



Abraham Lincoln Tourism Bureau of Logan County

ABE66.com 217-732-8687

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2006

Celebrate Happy Wiener Fest on the Mother Road in Atlanta, IL!

Atlanta, Illinois – Do you like hot dogs? Do you like fun? If so, come out to historic Atlanta, IL on May 26 – 28, 2006 to enjoy the First Annual Happy Wiener Fest! This festival, whose name is taken from Atlanta's wiener toting Paul Bunyan statue and the Smiley Face water tower, will celebrate not only its name sakes, but also Route 66.

Spectators will enjoy a variety of musical entertainment including Professor John & the Chicago Swamp Band on Friday evening and Elvis Himselvis (a.k.a. Rick Dunham) on Saturday evening. If food is more your style, there will be a Chuck Wagon Style Wiener Cook Off as well as numerous food vendors and community meals. Enjoy fun and games and also arts & crafts booths for a little shopping.

But wait – there's more! On Saturday morning May 27th, the City of Atlanta and the Route 66 Heritage Project will be presenting the Stevens family (who has loaned the Bunyan Statue to the City of Atlanta) with the Route 66 Preservation Award. A Corvette Cruise-In will also be on Saturday in this historic Route 66 community.

On Sunday May 28th from 1-4pm is the Big Kids Toys Event. Have you ever wanted to ride in a hot air balloon? How about a Big Foot or a 1940 Plymouth? If the answer is yes, then don't miss this one! The Big Kids Toys event will feature approximately 20 unique and exciting vehicles in which people will be able to take rides or have their pictures taken. Vehicles include everything from tethered balloons to motorcycles with sidecars to police cars and fire trucks. Tickets will cost \$10 for 8 rides or \$2 per individual ride. This fundraising event will benefit the Atlanta Library's Downey Building Project and is sponsored by the Friends of the Atlanta Library and Museum.

Also on Sunday, is a Blackhawk Helicopter fly-in and a Community Church Service on Sunday evening. Row Motors of Lincoln, Illinois will also have Dodge Trucks on display for the weekend, and the National Guard will have a tent and humvee on display as well.

There is something for everyone at Happy Wiener Fest, including plenty of hot dogs and happy people! The fun starts on Friday May 26, 2006 and will continue until Sunday the 28th. Atlanta, Illinois is located midway between Bloomington and Springfield on Interstate 55 in Logan County. If you're interested in joining the fun as a vendor or crafter, limited spaces are still available - please contact Bill Martin at 217-648-2351 or visit www.happywienerfest.com.



**Logan County Information Station - Corner of Fifth Street and Historic Route 66 - www.ABE66.com
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