

Burns selected as grand marshals for July 4th Ione parade

By Bobbi Gordon

Long time Ione residents, Loyal and Betty Burns, have been selected to lead the 4th of July celebration parade as the 2021 grand marshals. The Burns came to Ione in 1995 from Lebanon, OR and have served the Ione community for more than 20 years.

Loyal, wanting to get involved in the community, joined Ione Community Agri-Business Organization (ICABO) and soon became president. During that time, he helped get the Emert Addition developed. Betty was employed by Jack Gray Transport and later went to work for Waste Management in Arlington.

As an electrical contractor, it didn't take long for Loyal to realize there was a need for his services. He has wired most of the electrical at the Ione City Park and each year is responsible for wiring and setting up the sound system for the Ione 4th of July celebration. Betty told the Gazette, "He stays awake until the fireworks and music are over so he can go disconnect everything to keep everything safe."

In the early years of the 4th celebration, it was difficult to find food vendors so Loyal, Betty and their family ran a German Sausage hot dog stand for over 20 years. Running the stand served two purposes, it provided a food vendor, and the proceeds went to the Mike Mathews scholarship fund. Also, during that time, Loyal was the co-chairman of the event and Betty

the area, including Hermiston, La Grande, Enterprise, Elgin, Fossil, Arlington and many more places. Betty reported the event brought in about 50 cars in 2019. Proceeds from the car show will go to Ione for park maintenance this year.

Loyal and Betty have two children; son, Loyal, wife Debbie and grandson L.R, Albany; daughter, Maria Shandy, husband, Mark



Above: Loyal and Betty Burns stand next to their restored 1981 Chevy C10 pickup at the Maryhill car show.

Left: They stand between their 1953 Dodge sedan and 1960 Ford T-Bird at the 2019 Ione 4th of July Cruz-In. -Contributed photos.

willingly jumped right in to help wherever she was needed. Over the years they have both been involved in most aspects of the celebration. Loyal even found a dunk tank he fixed up and of course he got in and got dunked several times.

Betty is in charge of organizing the Ione Cruz-In car show, making this her third year bringing in classic cars from all around

and grandsons, Jacob and Dylan, Arlington. Loyal is a Vietnam veteran and they are members of the Ione American Legion, Ione Education Foundation and the Ione Booster Club. The Burns celebrated 50 years of marriage in March 2021.

Loyal reported, "The highlight of 20 years of serving the community has been playing Santa Claus for the Ione children."

Rural housing bill passes

HB 2438 passed the House floor this week. The bill is a new property tax exemption for rural Oregonians and its main objective is to encourage labor migration to rural Oregon.

The bill gives counties with a population of less than 15,000 the option to exempt property tax for up to five newly constructed

single-family dwellings. Given these homes are built and occupied as primary residences by individuals with annual taxable income of not more than \$75,000 if filing separately or not more than \$150,000 if filing jointly.

"Many rural communities have jobs available but cannot attract new em-

ployees because of a lack of affordable housing," Representative Greg Smith (R-District 57) a chief sponsor of the bill said. "This bill, along with other community development programs, creates a comprehensive solution and will bring, not only employees, but families to Oregon's most rural counties."

IONE'S 4th of July Celebration

<u>Saturday, July 3, 2021</u>		
Golf Tournament	Willow Creek Country Club, Heppner	July 3rd, 9 am
Movie in the Park (The Princess Bride)	Ione City Park	July 3rd, Sundown
<u>Sunday, July 4, 2021</u>		
Fireman's Breakfast	Ione Fire Hall	7:00 -10:00 am
Creative Care PreSchool 5k Walk/Run (\$10 Registration)	Ione City Park	7 am Registration/Walk starts at 7:30 am
Ken Turner Memorial Horseshoe Tournament	Horseshoe Pits	9:00 am
Church Service	Ione City Park	10:00 am
Cruz-in Car Show	Ione City Park	10:00 am
Vendors & Booths	Ione City Park	11:00 am
Fish Pond, Bike Raffle	Fire Hall/Park	11:00 am
Parade Grand Marshal: Loyal & Betty Burns	Main Street	1:00 pm
Duck Races	Main Street	After Parade
Free Swimming	Ione Swimming Pool	1:00-5:00 pm
Luke Basile & Jamie Nasario	Amphitheater Stage	2:00-3:00 pm
Cory Peterson Band	Amphitheater Stage	3:30-4:30 pm
Talent Show	Amphitheatre Stage	4:00 pm Registration/Show at 4:30 pm
Featured Entertainment	Amphitheater Stage	6:30 pm
	Colorblind (6:30 pm)	Stompin' Ground (8:30 pm)
Fireworks Display	Visible throughout Ione	Dusk
	All event, times and locations are subject to change.	
Ione's 4th Of July Celebration Is Sponsored In Part By Morrow County Unified Recreation District		

Oregon Emergency Rental Assistance Program

During these challenging times, thousands of Oregonians are struggling to afford rent and stay housed. If this sounds like you, visit our website.

Durante estos tiempos difíciles, miles de habitantes de Oregón están luchando para pagar el alquiler y seguir viviendo, visite

