

BY JOAN BROWN
Of the News-Times

LINCOLN COUNTY — Children enrolled in the Lincoln County School District are welcome to free meals at designated sites, and their parents will receive cards pre-loaded with \$30 per student per month over the summer.

"I'm hopeful if people need the benefits they will use them to feed their kids," said Jamie Nicholson of food services at Lincoln

County School District about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which gives kids free meals. Since Lincoln County is considered a rural community, all kids are eligible for 100 percent free meals, year round.

Also, throughout the summer cards following the same guidelines as food stamps will be mailed to the last address on record for students. The cards arrive pre-loaded for the

month of June and will automatically reload the first of July and August. "It's a great opportunity. We qualify because we're a rural community," Nicholson said.

"There is no income limit to families, this is just a nice support offered to all LCSD students during summer months. Each registered student in the LCSD qualifies for this benefit because we participate in the Community Eligibility Program

which provides no cost breakfast and lunch to all of our students," states the school district's website.

The cards must be registered to be active, and are easy to use, Nicholson said. Local grocery stores are familiar with the process.

Going to a meal site does not exclude use of the card or vice versa. "Just because you get this card, doesn't mean you can't eat a meal at these sites," Nicholson said.

Meal sites and times are listed through a link on the LCSD, which is: lincoln.k12.or.us/media/2018/05/2018-Summer-Meal-Sites.pdf

A link to all items that may be purchased with the card is on the district's website and at fns.usda.gov/snap/eligible-food-items

LCSD encourages families who do not use their cards to simply not activate them, or to use them to help others in need.

6/8/18

VACATION

Newport named a best destination

BY CHRIS EHRMANN
Of the News-Times

NEWPORT — The city of Newport has been ranked as one of the best summer destinations along the Oregon coast.

FlipKey, which is a vacation rental booking website in the United States — and owned by TripAdvisor — lets people book apartments, homes, cottages and more to stay all around the United States, according to Dave Armenti, content manager for FlipKey.

"Using proprietary internal data, we can see how travelers rate their vacation rental stays when they leave a review on our site, scored from one to five," Ashlee Centrella, content marketing specialist for FlipKey, wrote in an email to the News-Times. "We analyzed the average review scores for all rental properties in Oregon Coast destinations (lifetime average score), identifying a handful of locations that had extremely highly-rated properties. From there we narrowed

it down to our final list of 15."

She added that Newport not only received high ratings but the city also features many great things to do during a visit like visiting the Oregon Coast Aquarium, "historic" Yaquina Bay Bridge and the Rouge River Brewing Company, according to the destination article written about Newport.

Centrella also wrote that Newport has been on a FlipKey list before, detailing the "Most Romantic Summer Beach House Getaways" which was based on data that pinpoints romantic spots travelers have identified.

The most popular month for staying in Newport tends to be August, and for this year the week of Aug. 13-19 has the most rental stays booked.

Moreover in general, the most popular week across the United States for people staying in vacation rentals tends to be right before the Fourth of July weekend from June 25 through July 1, with June being the most popular month in general.

CRIME BRIEFS

MAN CHARGED WITH STEALING CAMERA LENSES

NEWPORT— A Newport man is facing one felony and three misdemeanors after allegedly stealing a photographer's camera equipment.

According to a probable cause affidavit filed with the Lincoln County Circuit Court, on May 17 around 9:36 a.m. law enforcement contacted Ian Samuel Turk during an investigation of theft from Agate Beach market. He had outstanding warrants for his arrest,

so he was taken into custody where officers found in his possession a Quicksilver backpack that contained several camera lenses and other various items valued at \$1,500.

The items matched the description of items stolen out of a person's car in the area where Turk was camping. Officers learned that someone had used a spare key to enter the truck, which was hidden on the vehicle.

His next court appearance is set for June 12 and his security is set \$50,000.

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