

Black Squirrel Fest marks 50 yrs for Marysville

(KMZA)--Fifty-years as a Black Squirrel City. That will be celebrated Saturday, in Marysville, which was first proclaimed as a Black Squirrel City in 1972 by the City's then governing body.

The official proclamation calls for an annual celebration of “parading, pageantry and feasting,” which is realized in Saturday’s Black Squirrel Fest, which includes a parade featuring nearly 60 entries, along with a presentation by Mary Jean Eisenhower, granddaughter to the nation’s 34th President. Seven food vendors will also be on site, along with carnival games, activities, and live music filling nine blocks of Maryville’s Broadway. Special features will also take place at museums in the city.

According to a release, Saturday’s Black Squirrel Fest will be divided into three parts, including morning activities from 7 to 11:00; Old Fashioned Fun from 11 until 4:00, which includes the parade at 1:00; and a polka concert from 4 until 6:00. All of the events will take place in downtown Marysville.

The release calls the afternoon parade “the heart of the daylong celebration,” explaining that it will travel from east to west, through downtown Marysville, on Broadway.

Two grand marshals will lead the parade, including 1972 Marysville Mayor Mert Ott, who the release says “led the city council to officially declare Marysville as Black Squirrel City, giving the animals specific privileges and protections.

Ott’s co-grand marshal is the black squirrel itself.

Four junior grand marshals will also participate.

The public is invited.

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