

Fireman's festival starts today

By JILL ZEGER
Gazette Staff Writer

The old-fashioned tradition will begin today in Laurelville with the Fireman's Old Time Festival.

Butch Valentine, chief of the Laurelville Volunteer Fire Department, said the annual festival began at the turn of the century and has been offered each year except for a few years in the 1960s. And this year, he thinks visitors will enjoy the free entertainment offered on the Main Street stage, such as Rainbow Canyon, which plays a variety of popular music on Friday.

But the big highlight comes on the last day of the fest with the cake auction, billed as "Ohio's Most Expensive Cake Auction," Valentine said. Only two cakes are offered at the auction, baked by locals June Eveland and Dorothy Crosby.

"Last year, two cakes went for \$4,000 each," he recalled.

Schedule of events

The schedule for the annual Fireman's Old Time Festival follows:

Today

Fish Fry 5 p.m.
Midway Rides open 6:30 p.m.
Dedication 7:20 p.m.
Little Miss, Mr. Contest 7:30 p.m.
Midnight Special 9 p.m.

Thursday

Fish Fry 5 p.m.
Midway and rides open 6:30 p.m.
Queen contest 7:30 p.m.
Diamond Brothers 9 p.m.

Friday

Fish fry 5 p.m.
Talent show 6 p.m.
Midway and rides open 6:30 p.m.
Rainbow Canyon 9 p.m.

Saturday

Baby contest 10 a.m.
Fish fry 11 a.m.
Big wheel race noon
All rides one price 1 to 5 p.m.
Adelphi Community Band 4:30 p.m.
Grand Parade 6 p.m.
Marching Corp awards and visiting queens 7 p.m.
Square dancing with Beaver's Rhythm Drifter 8 p.m.
Cake Auction, raffle drawings 9 p.m.
Square dancing 9:30 p.m.

The activities this year, which will take place at Ohio 56 and Ohio 180, include homemade pies and cakes sold by local churches, a fish fry by the fire department and arts

and crafts.

Proceeds from the venture will go toward purchasing required protective gear for firefighters and new radio equipment.

DD 1 advertiser's index July 17, 1991

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Sat, Mar 23, 2019