

## Aquarium extends hours, launches summer programs

NEWPORT — Whether it's a behind-the-scenes tour above the Passages of the Deep, a smooch from a 500-pound sea lion, or a playful encounter with a 4-foot-tall brown pelican, visitors will find plenty of exciting and engaging activities at the Oregon Coast Aquarium throughout the summer.

The aquarium, ranked among the 10 best in the United States, will offer a variety of education programs this summer to broaden the world of marine science for new and return visitors alike.

Beginning May 28, perennial favorites such as the Sea Lion Kiss will be offered four days a week, Friday through Monday. Visitors interested in a behind-the-scenes tour can schedule one any day of the week, and the comically majestic brown pelicans will make twice-daily appearances, at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The pelicans, initially very shy, have settled comfortably into their on-stage feeding presentations — so much so that

an additional offering is available every afternoon throughout the summer. Debuted last year, the pelican presentations have become a rewarding experience for the birds, trainers and visitors alike.

Speaking of birds: The daily Vulture Chat at noon allows visitors to "talk" with turkey vultures through the interpretive skills of aviculturists.

People will learn about the vultures' keen sense of smell — a rarity in the bird world — as well as their somewhat unconventional method of keeping cool on hot days. (Hint: It involves going to the bathroom.)

On certain days each week, visitors can view the feeding frenzy in the shark infested waters of the Open Sea exhibit, or witness the slow-motion drama of a sea star extruding its stomach to consume a clam during the Tide Pool Feed.

Returning this summer is the Drifter Detectives Plankton Discovery Station, where kids and their families learn about marine life unseen by the

naked eye. Families can also learn about the unique adaptations of marine and coastal animals at the Passages Discovery Zone.

Be sure to mark your calendar for World Oceans Day on June 25 and Tuna Fishery Day on Aug. 17. For details about all of these programs, when to see them and to buy advance tickets or make reservations, visit [aquarium.org](http://aquarium.org).

The Oregon Coast Aquarium will be open every day this summer from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. starting Saturday, May 28. Summer hours and scheduling will last until Labor Day, Sept.

5. For more information, call 541-867-3474 or visit [aquarium.org](http://aquarium.org).

The Oregon Coast Aquarium, at 2820 S.E. Ferry Slip Road in Newport, is dedicated to the highest quality aquatic and marine science programs for recreation and education so that the public better understands, cherishes, and conserves the world's natural marine and coastal resources.

The OCA is an accredited Association of Zoos and Aquariums institution, as well as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

## Siuslaw Athletic Booster Club to elect new officers at meeting

The Siuslaw Athletic Booster Club will hold a special membership meeting on Tuesday, June 14, at 6:30 p.m. at the Siuslaw High School library to nominate and vote in new board members for the 2016-2017 school year.

Anyone interested in volunteering some time to support the athletic programs of the middle school and high school, come to the meeting.

Regular membership meetings are held once a month at the high school. The SABC has supported athletics by providing funding for team uni-

forms and equipment, scoreboards, track resurfacing, the Ian Foster Scholarship Fund (for participation fees) and, new this year, two \$1,000 scholarships to Siuslaw seniors.

The club also helps support the Athlete of the Year reception on Friday, June 3, and the Hall of Fame dinner on Friday, Aug. 19.

For questions or to get on the committee for the annual booster club auction to be held Aug. 20, contact Gina Castro Brandt at 541-997-4089.

## Lane County Sheriffs, Bi-Mart offering free boat inspections

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is partnering with Bi-Mart again this year to offer free boat inspections to help the community get on the water safely. Let Lane County Sheriffs help you double check

to make sure you have everything you need.

In Florence, bring your boat (any kind) to Florence Bi-Mart, 4310 Highway 101, on June 4, from noon to 2 p.m., for a free boat inspection.

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[www.RelayForLife.Org/FlorenceOR](http://www.RelayForLife.Org/FlorenceOR)



**The Florence Organic Farmers' Market will start its 20th season on May 28 and continuing through October 29.**

The market will be open **THIS SATURDAY** from 10am-2pm at 310 Highway 101 ( Pro Lumber)

The market accepts WIC and Farm Direct Nutrition vouchers.

For more information, call Maria at 541-902-8815.

**FREE Youth Day and BBQ at Siuslaw Rod & Gun Club July 16th • 9am-3pm**

*Register by July 10th / Accompanied by Parent*

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Contact **Harold Johnson**  
541-997-1543 or harolyn49@yahoo.com



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