

Journey 'Out of this World' with Nevada County Concert Band

Special to The Union

It's time to pack up your lawn chairs and a picnic dinner and head to the band concert in the park.

The Nevada County Concert Band presents its second of three Picnic & Pops Concerts at Nevada City's Pioneer Park on Sunday, and promises an "Out of this World" performance.

"Our current band is over 60 members strong already, and then we invite musicians from other bands to join us for this day," said Conductor Cheryl Woldseth. This is the seventh year that the county band has hosted an invitational event at the July concert. "That brings us to about 116 musicians this year, happily playing our hearts out in the Pioneer Park bandshell at a free concert."

They come from many California counties, including Amador, Contra Costa, Fresno, Marin, Placer, Sacramento, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Sonoma, Monterey, and Yuba. "Most bands take the summer off, but the



Submitted photo

Shirley Dean and Nancy Laubenheimer encounter an alien.

Nevada County Concert Band is at the height of their performance season now," said Woldseth. "Our guest musicians represent 55 other musical organizations, and we have some really talented performers. It is like a reunion, with musicians returning again and again because they enjoy our beautiful town and people."

Of course, the music itself draws them to come, just like it does the audience to hear it. The program is

designed to take listeners on an "Out of this World" journey, including Gustav Holst's "Jupiter" and John Williams' "The Empire Strikes Back." There are alien landings with "Roswell 1947," and we will join Pinocchio for "When You Wish Upon a Star."

But it's the special touches that keep the audience and musicians coming back for more. The band interacts with the audience to make

know & go

Who: Nevada County Concert Band presents
What: Pioneer Park Picnic & Pops Concert number two of three, entitled "Out of this World"
When: 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday
Where: Pioneer Park, Nevada City
Tickets: Free (donations accepted)
Info: Call (530) 272-6228 or visit NCCB.org

it more of an event. Expect to see the trombone section out front in their feature number "The Trombone Rag," as well as vocalist Kaye Wedel for Duke Ellington's "I'm Beginning to See the Light," and a special number just for the huge French horn section. There's a lot of action, with various band members standing for spot solos, and the audience dancing off to the side.

Come with your picnic or enjoy treats from the hot dog or ice cream vendors. The concert is free, accessible, and great for all ages.