

- [Sports](#)
  - [News](#)
  - [Scoreboard](#)
- [Schools](#)
  - [Features](#)
  - [Useful Info](#)
  - [Directory](#)
- [Community](#)
  - [Features](#)
  - [Home and Garden](#)
  - [Clubs](#)
  - [Churches](#)
  - [Volunteering](#)
- [Calendar](#)
  - [Events](#)
  - [Public Meetings](#)
- [Obituaries](#)
- [Business](#)
  - [News](#)
  - [Directory](#)
- [Photo/Video](#)
  - [Photo Galleries](#)
  - [Videos](#)
  - [Buy Photos](#)
- [Special Sections](#)
  - [Summer Fun Guide](#)
  - [Cascade Visitors Guide](#)

Browse > [Home](#) / [Community Features](#) / Railroad Days highlights Snoqualmie's history

## Railroad Days highlights Snoqualmie's history

August 15, 2012

By Katie Larsen

### *Three-day festival features arts, entertainment, fun*

More than 70 years ago, the city of Snoqualmie hosted a fundraiser for volunteer firefighters. Today, Snoqualmie's Railroad Days is the biggest event of the year.

From Aug. 17-19, a lot of activities are planned for the festival, which celebrates the city's history as a railroad and logging town. Look at what Snoqualmie is today compared to what it once was, Sue Van Gerpen, Railroad Days event manager, said.

Traditional favorites will mix with new entertainment.



File

Runners reach for fresh fruit, bagels and water after finishing their Fun Run.

On Saturday morning, the Snoqualmie Firefighters Association will hold its annual fundraising pancake breakfast at the Snoqualmie Fire Station from 7-11 a.m. The breakfast is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children; free for children younger than 5. The pancake-and-ham feast will be served with orange juice, Starbucks coffee and Krispy Kreme donuts. There will also be a raffle, \$2 per ticket, to win items from local businesses, and a silent auction for larger items.

Along with vendors, there will be three stages set up with entertainment featuring new and returning acts. The kids' stage will be the center for the Children's Field of Fun featuring entertainment and old-fashioned carnival games, booths and prizes, and a bounce house.

The art stage will feature artists from a variety of genres, including blues, jazz and ballet. The main stage will also feature a variety of acts, like folk, classic rock 'n' roll, and traditional pipes and drums.

Arts at the Depot will return from last year, featuring artist-in-action and art sales. The chamber of commerce will hold a barbecue Saturday, and the American Legion Hall will display a model train show. The Grand Parade on Saturday morning begins at 11 a.m. and runs along Railroad Avenue through historic downtown.

New this year is Dan the Lego Man who will have a Lego train set display alongside Legos for kids to build their own track. The Legends Classic Car Show will be on Sunday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Throughout the weekend, there will be train, wagon and motorcar rides, and historic equipment demonstrations.

"It just celebrates the spirit of Snoqualmie," Van Gerpen said.

Also new this year is a balloon pop — prize-filled helium balloons to purchase for \$1. Last year, the festival combined with the Plein Air Paint Out and a wine garden. The painting event and the wine and beer gardens will return.

Gerpen said the entertainment is a mix of new and returning artists.

"I like it all," she said. "There are a lot of people giving to make it happen."

On Aug. 18, Run Snoqualmie will feature a 5K and 10K run, and the kids' 1K run. Railroad Days began in 1938 and now brings about 10,000 visitors to the area over the weekend.



Written by Katie Larsen · Filed Under [Community Features](#)