



JEFF TER HAR PHOTOS

LEFT: A reveler gets into the holiday spirit at Seaside's 2016 Parade of Lights. RIGHT: A float featured in Seaside's 2016 Parade of Lights.

works with the chambers to select what that event should be.

"Given that it's the Parade of Lights, and we're a power company, we thought it was a good synergy to participate as the signature sponsor," Dunlap said.

Owen added, "They really have a great history of making sure this parade happens for everybody."

Sense of wonder

Pacific Power also has a float in the parade that tends to be one of the most elaborate. The linemen and other staff members decorate the company's truck for the parade.

Shelly Saunders, the Sunset Empire Park and Recreation District's Youth Programs Manager, has had the privilege of lighting the Christmas tree the past two years.

"I feel it's an honor to get to stand there and watch all the kids react when the tree is lit," she said. "Young and old, everybody has a sense of wonder."

The preschool she directs, The Learning Ladder, is also participating in the parade for the first time this year. The students will ride on the district's bus, which will be decked out in a garland and other ornaments. According to Saunders, this will be a fitting experience for the students, as "the focus in the preschool has been about community and our place in it."

In general, she added, the event

encapsulates what to her is the essence of the holiday season — "family and being together."


"There's just a special magic to it," she said. Having moved from a larger area four years ago and now being in a small town, she added, "it really is wonderful to see how strong this community is, and it's amazing to see all these folks come out the day after Thanksgiving and come together as a community."

Yuletide in Seaside

Parade participants should gather on Necanicum Drive at 6 p.m.

The Seaside Chamber of Commerce website provides a registration form, as well as lighting tips for parade entrants, encouraging them to consider using small portable generators or portable batteries for charging cars; to decorate wagons, bicycles, pets and themselves with battery-operated miniature lights; or to incorporate glow sticks. Spectators are also encouraged to light themselves and to respect the boundaries of the parade by staying out of the streets as a safety measure.

The Parade of Lights is part of the Yuletide in Seaside program, which includes the Seaside Artisan Fair from Friday to Sunday, Nov. 23 through 25, and Small Business Saturday on Nov. 24.

For more information, contact the chamber at 503-738-6391 or visit seasidechamber.com. 



The Parade of Lights in downtown Seaside is a community event put on by the Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Pacific Power.