

# GRAND MARSHALS

*-Continued from PAGE ONE* reflects a history of giving back to their community without asking anything in return.

Arlynda Gates has spent her entire life in the Ione community, but husband Tom wasn't far behind, moving here when he was in the seventh grade. They met at Ione school and married after high school in 1978. While their lives have had ups and downs, they always chose to stay in Ione and raise their children here. Their daughter Charissa graduated from Ione in 2001 and is now a registered nurse, while son Billy graduated in 2004 and got a degree in journalism, and has worked at The Oregonian in Beaverton.

Throughout that time, they've been heavily involved in the community they know and love, in church, school and "just about anything that crops up," Tom says.

"It's the way we were raised," he explains. "To help out not because you have to but because you want to. It's nice to help other people."

Tom went to work for the railroad pretty much right out of high school. After 11 years there, he was laid off and worked for area farms for a year before starting at the Kinzua Mill. He stayed there for 13 years before the mill closed, and then spent the next nine years at the Walmart Distribution Center in Hermiston, some time at Collins Pine tree farm, and is now working at the Ione school.

"I've kinda come full circle," he quips, while Arlynda teases that, "Now he

has to clean up the school he used to help mess up."

In that time, he also found the time and energy to serve on the Ione Fire Department and coach Little League for about 12 years.

After high school, Arlynda spent a couple of years at Blue Mountain Community College before going to work at Bristow's Market in Ione for 10 years, followed by 20 years with Dobbins Pest Control. She now works for the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Throughout those busy years, Arlynda also found time to serve on the United Church of Christ (now Ione Community Church) council, be a church trustee, teach Sunday School, serve as a founding member of the Creative Care Preschool board, serve on the Ione school site council, and be a part of the Ione Cardinal Booster Club. She served as Little League secretary and helped coach along with Tom, and is a member of the Ione American Legion Auxiliary. In 2007 she was Heppner Chamber of Commerce's Woman of the Year. And, of course, most people know her work keeping the community informed over the years through what came to be known as "Arlynda Mail" emails.

Both Tom and Arlynda have helped for many years with the Ione Education Foundation dinner, most recently cooking fish and prime rib for the dinner after the Foundation decided to stop having it professionally catered.

"We found out we could save the Foundation

a lot of money...and have food that was even better," says Tom.

As for the couple's involvement with the Ione Fourth of July celebration, "We've been doin' something with it as long as I can remember," says Tom. Their involvement officially started back in 1982, when Tom was on the Ione Fire Department. They continued to be heavily involved through Little League activities, running many of the kids' games over the years. Arlynda got pulled onto the planning committee after a while, and also did public relations for the growing event, while Tom donned his chef's hat again to cook for the annual poker tournament. As daunting as that list is, it may not even be the whole story.

"I don't remember a lot of things I do, because I just do it. It's such a good community. Everybody helps everybody in this community," Tom says.

"We have a lot of people in this community who do that," adds Arlynda. "It's what keeps us going. It's what keeps us together as a community."

And that, it seems, is what lies underneath Tom and Arlynda Gates's work in their hometown of Ione—giving back to the community that has given them so much over the years.

"The community's always here for us if we need it. They've done a lot for me over the years, and I can't repay it," says Tom. Arlynda nods in agreement.

"Pay it forward and don't look back," she says.

# Crowd explores ancient technology in Ione



A sizable crowd attended the "Engineer It! Exploring Ancient Technologies" workshop put on by U of O's Museum of Natural & Cultural History as part of Ione's summer reading program. *-Contributed photo*

Thirty-five children and numerous adults attended the "Engineer It! Exploring Ancient Technologies" workshop in Ione June 20, presented by the University of Oregon's Museum of Natural & Cultural History. The program was held at the Ione Legion Hall and sponsored by the Ione

Public Library as part of its summer reading program.

The interactive program gave the children a chance to build a shelter, design a boat and invent a fishing tool, in addition to handling replicas of Native American innovations that have been passed down through generations. The

Ione Topic Club provided snacks.

The reading program will continue on Tuesdays through July 25 in the Ione Legion Hall; there will be no program on July 4. Preschool children meet from 10-11 a.m.; kindergarten through grade six meet from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Free movies in Ione City Park

IONE—Saturday evenings throughout the summer, families are invited to grab a blanket or lawn chair and head to the Ione City Park for an evening of free cinema under the stars.

Thanks to a grant from the Ione Community Agri-Business Organization (ICABO), Ione will host free movies in the park this summer. The movies will be projected onto a 16-foot, inflatable, outdoor movie screen that is ideal for a lawn audience of 250 people. The movies will start around 9 p.m. or at dark for an optimal viewing experience. Concessions may be available.

In the case of rain or winds above 20 mph, the event will not be held and may be rescheduled for another date. Moviegoers are encouraged to bring a chair, blanket or even a blow-up air mattress to relax and enjoy the show, and to arrive with plenty of time to park and get settled prior to show time. Dogs on leashes are allowed; owners are asked to clean up after them. Admission is free.

The park is located on Main Street in Ione. There are some open dates for local school groups or not-for-profit organizations to sell concessions as a fundraiser. Contact Heidi Nelson at heidi@hen-online.com for concession details.

Stay up to date on this and other Ione events at [www.cityofioneoregon.com](http://www.cityofioneoregon.com).

The 2017 summer movie line up is: July 1- Sing (PG); July 8- Back to the Future (PG); July 15- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (PG); July 29- Lilo & Stitch (PG); Aug. 5- Pocahontas (G); and Aug. 12- Moana (G).

## FOURTH OF JULY



Ione's Fourth of July celebration is back, with kick-off events starting this Saturday, July 1. Events for the whole family are planned in Ione on Tuesday, July 4, in celebration of Independence Day. *-File photo*

*-Continued from PAGE ONE* the prize at the three-on-three basketball tournament on 2nd Street in front of the Legion Hall beginning at 10 a.m.

The Blues Cruise Car Show will open in Ione City Park at 10:30 a.m., with vendors and booths opening for business at 11 a.m. in the park. The park and fire hall are also the site of lots of fun activities for the kids, beginning at 11 a.m.—the fish pond, frog jump and bike raffle all cater to the younger crowd. Folks can also satisfy their sweet cravings at the Altar Society pie sale beginning at 11 a.m.

One of the highlights of the day will be the Fourth of July parade, beginning at 1 p.m. on Main Street and led by grand marshals Tom and Arlynda Gates.

Park activities begin after the parade, including the dunk tank, duck races, money pile and much more. The Ione swimming pool will offer free swimming from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Bingo will take place at the Ione

Legion Hall from 2-3:30 p.m. At the same time, Luke Basile and Frazer Wambeke will be providing musical entertainment on the amphitheater stage.

The Blues Cruise awards will be presented at 3 p.m., followed by talent show registration at 3:30 p.m. at the amphitheater stage; the talent show begins at 4 p.m. Following the talent show, from 4:30 to 6 p.m., the Corey Peterson Band will entertain from the amphitheater stage.

New this year is the Game On! video game trailer and laser tag in Ione City Park from 5-8 p.m.

The year's featured musical entertainment takes to the amphitheater stage at 6:30 p.m., starting with FrogHollow and followed by Countryfied at 8:30 p.m. The boat trip auction and raffle drawings will take place on the main amphitheater stage at 8 p.m.

Finally, the day will culminate with the annual fireworks display at dusk, visible throughout Ione.

## News from the City of Ione

The City of Ione has announced that the memorial playground at Ione City Park is up and ready for summer. The Port of Morrow set the poles and finalized the structural engineering side of the process,

while many community members assembled and set up the structure during a recent work day.

The city also has announced that it is working with the Morrow County Planning Department to expand its Urban Growth Boundary and annex the Morrow County Grain Growers property into the city limits. The county planning commission and county commissioners will attend public meetings at the Ione American Legion Hall on July 11 and Aug. 8 to take public comment.

In other business, the city is working to complete its budget for the next fiscal year, and held a budget meeting June 13 at Ione City Hall.

## Ione hosts 'Gold Medal' volleyball camp



Participants at the Gold Medal Squared volleyball camp June 19-22 at Ione Community School. Gold Medal Squared sent two coaches, who provided instruction on fundamental volleyball skills and strategies for game situations. Volleyball players in middle and high school from Ione, Heppner and Irrigon participated in the four-day camp. The Ione Booster Club, Ione volleyball and Richard Ladd's "Slim's Place" helped to make the camp possible, and Lisa Rietmann provided a donation, as well as meals and snacks for girls during the week. *-Contributed photo*

## IONE'S 4th of July Celebration 2017

**FREE Concert\***

No Dogs Allowed in Park

\*Bring your own lawn chairs or blanket. Grass amphitheater.

Saturday, July 1, 2017		
Volleyball Tournament	Ione City Park	July 1st, 9 am
Dinner & Poker Tournament (plus BINGO)	Legion Hall, Ione	July 1st, 5 pm
Free Movie in the Park: Sing	Ione City Park	July 1st, Dusk
Monday, July 3, 2017		
Golf Tournament	Willow Creek Country Club, Heppner	July 3rd, 9 am
Tuesday, July 4, 2017		
Fireman's Breakfast	Ione Fire Hall	7:00 - 10:00 am
Creative Care PreSchool 5k Walk/Run (\$10 Registration)	Ione City Park	7 am Reg./Walk starts at 7:30 am
Ken Turner Memorial Horseshoe Tournament	Horseshoe Pits	9:00 am
3-on-3 Basketball Tournament	2nd Street, In Front of Legion Hall	10:00 am
Blues Cruise Car Show	Ione City Park	10:30 am
Vendors & Booths	Ione City Park	11:00 am
Fish Pond, Frog Jump, Bike Raffle	Fire Hall/Park	11:00 am
Altar Society Pie Sale	Ione Fire Hall (or Church Basement)	11:00 am
Parade (Grand Marshal: Tom & Arlynda Gates)	Main Street	1:00 pm
Dunk Tank, Duck Races, Money Pile, Much More!		After Parade
Free Swimming	Ione Swimming Pool	1:30-3:30 pm
<b>LUKE BASILE &amp; FRAZER WAMBEKE</b>	<b>AMPHITHEATER STAGE</b>	<b>2:00-3:30 PM</b>
Bingo	Ione Legion Hall	2:00-3:30 pm
Blues Cruise Awards	Ione City Park	3:00 pm
Talent Show	Amphitheatre Stage	3:30 pm Reg./Show at 4 pm
<b>COREY PETERSON BAND</b>	<b>AMPHITHEATER STAGE</b>	<b>4:30-6:00 PM</b>
Game On! Video Game Trailer & Laser Tag	Ione City Park	5:00-8:00 pm
Featured Entertainment	Amphitheater Stage	6:30 pm
<b>FROGHOLLOW BAND (6:30 PM)</b>	<b>COUNTRYFIED (8:30 PM)</b>	
Boat Trip Auction/Raffle Drawings	Amphitheatre Stage	8:00 pm
Fireworks Display	Visible throughout Ione	Dusk

All event, times and locations are subject to change.

[www.CityOfIoneOregon.com/FourthOfJuly](http://www.CityOfIoneOregon.com/FourthOfJuly)  
Music funded in part by Morrow County Unified Recreation District

## BURNING BAN



The burn ban for the town of Lexington will be in effect starting **JUNE 30TH.** That means no burning whatsoever. **No burning barrels**