

Excursions

Festival recreates Bavaria

A general festival atmosphere exists in Frankenmuth 365 days of the year but during the Bavarian Festival, the second full week in June, it is accentuated by the addition of more German food, music, entertainment and people.

The 19th annual Bavarian Festival continues through Saturday.

Main Street is a picture right out of the Bavarian countryside with storefronts remodeled to Bavarian style architecture; an authentic Maibaum (Maypole); the famous Bavarian Inn (Glockenspiel) (35-bell carillon); the Wetter Haus (Weather Vane); a Zwickelsturm (union tower); and laboriously hand laid brick walks.

Bavarian costumes in evidence daily at the Bavarian Inn throughout the year are multiplied a thousandfold as the entire community gets into the spirit of this yearly event. The women and girls wear their colorful dirndls, the men and boys wear their lederhosen (authentic leather pants imported from Germany).

ADDED TO the costumeing is the German food and beverage that is part of the community's Bavarian heritage. Visitors find themselves transported for a day into the warmth and hospitality that is associated with the



one time. Baked fresh daily in the Rotary kitchen on the festival grounds are more than 30,000 pretzels, 3,100 loaves of stolen (fruit bread), and white bread, and 8,000 fruit turnovers.

One of the most unusual aspects of food production in the community of Frankenmuth is sausage and two local sausage houses produce more than 18,000 pounds (or nine tons) of sausage and hockdags for Festival Week.

EVERY AFTERNOON Monday through Friday there's a 2 1/2-hour show of live entertainment and dancing for the whole family in the Spas Plaza. On Thursday and Friday an added attraction is a ski show on the Cass River, with jumps, group maneuvers, human pyramids and kite flying entertainment.

Youth activities at the festival include two feature-length movies daily, magic shows, plays, dancing, clowns and a pie-eating contest.

The festival is more than entertainment, and the arts and crafts exhibits attest to one of its many educational merits. Housed in a permanent building and under a 60x150-foot tent, exhibitions from all over the U.S., as well as special exhibits by local craftsmen, are displayed to the public.

More than 50 exhibitors of 20 different crafts display their works. Among the special demonstrations to be held daily are: Candle dipping, charcoal artist, bird house building, rug weaving, terrarium planting, pottery wheel, macrame and scrimshawing.

From the Carling Park in downtown Frankenmuth a shuttle bus takes visitors to and from the festival grounds. Farm tours to the rural area are offered daily with discussions on the different aspects of crop and livestock farming. The Frankenmuth Women's Club sponsors 45-minute tours to some of Frankenmuth's historic spots, free, daily.

THE BAVARIAN Festival is an invitation from Frankenmuth to "Come and enjoy our gemuetlichkeit," and it's a time of fun, hospitality, good fellowship and festivity for the entire family. It's a week when community involvement and pride is at its best in true Frankenmuth traditions.

Funds generated by the many hours of volunteer work given by Frankenmuth people go back to the people of Frankenmuth.

More than 200,000 visitors are attracted during Festival Week. More than two million visitors annually make Frankenmuth one of the top three tourist attractions in the state of Michigan.

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Hilberry slates
'77-78 season

The Hilberry Theatre's 1977-78 repertory season of seven productions will include works by writers from Shakespeare, Moliere and Shaw to Thomas Wolfe and Robert Bolt.

The season will also include production of a new play, Leonard Leone, director of the Wayne State University Theatre, has announced.

The Hilberry will be dark this summer to allow redecorating and renovation of the theater and reorganization of the training program prior to the arrival of the 1977-78 repertory company in September.

The theater will reopen Oct. 7 with "You Never Can Tell," directed by Robert Emmett McGill. The Shaw comedy had a limited six-week run this spring, playing to capacity or near-capacity houses and will continue in the 77-78 repertory through December.

The new season will be formally introduced to the theater's contributing Sponsors at the President's Preview

of Moliere's "The School for Wives," directed by Robert T. Hazzard, on Nov. 11. The official public opening of this classic French comedy, never before produced at the Hilberry, is scheduled for Nov. 16.

SHAKESPEARE WILL BE represented in the season by revivals of "Romeo and Juliet," directed by Richard Spear, first performed Oct. 21, and "A Midsummer Night's Dream," directed by Robert Emmett McGill, joining the repertory March 3.

Coming from the modern theater will be "Look Homeward, Angel," Ketti Fring's dramatization of Thomas Wolfe's novel, directed by N. Joseph Calarco (beginning Dec. 9), and "Vivat! Vivat Regina!" Robert Bolt's version of the power struggle between Mary Stuart and Queen Elizabeth, directed by Robert T. Hazzard (starting Jan. 21).

Announcement of the final production, which will be added April 14, will be made later.

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Saturday - Noon to 6:00 p.m.

Group Rates - Call for Reservation
Luncheon Served 12 Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Tea Room Open 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

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