

BELVIDERE



A horse-drawn carriage makes its way past folks in town for Belvidere's Victorian Days celebration. 2010 Warren County file photo

Victorian Days are here again

Festival to return Sept. 7-9 after last year's cancellation

Steve Novak *For The Warren Reporter*

Brush up your 1800s vocabulary and break out your finest waistcoat: Belvidere Victorian Days will be back in 2018.

The annual event in the Warren County seat was canceled in 2017 — what would have been its 30th year — after organizers said there were not enough homes for the popular house tours or to host teas and, without them, not enough funds to pay the bills.

A new committee is heading up the festival this year and announced this month that Victorian Days will be held Sept. 7 to 9 at Garrett D. Wall Park in Belvidere.

The new board formed in mid-January and on Monday incorporated itself as
SEE FESTIVAL, A2

FESTIVAL

FROM A1

a nonprofit organization, said Amy Lewis, a Belvidere resident and member of the four-member committee. The usual events — including tours of some of Belvidere's historic homes and teas on their porches — should be back, along with plenty of vendors, according to Lewis and an event listing on Facebook.

In the works are a cotillion dance (Victorian Era dress preferred, of course), some incorporation of steampunk (costumes resembling an 1800s vision of the future), and an art competition in which artists will paint scenes in Belvidere, be judged and sell their works on the spot.

Much of this is tentative at this point, but hopes are high for a successful return to Victorian Days.

the Express Times
Fri, Feb 23, 2018