

Carnival rides will be part of the celebration

The Pekin Community Betterment Organization has begun preparations for the town's 183rd Fourth of July.

The dates are set, the group secured a number of rides and they are also looking for volunteers to help with the many activities involved with putting the event on.

PCBO President Anita Temple said there are opportunities for volunteers to help in just about every area.

"We need help at all of our fundraisers and also help in the kitchen at events," she said. "We will need volunteers to sell tickets at the carnival. We are also having a work day in the park to clean up play equipment. We also need people to donate food and work on mailings for the Safari Bicycle ride."

The dates for this year's event will be Wednesday, July 3 through July 6.

For this year's event, Derby City Amusements will bring rides, games and food booths to this year's event.

The Safari Independence Bicycle Ride will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2013. Rene Batt and Mary Bell will help Temple chair the bicycle ride committee.

Kenny and Darlene Hall will again be in charge of the 5K Walk/Run, which has tentatively scheduled for the morning of July 6. Steve Burnett will also be helping with that event.

John and Gina Perry will organize the Motorcycle Ride, which has tentatively been scheduled for the June 15.

Sandy Ison is organizing the parade and is working on coming up with a theme.

Alan Bishop is working on planning a historical program on the early days of the Fourth of July Celebration in what was then called Gill's Grove.

Cheryl Yates is in charge of advertising.

Darlene Hall will be in charge of publicity, as well as, the queen contest.

Brenda Fitzpatrick will oversee the flea market vendors.

Rhonda Burnett will plan the Pekin Idol Contest. John Crady will provide the sound system.

Becky White, from WSLM, is in charge of the Karaoke Contest the evening of July Fourth.

Plans for Praise Day in Pekin Park are coming together. Praise bands from the community will take the stage from 1-5 p.m. on Saturday, July 6. Churches and youth groups from the area are invited to take part.

The PCBO's next meeting will be at the shelter house at Pekin Park on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7 p.m.

