

Drummers, fireworks on tap for Seaside Fourth

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

The drums are beating for the Fourth of July, and the brass will sound.

Four world-class bands will provide the rhythmic support for the hundreds of marchers and thousands of visitors this Independence Day.

Presented by the Seaside Chamber of Commerce, pyrotechnics specialist Larry Kriegshauser will not only light up the skies, but serves as volunteer coordinator for four drum and bugle corps — 550 performers in all.

The Oregon Crusaders will be joined by the Battalion from Salt Lake City, Utah; the Santa Clara Vanguard, number four in the world, from Santa Clara, California; and the Spokane Thunder from Spokane, Washington. The parade begins at 11 a.m., at which time bands will join marchers; at 2 p.m., a free show will feature all four drum corps at Broadway Field.

Kriegshauser was introduced to drum corps in 1981, when his son marched.

“We’ve had some of the top corps,” he said. “These young people 15-21 will outperform any military or marching band.”

Kriegshauser will be operating with a budget of \$56,000 for transportation and lodging



SUBMITTED PHOTO

for musicians, who perform without fee.

The Seaside Chamber of Commerce coordinates meetings with city staff, public works and volunteers, Event Coordinator Cyndi Mudge said. “Our role is to make sure all the pieces are talking and working together.”

The parade kicks off at 11 a.m., coordinated by volunteer Virginia Dideum. The parade route has been shortened due

Holladay Drive roadwork. Parade participants will line up on Necanicum Drive from First Avenue to 12th Avenue, the opposite direction from years past.

The parade will turn east from Necanicum across the First Avenue Bridge and then south on to Holladay, west on Broadway, north on Columbia, and then east on First Avenue, finishing at Necanicum.

From 1 to 3 p.m. is the old-fashioned social at the Seaside Historical Museum and at 2 p.m., the drum corps concert. At 3 p.m. on the Prom, the Northwest Skyliners present a stunt-kite display. Fireworks begin at 10 at the Turnaround.

The show, produced by Western Display Fireworks, is called “Fire in the Sky,” and will feature more than 9,500

pyrotechnic shots, all timed to music. “If you can’t hear the music, you’re not hearing the show,” Kriegshauser said. Fireworks are launched by computer, set to synchronize with Elvis Presley, John Philip Sousa and in the finale, Tchaikovsky’s 1812 Overture.

“You’d better hit that cannon-fire right where it belongs,” Kriegshauser said.

The sky will light up rain or shine.

Kriegshauser (and others) are hoping they do not see a repeat of the 2015 extravaganza, at which a Mylar balloon knocked out power to the city



FILE PHOTO

LEFT: Santa Clara Vanguard will be one of four bands to perform at the Seaside Independence Day parade. ABOVE: Fireworks illuminate the sky above Seaside during the 2015 Fourth of July fireworks show.

for hours. He described it as “very scary” — 40,000 people with no lights, pits on the beach and darkness falling.

Parade registration is open at SeasideFourthofJuly.org until June 29.

On July 5, from 8 to 11 a.m., is the Treasure the Beach Cleanup. Locations are The Turnaround, Ave. U and the Prom, and 12th and Prom. Volunteers at the three locations will provide trash bags.

New group publisher to lead Signal

Formerly with Register-Guard, Pero starts July 11

EO Media Group



David Pero

Northwest newspaper executive David Pero has been named group publisher of The Daily Astorian and its companion publications on the Oregon Coast. He succeeds Steve Forrester, who is retiring as publisher after 28 years in Astoria.

Pero, 59, will serve as editor and publisher of The Daily Astorian. As group publisher, he will oversee all operations on the coast for the Astorian, Seaside Signal, Cannon Beach Gazette, Coast River Business Journal and Chinook Observer.

He will begin work in Astoria on July 11.

“I really look forward to joining The Daily Astorian, which has such a great history of serving Astoria and all of the coastal communities, and to continuing that mission and tradition. It is an outstanding family-owned company, with an excellent staff in a terrific community. I can’t wait to be part of each,” Pero said.

Pero most recently was

paper was also recognized for excellence by several national organizations.

Before joining the Register-Guard in 2007, Pero spent 17 years in Beaumont, Texas, as assistant to the publisher of a 50,000-circulation daily newspaper owned by Hearst, a multinational media company. He was responsible for general administration, new product and business development, marketing, legal, personnel/human resources, production, technology, and corporate communications. He also was responsible for the profit and loss for five weekly newspapers, as well as niche and digital publishing.

Pero began his newspaper career in Florida as a reporter and photographer. He moved to the Clearwater Sun, a 40,000-circulation daily, where he rose through the ranks in newsroom management, eventually becoming executive editor.

A graduate of the University of Florida with a degree in journalism, Pero also participated in continuing education programs for newspaper executives at the American Press Institute and the Media Management Center at the Kel-

logg School of Management at Northwestern University.

Forrester, who will remain as president and CEO of EO Media Group after retiring as publisher of the Astorian, said his family-owned company was seeking a veteran newspaper executive with strong business credentials and experience in digital publishing.

“David Pero will bring to this job two things that are essential for our company,” Forrester said. “He has worked in a family-owned newspaper company, which is the essence of what we are. Secondly, his experience in Texas and Eugene gives him a strong grasp of all facets of our enterprise: news, advertising, production and circulation.”

Pero said he is an avid college football fan and likes all sports, including baseball and NASCAR. “In my spare time I also am a bit of history buff and like reading historical novels and biographies,” he said. Pero has been involved with youth sports organizations and United Way.

Pero and his wife, Victoria, will relocate in the Astoria area. They have two grown sons.

Land donation may enable relocation of schools

Schools from Page 1A

“A Cascadia earthquake off of our coast will cause large portions of these three antiquated schools to collapse and then be submerged by the Pacific Ocean. The average age of these schools is over 63 years and they have outlived their useful lives.”

Seaside School District commissioned state researchers to conduct a comprehensive research study to verify a safe elevation to relocate the schools. Researchers recommended schools be relocated to stable land that would not liquefy during an earthquake. Since tsunami waves could rise as high as 90 feet, researchers recommended a site at least 80 to 100 feet in elevation.

According to Dougherty, Weyerhaeuser allowed Seaside School District to study approximately 1,000 acres of hillside to the east and south of Seaside. Geotechnical engineers evaluated potential slide issues, conducted site core drillings and installed long-term monitoring equipment. After analysis, engineers determined that the property directly east of Seaside Heights Elementary School contains land that best meets the state recommendations. Weyerhaeuser Com-

property in Seaside, Gearhart or Cannon Beach.

“We have had many geotechs evaluating that hillside,” Dougherty said in April. “They strongly believe that is the very best piece of property to relocate the school district.”

“We are a part of the coastal communities in which we operate. Helping the school district keep its students safe and out of harm’s way is the right thing to do,” said Jim Bunker, senior manager of Weyerhaeuser Co. said in the district statement.

The school district will now consider asking residents to support relocating its three schools out of the tsunami inundation zone through a bond measure. The district is gathering community feedback as they develop the proposal, Dougherty said.

In April, he said the process of building a new school could take four years. Costs and whether students would be transferred at one time or year by year were not determined.

The district will gather

community feedback, Dougherty said last week. “We will be conducting polling to inform the price and components of the bond.”

A vote would take place Nov. 8.

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