



Photos by Kirby Neumann-Rea

'LOCO FARE'

June 24 was the final "Loco Wednesday" on the waterfront. Erin Huseby helps Port commissioner Rich McBride serve up the free all-comer meals, provided to "share the stoke" for the coming watersports season. The line forms in photo at right while kites wave over the river. McBride said Loco Wednesday was an effort intended to bring both windsurfing and kiteboarding practitioners together and think of themselves as "ambassadors of the sport." He said a core group of river sports people raised \$1,200 to provide food and beer, much of which was donated by a rotating group of local restaurants and breweries. The Port and local sport and gear businesses also contributed, along with commissioners Jon Davies, Fred Duckwall, Brian Shortt, Hoby Streich, and McBride. City Council Member Kate McBride, Rich's wife and Erin's mother, also helped, making the final Loco a family affair.



'PRAY FOR WIND'

The 30th edition Pray for Wind party, at Stonehedge Gardens, was a more restrained event than the 1985 inaugural, when the assemblage lit of bonfire of surfboards. About 100 people gathered on the Stonehedge patio for dinner, music by the local band Tastes Like Chicken (Mark Daly, Ryan Kolberg and Ed Dietrich), and live and silent auctions to benefit the Columbia Gorge Windsurfing Association youth or "Grom" programs. At right, volunteers Tori Ratcliff and Victoria Williams help attendee Sorcha Meek sign in.



FISH EXPANDS

FISH food bank gets the focus in the Hood River July 4 parade as volunteers will be honored as grand marshals (details on page A1). Volunteers including Debby Chenoweth, standing at left, talk last week with a group of non-profit representatives interested in using the kitchen and meeting room. The food bank, located south of Hood River on Tucker Road, celebrated its grand opening June 20, above, with food, tours and a slide show about the construction project.



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