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Stagecoach Days get rolling today

Marshall begins the annual weekend celebration of its historical heritage when Stagecoach Days activities begin this evening.

Planned for 7:30 p.m. is a style show recalling fashions of the past for men and women. The event will be held in the James K. Abney Memorial Room of the Old Courthouse Museum and the \$3.50 entry fee will be donated to the museum's endowment fund.

Events begin early Saturday with an 8 a.m. mini-marathon sponsored by the Episcopal Young Churchmen of Trinity Church.

The downtown run will begin at First Baptist Church and will feature both a one-mile and four-mile event with prizes for various age categories.

The annual transportation parade begins at 11 a.m. and will provide a showcase for antique modes of travel.

The booths of those participating in the arts and crafts fair will be located on Peter Whetstone Square and the nearby McPhail Block in the downtown area. In case of rain the fair will relocate at the civic center.

Booths will be open all day Saturday and Sunday and two Butterfield stagecoaches will also be on hand to provide rides both days. The museum will be open for tours all day Saturday and Sunday, as will be the Harrison County Conservation Society's historic Allen House.

The Allen House is located in the national Ginocchio Historical District and the Ginocchio Hotel, also in this area, will be the site of the historic scenes art festival.

A folk song presentation by Townes Van Zandt is scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday at the civic center. The Van Zandt concert will feature the performer's own compositions and those of Huddie Ledbetter. Mexican dancers in native costumes from the Ballet Americana de Mexico will also participate in the event.

Tickets will be on sale all day today at the Marshall Mall for the historic homes tour. Open to the public on Saturday and Sunday will be the Adkins House at 109 Adkins, the Gregg House at 407 W. Rusk and Edgemont on the old Longview Road.

Tickets for the house tours will be available on the square and at the houses Saturday and Sunday.

Stagecoach rides will be offered at the mall until 9 tonight and downtown merchants are conducting a city-wide sidewalk sale Saturday.