



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Celebrate our Harvest Blessings at Mount Angel's 46th Oktoberfest

Mount Angel, OR The sounds of oom pah pa, the aromas of grilled chicken and sizzling bratwurst, and the cries of prosit herald the arrival of the 46th Annual Oktoberfest in Mount Angel, Oregon. The festival kicks off with a traditional German Webentanz (May pole dance) performed by Mount Angel school children at noon on Thursday, September 15, and continues through Sunday, September 18, 2011.

For four full days, Mount Angel invites its many guests to eat, drink, sing and dance at the Northwest's favorite folk festival. Oktoberfest hours are from 11:00 a.m. to Midnight Thursday through Saturday and from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Sunday

Mount Angel's Oktoberfest began as a traditional fall festival to celebrate the bounty of the earth and the goodness of creation. The Oktoberfest tradition is still going and growing strong; carrying with it the quality, warmth and fun of a community effort unparalleled in the Northwest.

For entertainment, the festival offers Friday and Saturday night street dances, a traditional Biergarten, Weingarten, Kindergarten and family Alpinegarten.

Highlights of the 46th Oktoberfest include the "Original Donaumusikanten," a world class Bavarian band, flown directly from Germany by Lufthansa, the official airline of Oktoberfest. The German band plays daily in the Weingarten. The family Alpinegarten features lively interactive entertainment with a wide variety of Bavarian folk music. Entertaining in the Alpinegarten are Salzburger Echo, an alpine style band, the Gruber Family Bavarian Dance and Show Band, the Greg Meier Quartet and others. The Alpinegarten features superbly crafted beers including Bavaria's famous Spaten, Paulaner and Erdinger beers and select wines.

The Z Musikmakers from Mount Angel, the Jägermeister Musik Band and the Canadian Gordanairs European Musik entertain in the Weingarten. The New Biergarten feature the German band Die Schlauberger, America's number one German Band, and other great brassy bands.

Mount Angel's own village band plays at the opening ceremonies and every day from the bandstand. The Gordanaires, a German-Canadian band from Vancouver, BC, play and perform fabulous alpine folk songs and dances each afternoon at the Bandstand and evenings in the Weingarten.

Oktoberfest is great fun for the youngsters as well, according to Gary Grassman, Director of Youth Activities. The Kindergarten features a 4H-petting farm, inflatable slides and other amusements. The Kindergarten Pavilion features all new entertainment performed by magicians and clowns. And, by all means do not miss our newest festival event – the great Wiener Dog Races. This is a wonderful spot to spend some quality time with the kids and it is all free.

Oktoberfest attracts many serious shoppers to its large arts and crafts show featuring more than 120 juried crafters and artisans from Oregon and throughout the northwest. Fifty nonprofit organizations offer a wide variety of ethnic and regional foods from their charmingly decorated little alpine food chalets. Each chalet takes a great deal of pride in preparing their succulent sausages,

pastries and other delicacies to the delight of all who come to Mount Angel for its festival.

The festival offers men's and Coed's softball, golf and volleyball tournaments, a high school football classic and more. A 5 and 10 kilometer road race on Saturday starts from Humpert Park at 10:00 a.m.

The Cruz-n Car Show on Saturday and Sunday is actually two shows in one. It features 100 classy vehicles on Saturday and a whole new group on Sunday. More than 25 awards will be presented each day. The award winners from Saturday will be back on Sunday and on display in the 'Winners Circle.'

Die Fruchtsauele is a traditional harvest monument constructed of seeds, fresh fruits, nuts and vegetables. It is located in the center of the festival area and is a great place to meet and gather up your family and friends.

Since it began 45 years ago, Oktoberfest has donated nearly three million dollars to schools, church groups, civic organizations, youth activities, senior services, hospitals, and a score of other worthwhile causes. This does not include money earned by food booths, each sponsored by civic, charitable and non-profit organizations. For most of these groups Oktoberfest is their major fund raising project of the year.

The diversity of events scheduled and the uniqueness of Mount Angel and its surrounding countryside promises something to do and see for everyone. You will not find any better food, entertainment, or dancing in the Northwest.

For more information, visit Oktoberfest at www.oktoberfest.org.

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Oktoberfest, Inc. P.O. Box 1054, Mount Angel, Oregon 97362-1054, is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization. Proceeds from this festival are distributed to worthy organizations in Mount Angel and the surrounding communities.