

A DAY FOR PICNICS

Every year on Labor Day, union members come together to celebrate family and community. Here are this year's events.

PORTLAND — The region's largest Labor Day picnic takes place at Oaks Amusement Park in Southeast Portland, sponsored by the Northwest Oregon Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Members and their families from dozens of unions — up to 20,000 people — turn out for barbecue, games, carnival rides, raffle drawings, music, and a chance to hear from local

politicians. The picnic runs 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Politicians take the stage at 1 p.m. There will be a blood drive challenge, kids scavenger hunt, and free scrip for out-of-work union members. For more information, call the Northwest Oregon Labor Council at 503-235-9444.

Best way to get there: Parking can be scarce in and around Oaks Park on Labor Day, the park's busiest day of the year. But there's plenty of parking five miles

FOOD-DRINK-FUN

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|-----------------------|---------|
| Deluxe ride bracelets | \$10 |
| Food/drink scrip | 50¢ |
| Burger + chips | 3 scrip |
| Hot dog + chips | 2 scrip |
| Chili | 1 scrip |
| Beer | 4 scrip |
| Pop | 2 scrip |
| Water | 1 scrip |



north at OMSI, the McLoughlin Overpass, McCoy Millwork, and the Portland Opera. The Oregon Pacific Railroad shuttles between OMSI and Oaks Park from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. — \$5 round trip for adults, free for kids 12 and under. The train boards at Southeast 4th and Caruthers.

ASHLAND — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Emigrant Lake, Picnic Shelter D, 5505 Highway 66, Ashland. Lunch will be served at noon. Sponsored by the Southern Oregon Central Labor Chapter.

BEND — 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Pioneer Park, NW Wall St., Bend. There will be food, drinks, and music. Please

bring dessert; everything else is provided. Bring your family! Invite your friends! Sponsored by the Central Oregon Central Labor Chapter.

COWLITZ-WAHKIAKUM COUNTIES — Toutle River RV Resort, 150 Happy Trails, Castle Rock, Washington, Exit 52 off I-5. Grilling hamburgers and hot dogs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring your favorite side dish to share. There will be music, swimming, kids' games, a bouncy house, a giant croquet tournament, and more. Please bring a school supply or two to donate to the local school district.

EUGENE/SPRINGFIELD — Willamalane Park Shelters, 6100 Thurston Road, Springfield (behind splash pool). Starts at noon. Please bring a side dish to share. Sponsored by the Lane County Central Labor Chapter.

NORTH BEND/COOS BAY — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Ferry Road Park, North Bend. Music, games and fun for the whole family. Please bring a donation of non-perishable food items. Sponsored by the Southwestern Oregon Central Labor Chapter.

SALEM — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Waterfront Park. A barbecue, side dishes and soft drinks will be provided from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost: two non-perishable food items per person, or \$2 per person for the Marion/Polk Food Bank. Sponsored by Marion-Polk-Yamhill Central Labor Chapter.

McConnell says TPP won't get Senate vote in lame-duck session

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) on Aug. 26 said he will not bring up the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement for a Congressional vote in the post-election lame duck session.

The sweeping trade deal between the United States and 11 Pacific Rim nations was negotiated in secret by government officials and corporate lobbyists. It received fast track status, allowing for an up-or-down vote by Congress, with limited debate and no amendments.

The Obama Administration has made a major push to round up majority support for the TPP and have Congress vote on it this year—before a new administration takes over in 2017. The TPP is opposed by both major party presidential nominees.

McConnell's announcement was applauded by opponents of the trade deal, including organized labor.

"Oregon's unions have not typically agreed with the decisions made by Sen. McConnell, but the choice not to hold a vote on the Trans-Pacific Partnership is absolutely the right call," said Oregon AFL-CIO President Tom Chamberlain.

Chamberlain said Oregon and the United States can't afford another NAFTA-style free-trade deal that sends more jobs

overseas for the sake of corporate profits. "What we need are trade policies designed to give working people opportunities instead of shuttered factories,

unemployment, and a global race to the bottom," he said.

U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-Oregon) said pushing the trade deal through at the last minute

before a new administration takes over "would simply be wrong."

Merkley said the U.S. needs trade policies that work for

working Americans, "not a rush to ram through giant trade agreements that repeat the mistakes of past job-killing trade deals."



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