

John O'Hara Essay

Contestant #5

Greene County, Pennsylvania is home to an event held each year on July 29th called Rain Day. Rain Day is a tradition that it will rain every year on July 29th. Now, I know most people might not celebrate when it rains, but we do. Rain Day is a festival we hold with live music, food vendors, a petting zoo, umbrella decorating contests, and games to celebrate that it is going to rain. Greene County is a rural area which is really a collection of small towns, and people with big hearts. The best thing about Rain Day to me is the people of all our small towns and how we come together. That is what Rain Day means to me.

I'm proud to be from a small town. People know their neighbors, when someone is sick or has a tragedy happen people pull together to help. The past year and a half was no exception. Maya Angelou said "try to be a rainbow in someone else's cloud". The past year and a half the people of our towns pulled together to help each other, whether it was helping our small businesses or checking on an elderly neighbor or family member. I saw people around our county wearing "Small towns big hearts" shirts. That sums it up, we are small towns full of people with big hearts. The people of our towns pulled together and created a Rain Day last year that was the most special one to me. It showed one example of what the people of our county are capable of. It rains yes, but you can try to be the rainbow in someone else's cloud. It might not have been the same Rain Day festival as it has always been, but it was even more special because it showed how much Rain Day means to the people of the county. They worked so hard to pull off an amazing day even in trying circumstances.

Rain Day isn't only about the rain, or the games, or the food. What Rain Day really means to me is people with big hearts from small towns all coming together. Here in Greene County whether you were a Raider, Maple, Rocket, Pioneer, or Mike you will always be one.

People will always support you here. And they will always come together on July 29th to celebrate. It is a safe and certain bet that it will rain on Rain Day, and just as certain bet that you can always count on the people of Greene County to weather any storm they face.