

New aquarium exhibit offers plenty of 'Bite'

NEWPORT — The Oregon Coast Aquarium will be all smiles Memorial Day Weekend as it unveils its newest exhibit, Big Bites, which showcases creatures with feeding adaptations that are truly cutting edge.

The toothsome fishes of Big Bites will give visitors plenty of fascinating natural history to chew on, said Jim Burke, Director of Animal Husbandry at the aquarium.

"Some secure their prey in the blink of an eye, with dagger-like teeth, while others take the concept of 'roughage' to a new level and make meals out of hard coral," Burke explained. "There are species that shear flesh with sharp, serrated teeth, and others that use flat, broad teeth to crush the shells of mollusks and crustaceans."

The uniquely arranged jaws and teeth of fishes featured in

Big Bites allow them to carve niches for themselves in their respective environments.

For many of these species, form follows function—what (and how) these creatures eat has shaped their appearance, sometimes drastically.

Aquarium enthusiasts will likely recognize some of these renowned "big biters".

"As visitors travel beyond our Secrets of Shipwrecks gallery, they will come face to face with captivating animals such as porcupinefish, parrotfish and piranhas," said Evonne Mochon-Collura, Curator of Fishes and Invertebrates at the aquarium. "The new gallery transports guests into tropical saltwater environments such as Australian coral reefs and warm pockets of the Amazon Basin, where the waters are calm but mealtime is anything but."

In addition to the infamous voracious piranha, guests will meet the Goliath Tigerfish, a denizen of the Congo River Basin in Africa. Goliath Tigerfish are lightning-fast hunters that lie in wait for prey to swim past, subduing them with huge, dagger-like teeth.

Porcupinefish take a different approach, essentially swapping the steak knife for a crab mallet. Inside their beak-like mouth, the teeth of porcupinefish are fused into a "dental plate" that allows these googly-eyed fishes to crush shelled prey such as snails, urchins and hermit crabs.

The aquarium is incorporating two new tank shapes into the exhibit so visitors can view fish from a novel perspective. An all-time favorite design allows guests to crawl inside not one but two tanks and "pop up" into the exhibits.

"In these new tanks, our aquarists have created habitats that not only support the biological needs of the new animals but are visually attractive, and their attention to detail yields beautiful results," Mochon-Collura added.

Visitors will notice the teal-colored mouth of a parrotfish as it grazes through the architecture of a simulated coral reef. They can peer among the branches of Malaysian bogwood, their stares reciprocated by fish equipped with menacing teeth and a crocodile's smile.

Starting May 29, the aquarium will be open every day this summer from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Visit aquarium.org or call 541-867-FISH for more information or to purchase advance tickets.

PeaceHealth to offer free sports physicals to students

On Wednesday, June 7, PeaceHealth Medical Group in Florence will be partnering with the Florence and Mapleton school districts to provide sports physicals to students.

Sports physicals are required in order for youths grades six through 12 to participate in extracurricular sports.

The exams are critical to safe sports participation: they can screen athletes for potential illness or conditions that may limit or restrict their ability to participate in a sport, or conditions that may be aggravated by intense exercise.

During Sports Physical Day, students will receive a "Sports Pre-Participation Examination." PeaceHealth Medical Group is contributing

medical supplies and the time and expertise of five providers and 10 medical assistants to complete these physicals, which include height, weight, blood pressure, an eye chart exam and an examination by a provider. It also includes a health history questionnaire which asks about the student's medical history of injury, illness and conditions to help ensure any and all conditions are being properly addressed.

Sports physicals can be obtained during Sports Physical Day at Siuslaw Middle School at no cost to students. Sports physical forms are available at the student's school and must be completed and signed by the student's parent and/or guardian upon arrival to Sports Physical Day.

Coast Guard Auxiliary offers boating safety tips

Boating season is here, and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary reminds boaters of 10 precautions to take when getting ready to head out on the water:

- **Check the weather forecast.** A favorable forecast indicates low to moderate predicted winds, good visibility and the absence of dangerous squalls. You can get marine forecasts, which predict wave heights and winds, on NOAA weather radio on your VHF.

- **Check water conditions.** Wind strength, area and duration all contribute to wave height. Breaking waves produce a white foam. What sea conditions are acceptable depend on what conditions

your boat was designed to handle and the crew's experience.

- **File a float plan.** Someone responsible needs to know your plans, including where you are going and when you intend to return.

- **Double-check your equipment.** Before you leave, make sure you have the necessary equipment onboard and that it's all in good working condition.

- **Practice passenger communication.** You're the captain. Don't be afraid to issue instructions. Make sure your passengers and crew know what's expected of them and where they can find needed equipment. The skipper is obligated to educate everyone on board about matters of safety.

- **Load your boat properly.** Your boat should sit level at the waterline when fully loaded.

Load passengers and equipment alternately to achieve proper trim. Pack gear to balance the load, and don't overload. Your boat may have a label identifying its capacity.

- **Wear your life jackets.** Children under 13 must wear life jackets when underway on a recreational boat unless they're in an enclosed cabin or below decks, or unless a more stringent state regulation applies. You're required to have life jackets for everyone on board, and everyone should wear one.

- **Check engine compartment, and run blowers, if applicable.** Always check your engine compartment for fuel, fuel vapor and water, and run your blower for four minutes to clear the air before running the engines or using electrical

devices. Blowers are specially sealed to prevent ignition of fuel vapors. Smell the bilge blower outlet to verify the absence of gas fumes.

- **Start and warm the engine.** Cold engines can stall. Start your engine, and let it run until it's running smoothly before leaving the dock and while you still have the boat under control with lines.

- **Designate an alternate skipper.** Appoint someone to take over should you become incapacitated. Practice different situations where this might be necessary.

To schedule a free vessel safety check from a certified examiner, call Certified Examiner and Coast Guard Auxiliary Staff Officer Jonathan Yoder at 541-991-1181.

12th Street Alano Club Hope Meets 1525 12th Street (Old hospital, back annex). Meeting site for "Open to All" recovery groups: AA, DDA, Al-Anon, Native American AA, GA. Kids caught in the crossfire. AlanoHope.org Meetings. Seven Days a week. Call for times & meeting agenda. Contact: 541-991-9558 or 612-462-1481. Friday 5:30pm. 541-991-1243 or 541-991-9588.

55 ALIVE/MATURE DRIVING. Contact Lane Community College, 541-997-8444.

AA Candlelight Meditation Meeting meets Sat., 7pm., 1525 12th St. (rear). Contact: 310-210-3324.

A. C. A. Adult Children of Alcoholics (and Addicts). Meets every Monday at 3pm St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 19th & Tamarack. Contact: Loyd or Kysle (612) 462-1481.

Ada Grange #570 meets second Saturday of each month. Potluck at 5pm. Meeting at 6pm. Enjoy getting together with people involved in helping the community. Ada Grange is 10 miles out Canyon Road. Contact: Linda Pugh 541-997-4254, or PO Box 674, Florence, OR 97439.

Aglow International meets first Saturday, 10am-Noon., at Florence Vineyard Fellowship, 2610 Kingwood St., Contact: Judy Murphy 541-997-5849.

Al-Anon Family Groups meets every Thursday at noon, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Library Room, 19th & Tamarack. Contact: 541-997-3788

Al-Anon Family Hope Group 1525 12th St. (old hospital back annex). Meets Fridays 5:30pm to 6:30 pm. Contact: 541-999-1243.

Al-Anon Siuslaw Family Group meets every Tuesday at 7pm., at Cross Roads Assembly of God, 10th & Maple St., Rm 14. Contact: 541-997-1209 or 999-0271.

Al-Anon Mapleton Family Group meets every Monday at 7pm, at the Mapleton Evangelical Church, Riverview Ave., Mapleton. Access door off rear parking lot. Contact: 541-999-5223.

Alano Club Hope meets Mon.-Sun. daily, 1525 12th St., Florence (rear). 7-8pm Contact: 310-210-3324.

Alcoholics Anonymous 12 Step Study meets Tues., 6:00pm. Alano Club Hope (rear). Contact: 310-210-3324.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Mon., Wed. & Thurs., 7pm., Episcopal Church, 19th & Tamarack. Contact: 541-902-0152.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Mon. & Fri., 10am., New Life Lutheran Church, 21st & Spruce Streets. Contact: 541-902-0152.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tues (closed), Thurs and Sat (open), 7pm., Mapleton Lions Club Annex on River Ave., Mapleton. Contact: 541-902-0152.

Alcoholics Anonymous Open meetings Sunday, 10-11am. 1525 12th St. (Old hospital, back annex). Contact: 541-991-7870 or 541-999-7300.

Alcoholics Anonymous Brown Baggers Bunch 1525 12th St., Florence, OR 97439. Meets Daily at noon Contact: Pat Duncan 310-210-3325.

Alcoholics Anonymous Men's Meeting. Meets Tuesdays, from 5-6pm, at the Methodist Church on the corner of Kingwood & 2nd St. Contact: 541-902-0152.

Alcoholics Anonymous New Beginnings Men's Meets 11:30 am-12:30pm. (Closed) Methodist Church @ Kingwood & 2nd St. Contact: 541-902-0152

Alcoholics Anonymous Serenity Meeting 1525 12th St., Florence, OR 97439. Meets Sunday 10-11am.

Alcoholics Anonymous Uptown Group meets Sun., Wed., Thurs., Fri., 5:30-6:30pm., 1525 12th St., Alano Club, Florence (rear). Contact: 310-210-3324.

Alcoholics Anonymous Sisters (SIS) Sisters in Sobriety Women's meeting. Meets Saturday at 10-11:30am, at Alano Club Hope, 1525 12th St., rear entrance. Contact: 310-210-3324.

Alzheimer's Support Group meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of every month, 1-2:30pm., Regency Florence, 1951 E. 21st Street, Florence. Contact: Rachel: 541-997-8436 ext. 205.

American Red Cross Oregon Pacific Chapter meets 3rd Monday of each month. Contact Tom 541-997-1123. Great opportunity to help locally.

American Legion & Aux., Francis M. Yost Post No. 59 meets the 4th Tuesday of every month, 5pm for dinner and 6pm for general membership meeting, at Elks Lodge of Florence, 1686 12th Street. Contact: 541-997-3082

Anger Management for Men. Meets weekly every Tuesday from 6pm to 8pm. Location: 1710 Laurel Way, Unit B (upstairs), Florence. For information contact: Deborah Grigsby, LPCi, MMHC, 541-999-1913, no cost group sessions.

Anger Management for Women. Meets weekly every Tuesday from 12 to 2pm. Location: 1710 Laurel Way, Unit B (upstairs), Florence. For information contact: Deborah Grigsby, LPCi, MMHC, 541-999-1913, no cost group sessions.

Argentine Tango in Newport meets every Monday night at 7-9pm. (7:30pm on second Monday) at South Beach Community Center located east of LaQuinta motel on 3024 SE Ferryslip Rd. First 1/2 hour is a lesson-then dancing. No partner needed. All ages welcome. Wear leather bottom shoes, for info contact: 541-563-2705 or <http://www.geocities.com/yese Newportango/>.

Baha'i Faith of Florence discussion meetings every Monday evening @ 875 7th Street, 6:30pm. Soup's on supper and interfaith devotional discussion. No Charge. Contact: Suzanne Mann-Heintz 541-590-0779 or James Heintz 541-590-0616.

Beloved Community of Florence. Healing Circles, Meditation, Spiritual Coaching. Meets every Saturday, 10:30am., Private Home. Contact: Eleanor 541-999-9870 Cell.

Better Breathers Club, meets 4th Wednesday of each month, Peace Harbor Medical Center in Conference room C. 2-3:30pm. Contact: Karl 541-902-6300 Ext 5635.

Breastfeeding Support Group, second Thursday, 6:30-7:30pm., Siuslaw Area Women's Center, 12th St., Florence. Contact: 541-997-1794.

Cancer Education Group Everyone Welcome. Meets every other Tuesday at 1:30pm @ 1525 12th St., Ste. 4A, Florence, 97439. For further information please call: 541-999-6809 or 541-999-8624. Fee: No fee.

CaregiversSupport Group Bimonthly meeting is held at SprucePoint on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month starting at 11 AM. Spruce Point has supported this group by providing a complimentary lunch for the participants on those meeting times. It is facilitated by Mary Ann Earl RN BSN retired. Contacts are Annette Poston 541-997-6111 or Mary Ann Earl 541-997-4866. Anyone needing support caring or assisting another person with their responsibilities for health, welfare, finances or decision making can be supported in that process in this group.

Celebrate Recovery for hurts, habits and hang-ups Starting Nov. 29th. Meets every Friday, 6 PM for a meal, following by meetings at 6:30PM Meeting. 1st qtr. at Cross Road Church, 2nd quarter at Florence Christian Church, 3rd qtr. at Florence Evangelical church and 4th qtr. at Florence Church of the Nazarene. For more information call Chick 541-997-3370.

Central Coast Miniatures Club of Florence, 1st Thursday of month, 6pm., Siuslaw Public Library, Bromley Room, Florence.

Central Oregon Coast Amateur Radio Club meets every Wed. 7-8:30am, at Koffee Klatch @ Clawson's Wheelhouse. Wed net @ 7 pm. 146.80(-) 100hz tone.

Chronic Pain Group People with chronic pain helping people with chronic pain, meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 to 7:00pm at Community Baptist Church, 4590 Hwy. 101, Florence. Contact: 541-991-0037.

Circle 4 Oneness community meets two times a month, the 11th and 22nd, 6:30-8pm. Contact: 541-902-7912 for directions.

Citizens Democracy Watch, meets at 1pm., the last Sunday of the month at the Women's Center. Contact: 541-997-3950.

City Club of Florence. Meets 1st Friday of each month. 11:00am order of the lunch menu. Speaker: 12-1 pm. Driftwood Shores Surfside Restaurant upstairs, 88416 1st Ave. For information, call 541-902-5135.

Coast Chamber Ensemble, meets every Thursday, 3-5pm., Coast Village Clubhouse. All musical levels welcome. Contact: 541-904-4346.

Coastal Celtic Society. Meets the third Wednesday of each month. Contact: Carolyn McCord 541-997-9142 for different locations and time.

Coastal Women Veterans. 2nd Friday, 11:30am. Place to be announced. Contact: 541-902-8623.

Coastal Writers, 1st and 3rd Thursday, 7:30pm, at the Shorewood, 1451 Spruce St. Contact: 541-902-8575.

Community Chorus of Florence meets Mon. 7-8:30pm, at Cross Road Church, 10th & Maple Sts. Florence. Contact: 541-997-3469.

Diabetes Health & Wellness Group. Meets twice a week every Wednesday from 9am to 11am And 8pm to 9:30pm. Location: 1710 Laurel Way, Unit B (upstairs), Florence. For information contact: Deborah Grigsby, LPCi, MMHC, 541-999-1913, no cost group sessions.

Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary meet first Saturday each month at 2pm., 1715 W. 21st St. Contact: DAV Skip Stitt 541-997-1562.

Family Caregiver Support Group. Spruce Point Assisted Living, 9th Street, Florence. Meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays 10:30 am. to 11:30/12:00 in the Community Room. Contact: Annette at SP 541-997-6111. Facilitator: Mary Ann Earl RN, BSN

Family Support Group for family members of chronically mentally ill, meets the 4th Wednesday of each month, 6:30-8pm., PeaceHealth counseling Serv., Florence Business Center.

MEETING PLACE

Fibromyalgia Support Group of Central Oregon Coast, 1st Saturday, 1pm., Pacific Community Hospital, Newport. Contact: 541-563-5240.

Fibromyalgia Support Group of Reedsport meets 3rd Wednesday of every other month at the Reedsport Public Library.

Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Noon forum 2nd Thursday of each month, noon, at Best Western Pier Point Inn. Open to the public. Contact: 541-997-3128.

Florence Area Coordinating Council meets the first Wednesday of the month at the Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue Hall on Hwy. 101 9am.

Florence Area Democratic Club meets at 11am the 1st Saturday of every month. Contact: www.florenceareademocrats.org.

Florence Area Humane Society. Low Cost Spay/Neuter, Wednesdays. Please call the Shelter for an appointment. 541-997-4277.

Florence Caring Pregnancy Center open Mon., Tues & Thurs., 11:00am-4pm. FREE. 1525 West 12th Street (Florence Business Center), Margaret Getchell, Executive Director, 541-902-2273.

Florence Chapter-Oregon Right to Life Contact: Mona Dick 541-997-2065.

Florence Community PTA meets 2nd Tuesday of the month, 4pm. Siuslaw Elementary School Library. Contact Diane McCalmont, 541-997-1854. Email: florencecommunitypta@yahoo.com. Website: florenceptademo.org.

Florence Dance Guild, meets monthly. Contact: Angela Palmer 541-997-6839.

Florence Duplicate Bridge (non-smoking). Every Thursday afternoon starting @ 12:30pm. St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 19th & Tamarack, Florence. Contact: John Weatherwax 541-997-2677. (American contact bridge league (ACBL) sanctioned games (Master points awarded) Open to all.)

Florence Elks Lodge 1858 meets every Thursday at 7:00pm., 1686 12th Street.

Florence Garden Club, 2nd Wed., Sept.-June, 1:00pm., Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 3996 Hwy 101. Contact: www.facebook.com/FGCCOR

Florence Kivans meets each Wednesday, noon. Florence Elks Lodge, 1686 W. 12th St., Florence.

Florence Memory Loss Respite Center meets Mon., Wed., Thur. from 10am-2pm., Florence Senior Center, 1570 Kingwood Street, \$10 includes lunch. 541-902-8539.

Florence Parkinson's Disease Support Group. Meets 4th Wednesday of every month. 1:30pm., Shorewood Apartments meeting room. Contact: Joann 541-633-3330.

Florence Performing Arts Association Board meeting, 2nd Thursday of each month, 3:15pm. www.florenceperformingarts.com

Friends of Poetry, Meets every Wednesday, 3-5pm., in the activity room at Shorewood Retirement Center, 15th & Spruce. All welcome. Contact: Shirley Nelson 541-373-0065.

Florence Rotary Club. Tuesdays, noon, at Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., Florence. Contact: Ron Caputo, 541-997-4961.

Florence Salmon/TROUT Enhancement Program. 1st Wed. 7pm. Florence Elks Lodge. Contact Ron Caputo 541-997-4961.

Florence Senior Travel Club. Meets Monday, Wednesday & Friday, Noon-3, at Jerry's Hot Rod Grille, 1179 Hwy. 101. 541-999-9700.

Florence Siuslaw Lions Club. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30pm., Pacific Pines RV Park meeting room, 4044 Hwy. 101. (entrance on 42nd St.) Contact: 541-991-3161.

Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Sundays, 10am, at the Fellowship Hall located at the New Center of Hecca Beach Rd. & Hwy 101. Contact: Sally Wanz 541-902-9505.

Flying Needles & Hooks of the Siuslaw. This group does charitable knitting & crocheting for schools, SOS, & Helping Hands. All are welcome. Meets 2nd Tuesday in Bromley room Siuslaw Public Library from 3pm-5pm. 4th Tuesday – at Greentrees Community Room from 3pm-5pm. Contact: Suzanne Mann-Heintz, 541-590-0779.

Friends of Florence Events Center meets on the last Tuesday of every month, 3pm, at the Florence Events Center. Contact: FEC 541-997-1994.

Friends of Honeyman State Park. Meets 3rd Monday of each month at 11:15am. recreational meeting hall at Honeyman, on Canary Rd. A group of volunteers who support projects at Honeyman – activities include park upkeep, planting & clearing, interpretive programs and special events. Everyone Welcome! Contact: Suzanne Mann-Heintz 541-590-1779, or honeymanfriends@aol.com

Friends of the Library meeting, 4th Thursday of each month, 11am., Bromley Room Siuslaw Public Library. Contact: Susy Lacer, 541-997-8663.

Grief & Loss for Adults. Meets weekly every Thursday from 9am. to 11am. Location: 1710 Laurel Way, Unit B (upstairs), Florence. For information contact: Deborah Grigsby, LPCi, MMHC, 541-999-1913, no cost group sessions.

Grief & Loss for Students, ages 12-18, Meets weekly every Thursday from 3:30pm to 5:00pm. Location: 1710 Laurel Way, Unit B (upstairs), Florence. For information contact: Deborah Grigsby, LPCi, MMHC, 541-999-1913, no cost group sessions.

Grief & Loss Support Group sponsored by Hospice. Please contact facilitator for information. Contact: Norma Wood, LCSW, 541-997-3418.

Grief Share Meets at the Florence Christian Church, Thursdays, 3-4pm., 2nd and Ivy streets. Contact: 541-997-2961.

Health Associates, a parenting support group, 3rd Wednesday, 7pm., 340 9th St. Contact: 541-997-1877 or 541-997-7134.

Helping Hands Coalition, is an all-volunteer community organization dedicated to providing services, food, clothing, and a daytime center for the homeless and others with unmet needs. Our small but friendly facility provides warmth, comfort, and basic services for those in our community. Meets every Mon., Wed., & Fri, from 11am-2pm, 1339 Rhododendron Dr. Contact: 541-997-5057.

Ladies of Elks, second Monday, 7pm., Florence Elks Lodge. Contact: Linda Tank, secretary, 541-997-3352.

Lower Umpqua Gem & Lapidary Society Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 2pm. Winchester Bay Community Center, 451 Winchester Ave. Contact: Bill Hendrickson, 541-271-6816 Reedsport, or Cam Grow, 541-997-8089 Florence.

Managing Chronic Pain Support Group Forming Starting March 2, 2015. Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7pm, at Community Baptist Church, 4590 Highway 101. for information: 541-590-0591.

Mapleton Advisory Committee meets the second Wednesday of each month. Siuslaw Valley Bank in Mapleton, 4pm.

Mapleton Booster Club. Meets 3rd Wednesday of each month @ 6pm. Siuslaw Bank in Mapleton. Contact: Krystal Wolford 541-268-6951.

Mapleton Grange #584. Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, potluck @ 4pm, meeting @ 5pm. Barbara Reeder, Master: 541-268-1061.

Mapleton Lions Club meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month.

Masonic Lodge of Florence Stated Communication, 1st Tuesday. Family dinner 6:30pm. Open Lodge 7:30pm. 84910 Hwy. 101 S. Contact: 541-997-9728 (bus).

Masonic Widows Social Club. Last Wednesday, 12 Noon, at the Masonic Temple, 84910 Highway 101 South (1.5 miles south of the bridge). Contact: Phyllis Williams 541-997-7965.

Meditation held Thursdays, 5:30pm, at United Methodist Church, 2nd & Kingwood. Contact: Pip Cole, 541-971-1173.

Mid Coast Nurses. Come ride with us, Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA) Florence, OR. Breakfast meeting/ride, 1st Saturday @ Kathleen & Ninas, 8:30am. Business meeting, 3rd Tuesday