

Umatilla County Fair

NEWS RELEASE

Below you will find a courtesy copy of a news release that was issued this week by the Umatilla County Fair office. Please feel free to forward to others who would be interested in this information. If you have any questions, please direct them towards Peggy Clough, Umatilla County Fairgrounds Manager at (541) 567-6121; or Cell 541-379-8321 or email to: peggyc@umatillacounty.net

Umatilla County Fair Announces Main Stage Entertainment!

PRESS RELEASE:

LONESTAR

Chalk it up to their Texas-meets-Tennessee grit and tenacity, but there's nothing Lonestar loves more than a challenge, 500 concerts in their first two years. Crossing over from country to pop and back again after no one else topped both charts at the same time since 1983. Selling 10 million albums, landing ten top 10 country hits and collecting nine top 10 pop hits. Packing audiences with guys who love their rocking shows and ladies who swoon over the romantic hunks. That's just the kind of hard work that fuels the band. Some of their top hits include "I'm Already There," "Come Cryin' To Me" and their smash, "Amazed," which spent eight weeks on the #1 spot on country charts as well as reaching #2 on the Billboards Hot 100. With the release of Party Heard Around The World, Lonestar returns back on the road. Lonestar will perform on the Main Stage **Tuesday, August 9, at 9PM**

BOWLING FOR SOUP

Talking with Bowling for Soup singer Jaret Reddick, you may not immediately get the sense that this affable, down-to-earth Texan fronts a Grammy- and Emmy-nominated pop/punk band with over a million album sales to their credit. "We've created our niche, and our niche is us," says Reddick, who formed Bowling for Soup in 1994 and today rounds out the Denton, Texas-based quartet with guitarist Chris Burney, bassist Erik Chandler and drummer Gary Wiseman. Some of Bowling for Soup's top hits include: "High School Never Ends" and the 2004 MTV and radio smash "1985", "Almost" and "Girl All the Bad Guys Want"! "Bowling For Soup" will perform on the Main Stage **Wednesday, August 10, at 9PM**

Umatilla County Fair Battle of the Bands Competition

Looking for the best talent around!

Think you're the best? Prove it for a chance to play a great venue and win amazing opportunities and cash prizes! Hermiston-OR, March 2nd, 2011 – "The Umatilla County Fair will host a Battle of the Bands competition on the Thursday, August 11th at 7:00pm on the main entertainment stage.

The Fair is looking for bands who want to participate in the competition. Bands are asked to submit an application. Applications are available on the Umatilla County Fair website: www.co.umatilla.or.us/fair or in the Fair Office at 515 W Orchard Ave in Hermiston. Submit applications along with a demo CD or YouTube video as an audition. In an effort to keep the competition within the time allotted a panel of professional judges will pre-screen the applicants and select the finalist to perform on the Main Stage. 7pm-10pm. Applications must be dropped off to the fair office no later than 5pm on **July 1, 2011**.

Contestants will be evaluated and selected based on vocal and instrumental performance, musical interpretation/ originality, and stage presence. At the final performance bands will be evaluated according to fan reaction, by use of a decibel meter. The winner will be announced after the competition. The winning band will receive: \$750 cash, special guest interview on 102.7 KORD or 98.3 The KEY depending on the winning band. 2nd place will receive \$500 cash. 3rd place will receive: \$250 cash. Each participating band will also receive free fair admission for their band. Each selected band will have the opportunity to have a table in the media tent to sell merchandise.

For more information contact: Umatilla County Fair Grounds, fair@umatillacounty.com. 515 W. Orchard Ave PO Box 94 Hermiston, OR 97838 (541) 567-6121

GRAND FUNK RAILROAD

Originating from Flint, Michigan in 1969, this top selling American rock group of the 70's is "COMIN' TO YOUR TOWN TO HELP YOU PARTY IT DOWN". Grand Funk Railroad is extremely excited to be touring marking a 41 year milestone. Some of their biggest hits include "Second Chance", "We're An American Band", "Locomotion", and "Some Kind of Wonderful". Seasoned Grand Funk lovers and contemporary rock fans discovering the group for the first time will be able to celebrate with The American Band, GRAND FUNK RAILROAD! WE'RE AN AMERICAN BAND!

GRAND FUNK RAILROAD will play the Main Stage **Friday, August 12, at 9PM**

NEAL McCOY

No doubt about it, in the 20 years since he released his first single, Neal McCoy – the one-of-a-kind country singer and consummate live performer – has enjoyed every minute of his long, successful career. Even with 11 albums, over 25 charted singles and countless thousands of touring miles already under his big belt buckle, the Longview, Texas-based artist has no intention of slowing down. "I'm still on the road 220 days a year," McCoy says. "It's crazy, but I really do love it." Neal McCoy's hits include: "No Doubt About It," "Wink," "They're Playing Our Song," "For a Change," "If I Was a Drinkin' Man," and "You Gotta Love That." Neal McCoy will take the Main Stage **Saturday, August 13 at 9PM**

Tickets go on sale Friday April 1, 2011 at the Fairgrounds Office. Festival seating is free with fair admission and reserved seats, which are \$10 each, can be purchased by calling 541-567-6121, 800-700-3247 or at the Fairgrounds Office, 515 W. Orchard Ave., Hermiston. Fair admission prices are \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors, \$4 for children 6-12 and free for children six years and under.

MEDIA ADVISORY

Copies of this news release and photos will be posted to <http://www.co.umatilla.or.us>. Click on "news releases".