

Crothersville to celebrate 35th annual Red, White and Blue Festival this week

Written by Marty Randall

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The 35th annual Crothersville Lions Club Red, White and Blue Festival is gearing up for a flag waving salute to Old Glory and veterans. As always, this year's patriotic celebration is the second weekend in June, June 10-12. The event is held at the school grounds.

"We'll be bringing some local traditions and some new entrees to add to the festival flavor," said Local festival Chairman Sherry Bridges. Fiesta Carnival will kick off the festival on Wednesday, June 9, with a special ride promotion.

"And there'll be food galore," she added highlighting locally prepared FFA pork burgers, fire department fish sandwiches and a wide variety of lemon shakeups, taco in a bag, homemade ice cream and pulled pork BBQ sandwiches.

Always a crowd draw, the baby contest will begin registration at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, June 9, at the First Baptist Church.

Booths will open at 5 p.m. at 6 p.m. the crowning of the 35th Red, White and Blue Festival Princess will take center stage.

At 6:15 p.m., the baby contest winners will be announced.

The 35th annual Festival Opening Ceremonies will take place at 6:30 p.m. Also, a moment will be set aside to honor the fallen heroes.

The Red, White and Blue Talent Show will be returning to its original rules as in its beginning some 30 years ago. Sarah Cole will be gearing up a full slate of entertainers starting at 7 p.m.

Following the talent show, the gospel group "Raising Saints" will perform. On Friday, June 11, Country Kickers will kick off at 6 p.m. and the Pedal Tractor Pull will begin at 6:30 p.m. The local FFA is organizing this event. The gospel melodies of "From the Ashes" from Uniontown Baptist Church will entertain at 7 p.m. Also at that time the CHS Alumni basketball game will tip off in the auxiliary gym. At 8 p.m. "Redneck Rattlesnake Band" will perform on stage.

Saturday, starts early with the FFA serving breakfast at 6:30 a.m.

At 8:30 a.m., the CHS class of 2014 will sponsor a 5K Run/Walk. Also on Saturday morning, an adult co-ed volleyball tourney will be played at 9 a.m. Kara Hunt is organizing the event to benefit the CHS volleyball program. John Riley will be drawing teams for the 3/3 basketball tourney also at 9 a.m.

Corn hole registration begins at 10 a.m. Terry Prine is once again bringing corn hole fans to Crothersville, last year there were many teams from out of state.

At 11:30 a.m., the Pet and Bike Parade for the children grades Kindergarten through fifth grade. Annette Hagen is organizing the parade.

In the afternoon at 3 p.m., the Columbia Cloggers will perform.

The 35th annual Red, White and Blue Parade will step-off at 4 p.m.

Performing for the first time will be the Lighthouse Tabernacle Youth immediately following the parade.

The annual dog show will be at 6 p.m., contact Doris Kovener for more information.

A crowd pleaser for a number of years, Allene Hougland will share the daily dabble of Dorothy June Higgins.

Elvis impersonator Travis Albertson will drive his pink Cadillac in to town on Saturday and perform on the festival stage at 7 p.m.

At 8 p.m., performing for the first time will be Gospel Rock Band, Quarantined.

Closing out the festival will be the local band, "4-Given."

Friday and Saturday evening, the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post 1083 will hold a cake walk.

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The Antique Farm Machinery show is getting notable attention from all over the state of Indiana. Kevin Hoeverer is the chairman and he anticipates a record number of tractors. Last years more than 30 tractors participated in the Festival Parade.

“Something new this year will be a motorcycle show,” stated Bridges. Motorcycles will be on display from 2 to 4 p.m. “They will be taking part in the parade and back on display following the parade,” she said. Pastor Irvin and Jill Bengé are in charge of the event. Trophies for the seven class bike show will be awarded at 6 p.m. on Saturday evening. All proceeds from the bike show will go to the Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation.

At 8:45 p.m., the drawings from the booth raffles will be announced from the stage. Winners will be able to take their prizes home.

Handicapped parking will be in the school Administration Building parking lot at the southend of Preston Street. The festival ask that everyone leave their pets at home, unless they are entering them in a contest,” said Bridges. Also, bicycles are not to be ridden on festival grounds.

“We encourage the community to bring their lawn chairs and enjoy the events of the festival and to visit with family and friends,” stated Bridges.