



Attendees take advantage of a garlic photo opportunity at the Northwest Garlic Festival.

Another new vendor will be selling magnetic jewelry and handing out garlic recipes.

Festival history

Karen Boardman, Ocean Park Chamber of Commerce office manager, always gets the question: why do you do have a garlic festival in June? Garlic doesn't harvest until August.

"We started because of the love of garlic, not because we grow it here," says Boardman.

In 1980, Nanci Main and Jimella Lucas purchased The Ark restaurant in Nachotta, Wash. They wanted to do something fun, and the Garlic Festival was born.

The first festival was held in the restaurant's parking lot with food booths, Northwest and Italian wines, live music, a garlic costume contest, garlic relays and garlic skits put on by the Peninsula Playhouse.

The festival outgrew the Ark setting, so Main and Lucas turned it over to the

community in 1988.

The festival moved to the field across from the school in Ocean Park. The next move took the festival to Beach Barons Field.

The festival's new location for the past two years has been the Port of Peninsula in Nahcotta, Wash. This venue is pet-friendly, and many of the vendors put out large bowls of water for dogs.


"I like to say the Garlic Festival has come home," Boardman said.

Entertainment

The Clove Brothers, always popular with festival attendees, will be at this year's festival.

Live entertainment promises listening enjoyment and dancing opportunities.

On Saturday, Brownsmead Flats will play from 10-1 p.m. and Brianna Renae will perform from 2-5 p.m.

On Sunday, June 16, the Ilwaco High School Jazz Band will play from 10 a.m.-noon and the Seymour Baker Band will play from 1-4 p.m. 



Baskets at the Northwest Garlic Festival.