

Blues Benefits Food Bank

continued ▲ from Front

Gate donations benefit Oregon Food Bank's mission to eliminate hunger and its root causes because no one should be hungry. This is all the more important this year as food, fuel and healthcare costs climb, foreclosures and layoffs increase and world food supply dwindles.

A Four-day Festival Grounds Pass, a special Blues Buddy Pass and an exclusive Blues Benefactor Pass are available online at waterfrontbluesfest.com through a new ticket service created by Patrick Lamb.

The four-day festival will feature more than 120 performances on four stages.

On Thursday, July 3, the festival kicks off with a Tribute to Memphis Soul, featuring soul icon Isaac Hayes, presented by Chinook Winds Casino Resort.

The tribute will get a local treatment with Portland Soul All-Stars, featuring Linda Hornbuckle, LaRhonda Steele and Sean Holmes backed by an all-star band. They will put their spin on classics by Otis Redding, Sam & Dave, Booker T and the MGs, Albert King and other legends of the Stax/Volt record label.

Portland's young soul diva Liv Warfield and "Boogie Cat" Norman Sylvester will open the tribute on the Miller Stage.

The Credit Union Blues Stage will feature searing riffs from up-and-coming blues guitar slingers: virtuoso Joe Bonamassa, Houston's Carolyn Wonderland and Salem's Ty Curtis.

The stellar line-up includes a Battle of the Bones on the A&E Front Porch Stage with the two funkier trombonists on the planet: the legendary Fred Wesley & Groovesect and the young virtuoso Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews & New Orleans Avenue.

The Front Porch will open with Blues from the Edge, featuring semi-acoustic



Isaac Hayes will kick off a Tribute to Memphis Soul on Thursday, July 3, the opening day of the Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival. Admission of \$10 plus 2 cans of food will benefit the Oregon Food Bank.

acts that push the genre's envelope: Joe McMurrin Quartet, Memphis' rootsy Arbuckle & Moore, and Salem's Mark Lemhouse.

On Friday, July 4, boogie-blues-rock pioneers Canned Heat and the Los Angeles-based all-star group The Mannish Boys – with special guests Kid Ramos, Kirk Fletcher and Finis Tasby, are major attractions.

The stellar line-up includes a Tribute to Freddie King, featuring Phillip Walker, Sherman Robertson and Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones; the punkified blues of The Legendary Shack Shakers; and more.

The Waterfront Blues Foundation presents Trampled Under Foot, the winner of this year's International Blues Challenge, on the A&E Front Porch Stage. Bill Rhoades' annual Harmonica Blow-off will close the stage and the night ends with spectacular fireworks.

On Saturday, July 5, Chicago harmonica ace Charlie Musselwhite, guitarist Elvin Bishop and New Orleans guitarist Eric Lindell will headline the slate. Performances include the amazing, young British blues-rockers Back Door Slam, Louisiana Creole blues-rocker Classic Ballou, Mississippi roots-rocker Paul Thorn, Gulf Coast Guitar Summit with Phillip Walker, Sherman Robertson and Andrew "Jr. Boy" Jones and more.

On the A&E Front Porch Stage, enjoy a full-day, lively Zydeco Swamp Romp, showcasing Rosie Ledet, the "Zydeco Sweetheart"; Chris Ardoin and Nu Step Zydeco; Cedryl Ballou and the Zydeco



Texas soul and folk singer Ruther Foster will highlight a lineup of world-class musicians performing at the Waterfront Blues Festival this weekend.

Trendsetters; Diki Du and the Zydeco Krewe; and dance demonstrations with Roland and Janine Jemerson.

On Sunday, July 6, soulful songstress Phoebe Snow will headline an afternoon of Women in Blues. Don't miss Texas soul and folk singer Ruthie Foster; multiple W. C. Handy Award-winning guitarist, songwriter and vocalist Rory Block; an old-time gospel hour with Linda Hornbuckle and Janice Scroggins; the all-star line-up of Northwest Women in Rhythm and Blues; and a special Swinging to the Blues dance on the A&E Front Porch Stage, featuring San Francisco's Lavay Smith and

her Red Hot Skillet Lickers.

Later, the focus will shift to neo-soul with British soul crooner James Hunter, searing soul-blues guitarist Arthur Adams and a triumphant return of Portland's blue-eyed soul man Curtis Salgado, celebrating the release of his new record.

Other highlights include an early afternoon of delta blues on the A&E Front Porch Stage, featuring North Mississippi bluesman Robert "Wolfman" Belfour and Portland's Hillstomp, and an evening main stage set by Portland's brass spectacle March Fourth Marching Band.

For more information, visit waterfrontbluesfest.com.

Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

2009 Toyota Corolla 4-Door XLE Sedan

Toyota Icon Evolution Not Revolution

BY KATHLEEN CARR

Now in its 10th generation, the Toyota Corolla has become an icon on American roads, a symbol of simplicity and practicality. While other compact sedans have sought to recreate themselves, the new Corolla treads in the footsteps of its predecessors.

Redesigned inside and out, the 2009 Toyota Corolla is an economically priced 4-door sedan which comes in five trims, the Base, LE, XLE, S and XRS. The Corolla surpasses all of its competitors in reliability and attractive styling. For this reason, Corolla could be considered the ideal to and from work vehicle.

With a 1.8 liter 132hp 4-cylinder engine standard, the Base, LE and XLE variants please the fuel economy buffs with 27mpg city and 35 mpg highway. The remaining two trims offer an optional 2.4L 158hp 4-cylinder engine that gives 22mpg city and 30mpg highway. A four-speed automatic and 5-speed manual are the two transmission choices.

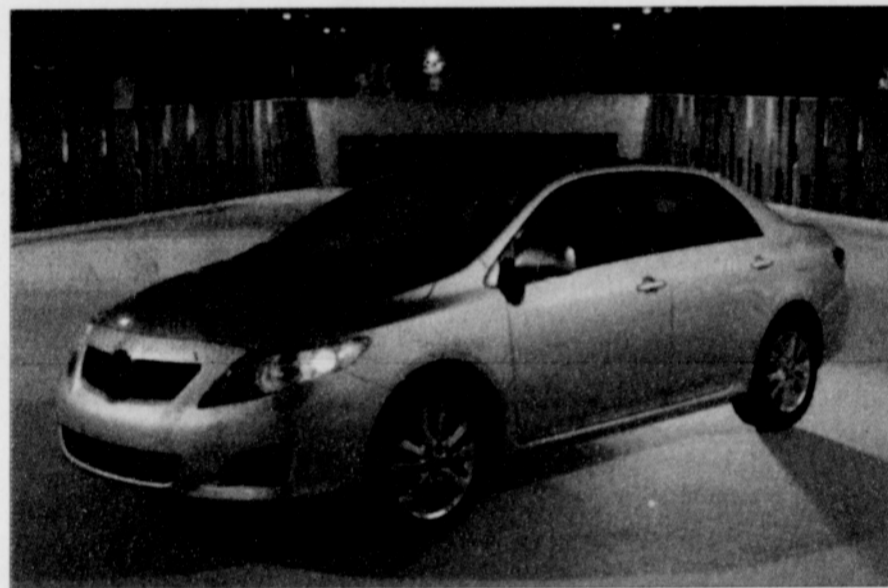
We found the lesser Corolla models to be perfectly acceptable if not outstanding. Their performance is adequate with the five-speed manual, less so with the automatic. Their brakes are strong and

fade-free, their ride is good and their handling better than previous Corollas but not up to some of the best of the competition.

We would prefer more feel than is transmitted through the electric power steering, and a higher level of interior materials. The top-of-the-line XRS has much more in the way of sporty looks, handling dynamics and get-up-and-go performance. With larger tires and wheels, structural enhancements and more tightly-tuned steering, it gets around corners more smartly without much sacrifice in ride and will accelerate from zero to 60 miles per hour in just less than nine seconds. It's sprightly, but not as quick as some of the higher-performing small cars.

Take a brief glance at the old Corolla and the new Corolla and you'll have a hard time telling them apart. A longer comparison makes the differences clear -- the new Corolla has an emphasized wedge motif with stronger, straighter creases and new headlights, taillights and grille. But the basic shape stays the same -- if you'll forgive the totally worn out car review cliché, it's evolution, not revolution.

With its blackout front grille and multi-reflector halogen headlamps, the new



Specifications: 1.8-Liter, 132 hp@128 lb-ft. torque 4-Cylinders DOHC Dual VVT-i SFI Engine; 4-Speed Automatic Transmission; 27-City 35-Highway MPG; \$ 19,470. MSRP

Corolla displays unmistakable down the road graphics. Adding to the mystique of the car are its color-keyed external mirrors, rear-deck spoiler, and side rocker panels. Along with aftermarket performance accessories, you may be tempted to upgrade its 15-inch wheels to 16- or 17-inch boots. 4-wheel ABS and front wheel disk brakes are standard, as well as a unitized body.

While you may be perfectly satisfied with the standard audio system on the 2009 Toyota Corolla, an option that needs

to be experienced to be appreciated is the JBL AM/FM audio system with 6-CD changer including all of those other technological capabilities you must have. Toyota puts your safety first by equipping every Corolla with driver and front passenger front airbags, side impact, and curtain airbags. The daytime running lamps and center high-mount stop lamp help make your Corolla more visible and imposing. Walk away from almost any collision thanks to Corolla's side impact

door beams and collapsible steering column.

The 2009 Corolla's interior is sporty and distinctive -- with roomy-feeling comfort. While Corolla maintains the same headroom, legroom and should room as the previous models, it feels larger, thanks to a careful redesign to enhance comfort, utility and storage.

The instrument panel is very user friendly and easily readable. A newly developed highly efficient air-conditioning system brings cooling performance to improved levels. A pollen-removal filter is part of the new air-conditioning system.

A variety of useable, easy-to-reach storage spaces add convenience and usability to the 2009 Corolla's interior. These include center console side pockets, a storage box above the usual glove box, front and rear door pockets and more.

The 2009 Toyota Corolla promises to continue the heritage of outstanding reliability, unsurpassed safety, and attractive styling which has become the trademark of a great economy sedan.

When it comes to car styling, American buyers are a conservative lot. You don't buy a Corolla to impress your neighbors. You buy a Corolla because it's frugal and sensible. You buy a Corolla because it fits your needs, not because you want to make a statement.

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