

CULTURE

Most Labor Day picnics canceled, but not in Southwest Washington

Northwest Oregon Labor Council (NOLC) won't host its annual Labor Day picnic again this year because of continuing COVID-19 restrictions for large gatherings. The event was also canceled last year because of the pandemic. NOLC's Labor Day event at Oaks Park is one of the largest west of the Mississippi, with crowds of over 18,000. Oaks Park is limited to gatherings of 2,500 people for the remainder of 2021.

"We are very disappointed, but are looking forward to making the 2022 Labor Day picnic the very best ever," said NOLC Executive Secretary Bob Tackett. "Please know that next year we are going to have one heck of a party!"

It is the second time since 1985 that NOLC hasn't sponsored a picnic on Labor Day.

Lane County Central Labor Chapter also canceled its picnic.

On the bright side, **Southwest Washington Central Labor Council and Clallam-Wahkiakum Counties Central Labor Council** will host their joint Jeff Washburn Labor Day Picnic at Haydu Park in Kalama. The inaugural picnic was held in 2019, but was canceled last year because of the coronavirus.

The family picnic includes food, music, bingo, kids' games, local politicians, and more. It goes from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Labor Day.

The labor councils are seeking sponsorship donations for the picnic. For more information, contact SW Washington CLC President Shannon Myers at 360-921-5225.



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"We take pride in working to make our Unions more inclusive and welcoming to all. As the Covid-19 pandemic has placed a historic and generational burden on all workers, this Labor Day, let's continue to support each other and look for ways to promote and enhance economic wellbeing, justice, and fairness for all regardless of what industry you work in, political affiliation, or political leaders' each of us support."

- Robert Camarillo, Executive Secretary



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