Events Galore Lined Up For Susan B. Weekend Fest

The Fourth Annual Susan B. Anthony Festival is coming this weekend at the home site of Susan B. Anthony in the Madison-King neighborhood.

The festival is sponsored by the Susan B. Anthony Preservation District Association and is in celebration of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote.

The YWCA and the Genesee Region Women's Political Caucus will celebrate the opening festivities of the Susan B. Anthony Festival Friday, Aug. 6, 6:30 p.m., at a Victorian Box Dinner Sociable in the Susan B. Anthony Square. Special guests will include Sonia Johnson, Charlotte Conable, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, and others. Barbara Jablonski and Cathy McGrath will be performing traditional folk music on the hammer dulcimer, guitar and flute. Guests will be wearing Victorian costume, in keeping with the spirit of the 19th century.

THE FESTIVAL ITSELF, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 7 and 8, includes a flea market, arts and crafts, food, music, dance, drama, clowns, women speakers, and gospel singers.

For the children, there will be a soccer clinic organized by Susan Hoffman. Members of the Rochester Flash will be assisting and giving out discount tickets and certificates to all participants. Also performing for the children will be Anthony DiFabio, a children's musician and storyteller; Alley Kazan, a roving clown and juggler; Richard Shields, a ventriloquist and a puppeteer who depicts the lives of famous people.

Actors and musicians from Blackfriars, NTID, Penfield Players, and the Rochester Community Players will present "Spoon River Anthology," directed by Suzanne Friday, Saturday at noon and Sunday at 1 p.m. "Spoon River Anthology" by Edgar Lee Masters is a beloved American classic written in a style reminiscent of the lyric quality of "Our Town," set in the 1890's. It depicts the joys and sorrows of people in a small town (in Illinois) who live lives of quiet desperation and sometimes dreams fulfilled. The music, of a country-folk flavor, includes such ballads as "He's Gone Away" and "Times Are Gettin' Hard Boys."

A HOUSE AND GARDEN TOUR including 15 homes and gardens will be given by the Preservation District, Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. In the homes of artists and designers Ron Nichols, Donna Berry, and Barbara Hoffman, visitors can view original tin and clay roofs, gas lights, English terraces and gardens. Tickets are available in advance or at the festival.

The First Unitarian Church will present a non-denominational church service at 11 a.m. Sunday in the square, featuring 19th-century hymns. The Rev. Katherine Russell will lead the service.

The Susan B. Anthony Award, which is given to a woman in the Monroe County area for her outstanding community achievement, will be presented Sunday at 2 p.m.

SPEECHES BY SONIA JOHNSON, Charlotte Conable, editor of "MS." magazine; and Sen. Moynihan will be heard starting at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Music throughout the festivities will include a two-hour concert Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. by the Monroe County Parks Band; Mitzie Collins, with songs of suffragettes, using hammer dulcimer and the banjo, Saturday, 4 p.m.; bluegrass and country music, with Al Rehn and Nancy Park, Saturday, 5 p.m.; and jazz, with Terrence Bruce's Band Saturday, 6 p.m.

The McGriff Family Gospel Singers will perform at noon Sunday; the Borinquen Dancers, at 3 p.m.; and the Jan Cursio Swing Band, at 4 p.m.