

## Festival goers undaunted by showers

PIKETON — Drizzle dampened dust but not the enthusiasm of participants or visitors to the seventh annual Dogwood Festival which opened Friday and will continue through 5 p.m. Sunday.

By mid-afternoon the streets of Historic Old Piketon, a district on the National Register of Historic Places, were beginning to bustle with activity. The melodious tunes of handmade dulcimers mingled with the toe-tapping beat of country music, as tourists spent time talking with weavers and other craftsmen plying crafts of a bygone era.

The Gen. Moore House, festival and South Central Ohio Preservation Society (SCOPS) headquarters, features a variety of exhibits, notable among which is that of elegant costumes worn in Piketon between 1830-1870. The SCOPS second-floor display is devoted to dresses, nightwear, children's clothes and bonnets, all having exquisite handwork. A continuous movie about colonial clothes also is being shown.

Exhibits opened at noon today and will close at dark. This morning a trail ride started from the Pike County Fairgrounds, and Bristol Village, Waverly retirement subdivision, received the symbolic dogwood sapling given each year to a Pike County community.

At noon, the muzzle loaders rifle shoot started at the fairgrounds and is expected to continue through most of the

afternoon. A Shakespearean dramatic presentation, bike rodeo, pet and puppet shows are on the docket for Saturday younger set visitors.

A public card shoot is scheduled from 4-7 p.m. at the fairgrounds to be followed by the 8 p.m. Dogwood Festival Honors Band Concert at Piketon High School auditorium and Western square dancing on Main Street in front of the activity center.

Throughout the daylight and evening hours, the Middle Street and Market Street stages will spotlight country, mountain and folk music, including the 3-4 p.m. old time fiddlers' contest.

Prior to the 1 p.m. Sunday grand parade is the antique auto show at the Piketon High School football field and a cyclists' dogwood tour. After the parade for which Harry Weaver will be grand marshal, a poetry workshop will be held at the United Methodist Church, the Southern Ohio Corvette Club will hold a special contest, Jasper Livestock 4-H Club members will stage another puppet show and banjo pickers will compete.

The musical notes of the festival stages will be enhanced at 3 p.m. by concerts by the Adelphi Community Band, Main and Zebulon Streets and the Bicentennial Community Concert Band on the Johnson House Lawn, Main and Oliver Streets.

The schedule for today and Sunday is:

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Thu, Mar 21, 2019