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## THE SUGAR BUSH STORY

The people of the Central Michigan community of Shepherd will be celebrating their 60th Maple Syrup Festival on April 26-29, 2018. We invite you to come and celebrate with us.

In August 1958 the Board of Directors of the Shepherd Chamber of Commerce decided to promote a Maple Syrup Festival. The Shepherd Sugar Bush Corporation



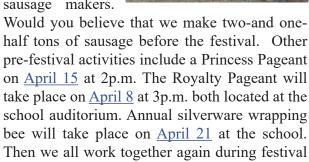
created and began planning for our first one-day festival where we produced 125 gallons of maple syrup and served a few hundred meals. Through the years we have grown to become a three-day festival providing 9,000 meals, and we never could have accomplished this without the help of our many volunteers and visitors from all over Michigan and neighboring states.

The original idea for having the festival was to earn enough money to finance an eight-week summer recreation program for children in our school district. As we grew, we were able to fund a ten-week summer program, maintain a community park, and purchase a plot of land north of Shepherd where many of our events will be housed in the future. (Update on our new property: We have planted memorial trees, seeded the front area, developed soccer fields, constructed a building housing a concession stand and restrooms, and have completed a gravel road connecting park entrances on Shepherd Road and Boulevard Avenue.)

WORK ON THE SYRUP, CANDY, AND ALL OTHER AREAS OF THE FESTIVAL IS VOLUNTARY and almost everyone in our village participates!

Children work with adults carrying sap during buckets the sap run in early March. Many retirees are our most faithful sausage makers.

weekend.



Our very famous and delicious PANCAKES, MAPLE SYRUP, AND SAUSAGE MEALS will be served at Shepherd High School Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon.

During the festival, we offer activities that everyone will enjoy. These include: 10K & 5K Run/Walk, craft shows, three museums, tractor pulls, classic car display, two parades, quilt show, petting zoo, worship service, plus amusement and pony rides all add up to a most memorable weekend.

We invite you to witness hometown hospitality at its best and join us in the "Sweetest Little Town Anywhere Around" on April 26 through 29.



Brenda Loomis Band April, 26–7p.m. at 828

**New Locations: Special Group Seating In Elementary** Lions Club Bingo at Maple Room in

> For more information, please check out our website: www.shepherdmaplesyrupfest.org

