

HAM radio operators issue invitation to see them in action at park

Ham Radio Operators will be visiting our area again, this time to "play" instead of providing emergency service, and they want you to join them. Thousands of Hams will be showing off their emergency capabilities the fourth weekend of June. Over the past year, the news has been full of reports of ham radio operators providing critical communications in emergencies locally and world-wide. During Hurricane Katrina, Amateur Radio – often called "Ham radio" – was often the only way people could communicate, and hundreds of volunteer "hams" traveled south to save lives and property. More recently, many hams served during the flooding of 2007 right here

in town and on the Oregon Coast. When trouble is brewing, ham radio people are often the first to provide critical information and communications.

On the weekend of June 28-29, the public will have a chance to meet and talk with these ham radio operators and see for themselves what the Amateur Radio Service is about. Showing the newest digital and satellite capabilities, voice communications, and historical Morse code, hams from across the U.S. will hold public demonstrations of emergency communications abilities.

This annual event, called "Field Day" is the climax of the week long "Amateur Radio Week" sponsored by the ARRL,

the National Association for Amateur Radio. Using only emergency power supplies, ham operators will construct emergency stations in parks, shopping malls, schools and back yards around the country. Their slogan, "When all else fails..." is more than just words to the hams as they prove they can send messages in many forms without the use of phone systems, internet or any other infrastructure that can be compromised in a crisis. More than 34,000 amateur radio operators across the country participated in last year's event.

"We hope that people will come and see for themselves, this is not your grandfather's radio anymore," said Allen Pitts of

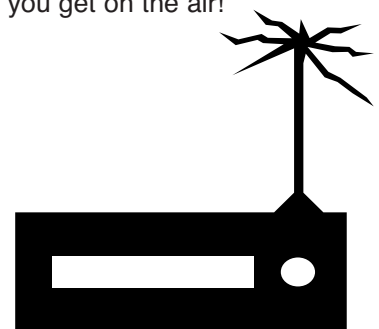
the ARRL. "The communications networks that ham radio people can quickly create have saved many lives in the past months when other systems failed or were overloaded."

Between Buxton and Vernonia, Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club will be joined by members of Washington County Amateur Radio Emergency Services and Vernonia Emergency Radio Klub to demonstrate Amateur Radio at L.L. "Stub Stewart" State Park on June 28 and 29. The public is invited to see ham radio's capabilities and learn how to get their own FCC radio license before the next disaster strikes.

There are 650,000 Amateur Radio Operators in the U.S., and more than 2.5 million around the world. Through

ARRL, ham volunteers provide emergency communications for the Dept of Homeland Security Citizens' Corps, Salvation Army, FEMA, and hundreds of state and local agencies, all for free.

To learn more about Amateur Radio, go to www.emergency-radio.org. The public is most cordially invited to come, meet and talk with the hams. See what modern Amateur Radio can do. They can even help you get on the air!



Safety never goes on vacation.

Whether you're taking off for a thrilling destination, or just enjoying some local sights, plan to stay safe this summer. You'll have a lot more fun if you remember some basic tips for warmer weather activities:

- wear sunscreen
- don't drink and drive
- drink plenty of water
- put on a bicycle helmet
- buckle up
- wear a life jacket on all water craft

9-1-1 for all seasons

Emergencies can happen any time of year. Fortunately, Columbia 9-1-1 is here when you need us, day and night, all year round. So if you do have an emergency this season, call 9-1-1 right away. Our highly trained staff will make sure help is on the way as soon as possible.



We urge you to make safety part of all of your summer plans.

P.O. Box 998 St. Helens, Oregon 97051
Administrative Office: (503) 397-7255
Non-emergency Dispatch: (503) 397-1521 1-800-696-7795
www.columbia911.com

Murphy's plans celebration and invites community to attend

Are you ready for some summertime fun? Murphy's Furniture is celebrating the First Day Of Summer on Saturday, June 21, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The festivities will take place in the lot adjacent to Murphy's at 2962 Baseline (TV Hwy) in Cornelius. Hot dogs, popcorn and more will be sold at very reasonable prices to benefit the Boys and Girls Club's satellite programs in Cornelius.

Cornelius Law Enforcement and the Cornelius Fire Depart-

ment will be on hand to provide summer safety tips. The Cornelius library will be sharing information on their summer reading programs. Kids will have fun with hula-hoop competitions, face painting, water balloon toss and, dare we say it, Karaoke. Activities will keep the family entertained.

Murphy's invites the whole community to bring their lawn chairs and join in kicking off the summer in a positive way. For more information call Murphy's at 503-640-1124.



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