Fairplay American Legion hosts Mountain Mardi Gras Celebration

by Julie Bullock
Special to The Flume

Laissez les bons temps rouler. Let the good times roll in Fairplay. Once again, the American Legion will be transformed into Bourbon Street Saturday for this over-the-top event, Fairplay’s Mountain Mardi Gras Celebration.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at the American Legion, 601 Clark St., and dinner begins at 6 p.m.

At the biggest party of the year, revelers will enjoy authentic Cajun cuisine, wearing masks, tossing beads and crowning the king and queen.

Fairplay Mayor Frank Just is the chef who will prepare a menu of boiled and steamed crawfish, chicken and sausage file gumbo, crawfish etouffée, Cajun dirty rice, homemade and smoked alligator sausage, Cajun baked salmon and, of course, king cake for dessert.

Show us the money. One nominee couple, having defeated all other challengers, will earn their right to be crowned Mountain Mardi Gras king and queen for the town of Fairplay.

The winning couple will have raised vast sums of money for a local nonprofit organization. Those battling for this year’s honor include Eric and Jennifer Witzak, raising money for the South Park Boys & Girls Club of the High Rockies; Scott and Aimee Sanborn, supporting Rocky Mountain Rural Health; and Phil and DeAnn Brogan, bringing in money for South Park Food Bank.

Put your money where your heart is and drop some cash into the donation jars around town.

Partygoers can expect an authentic Mountain Mardi Gras experience. Have a tarot card reading, get your face painted, wear your wildest costume to win a cash prize, and get down to New Orleans jazz and zydeco music provided by DJ Trizz.

Of course, no Mardi Gras celebration would be complete without enjoying a hurricane or two.

This event sells out, so partiers are advised to get their tickets early. Tickets are $20 per person and available in advance only.

Anyone who has questions, would like to purchase tickets or needs more information can contact Julie Bullock at 719-836-2622 or jbullock@fairplay-co.us, or stop by Town Hall, 901 Main St. in Fairplay.

Photo courtesy of town of Fairplay

Crystal and Troy Shifflett take their place on the Mountain Mardi Gras throne during last year’s event in Fairplay. The Shiffletts raised $5,000 for the South Park Food Bank to secure their place as royalty.

Join the town of Fairplay on Bourbon Street (American Legion) for this year’s event. Tickets are $20, available in advance only.