

Harvest Festival returns for 34th year

The Sublimity favorite includes tractor pull, monster trucks

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SUBLIMITY — It all began as a friendly competition among farmers: The fight to see whose equipment could out pull another's. And while the tractors now pull weights instead of each other, the Sublimity Harvest Festival tradition is still going strong 34 years later.

“When Harvest Fest began, it was called the ‘Grass Seed Festival,’ and about 300 or 400 people came,” said Herman Hendricks, who has been around since the festival's beginning. “I'll definitely be down there this weekend.”

Hendricks' daughter, Kim Zuber, has also been involved with Harvest Festival since she can remember.

“It's in my blood,” Zuber said.

“The Harvest Festival isn't necessarily a time to celebrate the end of the harvest,” she said. “Everyone during summer is so busy harvesting, now is the least busy time to celebrate the harvest.”

In addition to old Harvest Festival favorites like the tractor pulls and the monster trucks, this year will boast a comedy show and one of the largest entertainment line-ups that the Harvest Festival has ever seen.

And while the Harvest Festival is a time for people from all around to partake in the Sublimity fun, Harvest Festival Steve Zuber said that the festival is more than a good time.

“This is time for people in the community to come together and have an event and give the money to kids' organizations,” he said. “We've donated to the Stayton YMCA, the Regis Athletic Association, FFA chapters and the Salem Boy Scouts.”

He said that Sublimity is expecting a hefty 30,000 people to show for the annual event, and he said that people come from all over.

“I hope everyone comes and enjoys themselves,” he said. “It's rained the past five or six years, so hopefully we're in good shape.”

Harvest Festival will take place on Sept. 8 through 10 at the Harvest Festival grounds in Sublimity.