

Pike County celebrates spring

Dogwood Festival returns for 40th year

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

PIKETON — For 39 years, Pike County residents have celebrated the birth of spring with a weekend of family fun.

This weekend is no exception as the 40th annual Pike County Dogwood Festival returns to the village of Piketon.

As always, live entertainment is a key component of the weekend festivities, which begin at 6 p.m. today with an opening ceremony on the village green. Among those scheduled to perform throughout the weekend on either the village green or the grade school stage are the Pike County Community Choir, Aftermath, Bobby Jo's Cloggers, Stone Johnson, Seth and Dustin, N'Step Dance Troupe, the Gypsy Jug Band, Lewis Brothers, Thomas Dirk, The Sod Busters, Bob Howland, Tim Lavender and Adelphi Band.

But live entertainment isn't the only fun activity planned. Among other highlights of the weekend are:

- The annual Dogwood Tour bicycle ride beginning at the Piketon High School parking lot at 8 a.m. Saturday. The ride is



Gazette file photo

Members of the group "Bobbie Jo's Cloggers" perform during a previous year's Piketon Dogwood Festival.

50 miles long, and participants can register the day of the ride for \$8.

- A 5K run and walk at 9 a.m. Saturday at the new Piketon High School building.

- Slide presentations by Jim Henry about railroads in Pike County conducted at various times in the Dogwood headquarters on Main Street.

- A trail ride from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at 230 W. Second St.

- Children's games and a pie eating contest on the grade school lawn at 2 p.m. Saturday.

- A cornhole tournament beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday at the grade school building with registration at noon.

- A chainsaw contest at 1 p.m. Saturday on Main Street.

- A car show from 9 a.m. to noon Sunday at the administration building with judging from noon to 1:30 p.m.

MORE COVERAGE View the Dogwood Festival's complete schedule of events. ChillicotheGazette.com

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