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Friends of Grant Athletics & Foot Traffic Announce First Annual U.S. Grant Park Octoberfest to Benefit Grant Fields Project

PORTLAND, Ore., August 22, 2011 –The Friends of Grant Athletics (FGA), a northeast Portland nonprofit, in partnership with Foot Traffic, Oregon's premiere running and walking shoe store, today announced that registration is now open for the first annual U.S. Grant Park Octoberfest and Northeast Community Festival on Saturday, October 1, from 4-8 p.m.

A family-friendly event, Octoberfest will include a 3K and 5K run through Grant Park, along with a kids run. In addition to running events, the Grant Park Octoberfest will also feature:

- A variety of food including bratwursts, corn on the cob and pizza and more, which will be generously provided by Whole foods, Papa Murphy's and Madison's Grill
- Live music by Tony Starlight
- Raffle prizes from Nike, the Mountain Shop and Mount Hood Meadows

Community members can register for the 3K, 5K or kids run or purchase general admittance tickets in the following ways:

- Online at the [Foot Traffic](http://www.signmeup.com/site/reg/register.aspx?fid=ZQ2VQJ7) Web site:
<https://www.signmeup.com/site/reg/register.aspx?fid=ZQ2VQJ7>
- In-person at Foot Traffic – 4020 NE Fremont St. (corner of NE 41st & Fremont)
- In-person at The Mountain Shop – 1510 NE 37th Ave. (NE 37th & Sandy)

Local nonprofit and community groups can also earn up to \$250 when signing up 30 or more people for the event – one half of the proceeds of each ticket sold. Simply designate a group leader to register the group in-person at either Foot Traffic or The Mountain Shop. From there, group leaders can either pick up a group form and collect registrations or group members can individually register at Foot Traffic or the Mountain Shop in person.

A community fundraising event, the majority of the proceeds from the Grant Park Octoberfest will benefit the Grant Fields Improvement project, a capital campaign for the renovation of athletic fields at U.S. Grant Park and Grant High School. The mission of the project is to provide safer, more playable fields to Grant High School athletes, community sports teams and youth sports organizations.

“We are encouraging families, athletes and the Grant community at large to register for the Octoberfest and show their support for bringing new athletic fields to Grant Park,” said Gordon Johnson, community

development director for the Friends of Grant Athletics. “We’ve received fantastic support from the community so far, and this is another great way for more individuals to get involved and help move us closer to our goal.”

To date, the Grant High School, the Grant Park community and corporate donors have contributed more than \$700,000 toward the new fields project, which will consist of the reconstruction of the Grant bowl (includes the Mark Cotton field and a resurfaced track) and a renovation of the natural turf on Hollywood Field. Please visit www.friendsofgrant.org for more information.

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About The Friends of Grant Athletics

The Friends of Grant Athletics (FGA) is a nonprofit (501C3) organization that spearheads the Grant Fields Improvement Project, a fundraising effort to renovate Grant High School and Grant Park community fields. The Grant Fields Improvement project began in 1999, marking the beginning of planning, community involvement and approvals of field improvements. In May 2010, after negotiations with the city, school district and the local neighborhood association, Portland City Council and the Portland School Board unanimously adopted a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), forming a partnership between the Friends of Grant Athletics, Portland Parks & Recreation and Portland Public Schools. The MOU authorized Friends of Grant Athletics to raise funds to renovate the fields including three new artificial turf fields, a resurfaced track and other park improvements. For more information, please visit www.friendsofgrant.org , become a fan on [Facebook](#) or follow FGA news on [Twitter](#).

About Foot Traffic

Foot Traffic is Oregon's best running and walking shoe retailer. Operating business for 10 years, Foot Traffic takes pride in its community involvement, which includes managing all-comer track and cross country meets for the Portland Parks Department, providing coaching at Grant High School. Foot Traffic also coordinates fundraisers for groups such as the Sauvie Island Firefighters association, which has received more than \$140,000 from the Foot Traffic Flat, and a half and full marathon each Fourth of July.