

Geocache Splash will offer coins to treasure hunters

FLORENCE — Modern-day treasure seekers known as geocachers will descend on Florence and along the central Oregon coast for the Cache Splash on May 14. This event is part of the Florence Events Center's 20th anniversary celebration, Dancing with Sea Lions.

"Porter the Sea Lion" is inviting geocachers to the Cache Splash Off being held Saturday, May 14, at 8 a.m., at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St. The first 25 people to sign up at the FEC will receive a special Dancing with Sea Lions (DwSL) refrigerator magnet. There will be a chance to win some amazing prizes donated by generous merchants, along with theme-oriented geocaches.

For an extra chance to win these amazing prizes, bring an item that can be added to the raffle collection. A raffle will be held at 4 p.m., and you must be present to win.

There is a "colony" of 20 artistically decorated fiberglass sea lions standing 7-1/2 feet tall to find, stretching from Reedsport to Newport. Geocachers will be looking for Porter in all her beautiful forms, as well as



COURTESY PHOTO

A limited number of geocoins will be available to find.

new caches as a part of the fun. Teamwork would be helpful, but isn't required — and don't forget your camera to take pictures with each Porter!

To claim DwSL geocoins, complete the Porterport, where details will be listed. Participants must complete the Porterport to receive a geocoin (while supplies last). On the day of the Splash Off event May 14, bring your completed Porterport to the FEC before 5 p.m.

After the event, bring the Porterport to Sea Lion Caves, 91560 Highway 101, anytime between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to receive a trackable geocoin while supplies last.

Only one geocoin per family.

Participants must present the original Porterport to receive a geocoin.

Geocachers can obtain your DwSL Porterport at the event. After the event a printable Porterport will be available at DwSL website.

This event will officially end Sept. 30, or when Porter leaves to be auctioned.

SPOKEN WORD POETS WILL HAVE CHANCE TO SHINE, WIN CASH

FLORENCE — On May 7, the Big Wave Spoken Word Poetry Slam and Contest will take place at 6 p.m. at the Florence Events Center.

Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA) is the organizer of this state-wide event, which is offering the largest cash prizes in the state.

The first place winner will receive \$500, along with \$250 for second place and \$100 for third.

Poets are encouraged to register at www.fraaoregon.org/poetryfest.html as

soon as possible because there are a limited number of spaces available for poets. Rules and other information is available on the website.

Poetry slams were invented in the late 80's in Chicago as a way of breathing new life into open mic poetry events. The audience is involved, not only because the five judges are chosen randomly from the audience, but also because audience members are encouraged to verbalize or otherwise indicate their appreciation or dissatisfaction with the judges scoring.

Finger snapping indicates the poet has said something that resonates with the audience. Booing of scores that are deemed too low, and wild clapping and whistling for those brave poets who bare their souls, are common.

Poetry slams attract a wide range of poets and diverse subject matter, including heartfelt love poetry, searing social commentary, comedic routines, and bitter-sweet personal stories.

Poets are free to perform any style.

"If you have never been to a Spoken

Word Poetry contest," says chairwoman Bettie Egerton, "this is the one to attend. We will have the best of the best, from all around Oregon. You will laugh, cry, snap your fingers in appreciation and be emotionally transformed by the poetry you hear."

Admission to the event is \$10, which supports FRAA Poetry Events and the Youth Poetry Program.

For more information, visit www.fraaoregon.org or call Bettie Egerton at 503-910-3625.

FRAA to host annual art festival during Rhododendron Days

FLORENCE — Mark your calendars for an art show by local and coastal artists and craftsman presented by the Florence Regional Arts Alliance (FRAA).

It will be held at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., during Rhody Days, May 21 and 22.

In the tradition of the FRAA Arts

Festival, visitors will experience and delight in the unique artistry while having a chance to meet the artists who have crafted these works of art.

Some of the types of artistry on display will include woodturning, fused glass, stained glass, bead weaving, photography, metal work, garden décor, intarsia, fractal

art, pine needle baskets, fiber arts and linens, wearable fabric art, knitted and crocheted accessories, scroll saw wood art, raku ceramics, obsidian knives, rock-topography, hand painted pottery, watercolors, lampwork beads as well as a variety of unique jewelry treasures that will be sure to tempt you.

The show's artists will be donating 10 percent of their sales to support the Florence Regional Arts Center at its new location, 120 Maple St.

Bring a friend, shop for some unique treasures and support the arts.

Admission is free.