

NEWS



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THPRD EXPANDS SUMMER CONCERT SERIES AGAIN; FAMILY-ORIENTED EVENTS OPEN JUNE 26 AT GARDEN HOME PARK

What's better than an outdoor concert in summer? An outdoor concert that offers quality music, fun for all ages, and *free* admission.

The Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District understands this and has responded by once again expanding its lineup of free summer concerts, this time from six performances to nine. Just last year, THPRD doubled its number of shows from three to six.

The 2008 Summer Concert in the Park series spans neighborhood parks across much of THPRD's 50-square-mile service area of greater Beaverton. It opens June 26 at Garden Home Park and closes Aug. 12 at Carolwood Park. Among them will be THPRD's first-ever Sunday evening concert, Aug. 3 at Kaiser Woods Park.

All concerts except the July 26 event (see page 2) will begin at 6 p.m. and end at 8 p.m.

"These free concerts bring neighborhoods together, and the wide range of musical styles is representative of the diverse community we serve," said Doug Menke, THPRD general manager. "It's fun and positive entertainment for families and individuals -- one more way we can contribute to higher quality of life for people in our district."

Concert-goers are invited to bring a chair or spread a blanket on the grass and enjoy music that will range from folk to salsa, indie rock and Celtic to bluegrass. An array of nationally and internationally known performers will be featured. Food and beverages will be available for purchase but no alcohol will be allowed at these family-oriented events.

Prior to and throughout each concert, THPRD staff will roll out their popular "Rec Mobile" with face painting, balloons, games and a variety of other activities for children.

Dates, locations and musicians for THPRD's 2008 Summer Concert in the Park series:

- June 26, 6-8 p.m., Garden Home Park, Thad Beckman Trio (folk-blues).

THPRD announces 2008 summer concert lineup (page 2)

- July 1, 6-8 p.m., Hazeldale Park, Casey Neill and the Norway Rats (Americana indie rock and Celtic).
- July 13, 6-8 p.m., Center Street Park, Cubaneo (Caribbean salsa).
- July 15, 6-8 p.m., Raleigh Park, The Sugar Beets (acoustic groove).
- July 26, 3:30-5 p.m., THPRD Complex at 158th & Walker Road, The Ben Rice Band (blues) and Chervona (neo-folk).
- July 31, 6-8 p.m., Greenway Park, Freak Mountain Ramblers (rockabilly/honky-tonk).
- Aug. 3, 6-8 p.m., Kaiser Woods Park, Keith Greeninger Trio (folk).
- Aug. 7, 6-8 p.m., Cedar Mill Park, The Renegade Minstrels (funkified folk and blues).
- Aug. 12, 6-8 p.m., Carolwood Park, Jackstraw (acoustic Northwest bluegrass).

The July 26 concert with the Ben Rice Band and Chervona will be part of THPRD's day-long "Party in the Park" celebration at the district's main recreation complex. It will be preceded by a music and entertainment stage for children from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Party in the Park -- THPRD's biggest community event of the year -- will celebrate summer with a variety of free activities for patrons, including an arts and crafts corral, inflatable play structures, a climbing wall, and the THPRD Rec Mobile. It will also feature The Classic at T-Hills automobile, truck and motorcycle show and the Family Triathlon, both of which have a small entry fee but are free to spectators.

For more information about the concert series and performers, visit THPRD's web site at www.thprd.org and click on "News and Events," then "Summer Concert Series." Visitors will find addresses of each park, directions on how to get there, and parking information.

Major sponsors of the concert series are Polygon Northwest, Northwest Natural, and Rivermark Community Credit Union. Sponsors of individual concerts include the Greenway Neighborhood Association, Raleigh Park Neighborhood Association, and the Kaiser Woods at Arbor View Homeowners Association.

Formed in 1955, THPRD is the largest special park district in Oregon, spanning about 50 square miles and serving more than 200,000 residents in the greater Beaverton area. The district provides year-round recreational and educational opportunities for people of all ages. Offerings include a broad range of classes and more than 200 park sites, 35 miles of trails, eight swim centers, three recreation centers, and 1,100 acres of nature preserve.

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