

Umatilla County Fair mixes up main stage concerts

By Tammy Malgesini
Go! Magazine

HERMISTON — After a record breaking 2021, Umatilla County Fair Manager Angie McNalley said they are “Moo-ving Forward Together” into the 2022 event with some great acts on the Wildhorse Resort & Casino Main Stage. The fair is Aug. 10-13 at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 E. Airport Road. The Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday shows start at 9 p.m. Friday’s dance night begins at 8 p.m.

The opening night concert is free with fair admission (\$10). Petty Fever will take the stage Wednesday, Aug. 10. The award-winning group is a tribute to Tom Petty.

“It’s a good way to kick off our week,” McNalley said. Playing familiar Tom Petty tunes, the group received the 2017 and 2018 Las Vegas FAME Awards for outstanding international tribute artist. In addition, Petty Fever took home the LA Music Awards tribute band of the year in 2013 and 2014.

McNalley said the concert lineup offers a variety of music. And having a show that features a classic rock sound is essential.

Home Free — an a cappella country group that won the fourth season of NBC’s “The Sing-Off”— will perform Thursday, Aug. 11.

The group has gained accolades from Rolling Stone magazine and American Songwriter while building a fan base with their renditions of hits by John Mayer, Blake Shelton, Keith Urban and others.

With a huge social media following, McNalley said people will be blown away by Home Free. She said the



Umatilla County Fair/Contributed Photo

Nashville singer-songwriter Ryan Hurd will close out Umatilla County Fair week on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2022. General seating is free with fair admission — or purchase premium, reserved or party pit tickets.

group is unlike others who have taken the fair stage.

“They are popular beyond what we can imagine,” she said. “I think the fair patrons will appreciate the level of talent and the harmonization with their voices.”

A Latino Night Dance is set for Friday, Aug. 12. The bands offer a solid lineup of danceable music, including

Puro Domador, Grupo Fatal, Dueto Los Armadillos, Los Faraones Del Norte and Rebeldes De La Sierra.

And Nashville singer-songwriter Ryan Hurd will close out the week on Saturday, Aug. 13. With more than 698 million streams, he’s caught the attention of American Songwriter, People, NBC’s “Today” and others. Hurd’s platinum-certified Top 20 single, “To A T,” skyrocketed to No. 1 on SiriusXM The Highway’s Hot 30 Countdown.

“We feel pretty lucky when we can pull a big name like that,” McNalley said about Hurd.

General seating for the Thursday and Saturday night concerts is free with fair admission. Reserved and premium seats (first five rows) are available online for \$12 and \$20, respectively — they do not include fair admission.

Presale tickets for the Latino Dance Night are \$30, which includes fair admission. They are available online or at Velasco Used Car Sales, 80596 Highway 395, Hermiston.

In addition, DJ music and dancing will be available before and after the concerts at the Barley Barn, located across from the concert entrance. Also, Grand Champion Club Party Pit tickets are available for \$80, which includes entry for four adults 21 and older. The special section features standing room only, a private bar and a dance floor. A limited number of party pit tickets are available.

“This allows people to purchase group tickets for an exclusive concert experience,” McNalley said.

For concert or fair tickets, visit www.umatillacounty-fair.net. For questions, call 541-567-6121 or email fair@umatillacounty.gov.

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