

Great weather predicted for seventh Orangeville Ribfest

Ideal weather conditions are apparently in store for Orangeville Rotary's seventh annual Ribfest, which will take place this weekend on the grounds behind the Alder Street Recreation Centre.

The lucky(?) seventh show will get under way at 4 p.m. tomorrow (Friday), running until 10 p.m., and resuming Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Environment Canada has promised that the extreme heat and humidity experienced Tuesday and Wednesday will ease slightly today (Thursday) and a cold front passing through tonight will produce much more comfortable weather Friday and Saturday, with a seasonal high of 25°C Friday, a below-seasonal 21 Saturday and a comfortable high of 27 Sunday. All three days are expected to provide a mix of sun and cloud, with the only rain a 30 per cent chance Friday night.

The Rotary Club is promising ?a weekend of fantastic ribs and great music, with something for everyone, including six energetic ribbers serving up thousands of mouth-watering, barbecued, fall-off-the-bone, get-your-hands-messy ribs, a beer tent, midway for the kids, and continuous live entertainment on the big stage.?

This year, the Ribfest wil form part of Rotary's fundraising campaign for the Rotary Way Bike Route and Grandpals.

Music and entertainment is to be non-stop all weekend. The midway will be running all three days and 11 bands will perform on the big stage, including The Johnny Lane Band Friday night and the Campfire Poets Saturday night.

Sunday will feature bluegrass music all day, with Rhyme 'n' Reason, The Stompin' Flyers, Old School and The Firecats. Sunday afternoon, Ultimutts will put on three fabulous dog shows at 12:30, 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. Check out the Ribfest website at www.orangevilloribfest.com/entertainment to get all the details about the entertainment lined up.

Again this year, Rotary will partner with Dufferin County Waste Management on waste diversion. The diversion rates away from landfill in the last two years have been 78 per cent and 83 per cent, and they're hoping to do even better this time, with a goal to be the most environmentally friendly Ribfest yet.

Volunteers are needed to fill several positions: Ribfest greeters, cleaning and maintenance assistants, monitors for entrances/exits, and monitors for waste management stations. This year, volunteers can register online at www.orangevilloribfest.com/volunteers. And, as usual, high school students who volunteer qualify for credits toward their 40 hours of community service.

Rotary President Knut Holmson noted that the Orangeville Ribfest is a major part of Rotary's community fundraising effort, with proceeds directed toward various community projects. She added that admission to Ribfest is free, but donations are gratefully appreciated ? look for the Ribfest pig at the entrance.

For more information visit www.orangeville.ribfest.com