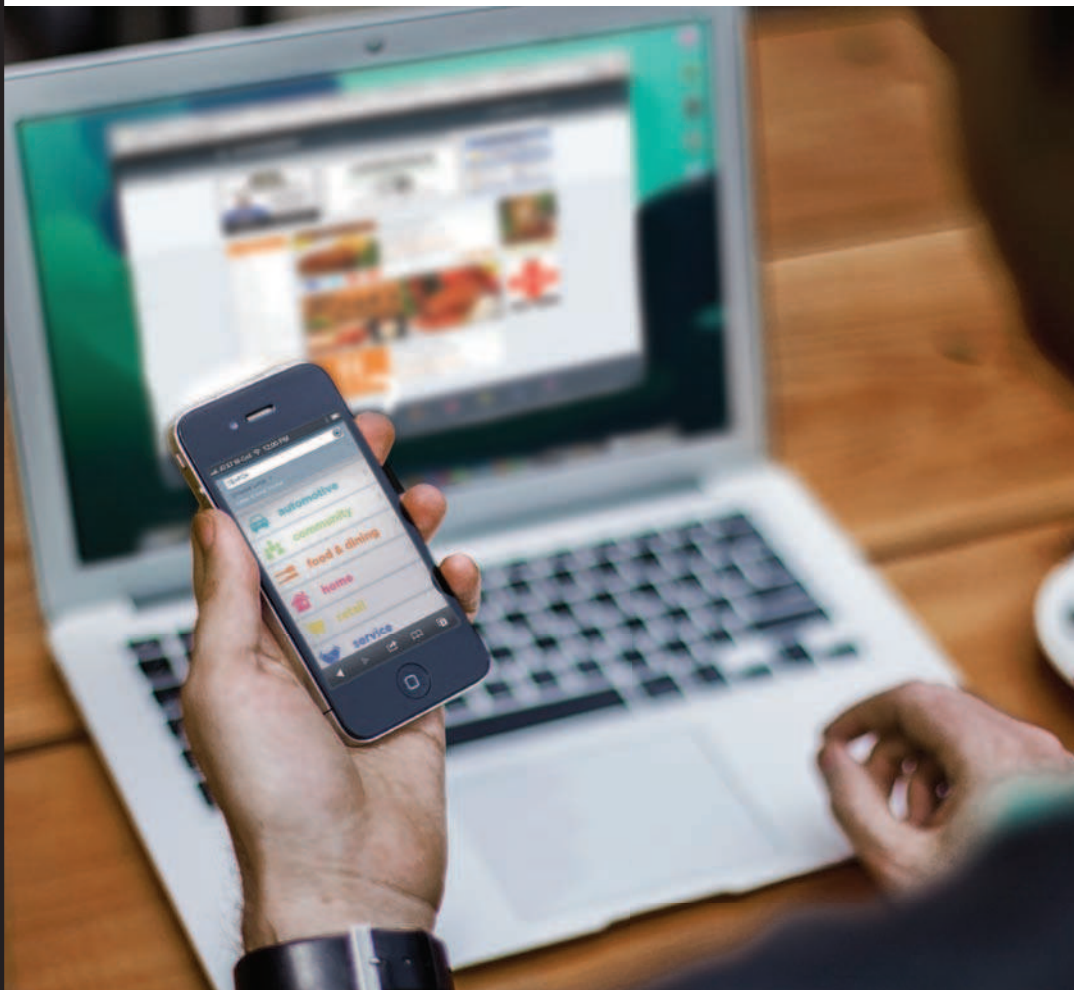
9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Kristen Goodman, Boys and Girls Club athletic director, at kgoodman@bgcwlcc.org.

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Study

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reported to the U.S. Coast Guard.

The fatality rate among Dungeness crab fishermen is several times higher than the national rate for commercial fishing. But the injury rate among Dungeness fishermen is much lower than injury rates in other commercial fishing fleets that have been studied.

"Fatal injuries are tracked in a national system, but nonfatal injuries are not," Kincl said. "We knew there was likely underreporting, but we had no

idea how low the injury numbers were until now."

The findings, published in the latest issue of the journal International Maritime Health, are the first step to better understanding fishing injuries among Dungeness crab fishermen. The research is part of an OSU-led research project to identify and reduce the risks of injuries in the industry, Kincl said.

The Fishermen Led Injury Prevention Program, or FLIPP, is designed to take a new approach to fishing industry injury prevention by working with commercial Dungeness

crab fishermen to identify and reduce injury risks. The project is supported by a three-year, \$825,000 grant from the National Institutes for Occupational Safety and Health.

Kincl is the principal investigator.

The lead author of the paper, Samantha Case, is a researcher in the NIOSH office in Alaska. Other co-authors are OSU associate professor Viktor Bovbjerg; OSU doctoral student Laura Syron and Devin Lucas, who earned his doctorate at OSU and works at NIOSH.

The researchers found that the majority of the fatalities, about 71 percent, occurred during vessel disasters, such as boats capsizing or sinking. The other deaths were the result of a fisherman drowning or falling overboard.

Fractures were the most commonly reported injury, at 40 percent, followed by hypothermia, lacerations and digit amputations.

Working with Oregon Sea Grant and community researchers in local fishing communities, Kincl and her colleagues are meeting with focus groups of fishermen and surveying fishing crews along the Pacific coast to learn more about safety and injuries in the industry.

"No one has ever gone up and down the coast and learned from the fishermen," Kincl said. "What are they doing to stay safe? Are there things that can be improved? How can we share that information among the various crews?"

By the end of the project, researchers plan to come up with and test several interventions that could help reduce injuries among crab fishermen.

"We want to identify some things that might work, but we don't want to tell them what to do," Kincl said. "We want to let them decide what would be most helpful."



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Siuslaw News Garage Sale GUIDE

Fri./Sat.,
1/29-1/30,
8am-5pm.

2-mi. down Canary Rd,
left on Newcomb Rd.

3-family garage sale Kubota RTV side by side, Honda 4-wheeler, tools flathead Ford engine, lawn mower, lots of household items.

Lindas Thrift Store,
37th hwy 101

is having a 50% off sale on entire store. Making room for new merchandise, come by and check us out.

Sat., 1/30
8am-3pm
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Multi-family indoor sale,
Furniture, mattresses, clothes,
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