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**Our
Opinion**



Dogwood delight

Ah, Spring! And with its arrival, the gentle joys of the Scioto Valley's many outdoor festivals can begin. The first of these is under way this weekend in Piketon, where the 10th annual Pike County Dogwood Festival will offer parades, music and contests to usher in the soft season.

A great deal of heritage will be celebrated as well, with 90-year-old R. W. Connett of Piketon to step in front of the 100-year-old Adelphi Community Band during a grand parade at 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

But mostly, the Dogwood Festival will be just a time to relax and enjoy the company of neighbors also out to enjoy some good clean fun.

Today's activities, for instance, will include a bicycle tour, concerts, a muzzle loaders rifle shoot, square dancing by children, fiddling and even a tobacco spitting contest. On the schedule for tomorrow will be an antique car show, drill team competition, more music, banjo pickin' and a quilting contest.

The festival continues through tomorrow at various Piketon locations. We welcome it, and salute the community leaders whose volunteer efforts behind the scenes help make such pleasant weekends possible.

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