

## Kalida Pioneer Days Committee announces parade theme

Written by Information submitted  
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### Information Submitted

KALIDA — The Kalida Pioneer Days Committee has announced the theme for the annual Pioneer Days parade to be held on Sept. 8. The theme this year will be “Friends, Family and Fun ... there’s something for everyone at Pioneer Days!” Entries in the parade representing this theme are especially encouraged.

This theme was selected from entries submitted by students from Kalida Grade School. The lucky winner was Brooke Vennekotter, daughter of Jeff and Marcia Vennekotter. For submitting the winning theme, Brooke, a fourth-grader, will receive a free pass to ride all the Pioneer Days rides during the four-day festival.

The annual Pioneer Days parade is one of the largest parades in Northwest and West Central Ohio. It is a fast moving parade with normally around 300 entries. Last year, the community welcomed the World Renowned Budweiser Clydesdales to the parade. They had previously appeared in Pioneer Days parades in 2005 and 2000, as well. In recent years, a broad array of vintage military equipment has been represented in the parade, plus a current M-1 tank.

This year, the Pioneer Committee is pleased to announce that Durant Amusements will be supplying the rides for the festival. Durant Amusements, a well-known local Ohio company, has grown to be one of the major ride companies operating in the midwest. The Pioneer Days Committee is proud to have this first class company be a part of the festival. Durant Amusements will offer rides for all ages. Daily one price ride wristbands will again be available during the festival.

The Pioneer Days festival, now in its 141st year, is one of Ohio’s oldest festivals and is jointly sponsored by the Kalida Lions and Kalida Firefighters. The Pioneer Days planning committee consists of two Lions members and two firefighters. This year, Scott Kahle and Tim Kahle represent the Kalida Lions, while Phil Karhoff and Brian Goubeaux represent the Kalida Firefighters.

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For additional information on this year's festival, check out the newly-updated Pioneer Days website, [pioneerdays.com](http://pioneerdays.com).