

Laurel Festival History

The First Laurel Festival was in 1938 and was the brainchild of Mr. Larry Woodin, a Wellsboro businessman who was so impressed with Pine Creek Gorge, located 10 miles Southwest of Wellsboro that he persuaded the Chamber of Commerce to publicize it as a natural wonder of Tioga County.

Through Mr. Woodin's efforts, visitors came to see the breathtaking 50 mile gorge, now known as the "Grand Canyon of the East" or the "Pennsylvania Grand Canyon."

Organized by the Wellsboro Lions Club, the first festival was held to promote not only the Grand Canyon, but also the state flower, Mountain Laurel. Events included a parade, a circus, block dance and a ball. The festival highlight was the crowning of the first Laurel Queen, Miss Phyllis Viola of McKees Rocks.

Over the years, the festival has under gone many changes. Its title officially became the "Pennsylvania State Laurel Festival" to indicate that many towns in the state are represented. The Pet Parade, arts and crafts fair, concert series and foot races have all added to the enjoyment and participation of young and old alike.

The Laurel Festival continues to grow each year, and the friendly hospitality of the area has not changed over the years. Visitors are welcome to enjoy not only the fun of the Festival, but also the rugged, rocky cliffs, unspoiled forest land abloom with Laurel and clear bubbling water; all the natural beauty of Tioga County.

More 2016 Events

Sponsored by

The Wellsboro Area Chamber of Commerce,
The Wellsboro Foundation, & Members

114 Main Street
Wellsboro, PA 16901

**Waste Management Susquehannock Trail Pro
Rally presented by Citizens & Northern Bank**

June 3 & 4, 2016

Endless Mountain Music Festival

July 22nd – August 6th, 2016

Classic Car Cruise In

July 30th & August 27th, 2016

**Laurel Classic
Mountain Bike Challenge**

September 10, 2016

WACC Golf Outing

September 23, 2016

Dickens of a Christmas

December 3, 2016

**For more information on these events
please call 570-724-1926 or visit**

www.wellsboropa.com

file: cd/lf/mainlaurel/schedules/2016/trifold

75th Annual PA State Laurel Festival



June 11 - 19, 2016

In beautiful Wellsboro, PA

**"Home of the
Pennsylvania Grand Canyon"**

Wellsboro Fireman's Carnival
June 7th - 11th, 2016

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

10 a.m.-1 p.m.
FAMILY DAY
Children's Health Fair
The Green

10 a.m. - Mr. Ron

Noon - Sadie Green Sales

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

1:30 p.m. (Judging @ 12:30pm)
Pet Parade
Packer Park to the Green

7:00 p.m. - Laurel Concert Series
Wednesday Morning Musicales
Chorus
United Methodist Church of
Wellsboro

MONDAY, JUNE 13

7:00 p.m.
Laurel Concert Series
"Callanish"
Coolidge Theatre, Deane Center

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

7:00 p.m.
Megan McGarry Concert
Coolidge Theatre, Deane Center

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

7:00 p.m.
Laurel Concert Series
"Wellsboro Town Band"
The Green
(Rain Location: First Baptist Church)

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

7:00 p.m.
Laurel Concert Series
"Wellsboro Men's" &
"Women's Choruses"
First Presbyterian Church of
Wellsboro

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
Arts & Crafts Fair
International Street of Foods
The Green

12:00 Noon
Queens' Welcome
Outdoor Stage, Deane Center/Central
Avenue

5:00 p.m.
Queens' Preview, followed by
Zydeco Trail Riders in concert
Outdoor Stage, Deane Center/Central
Avenue

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

9:00 a.m.
10K Foot Race &
2-mile Fun Run
Packer Park

9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Arts & Crafts Fair
International Street of Foods
The Green

2:00 p.m.

PA State Laurel Festival Parade

6:30 p.m.

*Coronation of 2016 PA State
Laurel Queen (\$)*
Coolidge Theatre, Deane Center

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

10:30 a.m.
Union Church Service
The Green
(Rain Location: First Baptist Church)

2:00 p.m.
Jim Gaudet and the Railroad Boys
Outdoor Stage, Deane Center/Central
Avenue

**Schedule is subject to minor changes.*

Laurel Festival Parade Chair Rentals

* For prime parade viewing, chairs will be available for rent in front of the Tioga County Courthouse for \$5 each. Advanced reservations can be made until Wednesday, June 15th by calling the Chamber office at 570-724-1926. After that, they will be on a first come, first serve basis the day of the parade starting at 9:00am. *Proceeds will benefit the Wellsboro Area High School Girls' Basketball team & PA State Laurel Festival.*



*2015 PA State Laurel Queen
Rebecca Leuthold*