

# Piketon event ushers in festival season

## The Gazette Staff

The start of the area's spring festival season begins to blossom tonight as the 39th annual Pike County Dogwood Festival gets under way in Piketon.

Tonight's opening consists of an abbreviated schedule of events, including a 6 p.m. opening ceremony on the village green with the crowning of the festival queen, introduction of the grand marshal and a performance by the Piketon High School Band. That will be followed by live entertainment on the Middle Street stage.

Festivities Friday get under way at 4 p.m., with a performance by Bobby Jo's Cloggers. At 5 p.m. will be a historic slide presentation by Jim Henry, and from 6:30 to 8 p.m., the N' Step dance group will perform.

The schedule extends to full days of activity for the weekend.

Here are some of the event highlights:

## SATURDAY

■ All day: Entertainment on three festival stages

■ 8 a.m.: The Cyclist Dogwood Tour starting at Piketon High School.

■ 9 a.m.: A 5K run starting at Piketon High School.

■ 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.: A trail ride starting at 230 W. Second St. on a farm behind the high school.

■ 1 p.m.: A chain saw contest on Main Street; a slide presentation by Jim Henry at Dogwood headquarters; Anchor of Hope Church of God on the village green.

■ 2 to 4 p.m.: Bobby Jo's Cloggers on the village green.

■ 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.: Square dancing.

■ 4:30 p.m.: Arm wrestling tournament on the village green.

■ 5 to 5:45 p.m.: Registration for Dogwood Star Karaoke.

■ 6 p.m.: Dogwood Star Karaoke contest.

## SUNDAY

■ 9 a.m. to noon: Car show registration at the administration building.

■ 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.: Gospel singing on the village green.

■ Noon to 1 p.m.: Car show judging.

■ 1:30 p.m.: Car show awards presented at the administration building.

■ 3 p.m.: Grand parade.

■ 3:30 p.m.: Performance by the Adelphi band.

■ 4 p.m.: Drawing for a Dogwood quilt at the Middle Street stage.

You can find more information on the festival, including details on the Cyclist Dogwood Tour and trail ride, at [www.pike-travel.com/cvb-calendar.html](http://www.pike-travel.com/cvb-calendar.html).

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