

Easter egg hunt to get Main Street group's activities rolling

Ronald Hawkins rhawkins@reporter-times.com

March 31, 2009

MARTINSVILLE

The activities of Rediscover Historic Martinsville will get on a roll with an April 11 Easter egg hunt.

Martinsville officially became a part of the Indiana Main Street program on Dec. 18. Being a Main Street community will improve Martinsville's ability to obtain grants as residents work on revitalizing downtown, according to state officials.

The downtown Easter egg hunt on the Morgan County Courthouse lawn will be a revitalization in itself with a few new twists of an event that had been run by the Martinsville Merchants Association, which is now a part of the Main Street group. The event wasn't held last year.

One of the new twists includes splitting the hunt into age groups instead of all of the children hunting for eggs at the same time, said Tina Chafey, a member of a RHM's promotion committee. The age groups will be 1- to-3 year olds, 4-7 and 8-10.

A scavenger hunt for 11- to 14-year-olds will be held after the Easter egg hunt. It will be a team event conducted in the style of CBS' "Amazing Race," according to Chafey. Teams may sign up at the Kivett Building until 1 p.m.

Before the Easter egg hunt begins, the Rev. Mark Poindexter will read at 1 p.m. the Easter story from the Bible at the gazebo on the courthouse lawn.

In addition to the hunt, other activities on the public square that Saturday will include a face painting and coloring contest.

A breakfast will be served beginning at 7 a.m., catered by Water to Wine Catering. The breakfast is \$5 per person and includes a photo with the Easter Bunny. The charge for the photo alone is \$2. The breakfast will include biscuits and gravy, pancakes, juice and coffee.

Additionally, vendors will be set up in the Kivett Building.

A series of other events also is being scheduled.

"Our goal is to have something major going on downtown at least once each month," Chafey said. "The ultimate goal is to get people to come to Martinsville."

The tentative list includes:

May 9 — Picking Petals for Prizes, Shriners fish fry, craft vendors

June 6 — Summer Fest, Lions fish fry, craft vendors, sidewalk sales

July 4 — Car show, First Baptist fish fry, pie auction, Scott Manley disc jockey, crafts

Aug. 15 — Concert on the square, free to the public

Sept. 19 — Apple Fest Street dance, starts at 4 p.m. on the Square, featuring swing/ballroom and hip hop music

Oct. 31 — Halloween on the Square pumpkin carving contest, apple dunking, costume contest, trick a trunk

Nov 14 — Holiday open house

Dec. 5 and 12 — Country Christmas. Santa House pictures with Santa and possibly other activities weather permitting

For more information

Information on the coloring contest is available at Artie's Family Fun Center and the Candy Kitchen.

To rent booth space on April 11 in the Kivett Building, call Joni North at 765-315-8249.

To help with the activities or make donations, contact Jackie Cook at 317-965-0545 or John Badger at 765-318-5707.

Rediscover Historic Martinsville also is conducting an election of board member by paid members. A paid membership is \$20, renewable each March. The forms are available at Black Antiquities and Gifts, 96 N. Main St., and Primitive Pleasures, 90 N. Main St.

The committees

Rediscover Historic Martinsville has four committee chairmen. They are Del Chafey, organization; Ron Stanhouse, economic restructuring; John Badger, promotions committee, and Karen Melaniphy, design.

Copyright: Reporter-Times.com/MD-Times.com 2009