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'A Fair of the Arts' graces Beech Acres Park

BY JEREME SIMMONS | JSIMMONS@COMMUNITYPRESS.COM

ANDERSON TWP.- The 7th annual "A Fair of the Arts" will bring more than 70 artists and their works to the grounds of Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road, Anderson Township, Saturday, Sept. 22.

Many of the dozens of exhibitors are from Anderson Township or surrounding areas. Local artisans include Anderson Township's own metal sculptor Dave Beaver and 23-year resident and photographer Virginia Cox. Cox has seen the show grow significantly over the years.

"I have been coming since the very first show. It was a very tiny, small show," Cox said. "The Anderson Park staff, Emily (Armstrong) in particular, has really made this thing happen."

According to Armstrong, the Anderson Park District recreation director, there will be another significant difference between this year's show and previous years' shows.

"Sundays are the Bengals' days now," said Armstrong, referring to the resurgence of Bengal mania. "We have switched to Saturday so more people will come out to see these great artists."

The show runs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be food, soft drinks and adult beverages for those looking to fuel their appetites while browsing. Music will be provided by DJ Arnold from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., Joe Berger from 12:45 p.m. to 2 p.m. and an as yet to be announced artist after that until 3:45 p.m.

Beaver plans on bringing a mix of yard art and interior design items he has welded and shaped from various metals. He uses a mix of natural clear finishes and paints.

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The 2006 Affair of the Arts Best in Show winner and this year's featured artist is Don Broughton.

"I have been doing this show for four years," said Beaver. "Sometimes I sell pretty well there and sometimes I don't but I never have a bad time with it."

Other artists will be showing wares that range from photography to ceramics, pastels to baskets and everything in between. The featured artist will be Don Broughton, who draws in pens and ink. He won last year's Best in Show award. Unfortunately, runner-up and Anderson Township native, Sharon Kabbes, will be unable to attend this year.

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Last year's runner up at the Affair of the Arts was Anderson Township resident Sharon Kabbes.

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