

IT'S NO JOKE...**Comedian Kevin Hart will run in Hood to Coast**

The 198-mile relay race ends in Seaside Aug. 27

By **KATHERINE LACAZE**
FOR COAST WEEKEND

SEASIDE — Comedian Kevin Hart may be one of the most well-known individuals running in the 2016 Hood to Coast Relay, but just as in years past, the event — along with the concurrent Portland to Coast Walk and High School Challenge — promises to bring 18,000 competitors to Seaside this weekend.

For the past 18 years, the nearly 200-mile overnight race reached capacity, or 1,050 12-person teams, on the opening day of registration. This year was no different, according to Dan Floyd, chief operating officer for the Hood to Coast Race Series.

Competitors from each state and more than 35 countries are registered to participate in the events, which begin Friday, Aug.



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Kevin Hart, left, as Ben Barber and Ice Cube as James Payton are shown in a scene from the film, "Ride Along 2." Hart plans to run in the Hood to Coast Relay, which finishes in Seaside.

26 at Timberline Lodge on Mount Hood for Hood to Coast runners and downtown Portland for walkers and high school teams.

All three events conclude with a grandiose Finish Line Party in Seaside on Saturday, Aug. 27. The Seaside Chamber of Commerce's Beer and Wine Garden will open at 11 a.m. Brian O'Dell Band will perform on the main stage from 12:45 to 3:45 p.m.

Various award ceremonies

and announcements will take place starting at 4:50 p.m. Radical Revolution will perform from 6:45 to 11 p.m.

Last year's finish party was disrupted by a debilitating storm. Winds up to 85 mph hit the North Coast and dismantled the chairs, tents and other structures set up on the beach. This year, in case of a repeat weather event, "we're prepared to have an excellent finish inside the (Seaside Civic and Convention Center)," Floyd said.

Nike's team this year includes running advocate, producer and performer Hart, along with 11 other

celebrities. Hart announced his participation in a video uploaded on his YouTube channel and posted to his Facebook page in early August.

During the video, the comedian jokes about taking on "the toughest, most craziest 10K," only to be told it is actually a nearly 200-mile race that starts on Mount Hood, officially characterized by the U.S. Geological Survey as a "potentially active" volcano.

He responds, "198 miles? By myself?" It's a relay race, the reporters reassure him.

"You got to get fit," Hart concludes. "You never know when a surprise 198-mile-potentially-life-threatening-active-volcano relay race is going to sneak up on you. This is one of those moments."

Floyd confirmed Hart's participation "is definitely happening."

"We don't know which leg he's running, and we do know he's planning to make it to Seaside," he said.

Hart will have his own security personnel, but organizers also will provide Hart and his team "luxuries that other teams don't get that will make it a lot easier for them to make sure he is safe," Floyd said.

Climb aboard the Lightship Columbia

ASTORIA — The education department of the Columbia River Maritime Museum invites you to climb aboard the Lightship Columbia for a day of hands-on activities. Kids of all ages can explore the duties of being a sailor.

The event is set for 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27 at the Lightship Columbia, located at the museum, at 1792 Marine Drive.

Admission is included with paid museum admis-



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Take a tour of the Lightship Columbia on Aug. 27.

sion; members are free.

For more information, contact Nate Sandel at sandel@crmm.org

Camp 18 holds new blacksmithing event

ELSIE — The Camp 18 Logging Museum, home of the loggers' memorial, is putting on its first Hammer In event and Antique Swap & Show on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 27 and 28. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Camp 18 Logging Museum

Blacksmith Shop.

Bring your tools and projects to work on with fellow blacksmiths, or simply watch the action. If you are interested in participating or have questions, contact Herman Doty at 503-990-4134 or Mark Standley at 503-434-0148.

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

12:00 p.m. Luncheon & Lecture at Tolovana Inn with Libby Holah of Holah Design **Tickets \$25**
1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Home & Garden Tour of Tolovana **Tickets \$30**
6:00 p.m. Maggie & the Cats Concert & Reception (Fall Raffle Takes place at this time (included in home and garden ticket price))

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

11:00 a.m. Garden Tea & presentation by author and naturalist Sherian Wright on beekeeping for the average gardener **Tickets \$20**

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