

Herbal Affair Springs Forth April 16, 2011

Spring will be in the air, on the ground and in the hands of thousands of visitors who descend on Sand Springs April 16th for the 22nd Annual Herbal Affair & Festival, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. More than 100 vendors bring herbs, perennials, natives, and heirlooms plants, along with herbal products, gardening supplies and folk art to the heart of Sand Springs to give visitors a taste of spring fever.

What began in 1989 as a small downtown street sale has grown to attract some 25,000 people and spurred other communities to host similar events. However, the Sand Springs Herbal Affair & Festival remains the “queen” as the largest, and most respected, in the state.

Here is a breakdown of festival events:

Basil Street Theater

Centered in the heart of downtown, the Charles Page Triangle stage provides the perfect background music for festival events. The Entertainment Schedule is as follows:

8:30—9:30	Dulcimer Magic
9:45—10:45	Turtle Creek Cloggers
11:00—Noon	Shelby Eicher & Mark Bruner
Noon—12:30	Hometown Hero Presentation
12:30—1:00	Shelby Eicher & Mark Bruner
1:15—2:15	Ruby’s Begonia
2:30—3:30	Cairde na Gael – O’kie Irish Music

Peppermint Lane

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., fun and games will be all the rage at the children’s tent, located between Main and Garfield on Broadway. Face painting, old-fashioned games and art projects can be enjoyed for a quarter, prizes included. Volunteers help make sure kids have a fun and safe time. A children’s stage will feature the area’s young entertainers in an open exhibition.

Rosemary’s Kitchen

With such a bountiful supply of fun, it’s easy to see why many visitors make a day out of the event. Rosemary’s Kitchen makes sure no one goes away hungry. The Amish and Mennonite communities, along with the Methodist Women will be serving up homemade breads, noodles, cinnamon rolls and pies. Other food vendors include Greek, Indian, German, Polish, Cajun, seafood, barbecue, hot dogs, potatoes, peanuts, blooming onions, produce, baked goods, and ice cream.

Plant Sitters

The Plant Sitters booth, manned by local Catholic parishioners, watches over purchases while shoppers enjoy all aspects of the Herbal Affair & Festival. They can accommodate wagons and carts.

T-Shirts & Totes

T-shirts and totes are available the day of the festival at the information booth, and two weeks prior in Sand Springs at Spoon Drug, The Harvest, and Coble's Flowers.

The price for short sleeve shirts, totes and aprons is \$15.

Barbie King, a local Sand Springs teacher & artist, designed the artwork this year.

Location

The festival is located in downtown Sand Springs. Broadway is closed from Lincoln to Garfield streets and Main Street is closed from Second to Fourth streets. McKinley, a state highway, remains open to north-south traffic, but motorists will not be able to turn east or west onto Broadway. The Herbal Affair wants the best day for our vendors and shoppers therefore, pet owners are encouraged to leave their animals at home.

Free Shuttle

To avoid parking problems with more than 25,000 people flocking into downtown Sand Springs, the Herbal Affair committee urges everyone to use the free shuttle service running from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., located at Park & Adams Road in the Charles Page High School's east parking lot, 2 blocks north of the Adams Road exit off State Highway 412/64/51.

Be sure to check out our website at www.herbalaffairandfestival.com.

For those who plan ahead, mark your calendars for next year's 23rd Annual Herbal Affair on April 21, 2012.