



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"SEAL"ED WITH A KISS

Long Island Seal Meets Potential New Love in the Big Apple

RIVERHEAD, N.Y.—April 27, 2010—Even for harbor seals, New York City can cast its spell over the most unique couples. Atlantis Marine World is playing matchmaker to one of its own, Coral – their firstborn harbor seal who was born at the Aquarium almost three years ago, and is now ready to leave her home to meet her potential new love at New York Aquarium in Brooklyn.

Bernie, her knight in black shiny armor, is a harbor seal who was raised at New York Aquarium and cared for by Joe and Ann Yaiullo, Atlantis Marine World's respective curator and Director of Mammal Training, when they worked at New York Aquarium almost 15 years ago.

"It's like a leather and lace story. Our little girl leaving her pool on the east end of Long Island to meet her Brooklyn mate," said Joe Yaiullo. We are sad to see her go, but we know she is going to a great facility where she will be happy with her new friends and family."

The Atlantis Marine World family describes Coral as a beautiful, intelligent and fun-loving animal. They all agree that Coral is sure to bring pleasure and delight to all of the people that will get to see her and interact with her at her new home in the city.

Coral and Bernie will be introduced at the end of the month on April 29 when Coral makes her journey to the Big Apple. Mating season occurs annually, generally from late spring through fall. "Although Coral is too young right now to mate with Bernie, we hope that they become companions. We are all hoping for a happy ending to this arrangement, with the birth of a new generation of harbor seal pups," said Ann Yaiullo.

For more information about Atlantis Marine World, visit www.atlantismarineworld.com or call 631.208.9200, ext. H20 (426).



Coral



Photos courtesy of Christopher Paparo, Atlantis Marine World.

About Atlantis Marine World Aquarium:

Atlantis Marine World (AMW) opened in Riverhead, NY on June 15, 2000, as the first large-scale Aquarium to open in New York State in more than 35 years. Situated on 3.2 acres along the Peconic River, AMW is open from 10:00am to 5:00pm daily (closed December 25). General Admission Rates are \$18.50 (plus tax) for Children 3-17 and Seniors 62+; \$21.50 (plus tax) for Adults 18- 61; Children 2 and under are always free at AMW. AMW is also the home to The Riverhead Foundation for Marine Research and Preservation, New York's only authorized marine mammal and sea turtle rescue and rehabilitation center. Atlantis Marine World was recently ranked by *Parents Magazine* as one of the "Top Aquariums for Kids."

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