

Leota Country Frolic on August 24 and 25 will celebrate community's 128th anniversary

Written by George Browning
Wednesday, 15 August 2012 00:00 -

The 128th anniversary of the founding of the tiny community of Leota will be celebrated on August 24 and 25 at the 30th annual Leota Country Frolic.

Plenty of good food, a Talent Showcase, gospel and bluegrass music, old-time demonstrations of skills, arts and crafts booths and a flea market, antique displays and fun for kids are planned at this year's event. Entertainment is planned throughout the evening on Friday and during the day on Saturday.

First, however, the annual euchre tournament will be held on Thursday, August 23, in downtown Leota. Come at 6 p.m. to register. Play will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Starting Friday afternoon, August 24, folks are welcome to browse through the festival's booths and displays, eat great food prepared by the Finley Volunteer Fire Department and township organizations, and then bring their lawn chairs to enjoy the stage entertainment.

Performers scheduled Friday, August 24, will include:

5:00 p.m.: the Bell Family.

5:50 p.m.: Taking Root.

6:40 p.m.: Grandview Junction.

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7:30 p.m.: Brian Allen.

8:20 p.m.: Josh Richards.

9:10 p.m.: John Lowry.

9:50 p.m.: Hillbilly Rush.

Bobby Deal of Spare Change Music and Recording Studio is in charge of the musical line-up.

Old time demonstrations will also be offered each day as will the popular display of antique farm equipment. Visitors can also enjoy the country collectibles and other items offered for sale at the Leota Country Store on that Friday and Saturday.

For children, a pedal pull is set for 5:30 p.m. on Friday and at 4 p.m. on Saturday. A trophy will be awarded to the child winning in each class.

Also, youngsters can enjoy the free Kids' Frolic, a mini-festival filled with activities from 6 to 9:30 p.m. on Friday and from 1 to 8 p.m. on Saturday. Members of New Chapel United Methodist Church offer the Kids' Frolic for visitors ages four to 12. Children under four are also welcome to stay and play in the Kids' Frolic area under their parents' supervision.

Face painting and craft-making are scheduled Friday evening. At 7 p.m., children can dress themselves up in their own costumes or use clothing provided by the church for a children's parade through the downtown area. There will also be a Prize Walk game that will follow the parade just before that evening's puppet show begins.

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On Saturday, action will begin with a watermelon eating contest at 11 a.m. in the stage area.

All eyes and ears will be drawn to the stage as the Talent Showcase is held from 12 noon to 1 p.m. That event will be followed by these performers:

2:00 p.m.: Danny Burns.

2:50 p.m.: The Girls.

3:40 p.m.: Bobby Austin and Friends.

4:30 p.m.: Bluegrass Gospel Alliance.

5:20 p.m.: Spare Change.

6:10 p.m.: Hoosier Hills.

6:50 p.m.: Blue Moon Ramblers.

7:40 p.m.: Monday Night Special.

8:30 p.m.: Common Ground.

9:20 p.m.: James White and Deer Creek.

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The New Chapel Kids' Frolic begins its free activities at 1 p.m. with all-day bingo games, face painting, a craft table, dress-up photo fun and a Lego table. At 1:15 p.m., youngsters can compete in the obstacle course for ages four to 12. Prizes will be awarded just before the puppet show at 3 p.m.

At 4 p.m., another pedal pull will be held in the downtown area, with a Lego contest and parachute games scheduled at 6 p.m. At 7 p.m., children will enjoy a puppet show finale.

Want more? A quilt raffle will be offered. Cost is \$1 per ticket or six tickets for \$5. Cross cut saw souvenirs can be obtained during the festival. good eats will include Leota's famed homemade pies, fish, bratwurst, tenderloins and hot dogs as well as french fries, bean soup and sides. Tables and chairs will offer seating comfort under the fire department's tents.

Any person or organization wishing to set up for the flea market or arts and crafts booth area should contact Leon Dart at 1-812-216-0627 or Ward Bowen at 820-0493 as soon as possible. The set-up fee per booth is \$20, payable in advance for the two-day festival.

Danny Robbins, 820-2743, is serving as this year's Leota Frolic chairman. He is being assisted by Leon Dart, 812-216-0627, and Charles Murphy, 752-3636.

The community of Leota is located west of Scottsburg and two miles south of State Road 56.

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy a good, old-fashion time with friends and family in Leota.