

Coastal star-spangled Fourth



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Isabella Churchill, 4, reacts to the parade during Warrenton's Old-Fashioned Fourth of July Parade on Monday.

'The colors, the music, the excitement, the sense of pride in our nation'

The Daily Astorian

The North Coast was alive with rousing music, flamboyant colors and noisy festivities Monday. In Warrenton and Seaside, annual Fourth of July parades wound through the downtowns. ¶ As the day faded away, fireworks regaled the skies in Astoria, Seaside and the Long Beach Peninsula.

Seaside celebrates

Hundreds of spectators lined the sidewalks from Holladay Drive, down Broadway, to Columbia Street and across First Avenue to watch the parade.

Four drum and bugles corps — the Santa Clara Vanguard, Oregon Crusaders, Spokane Thunder and the Battalion from Salt Lake City — were spaced among other floats and vehicles to contribute a high-caliber musical performance to the traditional event.

Parades are a highlight of Fourth of July festivities, not only in Seaside but in towns across America.

James Maki, of Kirkland, Washington, noted how parades are tinged in nostalgia because the concept of marching or proceeding through a city "started as a projection of military power." Historically, parades were used after victorious military conflicts to celebrate the homecoming of troops. Today, they are a quintessential festivity reminiscent of earlier decades, a tradition passed down through generations.

Maki was visiting Seaside along with his brother and sister-in-law and their three school-aged daughters.

Traveling to Seaside to commemorate the Fourth of July and vacation over the holiday is, for them, a family tradition. The girls said they enjoy watching the parade because of the music, the distribution of candy and the opportunity to "see the cool things," which this year included children riding unicycles, pageant winners, singing pirates, roller derby skaters, Sasquatch on wheels and a bevy of other colorful sights and sounds.

For Seaside's Jeremy Mills it is the pageantry — "the colors, the music, the excitement, the sense of pride in our nation" — that draws people to parades on the Fourth of July.

His wife, Misty, agreed, adding she enjoys coming to Seaside's parade and seeing the amount and diversity of people in attendance, both participants and spectators, and "the pride they're taking in our town and our country."

Seaside's parade stands out because "of the effort they put into their floats" or other parade entries, Misty Mills said.

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Jeff Ter Har/For EO Media Group

This parade-goer had a cozy surrey seat in Gearhart.



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Kids grab candy thrown from fire trucks Monday during Warrenton's Old-Fashioned Fourth of July Parade.



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

The new welcome pole carved by artist Guy Capoeman.

Spirits of the past bid you greeting

Welcoming pole recalls tribal heritage at NeCus' Park

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — NeCus' Park witnessed a revival of a vanishing culture with the arrival of a welcoming pole designed by sculpture artist Guy Capoeman.

"The spirits of the old ones are in the trees, waiting for the old ones to start singing," Richard Basch, the vice chairman of the Clatsop-Nehalem tribe, said at the ceremony Friday. "I am sure they are here today."

As the sun draped over the scene by a tucked-in cove in Cannon Beach and visitors formed a circle around a campfire, it wasn't difficult to imagine the Native Americans who gathered at this site hundreds and even thousands of years ago. The area, bordering Ecola Creek, once was the location of a Clatsop-Nehalem village known as NeCus'. The sculpture was a collaboration between the Clatsop-Nehalem tribe and the city.

"There were permanent residents, but it was always a place of welcoming strangers and travelers," Basch said. "So this welcoming pole is here to welcome everyone now."

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Ag groups gear up to fight corporate sales tax

Supporters unmoved by claims of hardship

By PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The Oregon agricultural industry is gearing up for battle against a campaign to pass a corporate sales tax measure on the November ballot by shedding light on how the tax will affect individual companies and farmers.

Under Initiative Petition 28, the Mt. Angel-based Wilco farm supplies and fuel cooperative faces a 1,388-percent increase in its state corporate income tax bill, from \$168,000 to \$2.5 million per year, CEO Doug Hoffman said.

The tax would apply only to the \$100 million in sales at Wilco Farm Stores in Oregon; direct sales to the cooperative's 3,000 members are exempt, Hoffman said.

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Oregon man considered 'The Willy Wonka of Pot'

The Wizard of Weed stays low, waiting changes in federal law

By KATHY ANEY
East Oregonian

PENDLETON — In the marijuana world, cannabis breeder Daniel John "D.J." Short gets rock star raves while simultaneously keeping to the shadows.

The Pendleton marijuana man started tinkering with canna-

bis genetics about 40 years ago in Eugene and has crafted some of the most creative and well-known strains, including one that smells of fresh blueberries.

Short's seeds and pot-breeding skills earned him a spot in the High Times Seed Bank Hall of Fame, which commemorates "brave pot pioneers and trailblazers." He was spotlighted as "The Willy Wonka of Pot" in a 5,000-word tome for the website Grantland, and wrote the 2003 book "Cultivating Exceptional Cannabis: An Expert Breeder Shares His Secrets."

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Image by Ralf Schuetz/Mushroom Dreams
D.J. Short is an icon in the world of cannabis breeding stock, but he is still something of an enigma.

