

Tides and tourists could equal trouble

Revelers often ignore risk of getting stuck

By NATALIE ST. JOHN
EO Media Group

LONG BEACH, Wash. — People who celebrate Independence Day on the beach already know they need to watch out for reckless drivers, misfired bottle rockets and bonfires gone wild.

This year, they'll need to keep a close eye on the water, too.

Between Friday and the Tuesday holiday, the inconvenient timing of the tides may create additional hazards just as people are flocking to the beach. Relatively low tides will occur during the warmest part of the day, increasing the likelihood that tourists will be tempted to swim. At night, high tides during peak fireworks hours could swamp cars and campsites near the water's edge.

A Chinook Observer analysis of drowning and near-drowning incidents found that out-of-town visitors are far more likely than locals to get into trouble while swimming. Such incidents often happen when low tides occur between about 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

That almost perfectly describes the conditions over the next several days. There



Natalie St. John/EO Media Group

A rising tide around 11 p.m. on July 4, 2016, placed many vehicles in danger of inundation. Similar circumstances are possible during the upcoming holiday weekend.

will be periods on all five days when tides well under 3 feet will occur during the warmest, busiest parts of the day. This is especially true for Saturday through Tuesday, when the low tides will occur between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

The weather could help keep all but the hardest — or foolhardiest — people out of the water. Forecasts call for partly sunny weather, with highs in the low to mid-60s early next week. Recently, ocean water temperatures have been in the high 50s to low 60s.

Local safety and rescue experts say that it is never safe to swim — or even wade — at local beaches. Due to cold water temperatures, the lack of lifeguards, floating logs and other debris, and a very strong rip current, the water here is dangerous, even when it appears to be calm. Addition-

ally, large “sneaker waves” can occur at any time.

Parents who do allow children to wade should have a sober adult stay within arms' reach of them at all times. Anyone who spots a swimmer in distress should call 911 immediately, rather than attempting to rescue them. Stay on shore and try to provide emergency responders with as much information as possible about the victim's location, activity and appearance.

'Round midnight

Last year, authorities imposed a camping ban to encourage a safer and more family-friendly event than in years past. However, the comparatively orderly celebration devolved into chaos when a rising tide coincided with the end of the fireworks show.

Around 10:30 p.m. on

July 4, the long line of vehicles waiting to leave the beach came to a standstill when a bottleneck formed at the Bolstad Beach approach. Dozens of cars sank into the sand when they tried to get into — or out of — the queue. Meanwhile, as the 12:20 a.m., 8-foot tide approached, waves began washing in around the cars, causing even more vehicles to get stuck.

Police and tow-truck drivers' radios crackled constantly, and tried to keep the situation under control. While groups of good Samaritans raced to free the buried cars, some of the people in the queue decided to play in the water. The traffic snarl didn't start to untangle until about 1 a.m.

This year, another 8-foot tide will crest right around 10 p.m., roughly the time when the annual fireworks show reaches a crescendo. This will once again create the possibility that the exodus from the beach will be messy. It also increases the likelihood that people and vehicles near the tideline could be swamped by “sneaker waves.”

The best way to avoid these hazards is to leave vehicles at home. Most passenger cars are not designed for off-road driving, and most drivers lack the training and equipment to get their cars unstuck. With a limited number of tow-truck drivers in the area, people who get badly stuck could face long waits and hefty fees.

Offices close for Fourth of July

The Daily Astorian

In observance of the Fourth of July on Tuesday, all federal, state, county and city offices and services, including Astoria, Warrenton, Gearhart, Seaside and Cannon Beach city halls, are closed.

All U.S. post offices are closed, and there is no mail delivery.

Astoria, Jewell, Knappa, Warrenton/Hammond, Seaside (including Cannon Beach and Gearhart schools) and Ocean Beach School District schools are closed for the summer. Clatsop Community College is closed.

The Astoria Library and Seaside Library are closed (they are both normally closed on Mondays, as well). The Warrenton Library and all Timberland libraries in Washington state, including Ilwaco, Ocean Park and Naselle, are closed.

The Port of Astoria offices and services are closed.

Garbage collection through Recology Western Oregon (covering Astoria, Seaside, Gearhart and Cannon Beach), Warrenton garbage collection, and Peninsula Sanitation (covering the

Long Beach, Washington, Peninsula) are not affected by the holiday. Recology Western Oregon's transfer station closes at 2 p.m. Peninsula Sanitation's transfer station is open.

The Sunset Pool in Seaside is open from 5:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Astoria Aquatic Center is open from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Clatsop County Heritage Museum, Oregon Film Museum and Flavel House are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Carriage House is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Uppertown Firefighters' Museum is closed. Capt. Gray's Port of Play and Lil' Sprouts are closed. Fort Clatsop is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Columbia River Maritime Museum is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Seaside Museum is open, and holding its annual Old Fashioned Social, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunset Empire Transportation (“The Bus”) is running, but there are no connections with the Tillamook bus. The Astoria Transit Center is open; the Seaside Transit Kiosk is closed.

The Daily Astorian offices are closed, but the newspaper printed and delivered as usual.

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA AccuWeather.com

TONIGHT 54 Becoming cloudy	SATURDAY 66 Low clouds followed by some sun	SUNDAY 68 Low clouds	MONDAY 65 Intervals of clouds and sunshine	TUESDAY 67 Clouds giving way to sun
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ALMANAC

Astoria through Thursday.

Temperatures

High/low 68°/56°
 Normal high/low 66°/52°
 Record high 93° in 1908
 Record low 42° in 1966

Precipitation

Thursday 0.00"
 Month to date 2.44"
 Normal month to date 2.49"
 Year to date 49.57"
 Normal year to date 35.85"

SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight 9:11 p.m.
 Sunrise Saturday 5:28 a.m.
 Moonrise today 1:10 p.m.
 Moonset today 12:58 a.m.

First Full Last New
 June 30 July 8 July 16 July 23

REGIONAL WEATHER

Shown is tomorrow's weather. Temperatures are tonight's lows and tomorrow's highs.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

OBITUARIES

Edward L. Betts



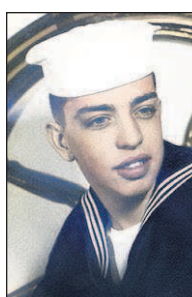
Astoria
July 4, 1941 — June 25, 2017

Edward Leon Betts Jr. was the eldest of seven children born to Edward L. (Sr.) and Mary Evelyn Betts in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 4, 1941. He attended St. Louis Parochial

school, grade school, high school and one season of semi-pro football.

After completing his initial Coast Guard electronics training, while home on leave, he met the love of his life, Sylvia Piontek. Upon finding out that he was going to be stationed in Argentina, Newfoundland, he called Sylvia from Boston and proposed. When she said “yes,” he hitchhiked from Boston to Kansas City, and they put together a small church wedding, and were married on June 28, 1960.

As active members of St. Mary, Star of the Sea church and school, Ed and Sylvia worked on numerous fundraisers to support the students. Ed was very active in the parish as a lay minister, including scheduling the lay ministries for nearly a dozen years. He was also heavily involved with the Knights of Columbus locally and at the state officer level. He stayed very active locally up until his diagnosis of cancer.



Edward Betts

Ed was preceded in death by his father, Edward; his mother, Evelyn; a brother, James Betts; and a grand-

In addition to Newfoundland, his service in the Coast Guard included assignments in Salem, Massachusetts; Quonset Point, Rhode Island; Elizabeth City, North Carolina; St. Petersburg, Florida; and the last four years in Astoria, Oregon, where he retired in December 1978.

Ed was always involved in his children's activities, coaching various sports and participating in Boy Scout outings. His love of sports continued even after his children grew, and he refereed many sports throughout the years. His 35 years of refereeing football included

daughter, Erin Betts. He is survived by his loving wife, Sylvia; and his children, Ed (Julie) Betts, Randy (Janet) Betts, Denise (Mark) Gagnon, Joseph Betts and Mike Betts. He also has 12 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

A rosary will be said at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 6, 2017, at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Church, followed by a Mass at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made the local council Knights of Columbus Scholarship Fund.

Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary is in charge of arrangements. Please sign our online guestbook at www.caldwellsmortuary.com

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today			Sat.			Sun.					
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W			
Baker City	85	47	s	84	50	pc	89	61	s	88	58	s
Bend	87	55	s	81	49	s	87	58	pc	80	57	pc
Brookings	63	53	pc	67	54	pc	79	50	pc	81	56	s
Eugene	80	53	pc	79	50	pc	85	56	pc	80	54	pc
Ilwaco	62	55	pc	62	54	pc	64	53	pc	64	53	pc
Klamath Falls	89	50	s	84	47	s	87	61	s	90	62	pc
Medford	91	58	pc	87	58	s	81	54	pc	79	51	pc
Newberg	85	54	pc	80	53	pc	85	56	pc	78	54	pc
Newport	62	53	pc	63	51	pc	81	54	pc	85	59	s
North Bend	63	55	pc	65	53	pc	94	62	s	93	59	s

TOMORROW'S NATIONAL WEATHER

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

Legend: T-storms, Rain, Snows, Snow, Flurries, Ice, Cold Front, Warm Front, Stationary Front

Money woes forcing Oregon to alter community college promise

Associated Press

PORTLAND — The Oregon Promise may not be kept to students from wealthier families.

The program approved by lawmakers two years ago allows students to attend com-

munity college for nearly free, after scholarships and grants are subtracted from the tuition bill.

The Oregonian reports lawmakers have budgeted \$40 million for the program over the next two years — \$8 million less than officials say is

needed to pay for it. The state might cut off grants to students from wealthier families to make up the difference.

An education subcommittee met Wednesday and approved the proposal to restrict certain families from qualifying.

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today			Sat.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	78	71	t	87	72	t
Boston	86	70	pc	84	69	pc
Chicago	81	65	t	82	60	pc
Denver	72	51	pc	86	57	t
Des Moines	82	61	pc	84	64	s
Detroit	86	68	t	82	63	pc
El Paso	103	74	s	101	75	s
Fairbanks	74	57	pc	74	58	pc
Honolulu	84	74	pc	85	75	sh
Indianapolis	83	67	t	81	62	pc
Kansas City	80	60	pc	84	65	s
Las Vegas	108	82	s	111	82	s
Los Angeles	77	63	pc	80	62	pc
Memphis	91	74	t	87	75	t
Miami	90	80	pc	91	80	pc
Nashville	88	72	t	84	69	t
New Orleans	90	77	t	90	75	pc
New York	88	75	pc	84	73	pc
Oklahoma City	93	68	t	88	70	r
Philadelphia	92	74	pc	90	73	t
St. Louis	87	70	t	88	69	pc
Salt Lake City	88	61	s	95	71	pc
San Francisco	69	55	pc	70	56	pc
Seattle	84	56	pc	75	57	pc
Washington, DC	92	76	pc	91	76	t

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LOTTERIES

<p>OREGON</p> <p>Thursday's Pick 4: 1 p.m.: 4-1-8-5 4 p.m.: 0-3-5-5 7 p.m.: 1-8-1-4</p>	<p>WASHINGTON</p> <p>Thursday's Daily Game: 8-3-8 Thursday's Keno: 02-03-04-05-08-14</p>	<p>07-11-15-25-26-27-31-32-34-37-48-55-62-66-76-78</p> <p>Thursday's Match 4: 01-05-08-14</p>
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PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY

Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

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