

Refugees to stop in Eugene

Nine refugees from Central America, escorted by a caravan of cars and sanctuary workers from California, Washington and Oregon, will be in Eugene on Wednesday for a "fiesta" before they travel on to sanctuaries in Seattle.

The public fiesta, featuring music, a benefit dinner and speeches by the refugees, will begin at 5 p.m. at University Park at 24th Avenue and University Street.

At 6:30 p.m. there will be a ceremony of solidarity with the refugees as the caravan heads north.

Celebrating Fourth of July

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ceremony with a concert by the Big Sky Mud Flaps, a country swing big band from Montana.

The Kiwanis Club will be serving a \$2 french toast breakfast at the finish line from 9:30 a.m. to noon with all proceeds going to charity for needy children. There also will be 18-20 food booths from the Saturday Market. Laurie Swanson, 1985 Butte to Butte director, says the idea was to create a "mini festival atmosphere to make the race a fun community event for everyone."

A number of entertainers will be performing along the course of the race to "give the runners something to think about besides sore legs," Swanson says. Performers include belly dancers at the 2 1/2-mile mark and bagpipe players at the four-mile mark.

Swanson says that more than 5,000 runners are scheduled to participate in the race and as many as 8,000 spectators are expected, so parking will be extremely limited at the start and finish lines. Runners are encouraged to park at South Eugene High School and use the free shuttle busses provided.

Interested runners can register for \$8 on Tuesday and Wednesday from 4-7 p.m. at the Atrium Building in downtown Eugene, or for \$10 at the starting line on Thursday. Volunteers still are needed to help with all the activities. They will receive a free Butte to Butte T-shirt for their help. For more information call Karen Smith at 343-5873.

A "Rock the Fourth" family concert also is included in Eugene's schedule of activities this year. The show begins at 6 p.m. at the Cuthbert Amphitheatre in Alton Baker Park. Country folk musician Ron Lloyd will open the program followed by the Big Sky Mud Flaps at 7 p.m. Food vendors and a beer garden will be available. Tickets are on sale at all Hult Center outlets for \$4 for adults and \$2 for kids under 12. Children under five will be admitted for free. Family packs are available with two adult and two children's tickets for \$8.

Carol Brewster, special events coordinator for the Eugene Parks and Recreation Department, says that the secluded location of the amphitheatre makes parking difficult. She suggests that people

approach Cuthbert from Centennial Boulevard and park at the Oregon Museum and follow the signs to the amphitheatre.

"We call Cuthbert 'the best kept secret in Eugene' because it's such a special, secluded place tucked away in the wild," Brewster says.

For more information call Eugene Parks and Recreation Department at 687-5333.

The amphitheatre's close proximity to Autzen Stadium makes it a nice place to view the Eugene Active 20/30 Club's 36th annual fireworks display. However, Mike Warner, club fireworks co-chairman, says that people might want to watch the fireworks right at Autzen because the club will be providing a series of events at the stadium prior to the display for the first time this year.

Festivities begin at 7 p.m. and will last until dark when fireworks begin. Performances include a demonstration by Eugene's Mainline Bicycle Trick Team and the National Academy of Artistic Gymnastics. The Cascade Chorus and the rock-and-roll group The Bandits will provide musical entertainment.

The Fourth of July in Springfield will be a special occasion as the city honors its 100th year of existence. The Springfield Centennial Celebration will start at noon with a parade beginning at 23rd Avenue and Olympic Street. Music will be provided from 1:30-7 p.m. at Willamalane Park by various members of the Oregon Oldtime Fiddler's Association. A beard and centennial costume contest will be held at 4 p.m. and a yodeling contest is scheduled for 5:15 p.m.

Dorothy Velasco will present a brief excerpt at 5 p.m. of the play she has written for the centennial titled "Springfield Visits the World." The portion she will be performing is about the Lost Wagon Train of 1853.

Strawberry Jam, a focal dance band, will play on the west sundeck of Willamalane Pool from 7-11 p.m.

All events are free of charge. For more information call Willamalane Parks and Recreation Department at 726-4335.

Stories by Sheila Landry
Photos by Hank Trotter



Jennifer Rudio knows that Fourth of July fireworks aren't just for kids. Sparklers can be fun for all ages.

Fireworks tradition suffers

Starbursts of fiery color flying over Autzen Stadium have become a time-honored local tradition since the Eugene Active 20/30 Club first began their annual Fourth of July fireworks display 36 years ago.

However, increasing costs complicated by a lack of donations has placed a financial burden on the club that may cause it to postpone future displays after this year, says Mike Warner, club Fourth of July co-chairman. Over the past three years, the club has either lost money or barely broke even after paying the costs of coordinating the fireworks display. Because the club is a non-profit charity organization, Warner says that losing money defeats the purpose of the club's existence—giving to needy children.

"Our fireworks display used to be a major fund-raising activity, but over the last three years it's become a major fund-losing activity," Warner says.

Donations are the key to continuing the Autzen Stadium tradition, Warner adds. Members have been campaigning diligently for donations hoping that many people may

not be contributing simply because they didn't know the club existed.

The fireworks display has been a part of Eugene for so many years that many people have never stopped to think who coordinates the event, Warner says. "Most people believe that the event is city sponsored, but actually, Eugene is one of the few cities in the nation that has a Fourth of July display sponsored through a charity organization."

The club has scheduled a free "pre-show" of entertainment prior to the display with the hope of drawing spectators to Autzen Stadium who would ordinarily be watching the fireworks from their balconies or rooftops. Donation cans will be placed in prominent positions throughout the entertainment area.

"If we can draw people to the stadium, we have a better chance of getting donations once people realize that the purpose of the event is for charity not profit," Warner says.

People interested in donating can write Eugene Active 20/30 Club, P.O. Box 368, Eugene for more information.

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