

Greenfield gears up for summer fun

03/23/06

Here in Greenfield, like elsewhere, we're chomping at the bit in anticipation of the splendid days of summer and we're planning our social calendar accordingly, with a special emphasis on the Father of All Duck Races.

The wacky/quacky duo from Edgewood Manor/Tandem Healthcare (also known as Alisa Harris and Donna Tolle) is every bit as willing as a certain community development director to engage in a bit of frivolity, which serves a dual purpose: People can win BIG money while we simultaneously raise money to support the Midsummer's Night on Midway events (matching the grant funds awarded by The Ohio Arts Council).

Less is more? Ha! We don't think so. We want more, MORE, MORE!

We have decided much to the vexation of our conservative Quackmaster Tom Smith that we want to add a little pizzazz to this year's duck race, which is set for 1 p.m. Saturday, June 17, in Paint Creek near Felson Park.

Edgewood Manor has purchased MORE ducks and we have decided to incorporate a corn hole tournament into the day's events, which Edgewood is sponsoring (complete with awards for the winners). We hope to have food available for those in attendance, which we've never done before.

The corn hole tournament will begin at 11 a.m. on June 17 (near the race site). Registration for the event will begin at 10 a.m.

Hopefully, kayaker extraordinaires Donnie Watts and Dick



CINDI PEARCE
Greenfield
Community
Development
Director

Lukens will be back on the scene doing their 'thang' which pretty much amounts to who looks most seaworthy but manages to do the least amount of work, as well as canoer Steve Hamilton who stotically tolerates his canoe mate who, it seems, is never paddling in the right direction at the right time. Sorry, Steve!

Starting a month before the event, ducks will be sold (\$5 each) on the third floor of city hall, at Smitty's Autos and at Edgewood Manor, as well as out front of Detty's grocery store.

RALPH MAY

Ralph May, a 1968 McClain High School graduate, will once again perform on the city hall lawn. Last year there were more than 300 people in attendance for May's show and everyone agreed that Ralph sounded as good as ever. Aaah, a bit of late 1960's nostalgia.

North End Mini Mart will be the food vendor for the evening.

If he can schedule it in, Mountain Man Roger Dillard may make an appearance.

It could be your lucky night: You might be selected to have a watermelon sliced on your stomach! (I had a perilously close encounter with this stunt last year and am more than amenable to

stepping aside—and away from that menacing sword wielded by a blindfolded mountain man—and letting some other sucker take my place). No problem!

So mark your calendars for Saturday, June 10. Ralph will begin playing at 8 a.m. Come early and eat.

OLD-TIMERS' ETERNAL GRUDGE SOFTBALL GAME

This year will be the fourth year for the old-timers' softball game where Baal's Bashers will square off against Tate's Thrashers. Baal is Greenfield Mayor John Baal and Tate is Jim "Tate" Taylor, principal of Rainsboro School.

The game is set for 7 p.m. Saturday, July 1 at Mitchell Park.

If you would like to play in this match, you have to be at least 40-years-old, although I'm certain there were some ringers slipped in last year. To sign up, call Don Dietrich at 981-3040. Each year, TFO Tech Co., Ltd., purchases the official game T-shirts for the players.

Keep your fingers crossed ... we're hoping for fireworks, which will be set off after the ballgame (at dusk). Greenfield chiropractor Dr. Eric Borsini is in the process of raising funds for fireworks. If you would like to contribute to the fireworks fund, please contact Borsini at 981-9000.

DUMBFOUNDED

I need to play up this group really big because ... I always seem to owe Ron Coffey for one thing or another and he's painstakingly keeping track.

Maybe I can get 'out from under' by extolling the praises of this 'garage' band, comprised of those old enough to have attended Woodstock but probably didn't.

Coffey (lead guitar) fronts this band that features George Smith on the drums and keyboards; Ron Sexton, bass guitar; Lanny Bryant, lead vocals; Kellis Smith, guitar drums, banjo and bass; Jeff Graham, drums; Colin Coffey, stunt guitarist and vocals and David Roehm. Occasionally turning up for band practice are entourage personages (also known as a 'groupies') Larry Chapman and Dr. Richard Harris.

"It's kind of a modular band," Coffey quipped, noting that "we plug in different components depending on who's available."

He describes the band's style as "classic rock garage style." If some of the really good bands from the '60s and '70s had lost part of their talent—or perhaps all of it—and came to Greenfield and formed a garage band and tried to recreate their classics it would sound something like that.

"Our mission— (mission? That's a rather lofty premise) — is to educate the seceding generations about the wonders of the classical music of our youth."

And this is when I interject, "Hey, Coffey, after that drivel I think you owe me!"

Dumbfounded will be performing on the city lawn at 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12. ✓

Check out our websites:

www.greenfieldrocks.net
www.greenfieldohio.net and
www.greenfield-ohio.com