

Columbia RiverFest A Family Friendly Free Festival

Columbia RiverFest on August 10, 2013 is a free, family friendly event, featuring Xtreme sports demos, live music and entertainment for people of all ages.

The event will be held from noon – 10:00 PM at the Columbia County Fairgrounds, 58892 Saulser Rd, St Helens. Admission and parking are free.

Featured artists include live music from headliner bands Building 429 and Lincoln Brewster, Local Bands, Deophobic, The Caleb Ray Band, and others; Reid Sanders; extreme sports performances by Motocross star Justin Homan with his team from MX13, BMX champion Vic Murphy with the Action Sports Outreach team; Skateboard artist Tim Byrne, and Parkour artists from Revolution Parkour.

It also includes a Kid Zone showcasing the outstanding KidStand Team from Dallas, Texas performing song, dance, and drama for younger attendees. Plus, the Kid Zone will have inflatables, face painting, and more. This festival atmosphere will also include food, merchandise, and non-profit vendors to ensure a fun filled day for the anticipated 10,000+ people in attendance.

Columbia RiverFest (CRF) is sponsored by local area churches and businesses to bring the community together for an all-day family friendly event, free to the public.

"We are excited to bring a large family friendly event like Columbia RiverFest to Columbia County and the greater Portland area," said Fred Butcher,

Director of Columbia RiverFest. "This should prove to be a day filled with fun, entertainment and a message of Good News to all that attend. We are pleased to offer such high caliber talent and entertainment that is safe for the whole family to enjoy – free of charge."

Butcher will be a guest speaker on Sunday June 9th at Grace Family Fellowship (formerly Vernonia Community Church), 957 State Avenue, Vernonia. Butcher will speak about this upcoming event as well as give the morning message at the 10:30 AM service. Families and kids are invited to come hear Butcher speak and for refreshments, starting at 9:30 AM in the gym. Please stay for worship and fellowship! This will be in place of Sunday School that day.

Specifics on the concert area:

- The concert venue is general admission on an open lawn
- General admission areas include options for standing or sitting. Other concert patrons may be standing in front of you.
- There is a "standing-room-only" area in front of the stage.
- Concertgoers may bring a small blanket (6'x6' or smaller), or lawn chairs with seats not higher than 10 inches from the ground and seat backs not higher than 30 inches from the ground, for use on the lawn. Extra large tarps or blankets will not be permitted.
- All general admission areas of the venue are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Columbia County 4th of July Event Gets New Life

Devastated is the only word to describe the mood of Columbia County residents last July when, for the first time in over 60 years, there was no 4th of July fireworks in St. Helens, Oregon. Despite successful last minute fundraising efforts by community volunteers led by local business owner and former media personality JJ Duehren, permits were unable to be secured for the 4th. The fireworks were held the following week during St. Helens Maritime Heritage festival.

New life has been given the 4th of July event, led by SHEDCO, (St. Helens Economic Development Corporation), and its board member, JJ Duehren. This 4th of July celebration, "A Time to Remember," is a full day of family friendly activities in Old Town St. Helens, including a red, white and blue "Doggie Dash" with the Columbia Humane Society; a patriotic

pancake breakfast fundraiser for the Casey Eye institute (designated for underprivileged children who receive free prescriptions eyeglasses by the Elks Club); a children's 4th of July Bike Parade, with prizes awarded for most best decorated bike; an ice cream eating contest; and a scavenger hunt.

As a capstone event, spearheaded by State Senator Betsy Johnson, the St. Helens world premiere of the award winning Oregon Film, "Everyman's War" will be shown at the beautiful Columbia Center at the St Helens Library as a tribute fundraiser for our veterans. The movie premiere will include an appearance from the film's director, Thad Smith, and actors from the film.

Fine Arts Festival Calling for Art

The Maritime Heritage Festival's Fine Arts Show is back for a successful second year on the beautiful waterfront in Old Town St. Helens, Oregon, July 26, 27 and 28th, 2013.

The St. Helens Arts and Cultural Commission is hosting this event as an affordable opportunity for artists to display and sell their original art in this exciting venue. The Maritime Heritage Festival will showcase a juried art show with awards for original art. Ribbons and awards for best original art or craft will be awarded July 28th, 2013.

Last year drew 9,000 maritime enthusiasts and art lovers. 12,000 attendees are expected this second year. The entry fee is only \$25.00 for accepted artists. The fees and 15% of gross art show sales will be donated to the St. Helens Arts Commission to provide art to our community.

Applications are available online at <http://tinyurl.com/>

StHelensArts or via an email to jjmckay2@aol.com. The deadline for applications is June 15th, 2013. Please enclose the application, samples of artwork, a check for the \$25 entry fee, and an envelope for return of art samples. Artists must provide their own tables, 10x10 booths with weights, and display racks to show their work.

2013 Maritime Heritage Festival Events include:

- FREE ADMISSION To The Public
- Vintage boats, WWII vessels, Sternwheeler tours, boat building, regatta
- Native American exhibits and drumming ceremony and storytelling
- Children's activities
- Water ski show, musical performances!
- Food Booths, Beer Garden, maritime focused booths and exhibits
- Fireworks and live music on Saturday night

CAT Hires Veteran Service Officer

Community Action Team (CAT) has hired Russ Clark to serve as full time Veteran's Service Officer. Clark will work from an office at the Community Action Center (125 N. 17th Street St. Helens). Office hours will be Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

Clark served as Veterans Service Officer at the state level with the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs in 2009 and 2010. In late 2010 he moved to a position as a Ratings Veterans Service Officer with the Veterans Benefits Administration, Portland VA Regional Office. He served with the Portland VA Regional Office until accepting the position as the Veterans Service Officer in Columbia County on May 1, 2013.

Clark is a retired U.S. Army Major who served twenty-one years on active duty. He received his

commission at Fort Benning, GA in 1985 and retired in California in June 2006. After retiring from the Army, he and his wife moved to St. Helens.

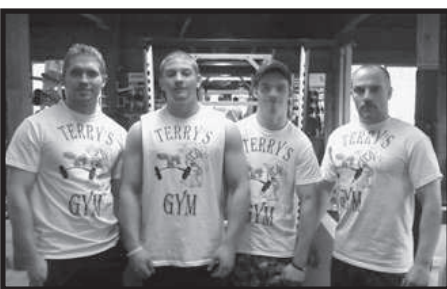
Clark is a veterans of the Gulf War and has served with the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), U.S. Army Space Command and numerous command positions with U.S. Army Forces Command and U.S. Army Europe.

Clark is currently in the process of scheduling monthly community outreach programs in the communities of Vernonia, Clatskanie and Rainier. He is scheduled to be in Vernonia on July 9 from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM at the Vernonia Community Learning Center, 939 Bridge Street. To schedule an appointment please contact Clark directly at 503-397-6580 or 503-397-3511 ext 275.

Live entertainment will be provided by 13 Nights. The big event will be the spectacular 4th of July fireworks display held at dark on Sand Island across from Old Town St. Helens. Based on past 4th of July attendance, this free all day celebration is anticipating attendance of up to 15,000 people.

For additional information, interviews or donations to this event, please contact event coordinator Melissa Sarafin at 503-366-8232 or email at Melissas@ci.st-helens.or.us

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