

This story first appeared in:

Forest Hills Journal

Wednesday, July 28, 2004

Anderson Days finds its home

ANDERSON TWP. - Greater Anderson Days has finally found its home.

The event, which offers games, rides, food, a business and community expo, live music, fireworks and more, will officially open the new Beech Acres Park.

The festival is 5 p.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday, July 30-31 and 5-10:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 1, at Beech Acres Park. Fireworks are 10 p.m. Aug. 1.

The Community Press is a sponsor of the event.

Coordinated by the Anderson Park District, event partners are the Anderson Township Fireman's Association, Anderson Township government and the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We're very excited to be able to present this park to the community," said Molly McClure, executive director of the Anderson Park District.

"(It) should be able to create lots of great memories," she said.

The new stage at Beech Acres Park will be put to use with musical acts, while the 60th Annual Fireman's Festival will offer gambling and games of chance and the Jazzin' in July 5K Run/Walk continues for its second year.

Some firsts will also take place at this year's Greater Anderson Days.

Hamilton County Sheriff's Citizen's Academy graduates will work their first event by assisting deputies to look for lost children, be the eyes and ears of the crowd and help in the children's tent area, said Sgt. Mike Hartzler.

The sheriff's department will also raffle off a mountain bike at the event, he said.

The First Annual Cruisers & Boomers motorcycle ride will be 2 p.m. Aug. 1 from Kellogg Park to Beech Acres Park, with proceeds benefiting the Jason William Hunt Outdoor Leadership Training Center at the Beech Acres Arts & RecPlex.

Anderson Township resident Erin Pursinger, 8, is also leading the community to participate in her Locks of Love booth.

The charity, to which Pursinger first donated her hair last year, uses such donations to make wigs for cancer patients.

"It helps people," Pursinger explained. "I think it makes me feel happy."

After 5 p.m. Friday, Khattru Salon & Sanctuary will offer free haircuts, from 5 p.m.

Saturday, they will be provided by Identity Hair Salon & Spa and from 5 p.m. Sunday from A Little Off The Tot Hair Salon.

Those participating must have 10 inches of hair or more to donate.

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