

Piketon Dogwood Festival to offer some diversity

By BARBARA B. KALFS
Gazette staff writer

PIKETON -- Diversity is synonymous with the Pike County Dogwood Festival.

Festival Chairman Frances Beekman reported boxing and karate have been added to the 1980 festival which is expected to boost Piketon's population by 30,000 April 25-27.

At 7 p.m. Friday, April 25, Don Madden, an 8th degree Black Belt, will direct the karate portion of the bill in the Piketon High School auditorium.

This will be followed at 8 p.m. by 10 three-round boxing matches sanctioned by the Amateur Athletic Union. Among local pugilists will be Kenneth Rider, a Waverly Fruehauf employee who will be going for his fifth straight victory in the 125-pound novice class, and Don Hurt of the Goodyear Atomic Corp. who will be in the junior middleweight class.

Tickets will be available at the door and trophies will be awarded by Dogwood Inc.

Saturday's schedule is also full.

The Scioto Saga Symphony Seven, a recent addition to the area musical scene, will perform from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the Piketon Activity

Center (Opera House) stage. Outside the center at 11 a.m., the traditional dogwood sapling will be presented to Carl Fuller who operates the Pleasant Hill Convalescent Center in Piketon.

The Bainbridge Coffee Drinkers will be center stage in the opera house, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Throughout the festival, living facsimiles of Confederate General John Hunt Morgan's 1863 Raiders will roam the streets of the village.

Another popular repeat this year will be the Dogwood Chain Saw Competition near the Piketon-Seal Township Firehouse.

Richard Leeth of Latham is chairman of the event which has a Lemans start and minimal entry fee. First and second place trophies plus prize money will be offered in several classes:

A - (0.1-3.0 cu. in. stock), B - (3.1-4.0 cu. in. stock), C - (4.1-5.0 cu. in. stock), D - (5.1 and up cu. in. stock), Powder Puff - (3.0 cu. in. maximum) and open class - (anything). All starts will be with the saw resting, dead, on the ground.

The old-time fiddlers will liven up the Middle Street stage at 2:30 p.m. Saturday while the banjo pickers will compete in the opera house at 4 p.m. Sunday. First, second and third prize money will be awarded, chairman

Tim Thompson of Piketon announced.

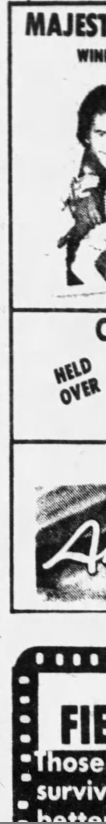
Something in the way of games has been planned for youngsters from 2-5 p.m. Saturday at the intersection of Market and Main Streets in the Piketon Historic District.

Rounding out Saturday's activities will be the traditional Honors Band performance at 8 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

One of the initial Sunday events will be the antique auto show at 9 a.m. at the high school football field. The 11 a.m. drill team competition will be at Market and Main Streets after which the Seal of Ohio Community Concert Band will be heard in concert in the Col. Moore House yard from noon-2:30 p.m.

Adelphi's century-old community band will lead the 2:30 p.m. Sunday parade in recognition of its 100th birthday year. Wilder Weinrich is parade chairman and reported folks lining the streets early will have their wait enlivened by skydivers aiming for Middle Street between noon and 2 p.m.

Among closing events will be the announcement of the official Dogwood Quilt winner and the Adelphi Community Band Concert in front of R. W. Connett's piano shop, both at 4 p.m.



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