

Celebrate Canyon City's history at '62 Days

By Lisa Britton
Go! Magazine

CANYON CITY — Since 1922, residents of Canyon City have celebrated '62 Days to commemorate the event that established the Grant County town.

Gold was discovered in Canyon Creek near Whiskey Gulch on June 8, 1862.

The Whiskey Gulch Gang was formed in 1922 and organized the first '62 Days.

Colby Farrell, a member of the Whiskey Gulch Gang, points out that those first celebrations were during Prohibition — and he suspects the festival was a way to circumvent that law.

"There's never been a '62 Days without alcohol," he said with a laugh.

Sel's Brewery, located in Canyon City, was shut down during Prohibition and has had several other tenants over the years. In 1972, the Whiskey Gulch Gang took it back to its roots.



Steven Mitchell/Blue Mountain Eagle
The Canyon City Fire Department cools off the kids during the '62 Days Celebration.

"They restored it to an old-time saloon," Farrell said. "We open it every year for '62 Days."

This year's celebration is June 10 and 11.

Sel's Brewery will be open

both Friday and Saturday nights with live music by Copper Ridge.

A chili cook-off happens Friday night — for information, call Bill at 208-870-8216 — and a few vendors will be set up.

Saturday starts early with the Gold Rush Run and Walk at 8 a.m. Same-day registration is \$22 and starts at 7 a.m. at Sel's Brewery.

The Miners Breakfast also

CANYON CITY'S '62 DAYS

For information, visit the Whiskey Gulch Gang page on Facebook, call 541-575-0329 or email whiskeygulchgang@gmail.com.

starts at 8 a.m. at the fire hall.

Parade entries can line up at 9 a.m. at Humbolt Elementary, and the parade begins at 11 a.m., followed by games and events around town.

The day also features music by the James Gang, a pie social at the Episcopal Church, a medicine wagon show, a melodrama, a talent show and contests at Painted Sky Center for the Arts, and a shoot-out and mock hanging at 2 p.m.

Vendors will also be set up throughout the day on Saturday. At 4 p.m., a cornhole tournament is planned at Sel's.

"We'll try to have a good time like we always do," Farrell said. "This is the big celebration — Canyon City's big hoorah."



Upcoming Classes at Crossroads

Arts - Crafts - Pottery

Art of Bookfolding

June 14 • 6:00-8:00pm (ages 12-adult)

Crash Course in Pottery

June 23 or July 14 • 5:00-7:00pm (adult)

Beginning Wheel

June 28, July 5, July 19 • 6:00-8:00pm (adult)

Kids Watercolor

June 30 • 10:00am-Noon (ages 8-12)

Sweet Roll Race Quilt Class

July 7 • 10:00am-4:00pm (ages 15-adult)

Music - Dance - Theater

Missoula Children's Theater - Jungle Book

June 13-18 (1st-12th graders)

Summer Dance Camp

June 21-July 7 • Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday
10:00-11:00am (ages 8-12)

Brass Lab

June 24-July 29 • Fridays 9:00am-10:00pm
(4th -6th grade)

Tap Dancin' with D

June 27-August 16 • Monday afternoons/evenings
(classes for ages 2-adult)

www.crossroads-arts.org

Drop-In Ongoing Classes

Adult Open Studio

Weekly on Saturdays
1:00-3:00pm (adult)

Young Artists' Studio

Weekly on Fridays
1:45-3:45pm (ages 10 and up)

Learn to Love

Watercolor and Pastels

Weekly on Wednesdays
3:00-5:00pm and/or
5:00-7:00pm
(teens and adults)

Crossroads is open Monday through Saturday from 10:00am to 5:00pm

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