

Winter 2009 iNDepth

A Deeper Look into the Newport Aquarium



Passholders Only

Special Scuba Santa™ Event

Be the first to see Scuba Santa™ this season! Join us for our exclusive Passholder Preview:

**Saturday, Nov. 21
9 to 10 a.m.**

See special preview dive shows at 9:15 and 9:45 a.m., and enjoy Scuba Santa's favorite snack - milk & cookies! Available on a first come, first serve basis.

Please RSVP by calling (859) 261-7444 by Nov. 19.

Aquarium Invites You to ZING ZANG ZOOM!

Newport Aquarium has teamed up with the Ringling Bros. and



Barnum & Bailey for its Zing Zang Zoom show at US Bank Arena from March 10-14.

Aquarium Passholders will have the exclusive opportunity to save \$5 on tickets to all performances. Look for a special Passholder e-mail in the coming weeks for details.

Plus, you can register to win free tickets to show when you visit the Aquarium from Jan. 15 through Feb. 15. Look for the register to win box in the lobby.

See more Passholder information on Page 3.

Scuba Santa™ Makes a Splashy Return

Heeeeeeeee's back! Scuba Santa will make his splashy return to Newport Aquarium for Scuba Santa's Water Wonderland, beginning Nov. 27 and running through Jan. 3. It has become one of the Tri-state area's favorite - and most unique - holiday traditions. Scuba Santa and his magical underwater sleigh pulled by seahorses will delight and amaze visitors young and old.



There are so many great things to see and do at the Aquarium every day, but Scuba Santa's Water Wonderland also features holiday festivities, activities and decorations!

- Don't miss the Scuba Santa Dive Shows, where kids can watch Scuba Santa arrive in the shark tank and then interact with him while he's underwater!
- Visit Scuba Santa's Post Office, where kids can write letters to Scuba Santa and deposit them in the special mailbox for speedy delivery.
- Take part in the Reindeer Roundup game by spotting all the reindeer hidden throughout the Aquarium.
- Make an ornament from 1 to 3 p.m. every Sunday during Scuba Santa's Water Wonderland, while supplies last. Ornament shapes include penguins and snowflakes.
- Enjoy Extended Holiday Hours on select days during the event!

Admission to Scuba Santa's Water Wonderland activities is free with a Newport Aquarium ticket. More information on Scuba Santa's Water Wonderland can be found online at www.newportaquarium.com.

Newport Aquarium Helps 'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition'

"Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" recently traveled to Daviess County, KY, to tell Steve and Melissa Mattingly that their home, a small single wide trailer, would be replaced by a newly constructed home built in just seven days. One room in the new house was designed to inspire Alana, Steve and Melissa's daughter who wants to be a marine biologist. As the most popular aquatic attraction in the region, Newport Aquarium worked directly with the show's designers on the room. Rapper and guest designer Xzibit even visited the Aquarium, dove in the famous shark tank and interviewed Aquarium biologist Jeff Gibula. The episode aired on Nov. 1 on ABC and the Aquarium looked great.



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Kingdom of Penguins
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Biologist Profile

Jennifer Ortlepp

An internship at Newport Aquarium is usually educational and always enjoyable. And, for biologist Jen Ortlepp, it was also career-changing.



Ortlepp grew up in suburban eastern Cincinnati. She enrolled at Northern Kentucky University after high school and was a pre-vet major. She said she planned to go veterinary school and would concentrate on small animal or wildlife medicine. Then came her internship at Newport Aquarium.

"I enjoyed it so much I switched majors," she said.

Studying biology, she stayed on after the internship, racking up more than 500 hours of volunteer time. She also worked a paid research "externship" at the Aquarium through NKU.

She was hired part-time in July 2002 as an Aquarist aide. Then she worked for several months as a penguin aide before being hired full-time as a Biologist.

Her favorite part of the job? "The animals. But I also like that it's not a desk job. I'm more of an outdoors person and this is the next best thing," she said.

School might still be in Ortlepp's future, she says. She is considering returning to college to study nutrition.

Scuba Santa™ Sightings at Bob Evans

Scuba Santa has again emerged from Newport Aquarium's 385,000-gallon shark tank to share the wonder of the aquatic world "down on the farm." Scuba Santa and the Aquarium's Shark Squad will visit several Greater Cincinnati area Bob Evans Restaurants this winter as part of the partnership between the two companies. During his appearances, Scuba Santa will meet Bob Evans customers and personally autograph his photo for the kids. Customers also will have an opportunity to meet the Aquarium's Shark Squad who will bring their mobile Shark Cart so that everyone can pet a shark! Stay tuned for restaurant locations and dates on www.newportaquarium.com.



Support Coats for Kids Program

The last couple of years have been tough on families. Some have been struggling just to keep the heat on. And sometimes a well-fitting winter coat for the kids just isn't in the budget. That's why Newport Aquarium is again joining WARM 98 and Mattress Warehouse for Coats For Kids. Take a new or gently used child's coat, maybe one your child has outgrown, and drop it off at the Newport Aquarium from now through Dec. 19.

A-One Fine Dry Cleaning will make sure your donation is in good shape when it's given to a Tri-State child in need through Mercy Franciscan Saint John Social Services. Help a local child stay warm this winter by donating a coat today.



Easy Being Green

Note: This is the third column in a series from Aquarium Husbandry Director Chris Pierson about tips that every family can use to be more eco-friendly.

As the Holiday Season is upon us we must always remember the cardinal rule of the shopping season. Remember the batteries! But have you ever considered using rechargeable batteries? They could be more expensive but they could replace a single-use battery as many as 100 times over.

Every year Americans buy and then dispose of nearly 3 billion single use batteries. That's a lot of heavy metals that can contaminate our environment. Recycling efforts are necessary to help reduce the heavy metal contaminants in our environment. [Click here](#) to learn more about which rechargeable batteries are best.



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Passholders Only cont...

Two Great Gift Ideas for Aquarium-Lovers



No waiting in line at the mall. No expensive gift-wrap needed. No wrong sizes. No traffic. No hassle. When you purchase a unique gift from Newport Aquarium, you don't have to worry about anything.

This year, consider surprising your loved ones with an Annual Pass to the Newport Aquarium. Give a year of fun, excitement, memories and learning. Visit the Passholder section on the Newport Aquarium website for more information.



But what about that one person on your list who is impossible to

buy for? We have just the thing: a Penguin Encounter! It's the most unusual and most unexpected gift this season.

Penguin Encounters - available five times daily - are a 20-minute "all access" pass into the African penguin habitat at Newport Aquarium. Guests are allowed to touch the penguins and see them up-close and personal. Each Encounter is hosted by an Aquarium biologist who leads the experience, educates the visitors and provides insight into the unique world of penguins.

Plus, check out the great deals in the Aquarium's gift shop. There is something for everyone at Newport Aquarium.

For the latest Passholder info... Call the Annual Passholder hotline: (859) 815-1450.

Nauti Nite Raises Money and Awareness

This year's Nauti Nite was another great success, raising nearly \$40,000 for WAVE Foundation's education and conservation initiatives. Guests enjoyed live and silent auctions, exotic animal encounters and food stations from many great Newport on the Levee restaurants. Held on Oct. 23, the party featured live music by local favorites, DV8. Special thanks to all who attended, volunteered and donated to the event.



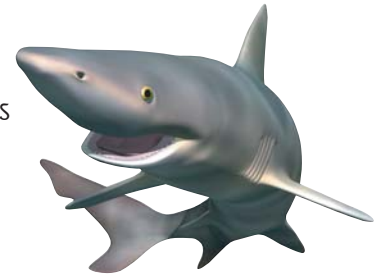
Fox 19's Sheila Gray, Q102's Laura Powell and Brian Douglas, WAVE's Jenny Greber, Fox 19's Frank Marzullo and his guest Lindsay Gardner.

Finstitute Accommodates More Students than Ever

More than 2,000 students attended WAVE's Finstitute classroom experiences already this school year. This signals a strong year for local school participation, helping more students learn about the wonders of aquatic life and the importance of conservation. With the addition of part-time educators Siobhan Slone and Misty Craig, the WAVE Foundation has been able to accommodate more classes than ever. Much appreciation goes to Finstitute donors Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Price Charities, Dudley Taft and others who have contributed to the success of this program.

Plan Ahead for Winter Family Days

Mark your calendars now. The 2010 Winter Family Days are set for Jan. 4 through Feb. 28. Two kids get in for FREE with each adult paying full price. Be sure to visit. Strollers are welcome!



Looking for a Holiday Party Spot?

Imagine pairing sharks with the greatest view of the downtown skyline this region has to offer and you have the perfect location for your corporate or personal holiday party. Call (859) 815-1427 for more information!

NEW! Kids' New Year's Eve Countdown Party

Newport Aquarium and WARM98 invite you and your family to the Aquarium Theater on Dec. 31 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. for the first annual Kids' New Year's Eve Countdown Party! There will be party hats, noise-makers and lots of fun stuff for the kids. Plus, enjoy a special appearance by Scuba Santa who will join in the special countdown at the kid-friendly hour of 5 p.m.



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Did you know...?

Loggerhead Sea Turtles



When Denver got a personal shout-out from Xzibit on ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition earlier this month, the Aquarium's famous loggerhead sea turtle got a little more famous. But did you know that loggerhead sea turtles face many challenges throughout their lives?

- By the time a baby loggerhead sea turtle reaches adulthood, it will have increased its weight 6,000 times. An adult loggerhead weighs an average of 200 pounds.
- Loggerhead sea turtles swim long distances. Fisher, a sea turtle that was displayed here at the Newport Aquarium several years ago, was tracked by satellite after its release and swam over 7,000 miles from North Carolina to South Africa in just 349 days.
- Predators can easily eat baby sea turtles.
- Pollution harms sea turtles no matter their size. People who are careless can destroy turtle nests and nesting grounds.

Dive into a Scuba Santa™ Sundae

The holidays never tasted so good. For a limited time only, Graeter's will be offering a very special Scuba Santa Sundae. Made of a delectable mix of peppermint ice cream, bittersweet chocolate sauce, green sprinkles, whipped cream, cherry and capped off with an edible cone hat, the Scuba Santa Sundae is not to be missed. Plus, Passholders can get 5 percent off the sundae at the Monmouth Street location (in Newport) when they show their Passholder ID card. The Scuba Santa Sundae will be available from Nov. 21 through Jan. 3. Scuba Santa™ Sundae is only available at participating NKY and Lexington locations.



Discount at Louisville Zoo Extended

Newport Aquarium values its Passholders. That's why we extended the partnership with the Louisville Zoo to help your family see some amazing creatures at a great, family-friendly price. Newport Aquarium Annual Passholders can receive \$3 off an Adult or Child Admission ticket (or special admission packages) during regular Louisville Zoo hours. Note: This offer is not valid with other discounts. Aquarium passholders must present a valid Newport Aquarium passholder ID card at the Louisville Zoo admission window. Valid through Dec. 31, 2010.



Animal Care Update

Note: This is the third column in a series from Dr. Peter Hill, Aquarium veterinarian, and Jolene Hanna, Aquarium animal health specialist, who will provide updates on the wellness of the animals.

This month, the Veterinary Department conducted its bi-annual physicals of the Aquarium's rare adult Shark Rays, Sweet Pea and Scooter. The examinations included thorough physical inspections as well as blood work testing, providing insight into the animals' current organ function. Sweet Pea is more than 200 pounds now and has grown to over 2 meters long. Scooter is just under 150 pounds and not quite yet 2 meters. Both animals appear to be doing great, and we'll keep you updated as we learn more.

