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CURRY
COASTAL PILOT

Lincoln County Leader

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 14

MANELY ART CENTER 70 YEARS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

4 to 6 p.m.

November 14

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Tillamook County Fairgrounds. 12-7 p.m.

November 15

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Tillamook County Fairgrounds. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

November 15

ALL YOU CAN EAT COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

8 to 11 a.m. The Community Center.

November 15

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

12 to 5 p.m. The Community Center.

November 15, 2025

EGYPTIAN THEATRE 100TH YEAR CELEBRATION

229 South Broadway Coos Bay. Come celebrate 100 years of the Egyptian Theatre. It's a full afternoon of celebrations in downtown Coos Bay. Members will enjoy a special dinner from 2 to 3 p.m. Doors open to the General Public at 3:30 p.m. for live music by the South Coast Trio. Admission for the general public is \$5.

November 14 - November 15

DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Stroll through downtown and get into the holiday spirit with dazzling décor, creative gift ideas, festive fun, and door prizes around every corner. Participating shops and artisans will be offering handmade treasures, special deals, and cheerful refreshments to make your shopping experience extra merry.

November 15 - January 31, 2026

NORTH BEND WINTER ICE RINK

2040 Union Avenue North Bend, OR. This 3,250 sq. ft. synthetic ice rink is set inside a sparkling 5,000 sq. ft. holiday tent. Rentals are just \$5/hour, or skate free with your own pair.

November 16

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

9 to 3 p.m. The Community Center.

November 20

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Join the Newport Chamber of Commerce for an evening of fun and networking at Grocery Outlet in Newport. No registration is necessary as this is a free event.

November 21

FRIDAY SHOWCASE AT OCEAN CAFE NYE BEACH

8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Join the Newport Chamber of Commerce for a great morning to learn about Ocean Cafe Nye Beach. This great place is located at the Inn at Nye Beach.

November 21

HOLIDAY BETTER BOOK AND BAKE SALE

Curry Public Library from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

November 21st & 22nd

CHRISTMAS CRAFT MARKET

Friday 3 to 7 p.m.; Saturday 9 to 4 p.m. at the Gold Beach Community Center.

November 21 - November 30, 2025

A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS & THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The Liberty Theatre presents two funny, heart-warming shows that are sure to get you in the holiday spirit! A live performance of A Charlie Brown Christmas paired with The Best Christmas Pageant Ever starring talented local youngsters. Friday and Saturday shows at 7 pm, Sunday shows at 2 pm. 2100 Sherman Avenue North Bend, OR

Saturday, Nov 22

DECK THE DOCK

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Taft Dock, SW 51st St. in Lincoln City. Free Admission Event Host: Lincoln City Parks & Recreation. Kick off the holiday season with Santa and Mrs. Claus! Arrive by 4:15 p.m. to watch the lighting ceremony at the Taft Dock at 4:30pm. Afterwards, enjoy carols, festive treats, and a photo op with the Clauses.

November 22

HARVEST BAZAAR

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. American Legion #116, 424 W Olive St. in Newport 50/50 raffle drawing (Benefits the Mrs. Santa Program and Agape Respite Center), Lots of Curated Vendors to shop. Please bring any food donations you may have for the American Legion.

November 22

2ND ANNUAL FREE THANKSGIVING LUNCH

November 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Central Coast Assembly of God, 236 NE 6th St. in Newport

November 22

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Tillamook County Fairgrounds. 12-7 p.m.

November 23

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Tillamook County Fairgrounds. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

November 23

FREE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Newport 60+ Activity Center 20 SE 2nd St. in Newport All are welcome to celebrate the holiday season with a complimentary meal and a fundraising silent auction. The event is a collaborative effort between the Center and numerous local organizations to ensure everyone in the community has a place to gather before the holiday. The dinner seating will be offered at two different times: the first seating is at 11:30 a.m. and the second seating at 2 p.m. Seats are limited, and pre-registration for the meal is required. For more information, call 541-265-4859.

November 27 - December 31, 2025

HOLIDAY LIGHTS AT SHORE ACRES STATE PARK

Holiday Lights are set to sparkle again this season at Shore Acres State Park. Stroll through this holiday lights display every night from 4:30 - 9 p.m., Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve – including Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Make this a holiday tradition for the whole family. Admission is always free. However, parking at Shore Acres any time of the year is \$10.

November 28th to December 28

NATURE'S COASTAL HOLIDAY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

5 to 9 p.m. in Azalea Park. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at the Santa House on Friday and Saturday nights from 6 to 8 p.m.

November 28

LINCOLN CITY CULTURAL CENTER LINCOLN CITY WINTER ART FESTIVAL

Noon to 6 p.m. 540 NE Highway 101 in Lincoln City. The Lincoln City Winter Art Festival is an annual Thanksgiving weekend tradition featuring fine arts and crafts, live music, treats and holiday activities for the whole family. There is no entry fee and visitors will find parking behind the center. The Fine Arts and Crafts show features 32 local and regional artists just in time for Christmas shopping. Find unique original treasures including blown and stained glass, pottery, sculptures, oil and acrylic painters, fiber arts, metal art, driftwood art, jewelry, photography and so much more! Enjoy delightful caroling from the Sweet Adelines at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Tree Lighting Countdown at 5 p.m. Santa is scheduled to arrive right after our tree is illuminated, at around 5:15 p.m. and will stay until every wish is heard,

November 29

LINCOLN CITY CULTURAL CENTER LINCOLN CITY WINTER ART FESTIVAL

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 540 NE Highway 101 in Lincoln City. The Lincoln City Winter Art Festival is an annual Thanksgiving weekend tradition featuring fine arts and crafts, live music, treats and holiday activities for the whole family. There is no entry fee and visitors will find parking behind the center. The Fine Arts and Crafts show features 32 local and regional artists just in time for Christmas shopping. Find unique original treasures including blown and stained glass, pottery, sculptures, oil and acrylic painters, fiber arts, metal art, driftwood art, jewelry, photography and so much more! Enjoy delightful caroling from the Sweet Adelines at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Tree Lighting Countdown at 5 p.m. Santa is scheduled to arrive right after our tree is illuminated, at around 5:15 p.m. and will stay until every wish is heard.

November 29

NIGHT OF 10,000 LIGHTS

3 to 6 p.m.: Includes a tree lighting ceremony at 5:30 p.m.; Photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus from 3 to 5 p.m. in Old Town Bandon

November 29

HOLIDAY PARADE AND TREE LIGHTING

50 Central Avenue Coos Bay, OR. Join Santa at Coos Bay City Hall at 5 p.m. for the Walking Lighted Parade to the Visitor Center for the Coos Bay Tree Lighting. The Tree Lighting event begins with cookies and cider in the Visitor Center at 4:30 p.m. for those who do not wish to be part of the parade. Santa will light the tree at 5:30 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 29

BANDON'S NIGHT OF 10,000 LIGHTS

The Night of 10,000 Lights returns to Old Town Bandon for its fourteenth year. Many traditional Christmas activities of the Night of 10,000 Lights will take place starting in the afternoon and continuing into the evening. Santa and Mrs. Claus will appear from 3 to 5 PM for pictures with the kids. The traditional wine/nog walk returns as well. Glasses and maps will be available for purchase from 3 to 5 PM. This year's Christmas tree lighting is scheduled for 5:30 PM.

November 29

TOLEDO TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY, UMBRELLA PARADE, COMMUNITY PARTY

5 p.m. Umbrella Parade at top of Main Street. 5:30 p.m. Tree Lighting Ceremony at the end of Main Street in front of Cobblestone Pizza. Community Party is planned after the tree lighting to be held at the Toledo Elks Lodge 123 SE Alder.

December 3

HOLIDAY TREE FESTIVAL AND ANGELS BALL

Chinook Winds Casino Resort, 1777 NW 44th St in Lincoln City, The Festival of Trees offers the public a chance to view beautifully decorated Christmas trees throughout the week. The viewing hours are from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. On Friday, Dec. 5, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Santa and Mrs. Claus will be present for photos and to hand out candy to children. The festivities will conclude on Saturday, Dec. 6, with the much-anticipated Angel Ball.

December 5th

DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS AND PARADE

4 p.m.: Pre-parade activities begin; 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Meet Santa's reindeer outside the Children's Museum; 6 p.m.; Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting outside the Brookings Activity Center; 7 p.m.; Parade at 7 p.m.

December 5

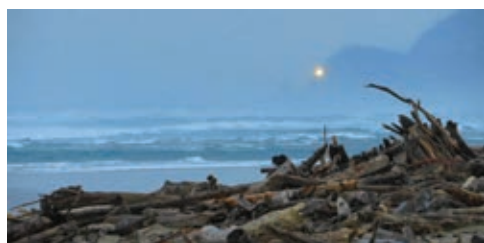
ANNUAL HOLIDAY CHAMBER LUNCHEON AND RAFFLE

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Samaritan Center for Health Education Catered by Local Ocean Seafoods. Come early to mingle and network with fellow community members. Registration is now open to attend with or without a lunch. Guests are welcome too, but please register ahead of time. Raffle tickets can be purchased ahead of time too, with your registration. There will be so many great items! All are welcome.

December 5 and 6

NORTH LINCOLN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM HOLIDAY CRAFT BAZAAR

4907 SW Hwy. 101 in Lincoln City. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the museum's conference room for two festive days of shopping and cheer. Browse a beautiful variety of handmade treasures—from soaps, windchimes, ornaments, and seashell magnets to jewelry, knitted goods, and more—all crafted by local artisans. Stock up on holiday décor, discover one-of-a-kind gifts, and support your museum at the same time. For more details, visit <https://nlchm.org/2025-craft-bazaar/>



December 5

14TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT BAZAAR

12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Central Coast Assembly of God, 236 NE 6th St. in Newport.

December 5

EMPIRE DISTRICT ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING AND GINGERBREAD HOUSE DISPLAY

The Empire District of Coos Bay will hold their annual tree lighting, gingerbread house display, visits with Santa, and star of hope holiday open house from 5 - 7 p.m. on Friday, December 5. Vote for your favorite Empire District business decorations. Take photos with Santa and enjoy cookies, cider, caroling and more.

December 5, 6, 12, 13, 19 and 20

OREGON COAST AQUARIUM SEA OF LIGHTS

From 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. 2820 SE Ferry Slip Rd. in Newport. Call 541-8670-3474 for more details.

December 6

14TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT BAZAAR

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Central Coast Assembly of God, 236 NE 6th St. in Newport

December 6

YAQUINA BAY LIGHTED BOAT PARADE 2025

Join us for an evening of lights! This annual event is held the first Saturday of December each year, this is a fantastic tradition and a great way to start your holiday season. There are lots of ways to enjoy the Lighted Boat Parade - decorating and entering your own boat - viewing from the piers along the shoreline or from the many restaurants along the Newport Bayfront.

December 6, 2025

NORTH BEND'S CHRISTMAS ON MAIN

It's North Bend's Christmas on Main on Saturday, December 6. Enjoy a series of festivities to kick off the season with details available at: northbendoregon.gov/calendar/2977

December 6

SANTA CLAUS AND THE GRINCH

the Tillamook Air Museum, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

December 6

CANNON BEACH LAMP LIGHTING CEREMONY

4 p.m., Sandpiper Square, Cannon Beach

December 6-7, December 13-14

TOLOVANA ARTS COLONY HOLIDAY BAZAAR

12-5 p.m.

December 6th, 7th, 12th, 13th, and 14th

THE NUTCRACKER

MarLo Dance Studio presents the holiday ballet at the Sprague Community Theater on. Performance times are 7 p.m. Friday and 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

December 13

HOLIDAY LIGHT PARADE

Saturday from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m.

December 13

BROOKINGS CHRISTMAS PARADE

6 p.m.

December 13

HOLIDAY GYOTAKU PRINTING

11 a.m. 1:30 p.m. Pelican Brewing on Siletz Bay in Lincoln City Celebrate the Season with the Holiday Gyotaku Printing Workshop.

Every Saturday

NEWPORT FARMER'S MARKET

9 a.m.-1 p.m. Hwy 101 and Angle St. in Newport. Market has over 60 vendors to offer an array of seasonal produce, art, fresh flowers, plants, jewelry, photography, hot food, fresh pastries, honey, salsa, coffee, crafts and live music! Be sure to check out the hot food area. Meet up with your friends and shop local and fresh!

December 13

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. American Legion #116, 424 W Olive St. in Newport

December 13

BANDON LIGHT PARADE

Join us for the Bandon Annual Holiday Light Parade, filled with music, lights, and holiday cheer. Don't miss out on the festive floats, lighted vehicles and bikes. Celebrate the season with us. Everyone is invited to join in. Light up your vehicle, your pet, yourself! No registration required. Line up starts at 5 p.m., Parade begins at 5:30 p.m. Bandon Fisheries Warehouse

January 1, 2026

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE AT SUNSET BAY STATE PARK

Dive into the chilly waters to kick off the year with a thrill, surrounded by a supportive community and plenty of laughs at Sunset Bay State Park. The festivities kick off at 9 a.m. sharp on January 1st.

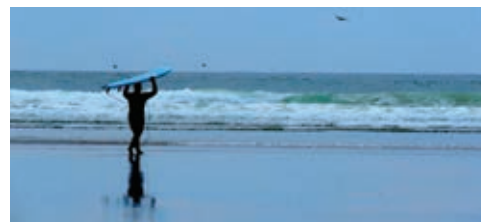
January 24

2026 SEAFOOD & WINE AMATEUR WINE COMPETITION

555 SW Coast Hwy. in Newport. The 2026 Amateur Wine Competition judging will take place January 24, 2026. Sponsored by Badmotivator Legacy Barrels.

February

GLASS FLOATS ON THE BEACH TREASURE HUNTING



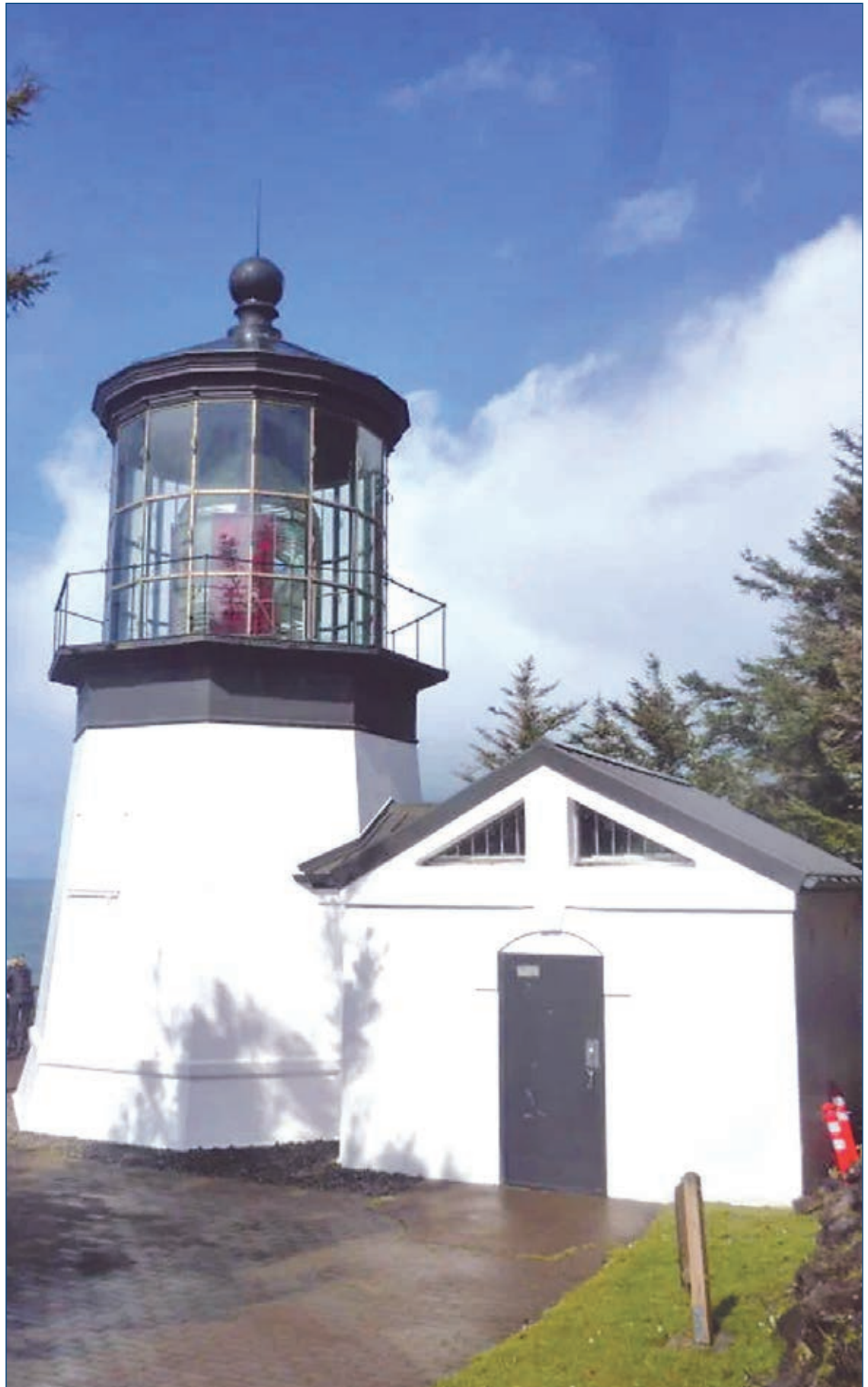
CAPE MEARES LIGHTHOUSE

Located three miles north of Oceanside, the Cape Meares Lighthouse features the shortest lighthouse on the Oregon Coast, views of the Three Arch Rocks National Wildlife Refuge and an Octopus Tree.

Winter weather means smaller crowds at the lighthouse and from December 27 through 31, it will participate in Oregon Parks and Recreation Department's Winter Whale Watch Event, with experts helping spot migrating whales.

Originally opened in 1890, Cape Meares Lighthouse is the shortest of 15 on the Oregon coast at 38 feet but sits at the highest elevation. Oregon's lighthouses were installed to aid marine navigation, as boats in sight of the shore would always be able to see one of the beacons and identify it by a unique light pattern to determine their location.

Cape Meares Lighthouse was constructed from bricks mined onsite and plated with iron for weather reinforcement. It originally used kerosene to light its beacon and a manual winding mechanism, similar to a clock, to rotate the light, before a diesel generator was installed in the 1930s to power the light and an engine to turn it.



LIGHTHOUSE

From Page 6

The lighthouse was operated by two keepers working twelve-hour shifts, with the day shift dedicated to cleaning and night to maintaining the light and rewinding the turning mechanism. The site remained primitive throughout the lighthouse's operations with the road accessing the site not paved and electricity not added until after the lighthouse's decommissioning.

Originally operated by the United States Lighthouse Service, the lighthouse eventually ended up under the purview of the United States Coast Guard after the lighthouse service was folded into the guard in 1939 in the leadup to World War II.

Operations continued at the lighthouse until 1963, at which point the facility was decommissioned and replaced by a beacon on top of the building that previously housed the lighthouse's diesel generators, which was in turn taken offline in 2014 when it became obsolete and was replaced by a GPS waypoint.

After the lighthouse's decommissioning, rumors abounded that the Coast Guard planned to demolish the structure, but after a local outcry, the property was deeded to the county, before eventually being transferred to OPRD.

In the years immediately



following the lighthouse's closure, vandals ransacked the building, breaking windows on the tower and stealing two bullseye lenses critical to the beacon's operation. Eventually, both lenses were recovered, one returned anonymously to the Cape Lookout ranger station when amnesty from prosecution was offered, and the other recovered in a raid on a drug house in the Portland area in the 1980s.

After taking over the property, OPRD converted the lighthouse's former work room into a gift shop and have maintained the structure and giftshop, with the help of the Friends of Cape Meares Lighthouse.

Currently, OPRD is in the process of fully restoring the lighthouse's lens, with a lamp specialist visiting in May and spending three days taking measurements

of every aspect of the complicated lens. With those measurements, a computer program will now be used to generate schematics for lookalike

acrylics to from a plant in India to fill gaps in the lens, completely restoring the lens's functionality, though there are no plans for an illumination.

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KING TIDES BRING VISITORS, OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCIENTISTS, LAND PLANNERS

JEREMY C. RUARK

Lincoln County Leader

The king tides return to the Oregon Coast annually and while these highest tides of the year can cause flooding, erosion, and impacts to buildings and roads, especially during storms, they offer opportunities for scientists and land planners. Observing king tides, provides a glimpse of future sea level rise and its potential to intensify erosion, flooding, and beach access issues.

King tides occur when the sun, moon, and Earth align, producing unusually high tides. This winter's first king tide series began in early November. The next high tides are expected Dec. 4 to Dec. 6 and Jan. 1 to Jan 4.

For the past 15 years, Oregon has contributed to this international citizen science effort. Supported by the Oregon Coastal Management Program (OCMP), the CoastWatch Program of the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, and partners like the Oregon Coast Visitors Association and Oregon Sea Grant, this project is managed by OCMP in collaboration with coastal local governments, state and federal agencies, and other interested parties

See **TIDES**, page 9



TIDES

From Page 8

to manage, conserve, and develop Oregon's coastal and ocean resources.

Even a small rise in sea levels could make winter storms worse and make our beaches narrower and harder to access.

If you are on Oregon's coast, you are invited to take photos of these high water events to help document their impact on coastal communities. The Oregon King Tides Photo Project, part of a global effort to track sea level changes, encourages anyone with a camera to join in and capture a preview of how rising sea levels might affect our communities in the future. Seeing king tide photos can help planners, resource agencies, conservationists, and coastal citizens get ready for these changes.

Participation is easy: choose a location along the coast, snap a photo when the tide is at its highest point, and share it at www.oregonkingtides.net.

To join the King Tides Photo Project, capture the high water levels around fixed features like pilings, seawalls, or bridge supports, as they help show how high the tide reaches. Include the location, date, and direction of your photo. If possible, take a second photo from the same spot during a normal

"It is imperative that anyone on the coast be aware of the power of the waves and tides and put safety first,"

— Rhiannon Bezore, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

high tide for comparison. Tide tables and photo tips are available on the King Tides website: www.oregonkingtides.net.

"One of the most encouraging things we've noticed over the past 15 years of the Oregon King Tides Project is how many people are excited about coastal issues and learning more about how dynamic our ocean environment is," Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development Coastal Shores Specialist Rhiannon Bezore said. "Seeing people from all backgrounds and ages heading to the coast to see the impacts of king tides is amazing and getting people involved in citizen science to help us document king tides now and plan for future conditions is one of the best things about the project."

Bezore said the king tides bring many people to the coast during some of the most dangerous conditions of the year.

"It is imperative that anyone on the coast be aware of the power of the waves and tides and put safety first," Bezore said. "We emphasize that king tide participants should view from a safe distance, never turn their backs on the water, and be mindful

that areas accessible during lower tides may not be passable during king tides."

The Oregon King Tides Project holds a photo competition every season, with prizes supplied by the Oregon Coast Visitors Association. Each year the competition has various categories, and this year they are:

- Wave Impacts + Coastal Erosion,
- Coastal Flooding, Bays + Estuaries
- Category for Youth Photographers

Photos can be submitted to <https://www.oregonkingtides.net/>

"Some of the most dramatic photos each year are the large waves crashing against cliffs, especially at Depoe Bay and Shore Acres, since king tides often coincide with winter storms," Bezore said. "The shots of coastal flooding are extremely helpful though to show how future sea level rise may impact our coastal communities."

According to Bezore, each year all the photos are submitted to a public Flickr account (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/orckingtide/albums/>).

"We share these photos with researchers from OSU and DOGAMI (Dept. of Geologic and Mineral Industries) as well as local

planners to both bolster models of future sea level rise and to add support for local planning effort to show areas already susceptible to flooding and erosion that might benefit from mitigation projects," Bezore noted. "This year we'll be hosting viewing parties in various coastal communities along with Oregon Surfrider and Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition to encourage people to view the tides safely, educate the public about king tides and sea level rise, and provide a fun family-oriented environment for enjoying an exciting natural phenomenon."

RESOURCES

For more information about the project, contact:

Rhiannon Bezore, Coastal Shores Specialist with the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, 971-375-7336, rhiannon.bezore@dlcd.oregon.gov

Sam Derrenbacher, Community Science & Engagement Manager with Oregon Shores, 603-340-4648, sam@oregonshores.org

View the King Tides Project Tide Map here

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/53b554eae4df40e6a7a3bed75e30a01c/page/Tide-Map#data_s=id%3AdataSource_10-OCMP_KingTides_4945%3A25



NATURE'S COASTAL HOLIDAY FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS CELEBRATES ITS 28TH YEAR

BY LINDA LEE
Curry Coastal Pilot

For more than a quarter of a century Azelea Park has transformed into a spectacular, world-class holiday destination.

What began in 1997 with a modest 20,000 lights has exploded into Nature's Coastal Holiday Festival of Lights, a dazzling showcase now boasting over three million lights that turn the park into a month-long winter wonderland.

"We all work together every year to put this together," said Jill Weissgerber, a Festival of Lights board member and volunteer. "It's so awesome to see everybody enjoying it."

The event, which is celebrating its 28th

anniversary this year, has grown into a major international draw. While 7,120 people enjoyed the inaugural show in 1997, the festival's biggest year on record was in 2023 and welcomed over 34,000 visitors.

Guests traveled from dozens of states, and more than eight foreign countries, to view the spectacular event, solidifying its status as a global holiday attraction.

The Festival of Lights is a testament to the enduring spirit of community as it operates entirely as a volunteer-coordinated and staffed event. It was the brainchild of past volunteers, Olivia Abbott and Keith Pepper and that



A giant Teddy Bear welcomes visitors to Santa's workshop. (Photos by Linda Lee)

OREGON'S COASTAL PLAYGROUND

As Oregon's Coastal Playground, the little city of Florence is known for its outdoor recreation opportunities, many of which still happen in the winter months for those who don't mind getting a little wet. However, when you want to come in for the holidays, Florence also has you covered.

HOLLY JOLLY FOLLIES

This year, C.R.O.W.'s bevy of talented cast members presents "Meant to Be: The 2025 Holly Jolly Follies" - December 5, 6, & 7 at the Florence Events Center. This beloved annual tradition features a scripted central story, as well as variety acts, dancers, singers, live music, comedy, and of course...the World-Famous Tutu Dads! According to CROW director Melanie Heard, audiences can expect laughter, joy, colorful whimsy, and plenty of "warm fuzzies."

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

On November, 15, come back to

the Events Center and ring in the holidays with local artisans and crafts people from the Florence area at the holiday bazaar. From 10 AM to 4 PM, the free event offers a wide and sometimes eclectic variety of handmade gifts, goodies, textiles, clothing, furniture, baked goods and who knows what else.

It's a fun and welcoming event where you can find lots to look at, lots to buy, and perhaps even a hot drink while you do so.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

If you're driving north on Highway 101 past Sea Lion Caves and through the tunnel, it will be hard to miss the illuminated Lightkeeper's House during the Victorian Christmas celebration.

Come in from the winter cold and enjoy the beautifully decorated house, visits from Santa, and local musicians playing holiday favorites.

Parking is \$10 per vehicle at the Heceta Head Lighthouse State Scenic Viewpoint. It's an uphill walk from the parking lot but shuttle

service to the Keeper's House will be available for free. The State Park will open the historical lighthouse as well, so bring your flashlight and jacket to explore it after dark.

Holiday lights will be on display from Dec. 1 through Jan. 2

2026 WINTER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Always a huge hit on the Lane County coast, the winter music festival brings music fans from all over the region to enjoy bluegrass, acoustic, country, blues, and more.

Previous festivals have been known to pack the house and reviews are always positive.

This year the festival will feature seven bands, music workshops and even jam sessions during a Thursday night open mic. Bring your guitar and take the stage in front of a packed house, if you have the nerve.

The winter music festival is a two day event happening January 23 and 24th. Check out aftontickets.com/fec well tickets are still available.

FESTIVAL

From Page 10

grassroots effort remains the heart of the operation.

"That same spirit of volunteering is still at the core of the event," said Weissgerber.

In the early days, just a few dozen people strung lights, with others baking cookies and local schools designing posters.

Today, the entire Brookings-Harbor community mobilizes to

make the show happen. Locals string millions of lights the last Saturday in October and the first Saturday in November, then take them down the first Saturday in January.

Throughout the month-long run, local businesses, organizations and community members step up and volunteer to staff the event nightly, selling tickets, refreshments and acting as Santa's helpers to keep the show running smoothly.

Nature's Coastal Holiday,

a non-profit organization, is dedicated not just to spreading holiday cheer, but also to improving its hometown.

The organization made a significant impact with a \$30,000 contribution toward the 2023 KidTown redo; in addition, the organization actively supports local youth, recently providing funds to Brookings Harbor High School for their prom and Safe and Sober grad night.

The festival is open nightly from November

28th to December 28th from 5 to 9 p.m., weather permitting. The walking tour usually takes about forty-five minutes.

In addition to the walking tour, Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be available to take photos with the kids each Friday and Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. There is also a refreshment booth that will serve hot cider, cookies and hot chocolate.

For more information log onto: <https://naturescoastalholiday.com>.

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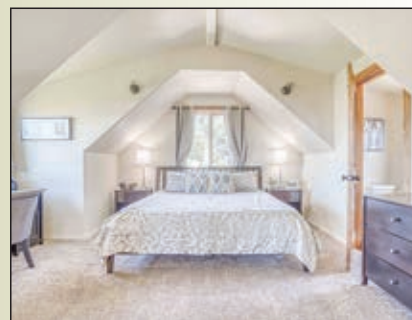


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SWEEPING OCEAN VIEWS



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350 Village Lane, Yachats\$650,000

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Riverfront Home w/stable access to Siletz River on 2.24-acre. Includes: spring-fed pond, paved rd., RV parking, landscaped, rose garden, & more. Extensive updates: HardiPlank siding, wired Generac generator, ductless heat/AC, & water filtration syst, 50-yr roof, & vapor barrier. 25-1561

600 Hamer Road, Siletz\$750,000



OLD CHARM CLASSIC



Old Charm Classic 1954 Cape Cod style. This home lives large w/2432sf, formal living rm, fam. rm, 4BD's, 2 BA's, on .27ac. level lot. Close ocean views, & public beach access. Property includes 864sf. detached garage/workshop. 25-546



1208 SW Division St, Waldport\$595,000

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Ocean Views in Alsea Highlands! Exceptional 3BD/2.5BA home showcases granite counters, handcrafted cabinets, & gas fireplace. Lower level floor fam. rm transforms into guest quarters w/storage. Upper-level BD's enjoy shared bath w/in-suite laundry, plus sunroom & loft. 25-1893

920 NW Highland Circle, Waldport\$625,000





The Taft Dock shimmers with Christmas lights during the holiday season. (Courtesy from Explore Lincoln City)

THE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON SHINES BRIGHT IN LINCOLN COUNTY

JEREMY C. RUARK
Lincoln County Leader

All across Lincoln County, the spirit of Christmas can be seen and felt as communities come together to celebrate the season.

Newport Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Wayne Patterson said it's the vibe and the character of his city that makes it magical during the Christmas season.

"Also, the uniqueness, the Christmas spirit and atmosphere, and the feel of the bay front and Nye Beach" he said. "They are wonderful areas to walk and do shopping and see the Christmas decorations."

Newport launches the

its annual Christmas Lighted Boat Parade and this season, the city will be conducting the annual community holiday tree lighting on the bay front to partner with the parade.

Historically, the Newport Christmas tree lighting has been at city hall along Highway 101. The city had suggested the move to bring more people to the annual holiday event, according to Patterson who said the Chamber suggested the bay front as the new location.

"We are moving it down to the bay front to kick off the Lighted Boat Parade," Patterson said. "When it starts to turn dark, we'll do the lighting of the tree and that will be the official

kick off of the boat parade. People will be able to come down to the bay front, shop around, see the Christmas tree lighting, and see the boats."

Patterson added that December is usually the month that the Dungeness crab commercial season begins.

"The availability of some of the year's best crab comes in December and that always brings a lot of people to town since we are the Dungeness crab capital of the world," he said. "That's a trademark for us. We are the largest fishing port. We are the largest fishing fleet. That is another highlight of the winter season. Everybody looks forward to cold water

fish and crab. It is a good time to eat stuff from the sea."

Explore Lincoln City's Stephanie Hull said the holiday spirit shines bright each Christmas season in Lincoln City, making the community magical.

"The breathtaking views of twinkling lights reflecting over Siletz Bay on SW 51st street are stunning during the holiday season," Hull said. "The bayfront is unique in that it showcases the festivities of the season along with the natural beauty of the coastline. We are also lucky to have amazing shops like the Christmas Cottage open year-round and especially

See **SEASON**, page 15

SEASON

From Page 14

busy during the next few months as well as the Chocolate Frog which turns into a European holiday market with goods shipped directly from Germany.”

Hull added that the tourists are especially attracted to Lincoln City during the Christmas season.

“Many visitors come to Lincoln City during the holiday season to share a meal at restaurants with incredible views during the holidays,” she said. “Folks also come into town and book houses to gather friends and family for a traditional cooked meal while making memories at the beach. Finders Keepers continues to bring treasure hunters throughout the winter months hoping to bring home a hand-crafted glass float.”

According to Hull, Lincoln City’s holiday activities and events help to enhance the community’s livability for residents and visitors.

“The upcoming Lincoln City Winter Festival at Lincoln City Cultural Center on November 29 gives everyone the opportunity to do some holiday shopping and enjoy live music and treats to kick off the season,” Hull noted “Deck the Dock, happening November 22 at 4:30 p.m. at Taft dock gives attendees a chance to connect with Santa and Mrs. Claus and light the dock together. The lights



Three-year-old Sadie Lupo carefully places an ornament on the Lincoln City Community Christmas Tree during a decorating event at the Lincoln City Cultural Center in Nov. 2018. (Jeremy C. Ruark/ Lincoln County Leader)



The Toledo Holiday Umbrella Parade in 2024. (Courtesy photo)

on the dock will be shining brightly throughout the New Year, and even more lights will be twinkling at more locations around town. Regatta Park, City Hall, Oceanlake Plaza’s and the Lincoln City Cultural Center are spots where the holiday spirit will shine bright.”

The holiday spirit at the Lincoln City Cultural Center, 540 NE Highway 10 in Lincoln City, includes a tree lighting ceremony the Friday night after Thanksgiving with a weekend full of family-friendly events, including a visit from Santa Claus.

The festivities will kick off at 2 p.m. with the popular Make-n-Take Ornament Workshop in the Maker’s Place. Enjoy delightful caroling from the Sweet Adelines at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Tree Lighting Countdown at 5 p.m. Santa is scheduled to arrive right after our tree is illuminated, at around 5:15 p.m. and will stay until every wish is heard, according the Cultural Center’s website. Complimentary cookies and hot chocolate will be available after 4:30 p.m. The Culture Center is also the site of the

annual Lincoln City Winter Art Festival, an annual Thanksgiving weekend tradition featuring fine arts and crafts, live music, treats and holiday activities for the whole family.

Lincoln City’s Angels Anonymous conducts the Angels Ball and Holiday Tree Festival at Chinook Winds Casino Resort, 1777 NW 44th Street in Lincoln City, beginning Wednesday, Dec. 3. The event culminates with the formal Angel Ball on Saturday, Dec. 6. All proceeds from the event will go to support Angels Anonymous and its mission. The organization provides immediate and basic services for those in need in north Lincoln County, from Depoe Bay to Rose Lodge.

The Festival of Trees offers the public a chance to view beautifully decorated Christmas trees throughout the week. The viewing hours are from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

All of the trees are uniquely decorated and donated by local businesses, organizations, and individuals, with each offering a different theme and an assortment of unique items. In addition to the Christmas Tree Auction, there will also be a silent auction featuring beautifully designed wreaths and a special raffle table filled with donated items, from tools and jewelry to prized glass

HOP ABOARD THE CANDY CANE EXPRESS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

As the holiday season gets under way, the Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad is once again offering its festive Candy Cane Express starting November 28.

Offering one-hour, nonstop roundtrips departing and arriving at Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad's (OCSR) Garibaldi depot, the trains feature decorations indoors and out, and tickets include hot cocoa and cookies.

Established in 2003, OCSR offers scenic rides along the Port of Tillamook Bay's rail line, usually between the cities of Garibaldi and Rockaway Beach, with occasional trips extending to Wheeler.

Though it is most busy in the summer as tourists flock to the coast, in recent years the railroad has been focusing on expanding its offerings into the fall and winter.

Since Labor Day this year, the railroad has already run its Moonlight Express, a nighttime ride geared at adults, Halloween Coast Train, Oktoberfest Excursion Train and Fall Splendor excursions taking in the beauty of changing foliage.

After the end of Fall Splendor Excursions in mid-November, the



railroad will take a one-week break for Thanksgiving before launching the Candy Cane Express on November 28. Trains will run Friday through Sunday that week and the first three weeks of December, as well as

Monday, December 22, and Tuesday, December 23. Departure times vary depending on the day and a full schedule is available on the railroad's website.

For the Candy Cane Express, steam engines will pull three enclosed

cars and one open-air, with Santa Claus visiting on each trip.

Check out oregoncoastscenic.org for more details, a full schedule for the Candy Cane Express and to purchase tickets.

SEASON

From Page 15

floats. Raffle tickets are only one dollar each. On Friday, Dec. 5, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Santa and Mrs. Claus will be present for photos and to hand out candy to children.

The festivities will conclude on Saturday, Dec. 6, with the much-anticipated Angel Ball. This elegant evening begins with a cocktail hour at 5 p.m., followed by a formal dinner and the highly anticipated Christmas Tree Auction. Guests will then be able to dance to the soulful and funky sounds of the horn band, Sole Proprietors, featuring the music of Aretha Franklin, Tower of Power, Stevie Wonder, Earth Wind and Fire, and more.

The smaller community of Yachats will hold its Winter Festival Dec. 6-10. The Coco Trail opens Dec. 3-5 and the Yachats Christmas tree lighting with the Sweet Adelines is set for 5 p.m. on Dec. 7.

In Toledo, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Amber Brown said her city's Christmas events bring the community together.

"We hang big wreaths all over town," she said. "We do a tree lighting Nov. 29, following the Umbrella Parade and following that we offer a huge community holiday party with Santa Claus at the Elks Lodge."

Organizers of the Umbrella Parade that

travels down Main Street encourage anyone who wishes to participate to decorate an umbrella. Decorating kits were scheduled to be available at the Toledo Public Library beginning Nov. 1 while supplies last. Last minute decorating supplies were to be available, free of charge, from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29 at Whimsy on Main Street.

The parade is scheduled to begin at 5 p.m. The tree lighting is set for 5:15 p.m. and the Toledo community party begins at 5:30 p.m.

Brown adds that throughout the holiday, local shops and businesses are decorated in the spirit of the season,

"We have our Santa's Workshop Store where community members can nominate a family for holiday presents" she said. "Santa comes on a fire truck on Christmas eve and delivers the presents to the family. It's really all about the community coming together for the holiday spirit,"

Waldport traditionally holds a Christmas tree lighting ceremony, light parade, and a tour of lights.

Contact the individual Chamber of Commerce in each of the cities for more details. Contact the Lincoln City Cultural Center at 541-994-9994 for additional details about the Center's holiday events. To donate to Angels Anonymous or to find out more information, visit the website at www.angels-anonymous-lc.org



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COOS ART MUSEUM OPEN NEW EXHIBITION CELEBRATING TRIBAL ART

BY NATE SCHWARTZ

Editor

The Coos Art Museum (CAM) held an opening reception for their newest exhibition on Saturday October 25, drawing a large crowd of art-loving locals. Roots and Visions: Celebrating Tribal Art is the museum's latest in a long-time commitment to showcasing the plethora of incredible artists that call our area home.

In collaboration with the Coquille Indian Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians this exhibition contains a wide variety of pieces that honor the long-standing traditions of local indigenous populations through tribal artists living and working today.

One enters through an interpreted version of a plank house entrance. These cedar plank structures, traditional to coastal tribes, often housed entire extended families. They represent the gathering places where tribes would gather around the hearth to share culture, community and ceremony. There is even a replica plank house on display in the form of Mvn' 'in-st'vm (Small House) by Bud Lane, Peter Hatch,



The exhibition's entrance resembles a plank house, traditional structures that represent community and ceremony. (Photos by Nate Schwartz)

and Robert Kentta (Siletz).

"Something that has been super important from the beginning is that we're not going into this exhibit with a prescribed idea of what tribal art is going to be," said Lydia Heinz, CAM's Executive Director. "We really wanted the tribes to work with their communities to bring the art they had in their communities and display it here... I'm really excited about bringing new voices into our exhibits."

That idea shines through in the huge berth of mediums on display. The show really runs the gamut from traditional forms of expression to practical

items that show an immense amount of skill; blurring the line between artistry and craftsmanship.

On one end of that spectrum, you have traditional style paintings and prints. One standout is Data Trees by Ashley Cordes (Coquille). An expression of the vast 'data' that tribes pass down through knowledge and tradition in the form of a tree, the piece uses negative space to represent the ever-stretching breadth of that knowledge. Hiiné Depoe (Siletz) and Cody Theisen (Confederated Tribes) bring pops of color and tribal motifs to life through the

patterns in their vibrant prints.

On the more practical (yet no less skillful or expressive) end, you have the wonderfully textured baskets and fabric arts of Nichole Howe (Coquille), who's work one has to keep from reaching out and touching. Another wonderful example is Justin Futch's (Coquille) canoe paddles on display. Actually used out on the water, these paddles are a distillation of how some tribal art is not just a reflection of the practical daily experience of tribal life, it is that life in and of

See **MUSEUM**, page 19

MUSEUM

From Page 18

itself.

In the middle of that spectrum, you have the ceremonial garb of the tribes on display. Through intricate beadwork and patchwork, you can see where tradition comes to life in outfits that are used in tribal celebration to this very day. So diligently passed down, the exhibition is a testament to the fact that those very cultures are still alive and in practice today. In spite of mass displacement, erasure, and countless hardships the tribes have kept alight a fire that has had to fight to not be extinguished.

“There has been a common narrative that a lot of tribal groups have existed in the past,” explained Heinz. “We want to totally dismantle that idea and make it very clear that they are a people still creating art today. Still educating and practicing traditions today, and that is in an exhibit context and in an educational context as well.”

To that point, the exhibit will feature a pop-up shop featuring goods by tribal artisans for sale. The museum hopes that this will be the beginning of a partnership with the tribes that will bring that tribal knowledge to audiences that have not been privy to them through classes and studios.

“All of the tribes have



Mvn' 'in-st'vm (Small House) by Bud Lane, Peter Hatch, and Robert Kentta. (Photos by Nate Schwartz)

very active, awesome, and established culture and education departments. This exhibit is the first step toward bringing more tribal education into the museum's normal audiences, and making everyone more aware that the tribes are still here, still doing their thing, practicing their traditions and making it new.” Said Heinz.

The exhibition will run through January 25, 2026 alongside offering in the galleries upstairs. Currently, there is another exhibition on display of works both made and donated by the museum's staff and board members. It is a unique opportunity to get a glimpse at the talents and aesthetic priorities of those that curate and guide the CAM's vision.

Tickets are available on entrance to the museum, with free and discounted admission available through multiple

options. The CAM runs a Second Sunday program for free admission, and partners with the Coos Bay and North Bend Public Libraries to offer Cultural Passes. Through the

Museums for All initiative, those receiving food assistance can enter the museum for just \$1.

For more information visit the official website at: CoosArtMuseum.org



Traditional garments from the Confederated Siletz Tribes on display.

LESSONS LEARNED FROM WILDFIRES AND PANDEMIC SPARK CREATION OF CCCOAD

BY LINDA LEE
Curry Coastal Pilot

The tumultuous events of recent years, from devastating wildfires to the challenges of a global pandemic, have highlighted a crucial gap in local disaster preparedness: the need for better, faster coordination across the community.

In response, a powerful network has emerged: the Curry County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (CCCOAD).

Formed in 2022, and modeled after successful initiatives nationwide, the CCCOAD is a unified effort to ensure that when disaster strikes, local resources are managed efficiently and the community's diverse needs are met.

"We saw the critical need for better communication and coordination between non-profit agencies and local government," said Ruth Dixon, current chair and founding member, "and decided to do something about it."

This whole-community structure brings together a diverse membership, including nonprofit organizations, local Tribes, government agencies, businesses, faith-based groups and concerned citizens.

This collective expertise allows the CCCOAD to

address everything from ensuring an adequate supply of food and water to providing crucial mental health support to assuring community members that help is there when needed.

One of the network's most vital functions is connecting those in need with resources quickly. Whether a household needs emergency supplies such as food, water, or medicine, or a business requires assistance, or someone needs mental health support or is in need of animal rescue and care, the CCCOAD serves as a central hub.

To streamline its efforts, the CCCOAD operates through specialized work groups, each dedicated to a critical area of disaster management. These subcommittees are the operational heart of the organization, turning planning into action.

The active work groups currently include: Emergency Preparedness and Training: Equipping residents with essential skills; Shelter Operations and Housing: Providing safe, accessible lodging during crises; Supply Distribution: Ensuring equitable access to essential items like food and medicine; Mental Health and Trauma



Dakotah Daily, Teton Topo Founder/GIS Specialist and Katrina Thompson-Upton, CCCOAD Chair and Founder of the Northwest American Indian Coalition (NAIC) representing CCCOAD at the Oregon Department of Emergency (OEM) Management 2025 Conference. (photos courtesy of CCCOAD)



Ruth Dixon, Coordinator for CCCOAD, at the 2025 Hometown Heroes Event in Port Orford, OR.

See **CCCOAD**, page 23

KISSING ROCK COFFEE STRIKES GOLD AT GOLDEN BEAN THE AMERICAS

Kissing Rock Coffee has earned remarkable acclaim at Golden Bean The Americas, the world's largest coffee roasting competition, held October 7–11 in Houston, Texas. The Southern Oregon Coast roaster brought home an astounding 16 medals across four categories, including the coveted Gold Medal for its signature Dancing Goat roast.

Founded in 2020 by husband-and-wife team Andrew and Christine Houghtaling, Kissing Rock Coffee has become synonymous with craftsmanship, intentionality, and community. Every bean is roasted, packaged, and served in-house on the Oregon Coast, embodying their passion for quality and authenticity.

"We worked tirelessly preparing for the Golden Bean competition this year," said Master Roaster Andrew Houghtaling. "Every roast was fine-tuned through tasting panels, cuppings, and constant refinement. To see that dedication recognized on this scale is both humbling and exciting."

The couple's journey began long before the medals. After years in coffee farming and consulting, Andrew and Christine combined their expertise and vision



2025 Golden Bean Medalists and Former Champions



Kissing Rock Coffee Team Tasting A Range Of Specialty Coffees

to create Kissing Rock Coffee — a roastery built on precision, curiosity, and a deep love of their craft. In 2024, they opened their first brick-and-mortar café in Gold Beach, a showcase for their award-winning coffees and the vibrant community that supports them. "It's been

an incredible journey," said Christine. "We're really just getting started showcasing our love of innovating and creating coffees that offer both exceptional quality and meaningful experiences for our clients."

The Golden Bean Americas competition

brings together roasters from across the Western Hemisphere for a week of tasting, education, and collaboration. For the Houghtalings, it was both a professional milestone and a personal adventure. "We honestly came to learn and connect," Andrew explained. "Coming to Golden Bean was a great opportunity for us to grow together as a team and also expand our network. Bringing home 16 medals was beyond anything we imagined — a genuine 'pinch me' moment." As the awards ceremony unfolded, the couple listened as their name was called — again and again. "When they announced Dancing Goat for the Gold, we were stunned," Christine recalled. "It was a little surreal, and deeply rewarding, to see our work recognized alongside so many incredible roasters."

Awards Summary

- 1 Gold Medal
- 8 Silver Medals
- 7 Bronze Medals

Their excellent

performance earned them a coveted invitation to compete at the Golden Bean World Series in Newcastle, Australia.

Explore their award-winning roasts at www.kissingrockcoffee.com or visit their Gold Beach café to celebrate their achievement together.



SHORE ACRES HOLIDAY LIGHTS RETURNS FOR 2025 ON THANKSGIVING

A beloved South Coast tradition, the Shore Acres Holiday Lights, will be returning again this year from Thanksgiving through New Years Eve. Every evening from 4:30 PM to 9 PM, November 27 – December 31, the botanical gardens at the park will glow with the power of over 325,000 LED lights in a display that has only grown since its inception in 1987.

Thanks to over 1,500 volunteers and the efforts of Friends of Shore Acres, along with dozens of community partners and businesses, thousands of visitors make the trip down the Cape Arago Highway to the breathtaking scenery of the park. The cedar forests grow all along the cliffs overlooking the Pacific making it one of the most stunning spots in all of Oregon at any time of year.



During the show, the fully decorated garden house is the perfect place to take a quick break from the cold and snack on some cookies or enjoy a hot beverage. Back out in the garden are dozens of displays inspired by the majestic natural beauty

of the park, with many displaying the flora and fauna one can hope to come across during a day-time visit. The light displays are impressive in size and some are animated for extra flair, with frogs jumping and whales splashing to

dazzling effect.

Admission to the lights is always free, but plan ahead as parking is limited and you will need to reserve a time-specific parking pass for your visit ahead of time should

See **LIGHTS**, page 23

CCCOAD

From Page 20

Support: Addressing the emotional impacts of disaster; Climate Resilience and Mitigation: Reducing long-term disaster risks.

The CCCOAD maintains a regional event calendar featuring emergency trainings, disaster response meetings, funding opportunities, and key deadlines, helping to keep all members of the South Coast region informed and prepared.

Signing up for emergency alerts is critical and community members



CCCOAD attended a local community picnic to share information about becoming prepared for emergencies and disasters. (Photos courtesy of CCCOAD)

should remember that basic preparedness starts at home. The ultimate goal remains simple: to

make Curry County a more resilient place for everyone.

"CCCOAD is the

bridge," said Dixon. "It's a network of community-based organizations, tribes, businesses and government entities all working together to strengthen our ability to withstand and recover from any emergency."

The CCCOAD's mission is to foster effective coordination, communication and collaboration across the entire community, from prevention and mitigation efforts to immediate response and long-term recovery.

For more information, and to sign up for alerts, contact: Info@cccoad.org or logon: cccoad.org.

LIGHTS

From Page 22

you chose to park in the day-use area. Passes are \$10 a vehicle and can be purchased through online reservation at the website provided below.

Those who aren't looking to make the drive past Sunset Bay are welcome to take the shuttle that runs every year. Santa's Shuttle runs every night of the event with pickup at the Charleston Marina. Cocoa Coffee, Cider and Cookies are available while you wait, along with crafts for kids thanks to Charleston Fishing Families.

A highlight of every holiday season, the Shore Acres Holiday Lights are only made possible through the passion of

volunteers and local organizations. Since 2003, the Christmas trees used in the displays have been donated by Dave Hannah of Dave's Christmas Trees. All 26 of them are sponsored by local organizations who then decorate them in theme with their business or non-profit.

Shirley and David Bridgham have co-chaired the lights since the first show back in 1987, and are still there helping to spread holiday cheer to the South Coast every year. So please, remember to book your parking passes and come see the biggest and brightest light display the South Coast has to offer!

For more information and to reserve a parking pass, visit: shoreacres.net

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