

Groups Partner to Plan Beverly Week

Beverly organizations are teaming up this year to present a fun-filled Beverly Week at the end of July.

The Beverly Volunteer Fire Department and Beverly Heritage Center are partnering to combine Beverly Heritage Days, July 19 and 20, with the Beverly Fireman's Festival, July 19 through 27, into one Beverly Week event.

"We want to freshen up the event and encourage people to come out and enjoy old-fashioned fun," said Robbie Moyer, festival chairman for the Beverly Volunteer Fire Department. "We'll be featuring many of our favorite activities and some new partnerships in a great event for local residents and visitors alike."

Beverly Heritage Days will feature History Hitting the Road, interactive heritage activities for children and adults, presented by WVU Jackson's Mill. The popular Beverly Historic Homes tour will feature some homes that have not been shown before. Other activities will include heritage craft show and demonstrations, Civil War living history, heritage music, and food including a pie sale.

"We had a small sample of History Hitting the Road activities last summer," said Darryl DeGripp, Director of the Beverly Heritage Center. "This year they are bringing their full program, with multiple activity stations for kids of all ages. This is an outstanding opportunity to learn, get excited, and have fun with history."

The Firemen's activities will start with Little Miss Beverly Pageant on July 12 and Beverly Fireman's Queen Pageant on July 19. Plans for Friday July 25 include live entertainment from Crosstown Traffic and Beverly's popular fireworks display. Saturday July 26 will include a craft show, chicken BBQ, parade, water battle, and talent show. Other activities being planned for the week-long event include a cake walk, pet show, children's parade, horseshoe tournament, and a History Alive! program.

Major sponsors for Beverly Week include the Town of Beverly, Citizen's Bank of West Virginia, and the Randolph County Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Beverly is the original county seat of Randolph County, located six miles south of Elkins. A Beverly festival has been held annually in July since the first Beverly Community Week in 1971 and has been sponsored by the Beverly Fire Department since 1978. Beverly Heritage Days featuring activities focused on Beverly's history was first held in 1996.

As part of the Beverly Week partnership, the groups are working together on promotion and information about the event. Visitors will be able to call the Beverly Heritage Center this summer to find out more about planned activities. The Beverly Heritage Center museum and visitor center is open daily for summer hours 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday, and can be reached at 304-637-7424 or www.beverlyheritagecenter.org.

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