



People peruse a variety of vendors during a past Umatilla Landing Days. This year's event runs Friday through Sunday at the Umatilla Marina and RV Park.

Landing Days celebration

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Umatilla's annual summer event is gearing up for three days of fun.

Over the years, Landing Days has flourished and floundered — with everything from multiple days of outdoor fun to just shooting off fireworks over the river. Organizers for this year's event are looking to pump the excitement back into Landing Days, offering activities all weekend long.

"It's looking like it's going to be a great event," said Kacie Evans, executive coordinator at the Umatilla Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center. "I'm super excited."

In addition, it should be a blast. Evans said the fireworks show is shaping up to be the biggest yet.

Landing Days kicks off Friday evening from 5-11 p.m. at the Umatilla Marina and RV Park, 1710 Quincy Ave. It features music by Quicked Mary, a classic rock band from La

Grande. With a beer garden, food vendors and the band's motto, "Let's take the party to the people and get wicked," it promises to start the event off right.

The activities kick into high gear Saturday from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. The day starts with parade line-up at 9 a.m. at Nugent Park on Eighth Street. The parade gets rolling at 10 a.m., and will wind its way to Umatilla Marina Park, which will be packed with activities.

Evans said 30-40 vendor booths have already confirmed for the event. In addition, she said there were a dozen food booths.

"I think we'll have a good selection," she said.

In addition to the evening musical acts, live entertainment during the day features dancing horses, cheerleading groups, the Umatilla High School robotics team and karate and Zumba demonstrations.

As the sun moves closer to the horizon, the tunes will crank up with

Nuketown at 5:45 p.m. Hailing from the Tri-Cities, they play country, rock, bluegrass, blues and anything by request.

Playing high-energy music, Hermiston-based group Blue Tattoo will take the stage at 8 p.m. They will light things up with classic rock from the late '60s, music from the grunge scene of the 1990s — and everything in between. Blue Tattoo will usher in the fireworks show, which is set for dusk.

The event continues Sunday with a community gathering and worship service from 9:30-11:30 a.m. People are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chairs.

Refreshments will be served, followed by music and a non-denominational faith-based message at 10 a.m. The topic is Awakening: Reflecting Our Creator. Afterwards, there will be several baptisms in the river.

For more information, call 541-922-4825, visit www.umatillaorchamber.org or search Facebook.

Ham radio operators hold on-air open house



STAFF PHOTO BY TAMMY MALGESINI

Bill Quick gives a thumbs up after Whitley Smith, right, makes contact with an ham radio operator out of California during the 2017 Amateur Radio Field Day at Boardman Marina Park. This year's event is Saturday at Drift Fence Campground near Ukiah.

By **TAMMY MALGESINI**
COMMUNITY EDITOR

Ham radio operators from across North America will connect this weekend during the largest annual on-air event.

An open house of sorts, the ARRL Field Day features local clubs and ham radio enthusiasts who set up temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate the purpose and capability of ham radios. Upwards of 40,000 people participate each year.

Don Drayton of the Hermiston Amateur Radio Club said a group is planning to head up to Drift Fence Campground, located near Ukiah. The small rustic camping area features vault toilets. People need to bring their own drinking water.

The Field Day event begins Saturday at 10 a.m. and runs until Sunday at noon. Part of the reason some are heading up early, Drayton said, is to participate in another event.

"We'll have our stations up earlier ... because there is a FEMA drill," Drayton said.

Members of the group will set up antenna lines

and offer people a chance to get on air. Although operating ham radios is a hobby for many, they also serve a practical purpose. In the event of emergencies resulting in the loss of electricity, cell phone towers, landlines and internet access, amateur radio operators are called on to assist with communications and emergency management. During the 2017 Field Day, Drayton said they can get set up and on the air within an hour.

Drayton said the Field Day provides an opportunity for people to learn about ham radios. He encourages people to come out to see what they do and get on air with a licensed operator. As a hobby, Drayton said ham radios can be fairly inexpensive.

"You can buy a handheld for \$30," he said. "It doesn't cost much to get on the air."

The Hermiston Amateur Radio Club meets the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Umatilla County Fire District #1's Station 23, 78760 Westland Road. For more information, visit www.ai7ho.org or call Drayton at 541-314-3138.

BRIEFS

Class of '98 gears up for reunion

The Hermiston High School class of 1998 is making plans to celebrate its 20-year reunion.

Organizers indicate there will be three main events, including a no-host social mixer Friday, Aug. 10 at Midway Bar & Grill, a family-friendly barbecue Saturday, Aug. 11 at McNary Beach and a catered dinner for adults only, also Saturday, Aug. 11 at Maxwell Event Center. The meal includes appetizers, choice of chicken, tri-tip steak or vegetarian entree and non-alcoholic beverages. A no-host bar will be available. The cost is \$36 per person or \$67 per couple before June 30; then the price increases to \$40 per person. Purchase tickets via <https://squareup.com/store/hermiston1998> or contact hermiston1998@gmail.com.

For more information,

visit www.hermiston1998.com or search Facebook for "Hermiston High School class of 1998."

Bobby & Faith strum acoustic tunes

Classic rock and pop favorites are featured as Bobby & Faith take the stage during Music in the Parks.

The acoustic duo, who also perform with the Tri-Cities rock band The Shades, are said to have fantastic musical chemistry. The free concert is Monday, June 25 at 7 p.m. at Boardman Marina Park. Pack a picnic or bring some cash, as the Boardman Little League will offer concessions.

Seated is limited, so people are encouraged to bring a blanket or lawn chair to stake out a spot along the Columbia River to enjoy the concert. In case of inclement weather, the performance will be held at the SAGE Center.

For more information,

contact Jackie McCauley at utility.clerk@cityofboardman.com or 541-481-9252.

Help available for immigrant abuse survivors

Immigrant survivors of abuse face special challenges. However, there are laws in place to prevent someone's immigration status from being used as a means of abuse and exploitation.

Catholic Charities and Domestic Violence Services are teaming up to offer a free presentation. "Using Immigration Laws to Help Survivors of Domestic Violence and Child Victimization" will be Friday from 9-11:30 a.m. at the Riverfront Center at the Port of Morrow, 2 Marine Drive, Boardman. In addition, general information about other types of immigration relief will be available.

For more information or to RSVP, call Griselda Cue-

vas or Manuel Gutierrez at 541-567-0424.

Musical minister releases new video

Rev. Marc Mullins of the Pendleton First Christian Church recently released a new music video.

It features an arrangement of St. Francis of Assisi's "All Creatures of Our God and King," arranged in 2012 by Mullins, who is a former minister at the Hermiston First Christian Church. In addition, the video was produced by Mullins this year with the audio recorded and mixed at CrossWired Studio in Walla Walla. In addition to Mullins (guitar, bass guitar and vocals), musicians include Carl Scheeler (harmonica) and Kevin Gutierrez (drums

and percussion). To view it, visit <https://youtu.be/BMIO-TU19oZU>. The musical pastor also has a YouTube channel; search "Marc Mullins" at www.youtube.com.

Hermiston Altrusa installs new officers

Dawn Long was recently installed as the new president of Altrusa International of Hermiston.

Other officers of the service club include Lindsay Lloyd (first vice president), Stephanie Hughes (second vice president), Alexis McCarthy (secretary) and Mary Winebarger (treasurer). New directors include LuAnn Davison and Kim Mills, who will join Nancy Lauck, Ladonna Quempt and Katie Saul on the club's board.

The installation was held May 31 at the home of Altrusa member Briana Cortaberria. Two past active charter members, Margaret Saylor and Pat Wheelhouse, who helped form the Hermiston club more than 40 years ago, shared a few remarks.

Altrusa meets the first, third and fourth Thursday of each month from noon to 1 p.m. at The Arc Building. People are welcome to stop by for a visit and see what the service group is planning for the surrounding community. Committees for members include international relations, community service, literacy and vocational services.

For more information, contact hermistonaltrusa@gmail.com, visit www.districttwelve.altrusa.org or search Facebook.

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