

## 22nd Annual Victorian Fest starts Friday in Northville

### Flying Wallendas new this year

By Pam Fleming • STAFF WRITER • September 16, 2010

School has started, the weather is starting to get cooler in Northville, and that means it's time for the 22nd Annual Victorian Festival, which opens tomorrow downtown.

The three-day festival that celebrates the city's Victorian heritage will kick off with the annual parade through the downtown streets at 6:30 p.m. Hours are 5 p.m.-10 p.m. tomorrow; noon-10:30 p.m. Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday.

This year brings the World Famous Flying Wallendas performing their aerial act at Ford Field.

"After more than 20 years, it's always a bit daunting to come up with new ideas for the festival," said Jody Humphries, director of the Northville Chamber of Commerce. "So, this year we looked back to some of the original entertainment from 20 years ago and were fortunate to be able to bring the Flying Wallendas back to perform."

### PERFORMANCE TIMES

The Flying Wallendas will perform at Ford Field off of Griswold Street north of Main Street at 1:30, 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.

"They certainly are a different and exciting act, and we look forward to watching their high wire performances."

The streets will be blocked off to traffic throughout the festival on Main Street from Wing to Hutton streets and on Center Street from Dunlap to Cady Street. Many townspeople, including Mayor Chris Johnson, will dress in period costumes. The festival will feature storytellers, magicians, musical entertainment and demonstrations. Ryde Park features rides for children, and the Victorian Saloon, sponsored by Edward Jones, will offer libations on Friday and Saturday.

Visitors can also shop in Northville, play old-fashioned games and check out a variety of food booths. Victorian Teas and Fashion Shows will take place on Saturday, and Mill Race Village will also host activities on Sunday. The festival is hosted by the Northville Chamber of Commerce. FARMER JOHN'S ANIMALS "We are also excited to have Farmer John and his animal act at the festival throughout Saturday and Sunday," Humphries said. "He has a really wonderful show that is fun for everyone, and when not performing, he has a little petting area for the children." Farmer John's Barnyard Express will be located on E. Main by Poole's Tavern and Long's Plumbing. Hours are noon-5 p.m. Saturday and noon-3 p.m. Sunday. The Craft Market will be open from noon-5 p.m. on Saturday and noon-4 p.m. on Sunday on E. Main Street. The Northville Art House Gallery and Store at 215 W. Cady Street will also have a photography exhibit, "Focus on Michigan" that includes photos from locations in Michigan, including Northville. The Art House will be open from 1-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

### MILL RACE VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Festivities at Mill Race Village on Griswold Street will take place from noon-4 p.m. on Sunday and include children's games and craft demonstrations, a tea room, book sale, PTA Food Tent, artifacts and a Mourning House. All Mill Race Village buildings will be open on Sunday. A Cake Walk is slated for 1 p.m., a Barbershop Quartet at 2 p.m., with the annual duck race at 3:30 p.m. This Mill Race Village fundraiser offers plastic ducks for sale for \$5 each.

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The Eclipse Base Ball Club will play at Ford Field at 7:30 p.m. against the regular Base Ball Club of Mt. Clemens. Saturday at 1 p.m. they take on the Port Huron Welkins, and Sunday at 1 p.m. the Mighty River Hogs of Midland.

On Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. the American Association of University Women Home Tour will offer five homes raine or shine for viewing. Tickets are \$20 in advance, with children under age 10 not permitted.

Tickets are sold at the Chamber of Commerce, Gardenviews, Pear-aphernalia, Solid Grounds and Starring the Gallery.

## VINTAGE VICTORIAN FASHION SHOW, TEA

The First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main Street, will be the site of a fashion show and tea at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Guests are invited to view a presentation by historian Pam Yockey and see beautiful Victorian gowns. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. For advanced tickets call (248) 349-0911. Tickets are also available at the door. Victorian attire is not required to attend.

## LIVE MUSIC

Festival-goers can also listen to live music at several locations in downtown Northville. The saloon, open from 7-10 p.m. Friday and Saturday behind city hall, will have entertainment, with a couple of stages set up on E. Main Street for various types of family entertainment. The Toll Brothers Stage Town Square Stage will be across from the clock on E. Main Street. The Carhartt Stage will be located at the intersection of Main and Center streets.

There are many ongoing events throughout the three-day festival. See the special section in this week's issue for more information and a full schedule of events.

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