

ZT working to make festival original

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As the blossoms bloom and the trees get greener, there will be even more to experience in this spring.

Namely, Zane Trace's Pioneer Heritage Day.

This year 32 arts and crafts exhibits will commemorate a time gone by.

"We try to get the whole community involved," Donna Minnex, principal at Zane Trace Elementary, said. "It's just kind of fun for them."

Crafters will display works from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday outside the school buildings. The displays will include blacksmithing, spinning, rug hooking and willow furniture making. There will also be many student activities, Minnex said.

"We are trying to emphasize the pioneer heritage lifestyle," she said.

In past years, the festival had a roast beef prepared outside in the ground. This year, beans and other foods will be cooked on an open kettle, Minnex said.

"We try to have original food from the

What's up

Thirty-two crafters will display their works at this year's Zane Trace Pioneer Heritage Day. The event will be open from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday at Zane Trace's school buildings on Ohio 180.

■ Noon - Flag Raising Ceremony and Leg Contest.

■ 12:30 - Adelphi Band.

■ 1:30 - Civil War Battle.

■ 2 p.m. - Pioneer Baby Contest.

■ 3 p.m. - Rave Dance Group.

■ 3:30 p.m. - Zane Trace High School Choir.

■ 4 p.m. - Pioneer Singers and Line Dancing.

■ 5 p.m. - Talent Show.

pioneer days," she said.

For more than a decade, residents have come out to support the event, which has occurred every few years since 1976.

Something new at this year's festival is

the Pioneer Baby Contest.

"We wanted to try something new," Jeanne Bennett, first-grade teacher at Zane Trace, said.

The contest will award first-, second-, and third-place prizes in two categories: Newborn to 18 months and 19 months to 3 years old. Babies will be judged on pose, personality and dress, June Dempsey, first-grade teacher at Zane Trace, said. The entry fee is \$3.

The winners' parents will receive a trophy and a \$5 gift certificate from Children's Clothier. Registration is open until the day of the event, Dempsey said.

If the weather holds up well, Minnex expects at least 500 people will attend the festival.

Proceeds will go to Zane Trace's levy committee and toward purchase of supplies for classrooms, Minnex said.

"But the emphasis is more on coming out and having a good time. To keep the people together," she said.

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