

Getting their ducks in a row for Whaling Days

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SILVERDALE — Those attending this weekend's Whaling Days festival should expect new music and road work along with all of the staples of the 43-year-old event.

With the recent closure of Bucklin Hill Road, event organizers encourage those attending to make a parking plan. Vicky Webb, co-president of the organizing board, said it's best to bring cash because several parking lots near the event have set aside paid parking areas.

Several of the roads in Old Town Silverdale will be closed for the festival's street fair.

This year's musical acts are new. Organizers hosted a battle of the bands this month, and the winning band, the Pro-Nouns, will play 2 p.m. Saturday.

"It's a lot of fresh talent for the area," entertainment coordinator Sunny Saunders said.

Visitors also can expect all the classic Whaling Days events, like the duck races, Saturday morning pancake breakfast, canoe races and the Whale of Run 5K.

"We try to offer as many things as we can for folks to come and do," Webb said.

The events run Friday evening to Sunday.

Volunteers said the event strives to offer something for everyone in the family, including a 21-and-older club where alcohol is available.

Whaling Days also aims to give back to the community. Local students earn scholarships, which this year include \$1,000 donated by Group Health Silverdale Medical Center.

Webb also emphasized that whatever doesn't go to scholarships and donations goes to funding next year's Whaling days.

The event usually draws 30,000 people over the three days, Webb said.

Webb added that the event is entirely volunteer-based, with about 15 volunteers planning it year-round and more than 100 people contributing during the weekend.

Webb hopes Whaling Days serves as a way to remind Kitsap residents how great the area and the community are.

“It’s a nice little corner of the world,” she said.

Silverdale Whaling Days

When: 5-10 p.m. Friday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday

Where: Waterfront Park, Old Town Silverdale

Cost: Free; \$1 fee for the 21-and-older club; additional registration costs for some events

Parking: Decide where to park ahead of time; parking close to festival is limited

Info: WhalingDays.com