Community

Country Fair offerings eclectic

By Daralyn Trappe Emerald Contributor

Musical entertainment of all kinds, vaudevillian performances, a wide variety of foods and nearly three hundred booths featuring many types of arts and crafts will highlight the 21st annual Oregon Country Fair, which begins Friday in Veneta.

The three-day event is "an absolute celebration of life." said Margo Schaeffer, Publicity Coordinator for the fair.

"There's something for everyone — whether they're five or 95." Schaefer said.

With eight separate stages, including a children's stage and a circus, the entertainment will be non-stop. Everything from music and theater to juggling and comedy can be seen from the time the fair opens at 11 a.m. until it closes at 7 p.m.

This year, the circus will feature six groups or individual performers, including The Flying Karamozov Brothers and Tom Noddy and His Bubble Magic. There will be two shows daily 1 p.m and 4 p.m.

There will be about 50 booths offering food. Schaefer said, and people will be able to enjoy everything "from the most decadent foods, like gelato dipped in chocolate, to the most healthy, like a carob-covered banana."

Along with the entertainment and the food, the fair features a Community Village and an Energy Park.

The Community Village will include a variety of booths, events and demonstrations. Information will be provided on an array of subjects such as health, politics, the environment and community issues. There will also be workshops with topics such as how to stop s m o k i n g , s a f e s e x , aromatherapy and T'ai Ch'i.

The Energy Park is an area dedicated to alternative energy sources. Several groups and individuals will present displays and information throughout the weekend. Information and demonstrations on solar, wind, geothermal and hydropower sources will be featured, along with energy conservation.

Schaefer said she believes the fair is becoming more "generational" with time

"Over the years, the hippies have come of age," she said, "The people who were involved 20 years ago are still involved, but now their kids are also."

To help alleviate the problem of long lines and hours of waiting to get in, advance tickets are being sold this year and there are now two entrances. Tickets are \$6 for Friday, \$8 for Saturday and \$7 for Sunday. All advance tickets are \$1 off and include a free LTD bus ride from Lane County Fairgrounds. Alter-abled and persons 55 and over pay half-price. Children

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Eugene takes part in Goodwill Trek

By Pat Malach

Residents of Eugene will get a chance to take part in some of the 1990 Goodwill Games opening celebrations as the U.S. Bank 1990 Goodwill Games Trek comes to town Monday morning.

As part of the preparation for the opening-day ceremony for the 1990 Goodwill Games in Seattle coming up later this month the trek will leave from Spokane July 13 and end up in Seattle for the welcoming ceremony of the Games July 21.

Runners traveling 3 miles and cyclists tackling 20-mile legs will cover the 1000 mile trek carrying a "talking stick" which holds messages from president Bush and Soviet President Gorbachev. The messages will be read at the beginning of the games.

The talking stick is made of two pieces. The top piece is an 18 inch high wood statue of an American eagle and a Russian bear carved in the native AmerThe bottom half of the talking stick is a cedar rod that will hold up to 20 separate rings carved by artists from different Northwest native American tribes.

Eugene's ceremony will begin at 9 a.m. at the Eugene branch of the U.S. Bank at 811 Willamette St. Eugene athletes who will be participating in the Goodwill Games will be present at the event where a ring will be placed on the talking etick.



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