

Published October 27th, 2021

Running in the rain

By Sharon K. Sobotta



The rain didn't deter runners, young and old, from having a great time at the Oct. 24 Lafayette Reservoir Run. Photo Sharon K. Sobotta

is, if we can't run it, we'll swim it."

Hien Clayton and her daughter Lexi, who attends Lafayette Elementary school, ran and walked in the 2-mile race along with Daisy Troop 30245 in Lafayette. Clayton said, rain or shine, she's always happy to have a chance to get out and be with the community. "The rain makes it really memorable. The girls are working on earning their medal for being courageous and strong and they definitely earned it," Hien said. "It's raining so hard and I see so many smiling faces everywhere and everyone's excited to be together again and do something that can help and give some hope."

Along with the happy puddle jumpers, there were plenty of children in the 2-mile race that were a little 'weighed' down by the soggy day. Brooke Peterson, the leader of Daisy Troop 30245, said she was happy that all of her first-grade Daisies stuck out the challenge of the wet race, for the most part with smiles on their faces. "My daughter said it was the best day ever. They're all little first-graders that are (an extra) 10 pounds soaking wet," Brook said. "It's been so long and it feels so good to be back together again."

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Pouring rain didn't stop hundreds of runners and walkers from showing up for the Lafayette Res Run. Athletes skipped and stretched, paying no mind to the puddles and downpour as they waited for the sounding horn for their 5 and 10K races to begin, at the same time as clusters of families stayed closer to buildings, in ponchos and under umbrellas.

More than 2,300 people registered to participate in the 5K, the 10K and the 2-mile races this year. Those who showed up said they waited too long to be back together doing this race as a community to be scared of a little - or a lot of rain.

Pete Lowenberg said he showed up with his wife's encouragement after taking a long sabbatical from running. "I'm here this morning to support all the runners and I'm going to run myself in the 5K. My goal is to finish it and hopefully to do that in less than 1:05," Lowenberg said ahead of the race. "The way the weather