

Celebrate the cherry at Cove's annual festival

All-day celebration is Saturday, Aug. 20

Go! staff

COVE — The Cove Community Association hosts its 22nd annual Cove Cherry Fair on Saturday, Aug. 20, at the Ascension School Camp & Conference Center, 1104 Church St. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Cherry Fair will kick off at 7:30 a.m. with a fun run/walk that supports the Union/Cove Cross Country Team and Cove Community Association.

Entry is \$15 for the 5K or \$5 for the one-mile run. Please bring cash or check to register at the Ascension School, starting at 6:45 a.m.

The Cove Education Foundation offers a sourdough pancake breakfast — with sausage, eggs, coffee and juice — from 7-11 a.m. at the Founder's Hall dining room. Cost is \$8 adults, \$3 for ages 5-11, or free for those younger than 5.

A community parade starts at 10 a.m. down Jasper and Main with Grand Marshal Cindy Edwards.

The action then moves to the Ascension School lawn for live music, food, art and craft market, and old-fashioned fun and games.

The music starts after the parade with local musicians Elwood, Jamie Nasario and Hillfolk Noir. For food and beverages, organizers suggest burgers from Steak-



Alex Wittwer/The Observer

Sadie Kelty gets her face painted by Alex Fuller at a face painting booth during the Cove Cherry Fair held in Cove on Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021.

house at Cove, sandwiches from TJ Tally Memorial, tacos and tamales from Taste of Mexico, or a craft beer in the Side A Beer Garden. Other offerings include treats from the Cove Methodist Church, Yeti Shave Ice, Kettle Corn N' More and Teahouse Bakery. Food and beer will be available until 4 p.m.

PIE, ANYONE?

Those who want to try a competitive eating contest have a choice: polite pie eating at 11:30 a.m. or traditional pie-eat-

ing (no hands) at 12:30 p.m. Or try to win at spitting cherry pits at 1:30 p.m.

GAMES

Lawn games include water balloon toss, 3-legged and human wheelbarrow races and relays. The Hog Wild Train, bouncy house and Fire Department bubbles will go all afternoon, and Art Center

East will host art activities. All contests and games are free and will be available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

VENDORS, QUILT SHOW

Nearly 40 vendors will be on site with handmade goods, and quilters will show entries at a show in the Coe-Kerr Community Center. Raffle tickets will be sold for a chance to win a handmade quilt.

Also, the Cove Library will host their annual book sale and Cove history display in the Founders Hall building.

HISTORY

Cove residents established Cherry Fair in 1911 as a way to highlight the town's orchards and celebrate the community. The annual event was abandoned in 1918 with the onset of World War I, and wasn't revived until the Cove Community Association brought it back in 2000.

Cove Community Association is a volunteer-run nonprofit organization that meets on the first Monday of each month (6 p.m. at Founder's Hall). The annual Cherry Fair helps to fund CCA's work. More information about the CCA is available at coveoregon.org, and Cherry Fair at covecherryfair.com, or 541-568-4514 Ext. 1.

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