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plays
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teams
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The man known
as
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Knocking on Summerfest's Door: Sheboygan teen rock band *The Doorknobs* takes the big stage

by **Dave Boehler**
for The Beacon

Who hasn't attended Summerfest, the popular music party held for nearly 60 years in Milwaukee?

Who has, however, performed there along the shores of Lake Michigan?

The Doorknobs, a four-piece rock band that formed in 2023 and consists of 16-year-old high school students from Sheboygan, have.

On Friday, June 19, to be exact.

"I think taking the stage for the first time and just looking out on the people, and you can hear or see the other stages in the distance, it was just really surreal to be in that big of a place," said Harrison Brunette, whose parents own a construction company in Howards Grove. "It was just really fun for all of us, and we can't wait to play big shows like that in the future."

The Doorknobs, which consists of Etude High's Brunette (guitar) and Lennon Helgeson (lead vocals, keys), as

well as North's Aiden Melei (drums) and Max Irby (bass, guitar, vocals), were one of 10 bands that participated in Summerfest's two-day Rockonsin last weekend.

Billed as the only garage band competition of its kind in the nation, Rockonsin is exclusively for Wisconsin students in grades 7-12.

The Doorknobs learned of the competition through school last fall and applied online – there were 53 other entries – by submitting video of one of their songs.

"We just thought it was another opportunity to perform," Brunette said. "But, I mean, it's Summerfest. It's like one of the biggest festivals in the world. So I'm not sure that any of us really had



The Doorknobs, which consists of Harrison Brunette (from left to right), Lennon Helgeson, Aiden Melei and Max Irby, were one of 10 bands that got to play Summerfest's Rockonsin last Friday. – Photo by Gabriella Steinbacher

an expectation of going in and winning. We just really wanted the experience."

Two months ago, Summerfest informed the band they were going to play at the Aurora Pavillion.

"I think we all kind of forgot that we entered in because it was quite a gap (of time),"

Brunette said. "None of us were really thinking about it all that much. And then suddenly the email came one day and it was like, oh, yeah."

Each band in the contest got to play a 20-minute set in front of three music industry judges who evaluated synergy, vocals, rhythm, technique and creativity.

Afterward, judges even took some time to talk to the Doorknobs.

"They gave us some general feedback about our performance and what they liked, and what they thought we could improve on as a band in the future," Brunette said. "They said we were really unique in comparison to the other bands that played."

But only two bands – first-place Krusher (comprised of Campbellsport students) and runner-up Candy Cigarette (Oconomowoc) – were picked to perform a 45-minute set at Summerfest on July 4 and receive a professional recording session at Madison's Blast House Studios.

"We knew they were kind of the frontrunners, even before the performance, based on their background and stuff like that," Brunette said. "So we weren't too shocked. It was a little disappointing, but we really were just happy to be there."

The show(s) must go on, however, and the Doorknobs are scheduled for 13 future gigs – including one July 31 at Sheboygan Brat Days' Battle of the Bands.

They already have two albums – Silver Leaf Sessions and Live at Rockapalooza – that can be purchased along with merchandise at thedoorknobs.bandcamp.com.

The band is also on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube.

"I think we all definitely want the band to go as far as it'll take us," Brunette said.

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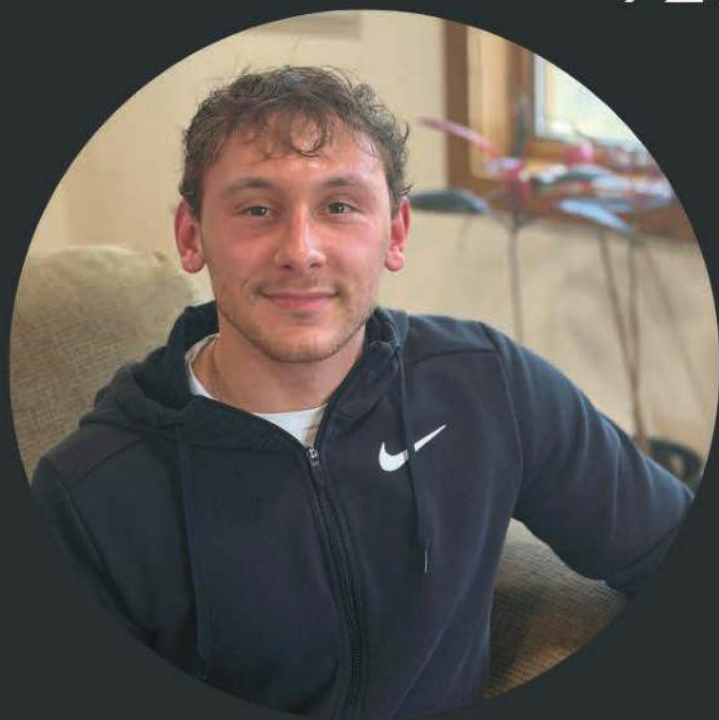
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Popular veggie farm ready to bounce back after freak hailstorm

by Sarah Hall
for The Beacon

It only took minutes for much of this year's crop to be destroyed. Old Plank Farm owner and Plymouth Review columnist Stephanie Bartel watched in awe and disbelief on Tuesday June 16 as a sudden hailstorm, which struck just after 2 p.m., shredded her vegetable plants.

She and her crew had no idea the impending storm had the potential to wreak such havoc. Now in its 18th season, her Community Supported Agriculture farm at W6028 County Road C in Plymouth grows a mix of organic, fresh-market vegetables on 15 acres and serves 400 members from the Plymouth, Sheboygan and Milwaukee areas.

"Not even while it was hap-

pening could we imagine the outcome," Bartel said. "It was like heavy snow. Not gigantic ice balls that damage cars and infrastructure... maybe marble size at the biggest. But it was just so heavy and so fast that it seemed like we were getting snow. I think that's what made it more destructive than most storms."

"This season's plants had been so beautiful. Big and healthy," Bartel lamented. "I just couldn't believe they were going to go down, but they did. So many of them did. There's only so much that broadleaf, tender annuals can handle, which is what most vegetable crops are."

"Virtually everything in our field was shredded to some degree," she continued. "I've never seen anything like it... It was terrible to watch, but also incredible.

We've certainly had our share of problems, but nothing like this."

The hail hit so hard and fast that nothing could be done to mitigate the damage.

"During and immediately after, the storm, all I could do was walk around and around the field in disbelief," she noted. "I'd bend down and scoop up a handful of the ice and pack it into a snowball just to make sure it was real. I was soaked and frozen, right there in the middle of June. It was heart-breaking."

But "right away the following day, we got out and started replanting," she said. "Winter squash, melons, cucumbers, and zucchini will already be germinating again and will probably only be about a month behind the first round that we lost."

"It was still so wet from the storm that the planting tractor got stuck in the mud in the first 15 minutes of the day. But my crew and I just got right to work planting by hand, and even though it's a lot harder that way, nobody complained," she added.

The farm produces more than 30 different vegetables and it's still too soon to predict the outcome for each one, Bartel explained.

But nearly all the crops in the field sustained some damage.

"Probably at least half of the yield potential was lost, mainly for the vegetables that were slated for harvest this month and in July," she said. "The first cucumbers, melons and winter squash are a total loss. Tomatoes might be too, and that's the hardest one to think about, because it's too late to replant. But we do have some greenhouse tomatoes that are just fine. And I think things like beets, kohlrabi, and lettuces will still produce something that we can use."

There was a bit of other good news as well: "The corn and onions have narrow foliage that was only battered up a little bit, they're the most likely to make a nearly full recovery," according to Bartel. "... The smallest plants held up the best because their leaves weren't a broad enough target to really get pulverized."

Planting cycles allow for additional optimism. "The thing about a CSA farm is that we weren't



Photos courtesy of Stephanie Bartel



The Old Plank Farm crew resumed planting the day after the storm, planting by hand when the tractor got stuck.

done planting yet," she said. "That's what will save our season. Half our crops weren't even planted yet, and that's just part of the plan."

Most of the fall crops in the broccoli family were yet to go into the ground, so yields for later in the season remain promising.

The loss is not covered by insurance, but the farm's CSA members have already stepped up to offer support.

"Dozens of members have already reached out and reminded me that they stand by us no matter what, and that they will be happy with whatever we can give to them," Bartel pointed out. "Over the course of our 20-week delivery season, we will still be able to give them quite a lot of veggies, even if it's not what it could have been."

At least one other farm in the area was affected as well.

"The other little pocket of destruction that I heard about was at Kristy Rentmeester's farm down near Cascade, about ten miles away," she said. "They had hundreds of acres of corn and soy that were significantly impacted. But between Cascade and my farm there are two other organic vegetable farms that I've been in communication with, and neither was affected at all. The pattern of the

storm was incredibly wild."

"It's going to be hard to fill our CSA boxes over the next few weeks," Bartel admitted. "But we are a very resilient farm, and we were overprepared for this year's harvest, so we'll get by."

"Our three nearest organic farming neighbors – none of whom were affected by the storm – have all offered to help if and when they have some extra veggies to share, including Springdale Farm of Plymouth, Greenbush Growing Co-op of Plymouth and Three Sisters Community Farm of Campbellsport," she continued. "We've all been long-time friends and farming neighbors, and it's nice to know that they might be able to get some vegetables into our boxes for our members, if their harvests allow for it."

"There will certainly be some frustration and disappointment, and some financial loss on our end, but no one will suffer to a point beyond recovery," Bartel concluded. "... Our CSA members' faith and support in us is making a huge difference in how I'm able to respond to the situation."

For more information about Old Plank Farm, visit www.oldplankfarm.com or contact Bartel at csa@oldplankfarm.com or 920-917-8207.



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North's Rybarczyk shares top honor

ALL-CONF BASEBALL

NORTH

Fox River Classic

First team

Brett Rybarczyk P 12
Brett Rybarczyk INF 12

Honorable mention

Mark Williams OF 12

SOUTH

Glacier Trails

Second team

Ryan Stephen INF 12
Owen Pflum INF 12

Honorable mention

Chase Bohman OF 12

LUTHERAN

Big East

Honorable mention

James Schulze INF 11

Baseball player-of-the-year voting ended in a three-way tie in the Fox River Classic Conference, and North's Brett Rybarczyk was among them.

The senior, who shared the honor with Bay Port's Parker Lawson and Pulaski's Braun Wotruba, was also named to the first team as both a pitcher and infielder.

"Being named player of the year is an incredible achievement," Rybarczyk. "It's an honor to be recognized as one of the best players in such a competitive and elite conference. Being named with two other guys just shows how many good players there are in the FRCC."

The Illinois Springfield recruit, who received all-conference honorable mention the previous two seasons, led his school in batting average, runs, hits, RBI, doubles and triples, and was also tops in innings pitched and strikeouts.

"I think the key to the season was just all the hard work the team and I put in this past offseason," Rybarczyk added. "Going from being a 2-17 team two years ago to a 12-14 team just shows how much everyone wanted to succeed, and it all started with the offseason work."

The Golden Raiders had senior outfielder Mark Williams

(Lake Erie College) get all-league honorable mention as well.

He ranked first in homers, third in runs, and fourth in hits and RBI, one year after landing on the second team.

SOUTH

UW-Stevens Point recruit Ryan Stephen led South's baseball team in batting and four-year varsity player Owen Pflum was tops in runs batted in, and as a result, both made second-team all-conference.

Chase Bohman was the other Redwing player to get all-Glacier Trails (honorable mention).

LUTHERAN

Junior James Schulze received honorable mention as an infielder by leading the Crusaders in hits and runs batted in, while ranking third in runs scored. Last season, he made the second team.

"James put together a good season offensively for us leading the team with a .396 average, while also providing strong leadership in the way he continually supported his teammates throughout the season and approached each day with an opportunity to grow," coach Tim Muth said.



LEFT: North's Brett Rybarczyk is one of three athletes named baseball player of the year in the Fox River Classic Conference.

- Photo by Henry Klatt Media

A's pitcher gets milestone

Veteran right-hander Brad Rindfleisch recently recorded the 700th strikeout of his Sheboygan A's career in a 3-1 victory over visiting Kenosha. He struck out eight in five innings.

Walk-off win comes early

Sheboygan overcame a rain delay to beat Green Bay, 2-1, Wednesday at Wildwood Park.

Hudson Wagner led off the bottom of the seventh with a double.

Two batters later, Cal Casper lined a single through the right side that the second basemen was able to knock down in shallow right field, and

Wagner raced home with the winning run as the A's celebrated their second walk-off victory of the season.

The game began approximately an hour late because of rain and was shortened from the scheduled nine innings to seven.

Reklaitis leads way

On June 18, Jared Reklaitis earned the complete-game win over Appleton by striking out 12 and walking none. He threw 85 of his 106 pitches for strikes and started 28 of 31 Appleton hitters with a first-pitch strike.

Camp time

The Brewers Baseball Academy is coming to Wildwood.

The first camp, July 7-9, costs \$260 and is for softball only.

The second, July 13-17, costs \$425 is for softball and baseball.

The event is open to those ages 6-14 and runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information, visit mlb.com/brewers/fans/camps.

Coming up

Sheboygan has three consecutive games against West Allis, including tonight and Thursday



Harry Steldt (right) slaps hands with a Sheboygan A's bat boy in a game last week. - Photo by Sheila Syrjala

at Wildwood.

The A's follow that with two road games before returning home for contests against West Allis (July 9), Menasha (July

10), and Greenville (July 11 doubleheader).

And on July 12, Sheboygan has another doubleheader with Greenville - but on the road.

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Third time's a charm for Blattner

Lutheran/Christian girls soccer player Keeran Blattner made first-team all-conference for the third straight season.

As a senior, she led the co-op with 22 goals, six assists and 50 points.

"Keeran had another great season," coach Liesa Blattner said. "She was a captain for three years, and did an amazing job leading the team and pushing the girls to be better players. She is going to be a hard person to replace next year. The team won't be the same without her; she will be missed."

Three teammates also earned all-Big East, including junior Izzy Otte (second team).

Honorable mention went to senior McKenna Karls and junior Ella Heronymus (second team last year).

NORTH

Mya Grams finished her senior soccer season by earning a spot on the all-conference first team for the second straight time (was the offensive player of the year last season).



Keeran Blattner (middle) kicks the ball for Lutheran/Christian. - Photo by Chris Hendrikse

The forward, who helped the Golden Raiders to a fourth-place showing in the Fox River Classic, led her squad with 45 points, 17 goals and 11 assists.

Five others made all-league, including two on the second team: senior midfielder Julia English (second in goals, third

in points) and senior defender Lexi Olsen (honorable mention in 2025).

Senior defender Haley Post received honorable mention (second team a year ago), as did two freshmen: midfielder Ali Greger and forward Harper Igowski.

SOUTH

Senior and St. Norbert recruit Emma Daharsh received all-conference honorable mention in back-to-back seasons, as she led the Redwings in points and goals.

Another senior midfielder, Alexa Dexter is honorable mention for the second consecutive time.

ALL-CONF SOCCER

LUTHERAN/CHRISTIAN Big East

First team		
Keeran Blattner	F	12
Second team		
Izzy Otte	OB	11
Honorable mention		
Ella Heronymus	OB	11
McKenna Karls	CB	12

NORTH Fox River Classic

First team		
Mya Grams	F	Sr
Second team		
Julia English	MF	Sr
Lexi Olsen	D	Sr
Honorable mention		
Haley Post	D	Sr
Ali Greger	M	Fr
Harper Igowski	F	Fr

SOUTH Glacier Trails

Honorable mention		
Emma Daharsh	MF	12
Alexa Dexter	MF	12

Bergstrom overcomes injury to get all-league

Haley Bergstrom earned all-conference again, but the North softball player had a harder time repeating.

"Haley was honored by the coaches for her career body of work," coach Chris Lenz said. "She suffered a major injury over the summer and lost about five months of training.

"Her numbers weren't where they were in the past, but she led the team both on and off the field."

Bergstrom received all-Fox River Classic honorable mention again by striking out 39 batters.

She was also walked a team-high 15 times.

Sophomore infielder Ava Brashaw also received honorable mention. She ranked second in hits and stolen bases.

"Ava had a great offensive season," Lenz said.

"She brought stability to first base and as our leadoff hitter. She hit .375 in conference and had a near .500 on-base percentage."



Haley Bergstrom is an all-conference softball player. - Photo by Rebecca Pittner



As is Lutheran's Courtney Kaiser - twice. - Photo by Carla Solle

ALL-CONF SOFTBALL

NORTH Fox River Classic Honorable mention

Ava Brashaw	Inf	10
Haley Bergstrom	P	12

SOUTH Glacier Trails Honorable mention

Addison Eirich	C	9
Bianca Schneiderwent	Util	12

LUTHERAN Big East Second team

Courtney Kaiser	Inf	11
Honorable mention		
Courtney Kaiser	C	11

ship," coach Mike Heling said. "Addison stepped into a position that she has never played and was solid behind the plate."

LUTHERAN

Junior Courtney Kaiser earned all-Big East as an infielder and as a catcher (first-team the last two years).

SOUTH

Bianca Schneiderwent was the lone Redwing to make the

all-conference team last season.

This year, the senior received honorable mention

again and was joined by freshman Addison Eirich.

"Bianca was a team leader and provided solid leader-

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WIAA allows shot clocks in non-conference games

The WIAA Board of Control approved limited use of the shot clock in basketball games next season at the Winter Coaches Advisory Committees affecting season regulations and membership policies at its June meeting on Monday.

Schools will be permitted to use a 35-second shot clock for non-conference varsity boys and girls games if there is mutual agreement between the teams, as permitted by NFHS rule adaptations.

The Board also discussed full implementation of the clock in 2028-29, which would require approval by the membership at the Annual Meeting in April.

Other changes to the Tournament Procedures eliminated language limiting a player to only two halves when a one-half junior varsity game is followed by a two-half varsity game, and removed a provision

that prevents teams participating at State from moving down to a smaller-school division the following year (even if their enrollment would have placed them in the smaller-school division).

Changes in wrestling

The Board approved recommendations impacting the wrestling Tournament Procedures in the Season Regulations.

Dates for the girls regionals and sectionals will be moved ahead one week to Feb. 5 and Feb. 12, respectively, in 2027.

The details for the Girls Wrestling Team Tournament, beginning next season, were adopted. Sixty-four teams will compete in the Tournament Series with the top-two scoring teams from the individual regional tournament advancing to the sectional team tournament.

The teams will be seeded at

HIGH SCHOOL NOTES



sectionals by applying the Team Tournament seeding formula to their individual regional lineup.

Teams advance from the team sectional to the State Team Tournament to coincide with the Boys Team Tournament Friday and Saturday, March 5-6 at the La Crosse Center.

In addition, the sectional pairings of the Girls Wrestling Individual Tournament will be determined by using an annual regional rotation that will pair regional champions versus regional runners-up in all weight

classes, which prevents student-athletes from the same two regionals from meeting in every sectional semifinal.

The third recommendation approved standardizes the seeding process for both the boys and girls individual and team Tournament Series. The new language also clarifies how previous season's State Tournament results are applied for seeding the individual tournament.

Hockey changes

Two rule changes were approved by the Board, and the first alters the overtime process.

If a game remains tied following an eight-minute, five-on-five sudden victory overtime period, the ice will be resurfaced followed by a 17-minute, five-on-five sudden victory OT.

If a winner is not determined, the ice will be resurfaced and

a five-minute, four-on-four sudden victory period will be played with goalies switching ends.

The second change will implement a four-official system for all sectional and State Tournament games.

In other news ...

The Board approved a new timeline for the conference realignment process. Beginning with the 2027-28 conference realignment cycle, non-football realignment will be conducted every four years.

The football-only conference realignment cycle will remain on its current two-year schedule.

And two men representing the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association presented a proposal in support of expanding the State Boys and Girls Basketball Tournaments.

Wall of Fame Induction Night is set for July 11

by Jeff Pederson

Sheboygan Falls News Editor

The fifth annual Plymouth Dirt Track Racing Wall of Fame Induction Night will honor the Class of 2026 on July 11.

Five drivers, four track workers, and one racing family are set to be recognized during intermission as the newest members of the Wall of Fame.

An inductee meet-and-greet, autograph, photo, and memorabilia session is scheduled under the grandstand starting at 4:30 p.m. The event provides an opportunity for fans to interact with present and past Wall of Fame inductees, while viewing photos and memorabilia from their legendary racing careers.

All past Plymouth Racing Wall of Fame inductees and Miss Eastern Wisconsin Stock Car trophy queens are invited to attend as well.

In addition, vintage owners can display their classic machines in the car show.

Five drivers to be honored

Five drivers are set for induction, including John Born of Howards Grove, Brian Gilles of Plymouth, Terry Marten of Sheboygan Falls, Lanny Schirmer of Plymouth, and Gib Wiser of Neosho.

Inductees in the Dedication

to Racing category include four longtime track workers – Dale Baumann, Kim Baumann, Dave Bohrmueller and Brian Triphan.

Members of the Sippel Family, which features multiple generations of racers, including Tom, Randy and Scott, will also be inducted in the Racing Family category.

All inductees planning to be in attendance should contact Ken Schulz in advance at kenschulz91@gmail.com.

All past Miss EWSC and trophy queens interested in attending, contact Camisha Klumb at dirtdiva1572@icloud.com.

The evening's racing pro-

gram will feature the Super Six Late Models, 360 Sprint Cars, Grand Nationals, B Mods and Vintage Modifieds.

Spectator gates open at 4:30 p.m. with Late Model and

360 Sprint Car qualifying at 5:30 p.m., and racing at 6 p.m.

In the event of inclement weather, a make-up date for the ceremony is scheduled for July 18.

UPCOMING GAMES & EVENTS

Wildwood Baseball Park
2276 New Jersey Ave, Sheboygan

Thursday, July 2nd • 7:30 pm vs West Allis

Thursday July 9th • 7:30 pm vs West Allis

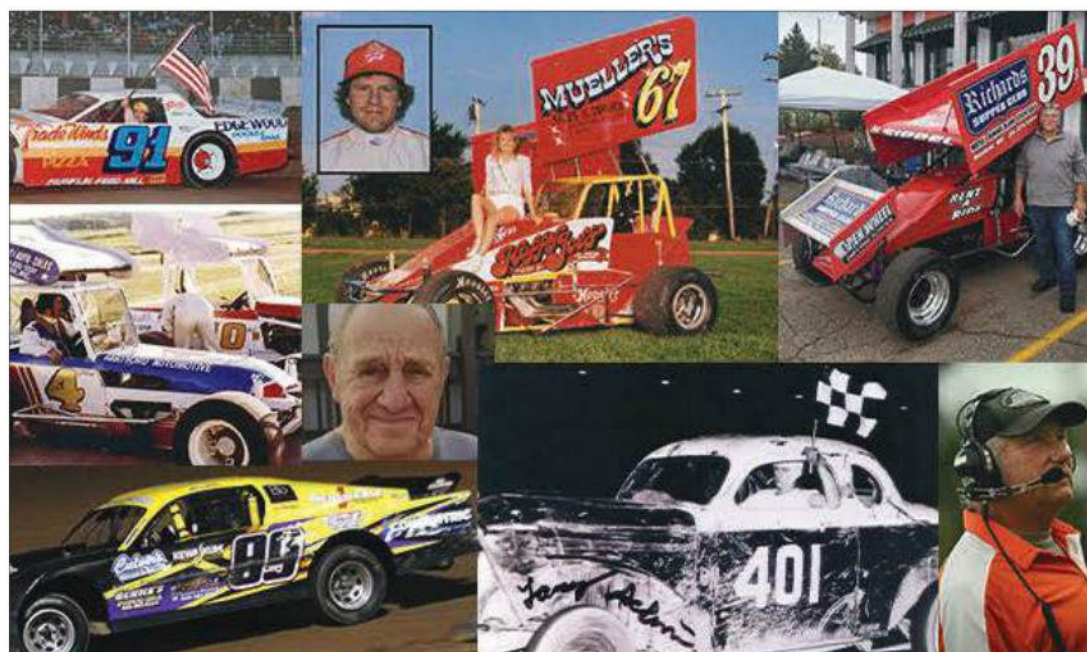
Friday, July 10th • 7:30 pm vs Menasha

Saturday, July 11th • 1:00 pm vs Greenville
(Doubleheader) - Meijer Family Day and A's Hall of Fame Induction

Monday, July 13th • 7:30 pm vs Denmark
- A1's Birthday & Mascot Party

Tuesday, July 14th • 7:30 pm vs Green Bay
- Heroes Night

sheboyganbaseball.org



The Plymouth Dirt Track Racing Wall of Fame Induction Night is scheduled for July 11 at the Sheboygan County Fairgrounds. Among the drivers John Born, Brian Gilles, Terry Marten, Lanny Schirmer and Gib Wiser. - Submitted photo

OBITUARIES

Clarona Ann Bartzan, Olson Funeral Home.
Margaret Bulkow, Ballhorn Chapels Funeral Home.
John S. Eickhoff, Jr, Meiselwitz-Vollstedt-DeTroye Funeral Home.
Jack Howard Erdmann
Cynthia M. Goetsch, Reinbold-Novak Funeral Home.
Stephen Alan Gould
Marjorie Mae Kuehl, Reinbold-Novak Funeral Home.
James A. Meyer, Gent Funeral Home, IL.
Gerhard "Gary" A. Muecke, Suchon Funeral Home.
Joseph "Joe" Rezendez, Ballhorn Chapels Funeral Home.
Peggy J. Ruppel, Reinbold-Novak Funeral Home.
Robert "Bear" Ruppel, Reinbold-Novak Funeral Home.
Robert Otto Thiel, Suchon Funeral Home.
Peter Weber, Meiselwitz-Vollstedt-DeTroye Funeral Home.
Jeanne Jones Wilson

Freedom Cry expands human trafficking response

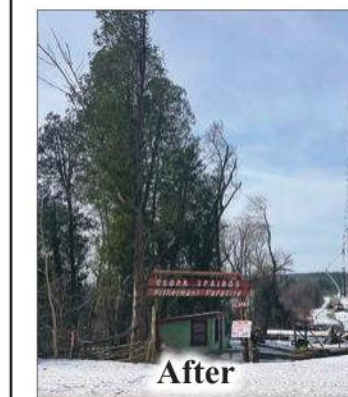
by Dave Boehler for The Beacon

About 12 years ago, a group of concerned parents in the area met at a coffee shop. They kept coming back, but it had nothing to do with the espresso or latte. They wanted to continue to educate themselves and discuss how to keep their children safe from human trafficking. More and more people came to the meetings, and in 2017 it evolved into a volunteer based non-profit organization called Freedom Cry. "They thought that it was something that was only really happening overseas," vice president Mel Norling said. "They were horrified to learn that it's happening right here in Sheboygan County. "People still believe that it isn't happening, or they know that it is, but they don't know to



A ribbon-cutting ceremony was recently held for the opening of Freedom Cry in downtown Plymouth. The new office features a welcome center with merchandise (above), a survivor support room and an open area for presentations. - Submitted photo

Twenty Thousand Trees



We watched and listened to chainsaws, chippers and the big green John Deere Feller Buncher machine for over a half year, violently clearcutting the trees within the Plymouth Reliability Project easement. Mother trees were counted. All of the seedlings and saplings were not. In fact, most trees with a 12" diameter or less and all of the branches, were put into the chippers. Thus, the total loss of trees could have a much higher final tally. The last trees fell in May, 2026. The high voltage transmission line route runs from the corner of Blueberry Lane and County Road N

to the substation located on County Roads A and V. The route angles from County Road N cross country to County Road V. To view the total destruction, drivers need to turn on County Road NN off either V or N. Cedar Springs Trout Farm is located on NN. The clearcut runs through the middle of the property and the power lines are over class 1 trout stream, Nichols Creek. An ARBOREAL MEMORIAL will be held; Sunday, July 5, 2026, 2:00-4:00 pm Services will be held along the 7 mile Route. After dark, mourners are welcome to bring and hold up a fluorescent lightbulb. The bulb will illuminate any where along the route in the easement. Memorial donations can be made to Milwaukee Riverkeeper, Trout Unlimited or left with landowners to be applied to legal fees. The landowners would like to send special thanks to Cheryl Nenn & Milwaukee Riverkeeper and Myk Hyranika & Lakeshore Trout Unlimited for all of the public comments, news reports and meetings they attended. Heartfelt thanks also to all in our community who attended the Brat Fries, Pig Roast, made Public Comments and supported our work. The community worked diligently trying to save the trees. The damage to Sheboygan County is yet to be seen. Join us to remember the legacy of the trees.

what extent. And I think some of that stems from if they don't acknowledge that it's happening, they aren't compelled to do something about it, right? ... Our ultimate vision is to establish a safe home for women and their children." Norling, a Howards Grove native who lives in Waldo, admits she was surprised to learn the age range of documented trafficking in the county was from ages 2-72 years old. Since Jan. 1, Freedom Cry has been working with seven survivors of human trafficking in the county. And on May 30, the non-profit held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its first office at 124

East Mill Street in Plymouth. "I was filled with awe to know that we've dedicated so much of ourselves, and our passion was essentially tangible and open to the community," Norling said. "Since the ribbon cutting, we've had people reaching out, inquiring about how they can be supportive of our projects, monetary donations, volunteering. "Honestly, it's been a little overwhelming - in a good way - and it's definitely leading to growth." The new office - staff previously met in area businesses or churches - is open from 1-5 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on

Saturdays through the summer. It features a welcome center with merchandise, a survivor support room and an open area for presentations, among other things. The website freedomcryinc.org states its mission is to partner with the community, provide prevention through awareness, and be a resource of direct support for survivors. Volunteers "are the heart" of Freedom Cry, which operates on donations from individuals, churches, businesses, and community partners. Freedom Cry offers presentations and trainings that

see FREEDOM CRY, page 13



CHECK OUT MY LINCOLN BABIES! – Josh and Breyanna Budrecki of Sheboygan brought their 1978 Lincoln Continental Town Coupe to the Wings and Wheels event Sunday at the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport. In a letter to Budrecki, Lincoln Motor Company verified it as one of just twelve of its kind left in existence. Their actual baby, named Lincoln, had his own custom ride with working lights. –Beacon photo by Laurie Suhrke

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Taylor Swift tribute band Swift Nation to headline 2026 Fallooza Fall Festival

by **Ben Yang**
for The Beacon

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY - Fallooza 2026 is ready to 'Shake It Off' as organizers announced Swift Nation, a Taylor Swift tribute production, as this year's headline performer.

During a press conference on June 4, Wendy Siegert, Board Secretary with the Plymouth Advancement Association, shared that the tribute band from Northern California will be taking over the Weill Center stage on Friday, Sept. 26.

"Experience the next best thing to the real thing with Tay-

lor Swift's Swift Nation. Swift Nation is one of the fastest rising and in-demand Taylor Swift tribute productions delivering a high-energy, family-friendly concert that celebrates the music of the Eras," said Siegert.

Fans of the singer/songwriter know 'All Too Well' that Swift's discography ranges from country to pop, and even soft rock, giving an experience that appeals to all ages. Fallooza organizers are hoping there isn't a 'Blank Space' in the theater when Swift Nation takes the stage.

"We challenge all you Swifties out there, come and see the tribute band, Swift Nation. It'll

be an unforgettable concert here at the Weill Center. We want to challenge you to fill this place," said Siegert.

Are you 'Ready For It'? Tickets for the performance are on sale now at the Weill Center website. All ticket sales will support the Fallooza Festival.

The 5th annual Fallooza Fall Festival is set for Sept. 24 through 26. Venues for the event include Sheboygan North and South High School, the Weill Center, the Berkshire, and Plymouth City Park, which will host all of Saturday's events.

"We're going to have a wide variety of vendors set up by the

park. It will include non-profits who focus directly and indirectly on mental health and addiction. Morning yoga will be provided in the park by Elevate Yoga. The Sugar Shack will be offering fresh apple cider and dem-

onstrations. St. Paul's Episcopal Church will be barbecuing brats, hot dogs, whole chicken, and fresh made-to-order steak sandwiches. Two food trucks will be

see FALLOOZA, page 10

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Courtesy of The Plymouth Review and The Sheboygan Beacon

the **Beacon**

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Delivery: Randy Thiel

FALLOOZA from 9

serving special smoothies, coffee and deep-fried cheese options,” said Siegert.

Kids can enjoy four bounce houses at the park, two of which will be obstacle courses. There will also be opportunities for face painting, balloons, magic, as well as a dinosaur ranger academy, an interactive show with two performances sponsored by the Plymouth Library Foundation.

“The park concert stage will be busy all day long with the String Benders from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Boogie and Yo-Yoz will take the stage to close us out from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.,” said Siegert.

She also announced that students at North and South High

School will have the chance to meet Kat Perkins, a top four finalist from season six of the reality singing competition show, The Voice.

“She is a nationally recognized motivational speaker, a world-touring entertainer, a humanitarian, and a founder of her own non-profit organization,” said Siegert. “In over ten countries and almost 50 states, [Perkins] has shared her message of being fearless and inspiring others through the power of music.”

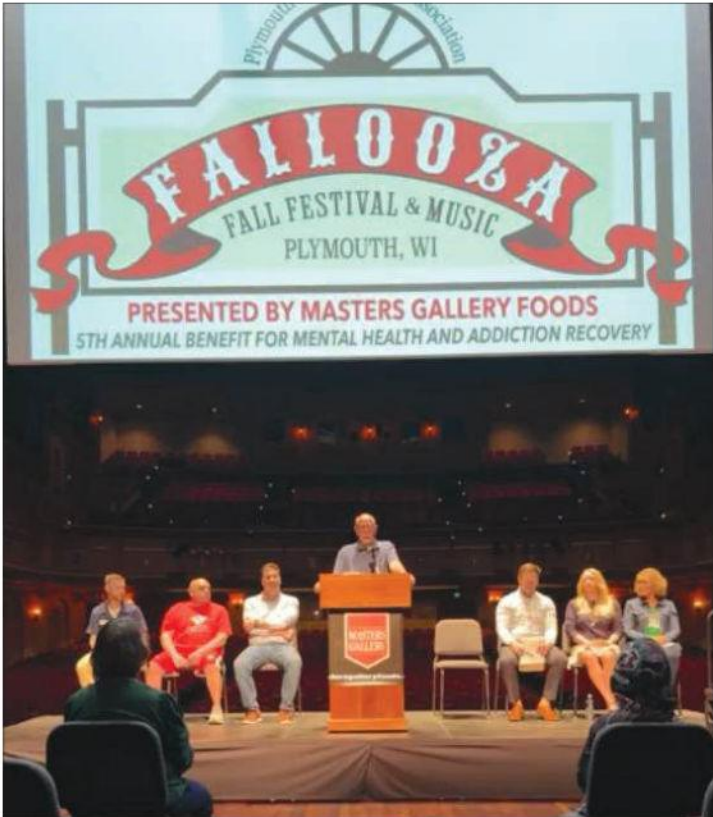
Lee Gentine, President of the Plymouth Advancement Association, shared that events like Fallooza would not be possible without the generous support from their sponsors.

“To put on this three-day event, sponsorship is crucial. We’ve got support from a lot of different organizations, but

we are particularly honored to be working again with Masters Gallery Foods, who is our presenting sponsor,” said Lee.

“Masters Gallery is pleased to be back as the presenting sponsor for this year’s Fallooza,” said Jeff Gentine, President and CEO of Masters Gallery Foods. “We’ve been a supporter since the beginning and it’s been amazing to watch this event get off the ground and not knowing what it was going to be. Every year, it’s another record and another record.”

Serving as an annual benefit for mental health and addiction recovery, Fallooza has distributed more than \$375,000 towards treatment and recovery efforts to Rogers Behavioral Health, Mental Health America, Samaritan’s Hands, and Pathways to a Better Life.



FALLOOZA FALL FESTIVAL ORGANIZERS HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE inside the Weill Center to announce the event’s headline performer. Swift Nation, a Taylor Swift tribute band, will perform at the Weill Center on Friday, Sept. 24 at 7 p.m.

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Food/News

Recipes, tips & nutrition

This Italian comfort food hits the spot

“Comfort food” is an umbrella term that refers to a wide array of dishes. For fans of Italian food, there may be no dish that fits the comfort food mold better than lasagna. Lasagna can be made with a wide array of ingredients, and each iteration of it qualifies as comfort food. That’s certainly the case with this recipe for “Lasagna With Zucchini and Meat Sauce” from Lines+Angles.

Lasagna With Zucchini and Meat Sauce
Makes 9 servings

2 large zucchini, rinsed and trimmed

Salt

12 dried lasagna noodles

1 pound ground beef

1 1/2 teaspoons ground black pepper

1 small green bell pepper, rinsed, trimmed and diced

1 onion, peeled and diced

8 ounces tomato paste

15 ounces canned tomato sauce

3 1/2 tablespoons red wine

2 tablespoons chopped fresh basil

1 tablespoon chopped fresh oregano

1 egg, beaten

2 cups low-fat ricotta cheese

2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

2 cups grated Parmesan cheese

1. Preheat oven to 325 F. Coat a deep 9 x 13-inch baking pan with nonstick cooking spray.

2. Slice zucchini lengthwise into very thin slices. Sprinkle

sauce for about 20 minutes, stirring frequently.

5. Meanwhile, stir egg, ricotta, and parsley together in a bowl and mix well.

6. To assemble lasagna, spread 1/3 of the meat sauce into the bottom of prepared pan. Then layer 1/3 of the cooked lasagna noodles, 1/3 of the zucchini slices, 1/2 of the ricotta mixture, 1/3 of the mozzarella cheese. Repeat the layers ending with a layer of zucchini followed by a layer of noodles. Spread Parmesan cheese evenly over the top; cover with foil.

7. Bake for 45 minutes. Remove foil; increase oven temperature to 350 F, and bake an additional 15 minutes. Let stand for 5 or 10 minutes before serving.

Tip: This may be assembled a day ahead. Refrigerate until ready to bake.



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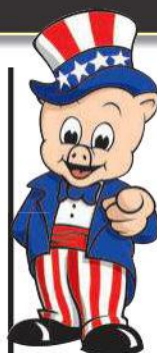


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SEE VAN HORN, page 14

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FREEDOM CRY from 8

provide practical, fact-based education about human trafficking, including warning signs, prevention strategies, survivor realities, and ways communities can respond.

Its restoration bags project provides new clothing, toilet-

ries, and comfort items to human trafficking survivors to start their journey.

The purpose is so survivors do not need to return to their trafficker and can travel to a place of safety.

Freedom Cry also offers a Hope's Hearts Project, which was started in collaboration with the John Michael Kohler

Arts Center and has grown into mobile workshops.

Staff has introduced wooden chimes into the project, extending its reach to local high schools, prisons, private events, and community organizations.

Once completed, the chimes are displayed around the county to shed light on the crisis and offer hope to the most vulner-

able.

And Freedom Cry's fourth annual golf outing – its other major fundraiser is a brat fry every January – will take place

Sept. 19 at Crystal Lake.

For more information, call (920) 254-9901 or email info@freedomcryinc.org.

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UAN HORN from 12

in the communities it serves.

"It is incredible to reflect on how far this company has come since my parents took a leap of faith and moved to Plymouth to pursue a dream," said Teresa Van Horn, "Sixty years later, the values they instilled: hard work, compassion, and doing right by the customer, still guide every decision we make. Our employee-owners carry this legacy

forward every day."

Jeff Niesen, CEO and President and grandson of Joe and Kay said the milestone is about the people who built the company. "Celebrating 60 years is about honoring our founders, our employee-owners, and the communities that supported us along the way," Niesen said. "As we look ahead, we remain focused on responsible growth, innovation, and delivering an even better customer experience for the next 60 years."

Local businesses invited to join 8th annual Goga & Brew fundraiser

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY — Pawsitism Inc. is inviting local businesses and community organizations to participate in its new "Goats Around Town" social media and photo campaign leading up to the nonprofit's 8th Annual Goga & Brew fundraiser on August 16th, 2026 at Tributary Beer

Garden.

The campaign is designed to bring the community together through fun, engaging social media content featuring goats, autism service dogs, local businesses, and recognizable Sheboygan County locations while helping raise awareness and support for autism service dogs for children and families.

Throughout the summer, participating businesses will have the opportunity to host visits from goats and service dogs in training for photos, videos, and social media spotlights as part of the "Goats Around Town" campaign. Businesses may also choose to partner through sponsorships, raffle and silent auction donations, vendor participation, or event collaborations connected to the annual fundraiser.

"This campaign is about community connection," said Rebekah Hintzman, Founder and Vice President of Pawsitism Inc. "We wanted to create something fun and interactive that highlights local businesses while also helping support the children and families our service dogs work with every day."

The 8th Annual Goga & Brew fundraiser will feature:

- Goat yoga sessions
- Live music
- Family-friendly activities
- Service dog meet-and-greets
- Raffles and silent auction items
- Food, beverages, and community vendors

see GOGA & BREW, page 15

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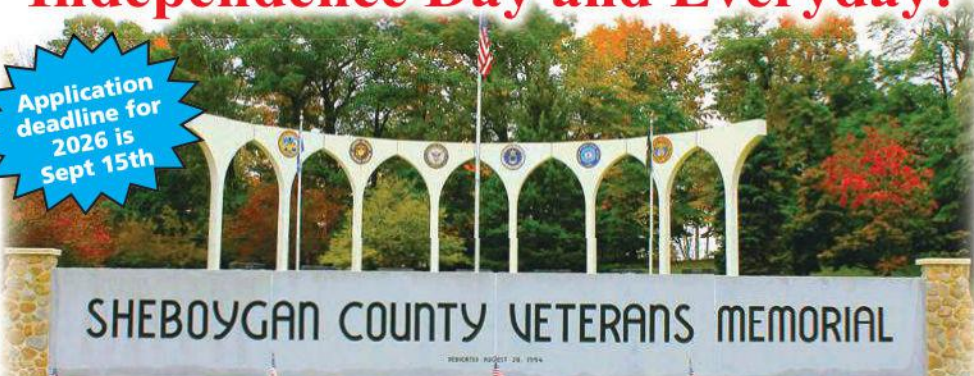
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GOGA & BREW from 14

- Interactive social media and photo opportunities
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- Businesses interested in joining the "Goats Around Town" campaign
- Event sponsors
- Vendors
- Silent auction and raffle

donations

- Community volunteers and supporters

Businesses participating in the campaign will receive social media exposure throughout the summer as part of the lead-up to the fundraiser event.

The organization encourages businesses of all sizes throughout Sheboygan County and surrounding commu-

nities to participate and help create a fun, positive community-wide campaign supporting local families and autism service dogs.

About Pawsitism Inc.

Pawsitism Inc. is a Wisconsin-based nonprofit organization dedicated to training and placing autism service dogs with children and families, helping create greater independence, emotional regula-

tion, safety, and connection through carefully matched service dog partnerships.

Event Information:

- 8th Annual Goga & Brew Fundraiser
- August 16th, 2026
- 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

- Tributary Beer Garden

Businesses or community members interested in participating in the "Goats Around Town" campaign are encouraged to contact: Rebekah Hintzman at Pawsitism@gmail.com

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If you've been putting off having your hearing checked or your hearing aids cleaned, now is the perfect time. Hear Again America is excited to offer **FREE Hearing Aid Cleanings and Hearing Screenings** on **Monday, July 21, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at **First Congregational UCC**. Stop in, meet our team, and take the next step toward better hearing.

If you already wear hearing aids, let us professionally clean and inspect them to keep them performing at their best. Even if you didn't purchase your hearing aids from us, we're happy to help. Regular cleanings improve sound quality, extend the life of your hearing aids, and can identify small issues before they become costly repairs.

Not sure if you're hearing as well as you used to? Our complimentary hearing screenings are a quick and easy way to check your hearing. Many people don't realize they've gradually adapted to hearing loss until they begin missing conversations, asking others to repeat themselves, or turning the television volume higher than everyone else prefers. A simple screening can help determine whether a more comprehensive hearing evaluation would be beneficial.

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This is a first-come, first-served event, and no appointment is necessary. For more information, call our office at 920-956-1335.

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Monday, July 21 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

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We look forward to meeting you in Plymouth on July 21 and helping you experience the joy of better hearing.



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JMKAC invites community to 56th Annual Midsummer Festival of the Arts

SHEBOYGAN — The John Michael Kohler Arts Center invites you to experience the 56th Midsummer Festival of the Arts, taking place July 18–19, 2026, on the streets surrounding the John Michael Kohler Arts Center and Sheboygan’s City Green. This highly anticipated free event brings thousands of attendees together with more than 100 juried artists. Artists present original works across ceramics, painting, photography,



Submitted photo

BUSINESS IN MOTION



Van Horn Automotive Group Celebrating 60 Year Anniversary

A year-long 60th anniversary celebration is midway for employee owners of Van Horn Automotive Group. A special web page on the company’s site and record volunteer hours have been ongoing to date. A golf outing and celebratory event will round out the year.

A dedicated page on www.vhcars.com features a video, historical timeline and blog focusing on the community impact being made. Part of that impact is the 826 hours in 2025 alone for volunteer efforts. That eclipses the 593

hours in 2024 by 28% which grew 49% from 2023. This year is on track to see another increase.

The Van Horn Gives Golf Outing is slated for September 20. This annual event supports Wisconsin non-profits and community organizations. The 2025 outing raised \$20,000 through community and sponsor involvement.

An anniversary celebration will be held October 3 at The Osthoff Resort for employees, business partners and community members. The night will commemorate the company’s growth through family leadership, employee ownership, and community involvement that comprised the last six decades.

Van Horn began in 1966 when Joe Van Horn, whose dream to be a dealership owner, moved his wife Kay and family to Sheboygan. Their values of hard work, service, and integrity continue to define the company’s culture.

From that single dealership, Van Horn has grown to one of the Midwest’s most respected automotive groups. As the only employee-owned auto group in the state, today they have 17 dealerships, 11 OEM brands, a finance company, a fleet management division, a wholesale financial products company, and over 750 employees. For employment opportunities, visit www.vhcars.com/careers/



metal, fiber, watercolor, wood, jewelry, and more.

The weekend also features live music as part of the Levitt AMP Sheboygan Music Series, along with performances, exhibitions, hands-on artmaking, demonstrations, food, and family-friendly activities. Sixteen food trucks and beverage tents located on the festival grounds will offer a variety of food and drink options for attendees.

The Emerging Artist area located inside the Arts Center provides collegiate and rising artists opportunities to explore professional pathways in the arts. This year, five emerging regional artists were selected to participate in the festival: Brianna Stehling Santacruz, Amanda Langer, Cassandra Xiong, Jade Pergl, and Matthew Braunginn. The Arts Center extends its gratitude to artist consultant Frank Juárez of Artdose Magazine for selecting this year’s artists and returning mentor R-Lo for supporting their experience. Festival attendees are also invited to attend artist talks featuring the emerging artists on Friday, July 17, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

at Paradigm Coffee & Music.

The Arts Center is also pleased to welcome the return of RCS Empowers, Inc., a Sheboygan-based organization serving adults with disabilities, and Project Onward, a Chicago-based organization that promotes art as a powerful tool for understanding and valuing the contributions and potential of people with disabilities.

Festivalgoers can also visit Impressions Fine Art Gallery, a Sheboygan-based nonprofit gallery dedicated to showcasing Wisconsin artists through exhibitions, workshops, and community arts programming. All three Community Partners will be located just outside the Arts Center, across from the front entrance.

Additionally, festivalgoers can enjoy a variety of strolling performances, including stilt walking by Jess Clark; flow arts demonstrations by Jamie Reichardt and Logan Bonner featuring trick yo-yo, staff, fans, hoops, and poi; and hula hoop performances by Sarah

see **FESTIVAL**, page 17

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FESTIVAL from 16

Masarik from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Aerial performances by Warped Dance Company will take place from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Visitors of all ages are invited to participate in free art-making activities throughout the weekend. In the Festival Green Activities Tent, guests can create Stone Mosaic Tiles inspired by the rocks featured in Lenka Clayton and Phillip Andrew Lewis: Rock Fade, using a variety of stones, pebbles, and sand to design a unique composition. Attendees

can also make Wrapped Rock Assemblages, transforming rocks into one-of-a-kind sculptures embellished with natural materials such as sticks, pods, feathers, and stones.

Inside the Arts Center's Social STUDIO, returning Artist in the Studio Geornica Daniels will lead a collaborative papier-mâché boulder-building community project inspired by Rock Fade. Participants are invited to work together using recycled materials and papier-mâché to create a collective artwork while reflecting on the value of creativity, collaboration, and community.

Across the event, the festi-

val invites audiences to gather, create, and connect through music, visual art, and shared experiences that reflect local and global artistic traditions. Midsummer Arts Escape Giveaway The John Michael Kohler Arts Center and Blue Harbor Resort are teaming up to celebrate summer in Sheboygan with the Midsummer Arts Escape Giveaway.

Enter for a chance to win a one-year Explorer-level membership to the John Michael Kohler Arts Center and a getaway package from Blue Harbor Resort.

To enter, visit jmkac.org/summerarts or stop by the Blue

Harbor Resort tent during JM-KAC's Midsummer Festival of the Arts on July 18 & 19.

This giveaway celebrates the arts, summer in Sheboygan, and one of the region's signature lakefront events.

Midsummer Festival of the Arts Levitt AMP Sheboygan Music Series Lineup:

- July 18 – Frogwater & Lil' Rev
- Folk
- 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- July 18 – Larry & Joe
- Llanera/Appalachian Folk
- 2 - 3:30 p.m.
- July 19 – The Cactus Blossoms
- Alt Country/Indie Folk

- 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- July 19 – Copper Box
- Zydeco/Country/Polka/Rock/Blues
- 2 - 3:30 p.m.

The Levitt AMP Sheboygan Music Series is supported in part by the Levitt Family Foundation, which partners with changemakers and nonprofits to strengthen the social fabric of communities in America through free, live music in outdoor public spaces. In 2026, the Levitt Family Foundation is supporting over 900 free concerts in 90+ towns and cities across the country, bringing joy to over a million people. www.levitt.org

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Puzzle Sponsorships Available — Call Kay 920-980-9150 or Laurie 920-838-5694

KICKING OFF THE 2026 KOHLER ARTS CENTER'S LEVITT AMP SHEBOYGAN MUSIC SERIES on Thursday, June 25 was Lindsay Lou's all-female bluegrass/folk/Americana band. The free, outdoor concerts also feature food trucks, a beverage tent and art-making activities for all ages.

— Beacon photo by Sarah Hall



Sheboygan named as a top Great Lakes retirement destination

by Dave Boehler
for The Beacon

A new national ranking has again named Sheboygan as one of the top places to retire in the Great Lakes region.

"We're thrilled to see Sheboygan continue to receive positive national attention," City Administrator Casey Bradley said in a release. "This recognition reflects the investments our community has made in accessible recreation, inclusive programming, and high-quality services that help residents of all ages thrive."

Added Mayor Ryan Sorenson: "Sheboygan has always been a place where people look out for one another, and this recognition shows how deeply that sense of community spirit is felt. Our commitment to creating a safe, vibrant, and welcoming city, whether you're raising a family or enjoying retirement, continues to be reflected."

Ashland is the only other city from Wisconsin listed among World Atlas' 10 best places to retire in the Great Lakes.

see DESTINATION, page 20

Prevea Health officially opens new health center in Sheboygan

SHEBOYGAN — Prevea Health's newest health center in Sheboygan, located at 1703 N. Taylor Dr., is officially open for patient care across several service lines, including Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Urgent Care, Occupational Health, Behavioral Care, Lab and X-ray.

Endocrinology services will also be moving to the 1703 N. Taylor Dr. location from HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital, starting on July 20.

Last week, Prevea leadership hosted a ribbon cutting for this new location. Afterwards, nearly 200 members of the community stopped in for an open house and self-guided tours of the new space.

"On behalf of Prevea, I would like to thank the people of Sheboygan and its community leaders for choosing Prevea and our partner, HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital," said Dr. Ashok Rai, Prevea Health President and CEO, at the ribbon cutting on June 16. "It is truly our honor to be here and to serve your health care needs."

This new building represents a significant investment in the Sheboygan community, consolidating services from the recently closed health center at 1411 N. Taylor Dr. It marks the second Prevea Health facility to join the HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital campus, alongside the Prevea Sheboygan Medical Office Building at 3113 Saemann Ave.

To learn more about the care offered at this new location, please visit: <https://www.prevea.com/find-a-location/1703-sheboygan>

WALK THE FISH

BY JEFF MUGLESTON



Beef-Fed Grass

Hail Storm



The Veg Patch Dispatch

Stephanie Bartel • OLD PLANK FARM

On June 16 at 2:00pm, my biggest concern was which beds we should use that afternoon to plant our second round of zucchini. The tractor was idling in the pathway behind me and my driver-dairy farmer and part-time crew member Bob-sat patiently waiting and watching me for a signal. Eleven empty beds lay before me, and I needed to divide them between the zucchini, cucumbers, melons, watermelons, and remaining winter squash that all needed to be planted that week.

I was fussing over which beds to put the zucchini in because I had the luxury to do so. We had become exceptionally organized and efficient this year. Our fields were glowing with health and high-yield potential, young plants were basking in the sunshine, and work was getting done across the field by different teams. That left time and energy for me to think through the zucchini placement, which is a key element to ensure

a quick and easy daily harvest. I had left no detail untouched as I mapped out our field this spring, no crop left behind as we planted week by week.

The tomatoes, zucchini, peppers, and cucumbers that had been planted three weeks earlier started thriving from the moment we put them in the ground. No transplant shock this year, no slow start. Not with our fertile beds, healthy plants, and plenty of irrigation. Irrigation was a hard won battle in May, in which a banjo player and two hair ties saved the day, but that's a different story.

I hadn't been taking many photos of the crops yet, or sharing too many predictions about the upcoming harvest. The crops looked so promising that I figured in just a few short days they would speak for themselves, as we began the weekly harvests. Little did I know that many of the crops would soon be silenced.

At 2:10pm the hail started. It

seemed to come up right out of the trees on the western edge of our field. The tractor was still idling at the beginning of the bed when we ducked under golf carts and other machinery to try and ride out the storm. It blew in unannounced, not even showing up on my phone's radar, and we expected it to move off just as quickly as it had come. At first I watched with eager anticipation. A rollicking bout of rain, thunder, and lightning popping up on a warm afternoon is as exciting as it is beneficial to our thirsty vegetable crops. But with this storm, that was not to be.

Fifteen minutes later it was over. The hail was too much and

it had come too fast. I watched our prized crops shred right in front of my eyes. It was only in the last few minutes that it went from manageable to disastrous.

In times of difficulty, it is hard not to ask why...why us? With the severity and the extreme isolation of the storm to consider, there is definitely bewilderment coming from me. But it's not really unexpected, in a way. Why would I expect farming to be easy? Why would I be entitled to not have this happen at my farm? I don't feel targeted or threatened by any ill will in nature. Some say that we are all given just as much as we can handle in life, no more, no less. That's probably true. Af-

ter all, we had been overprepared for the season, so we'll manage to get by in the end. And things could be a lot worse here. I mean, at least we didn't get any goats.

I've always loved summer thunderstorms. I wrote a poem about a thunderstorm when I was in third grade and won first prize in the district writing contest. Can I still, even after what happened here last week? I can't beat third graders in their poetry contests, no. But yes, in time I can enjoy my beloved storms. Getting hurt is a part of any kind of love. And I love my job working

see VEG PATCH, page 21



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A Look Back on a human firecracker: Dynamite Bill

by Sarah Hall
for The Beacon

After all he'd been through, it's no wonder he felt confident handling explosives.

Born on May 22, 1887 as George Gustave Gartmann in Door County, the man better known as Dynamite Bill "packed a thousand and one adventures into his life as an explosives expert," according to his 1966 obituary.

George rose from a traumatic youth to become a World War I hero, a restaurant and saloon owner, probably the most well-known dynamiter in the state and a character who is legendary throughout Sheboygan County as well. Brilliant, headstrong, defiant, brave and decidedly quirky, he has inspired countless tales.

A 2021 article by local historian Beth Dippel called him "a veritable Paul Bunyan of the blasting profession." George's great-nephew, Keith Gartman of Camp Hill, Pennsylvania – who along with his wife, Dee, supplied much of the material for this story – simply said he was "a real firecracker."

His mother, Emilie (Zimmerman) Gartmann – originally from the Town of Wilson in Sheboygan – died of "lung trouble" when she was 32 and



Basking in glory after returning from World War I, George "Dynamite Bill" Gardner poses in his army uniform in front of a July 15, 1919 sign advertising the Al G. Barnes Circus in Sheboygan. With him is his longtime companion and possible eventual wife, Amanda Behr. Newspaper articles of the time made much of his unruly hair and refusal to wear a hat.

George was just eight years old. He and his six siblings were then farmed out to various relatives and neighbors. His father, a German immigrant named William, remarried in 1889 to another Sheboygan woman with the same first name, Emilie Hintz, who was more than 20 years younger than her groom, and they welcomed a son together one month later.

George's distant cousin, Matt Gartman of Sheboygan, was told by his grandfather – who knew Dynamite Bill personally – that he always resented how he was forced to steal food from neighbors while growing up, and later on wished to distance himself from some of his family.

By 1905, when he was 18 years old, George appears in census records as an inmate at the Wisconsin Industrial

School for Boys in Waukesha, a reform institution.

Once he was released, he lived with his older brother Frank, who died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to his head on February 26, 1907. An article about it in the Sturgeon Bay Advocate said that "the dead man and a brother, George, made their home in a dilapidated hovel on the old Hanrahan place, their parents having some time since removed to Sheboygan County."

Other accounts attest that George was introduced to the demolition trade as a "powder monkey" carrying explosives to blasting sites in a stone quarry.

By the time he was in his early 20s, George evidently wanted a new name and a fresh start, and changed his surname from Gartmann to Gardner.

The exact origin of his "Dynamite Bill" nickname is uncertain, but newspapers were referring to him as such by 1919, so it was already common knowledge. Or the nickname could have something to do with Hoffman Dynamite Bill, regulating the storage of dynamite, which was passed in 1915.

At any rate, George was on his way to becoming a respected businessman – although his unruly shock of wavy, black hair truly made him look like a guy who blew things up for a living.

The Door County Democrat noted on December 17, 1915 that George was back in the area on court business and had purchased a garage and a half block of property in Sheboygan County.

"George still follows his old custom of never wearing a hat and made the trip here without

see BILL, page 21



In this photo probably from the 1920s, a middle-aged George Gardner stands with an unknown boy, puppy and girl in front of the restaurant and saloon he operated for decades in Waldo. The boy might be his nephew, Henry Gartman (1912-1975). - Photos courtesy of George Gardner's nephew Wilmer Gartman (1919-2008) and Keith and Dee Gartman



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DESTINATION from 18

The recognition highlights the city's quality of life, community amenities, and reputation as a welcoming destination for retirees seeking affordability, natural beauty, and social opportunities.

The article praises Sheboygan's balance of small-city convenience and big-lake charm, noting features such as easy waterfront access, a thriving arts and culture scene, and a cost of living that continues to draw new residents.

World Atlas' website has a brief write up on the 10 towns, and the following is how staff felt about Sheboygan:

"This is the 'Bratwurst Capital of the World,' and there are many ways to enjoy this quintessential German-Wisconsin sausage. Schulz's Restaurant serves bratwurst patties grilled over an open fire in a 1950s diner setting. Buy your own bratwurst to cook at home from Miesfeld's Market. "A thriving senior community is a hallmark of Sheboygan, including Uptown Social, a 55-plus community center where fitness, arts, lectures, and more are on offer. "Over 50 miles of beach and boardwalk run along the Lake Michigan shore, and if you are a golfer, it is also home to a championship course in Whistling Straits. "For those who want a more urban setting, the population of 49,000 means more in-town arts options while still keeping great access to the outdoors. "Several major hospitals, specialty clinics, and rehab facilities are right here. The average home costs \$264,820, barely below the state average because of the town's popularity, but still a good buy for retirees."

BILL from 20

his head-piece, his long curly black hair floating in the winter breeze," the article stated.

A June 30, 1916 story in the same newspaper related that "George Garteman (sic), who never wears a hat, was in the city and county several days during the week, having disposed of his Egg Harbor farm to his brother. He conducts a saloon and garage at Waldo, Sheboygan County." George also farmed and operated a tavern in Elkhart Lake.

"He had kind of a float-ing lifestyle," his cousin Matt Gartman recalled. "He had the clothes on his back and was willing to travel. He was not the kind of person who needed a lot of stuff."

George and his longtime companion Amanda Behr, both then living in the Town of Lyndon, were granted a marriage license in 1916, but 1920 census records show they were still single at that time. Then the couple received a marriage license once again in Waukegan, Illinois in 1922. Their obituaries state that they were wed there in 1920, but family members have never been able to locate any actual records proving they were officially husband and wife. They lived apart at times and never had children together.

"Two years with the Rainbow Division's demolition squad in World War I honed Bill's skills with dynamite," Dippel's story contends. "After the Great War he returned to

Plymouth and made a name for himself, leading a life that alternated between celebrity and hermit."

"During WWI, Gardner was the only official dynamiter from Wisconsin," a biography by Janice Hildebrand published in the December 2, 1977 Plymouth Review states. "... His help in dynamiting an old stone bridge across the Marne River stopped the German advance. Gardner received the distinguished service medal award for rescuing Captain Samuel Ellerton, who was wounded in battle."

George was honored in a giant WWI victory parade in Sheboygan on April 25, 1919. Lengthy articles about him in the Sheboygan Press and the Sheboygan Telegram gushed about his exploits on the battlefield.

He "arrived in Sheboygan

last Tuesday with a fighting pedigree as long as a person's arm, and with thrilling stories of life in and out of the trenches," the Press account stated. "Dynamite Bill is a real sport and looks like Davie Crockett... His record is a magnificent one. If there was ever a real hero, it is Dynamite Bill."

"The champion stump blaster of Sheboygan County is a card and the vaudeville performers who have anything on him are few and far between," the Telegram story, which also related George's own tales of officers he admired and the funny come-uppances suffered by those he did not.

"Four languages, Holland, English, French and German, are spoken by him and he plays the violin," the article admiringly noted.

Once again, George's untamed hair repeatedly made the

news.

An October 15, 1919 piece in the Plymouth Review pointed out that "Dynamite Bill, Bill Gardner, has been blasting some monstrous rocks. When he blasts rocks, he goes a short distance away and watches, as does a ball player, where the pieces of rock are to fall, and he is able to dodge the rocks. When Dynamite Bill went into the army, he was obliged to have his long black curls cut. It is said he sold his hair for \$38 to a doll maker for dolls' hair. He is letting his hair grow again."

To learn of George's subsequent adventures back at home in Sheboygan County, watch for part two of this story in the next Beacon.

VEG PATCH from 19

in nature, even when it is nothing but tears and heartache. I will still feel excitement when a storm rolls in on the thick air of a summer afternoon, the same way that I think plants must feel, in their own way. It seems like the electricity in the air during a storm helps plants to thrive. We need storms. We need the power of mother nature. We are lucky that in our region of the world weather is predominantly suitable for growing crops. I just figure that once in a while, even God drops his marbles.

Stephanie Bartel is the owner of Old Plank Farm in Plymouth, WI. She writes a weekly column for subscribers at plymouth-review.com.



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SUNDAYS
JULY 5, 12, 19 & 26
Black River Museum: 1:00-
4:00pm. 5512 Evergreen
Drive, Sheboygan. We invite
the many people who walk,
bike and drive through the
area to stop in and view the
displays. Free Admission!

TUESDAYS
JULY 7, 14, 21 &
AUGUST 4
Heritage School Open House
Tour: 12:30-2:30pm. Open to

public and admission is free!
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TUESDAY, JUNE 30: Dis-
covery Bird Walk: 8:00 a.m.
Friends Pond. Join Master
Naturalists Janet & Andy
Raddatz for a guided bird
walk. Age 12 and up. Vehicle
admission required.
Firefly Watch: 8:30 p.m. Out-
door Shelter. Join in a search
for blinking fireflies. Best for

ages 8 and up. Vehicle admis-
sion required.
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1:
20,000 Years in the Blink
of an Eye: The Past, Present,
and Future of the Great Lakes:
7:00 p.m. Sanderling Nature
Center Auditorium. Journey
through the shaping of the
Great Lakes by glaciers, to
human alternations, and into
the future climate. Vehicle ad-
mission required.
SATURDAY, JULY 4:
Bumble Bee Survey: 9:00
a.m. Sanderling Nature
Center Rain Garden. Which of
Wisconsin's 20 bumble bee
species can we find and pho-
tograph? All ages welcome.
Vehicle admission required.
TUESDAY, JULY 7: Tick
Tock – A Look at Ticks &
Lyme Disease: 2:00 p.m.
Sanderling Nature Center.
Join health professionals to
learn about ticks, Lyme Dis-

ease, and how to protect your-
self and your family. Vehicle
admission required.
Out with Invasives!: 6:00
p.m. Black River Trails. Grab
your gloves and help remove
invasive plants to encour-
age native wildflowers in the
woods. Admission is free for
volunteers.
SATURDAY, JULY 11: Na-
ture Journaling: 10:00 a.m.
Amphitheater. Join us for a
relaxed program welcoming
both beginners and experi-
enced journalers. All materi-
als provided. Vehicle admis-
sion required.
Bug Hunt: 2:00 p.m. Friends
Pond. Explore the hidden
world of bugs during this fam-
ily friendly outing and learn
about the insects that call
Wisconsin "home." Vehicle
admission required.
SUNDAY, JULY 12: Getting
Knotty: 1:00 p.m. Bathhouse.

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TUESDAY, JULY 14: Discovery Bird Walk: 8:00 a.m. Friends Pond. Join Master Naturalists Janet & Andy Raddatz for a guided bird walk. Age 12 and up. Vehicle admission required.

GLACIAL LAKES CONSERVANCY

We're looking forward to a full season of hands-on stewardship at our preserves! Volunteers are invited to join upcoming spring and summer workdays.

These gatherings are a great opportunity to enjoy time outdoors, care for protected lands, and connect with others who share a passion for conservation.

RSVP to Miriam at miriam@glaciallakes.org to sign up or reach out to learn more!

Hunner Preserve – Tisch Mills

• Saturday, July 18 9-11 a.m.
 Broad-leaved helleborine pulling.

EVENTS AT MEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY

710 N 8th Street, Sheboygan
www.meadpl.org
 920-459-3400

Mead Public Library has announced its events and classes featuring educational, cultural and social activities for children, teens and adults.

For a complete list, including storytimes, book clubs, movies and workshops, and to register visit our website or call.

All programs are free and open to the public, with funding provided by the Friends of Mead Public Library and the Mead Library Foundation.

THURSDAY, JULY 2: Red, White & Read: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Children's Activity Room. Celebrate Independence Day with patriotic read-alouds, crafts and more.

TUESDAY, JULY 7: Dinosaur Dimension Show: 10 a.m. & 1 p.m., Rocca Room. See dinosaurs come to life in this one-of-a-kind show featuring puppeteer-controlled dinosaurs. Tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis 30 minutes before each show in the Children's Library.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8: Tween Summer Science Club: 1-2 p.m., Children's Activity Room. Tweens ages 9-13 can explore the world of dinosaurs, fossils, and unearth our history with a variety of fun science projects. Register at meadpl.org or call 920-459-3400.

EVENTS AT



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ELKHART LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY
All of these events take place at Elkhart Lake Public Library
40 Pine Street, Elkhart Lake
920-876-2554
elkhartlakepubliclibrary.org

EVERY WEDNESDAY: Coffee Hour: 10 a.m. Enjoy a cup of coffee, conversation, and a preview of the week's new releases.
EVERY THURSDAY: Story Time: 9:30 a.m. Stories, songs, and activities for toddlers, preschoolers and

their caregivers.
FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH: First Friday Matinee: 1:00 pm at the Grashorn Civic Center. Movies & popcorn for grownups on the first Friday of the month at 1pm. See our website for movie selection.
SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH: Ukulele Club: 1:00 pm at the Grashorn Civic Center. All levels welcome! Contact elcinc@monarchlibraries.org for more info.

SECOND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH: Book Club: 1 p.m. To be placed on our book club list, email elcinc@monarchlibraries.org.
THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH: Fiber Arts Circle: 1:00pm. All needlework and fiber arts welcome, bring a project and join us for conversation and crafting camaraderie.

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 1: Summer Reading Challenge: Register at the library and track your reading on paper logs. Return your completed logs to the library to collect your earned rewards. For all ages..

TUESDAY, JULY 7: Wall Art: 1 pm. Create one-of-a-kind wall art inspired by your name. For 5th grade and up. Registration required.
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8: Bombastic Bubble Show: 12:30 pm performance. Recommended for ages 4 and up.

TUESDAY, JULY 14: Pizza and a Movie: 1 pm. Vote for pizza toppings and the movie selection at the library in June. For 5th grade and up. Registration required.
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15: Prehistoric Pets with J&R Aquatic Rescue: 12:30 pm

performance. Recommended for ages 4 and up.
THURSDAY, JULY 16: History of Racing in Elkhart Lake: 1 pm. Presentation by author Steve Zautke about the history of racing in Elkhart Lake. Civic Center. For adults.

EVENTS AT PLYMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

All of these events take place in the Plymouth Public Library's Meeting Room: 130 Division Street, Plymouth, WI 53073 and are free and open to the public. 920-892-4416. See our website www.plymouthpubliclibrary.net for full details.

NOW thru SATURDAY, AUGUST 1: Summer Reading Program: For all ages. Join us for a summer of fun! Read books to win prizes and goodies.

BY APPOINTMENT: Tech Help. Reserve a time to work with our librarian and get some basic tech help. Registration required.

EVERY MONDAY: Baby & Me Storytime: 10:00 am. Babies from newborns and 24 months are invited to bring their parent or caregiver for storytime! No registration required.

EVERY TUESDAY: Family Storytime: 10:00 am. Get ready for fun songs, dances, and exciting stories! Most appropriate for preschoolers, but all are welcome. No registration required.

EVERY FRIDAY STARTING JULY 10: Friday Flicks: 10:00 am. Bring a blanket and cozy up to watch a FREE movie at the library! Check website for list of movies.

THURSDAY, JULY 2: Morning Book Club: 10:30 am. Join the Morning Book Club to discuss a new book each month. Copies available for pick up.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8: Dragon Training Academy: 10:00 am & 1:30 pm. Calling all brave recruits! Join the Dragon Training Academy for an exciting adventure filled with challenges, creativity, and dragon fun.

THURSDAY, JULY 9: STEM Fun with 4H: 1:00 pm. Explore a hands-on STEM activity with 4H. You do not need to be a member of 4H to participate. Registration required.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover: 4:00 pm. Bring your favorite stuffie to the library for a special sleepover! Registration required.

Game Night: 4:30 pm. For all ages. A fun place to play your favorite board games or a new one. No registration required.

MONDAY, JULY 13: Talks That Bring Us Closer: 2:00 pm. Join us at for a monthly discussion where we watch thought-provoking videos and explore the ideas that connect us.

TUESDAY, JULY 14: Nintendo Switch ARMS Tournament: 2:00 PM. Ages 12-18. Join us for an afternoon of friendly competition with the boxing game where the characters have extendable arms. Registration required.

Trivia Night: 5:30 PM. Everyone loves dinosaurs! Come test your knowledge of the paleolithic creatures. Bring a team or come as an individual. Registration required.

EVENTS AT

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GENERATIONS

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TUESDAY, JUNE 30: GenT Group Talk: 1:30pm. This month we are covering password management. Learn how to pick passwords that are strong and how to keep track of them all. Please call 920-892-4858 to RSVP.

TUESDAY, JULY 7: GenT Open Hours – Free Tech Help: 11:30am – 1:30pm. Help with tech (cell phones, laptops, tablets, etc.) will be offered in the Generation Library. No appointment needed. Tech help is free and available to the community.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8: BMO Bank Presentation: Credit Scores & Reports: 11:00am. Our friends at BMO Bank will be at Generations to teach us about credit scores and the importance of credit monitoring and reporting.

Functional Fitness w. Emily: 4:30pm. Join this fun, full-body workout focused on strength, mobility, and everyday movement. All fitness levels are welcome to this free fitness pop-up class. Please call 920-892-4858 to sign up.

THURSDAY, JULY 9: Consumer Protection Series: 5:00pm. Bennet Merens with the Wisconsin Bureau of Consumer Protections will be at Generations to discuss common scams and fraud. Arm yourself with knowledge and learn how to protect yourself. Please call 920-892-4858 to RSVP.

FRIDAY, JULY 10: Happy Hour Barre Class: 4:30pm. Katie will be running a fun, spirited Barre class open to all! Join for a Friday night workout – stay for a spritz! Please call 920-892-4858 to pre-register.

MONDAY, JULY 13: Veterans' Chat: 11:00am. All Veterans are welcome to join us for lunch and conversation. The special will be Liver & Onions or a hamburger meal for \$9. For anyone 60 and older, you can register through the Meal Site to get your lunch for a suggested donation. Visit Susan Wenzel for more information.

TUESDAY, JULY 14: Free Hearing Screenings: 9:30am – 12:30pm. Medical Hearing Associates will be providing free hearing screenings at Generations. Appointments are required and will last about 15 minutes. Please call 920-892-4858 to schedule an appointment.

GenT Open Hours – Free Tech Help: 11:30am – 1:30pm. Help with tech (cell phones, laptops, tablets, etc.) will be offered in the Generation Library. No appointment needed. Tech help is free and available to the community.

GENERATIONS

CENTER MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

Generations Center
1500 Douglas Dr., Plymouth
For more info,
call 920-892-4858

Parkinson's Support Group: 3rd Friday of the month at 1:00pm. Call 920-892-4858 for more information.

Parkinson's Specific Exercise: Wednesday & Friday, 12:30pm

Ping Pong Parkinson's: Wednesday, 1:30pm.

Advanced Parkinson's Mat Fitness: Thursday, 10:30am

Energizing Flex & Flow: Monday at 9:50am & Wednesday, 9:30am

Line Dancing: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30am

Dance Fever: Tuesday & Thursday, 2:15pm

Activator Pole Open Hour: Tuesday, 12:00pm

Silver Sneakers Circuit:

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday, 8:00am & 10:00am.

Movement for Brain, Body, & Balance: Monday, 11:00am.

Chair Dance Express: Monday & Wednesday, 12:00pm

Chair Pilates: Wednesday & Friday, 11:00am.

Chair Yoga: Monday & Wednesday, 1:30pm.

Cardio Fit: Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00am.

Walk Fit 2-mile: Tuesday & Thursday, 8:30am.

Super Striders Walk Fit 3-mile: Tuesday & Thursday, 7:15am

Arthritis Exercise Class: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30am & 11:00am.

Tai Chi Chih: Tuesday & Thursday, 1:15pm.

Strength Training: Monday & Wednesday, 7:30am.

Yoga Flow: Monday & Wednesday, 9:00am.

Yoga for Balance and Stability: Friday, 9:00am.

Pickleball: Monday through Friday, starting at 7:00am.

GenT Tech Help: Most Tuesdays at 11:30am – 1:30pm; Most Thursdays at 3:00pm – 5:00pm. Call 920-892-4858 for more information.

Foot Clinic: Various Thursdays & Fridays. Call 920-892-4821 for appointment.

Widow or Widower Support Group: Friday, 10:00am.

Veterans' Chat: 2nd & 4th Mondays, 11:00am.

Mini Golf at Tom & Jerry's: Thursday, 10:00am

Ceramics: Wednesday, 9:00am.

Wii Bowling: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00am and 1:00pm

Ping Pong: Monday through Friday, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Pool Tables: Monday through Friday, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Writing Club: 2nd Thursday, 1:00pm

Book Club: 4th Monday, 3:00pm

Kettle Karvers: 1st Wednesday, 6:30pm

Plymouth Rotary: 2nd & last Wednesday, 12:00pm

Cribbage: Monday, 1:00pm.

Hand and Foot Canasta: Monday, 1:00pm.

Duplicate Bridge: 1st & 3rd

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Monday, 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 1:00pm. Must pre-register.
5 10 15 Sheepshead: Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 8:00am. Tuesday at 1:00pm.
Sevens: Tuesday, 1:00pm
Farkle: 1st & 3rd Thursday, 1:00pm.
Bonco: 2nd Monday, 4:30pm.
Party Bridge: 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 1:00pm.
Dominoes: 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 1:00pm.
Bingo: Wednesday, 1:30pm.

Scrabble: Thursday, 9:30am.
Mah Jongg: Thursday, 1:00pm.
TOPS Club: Monday. Weigh-in at 8:30am. Meeting at 9:00am.
Watercolor Painting: Wednesday at 9:00am

EVERY SUNDAY
Stronger Together CoDA Meeting: 1907 Club, 2908 N 21st St, Sheboygan, 4 PM. Learning together to

develop healthy and loving relationships with others and ourselves. All are welcome. No cost or need to register. Any questions, call or text Jill at 920-609-5151.
Al-Anon Meeting: Winter hours 4pm starting Dec 1st-March 30th, Summer hours 6pm April- November 30. Rightway Club, 4627 S. 12th Street, Sheboygan. Contact Jennie 920-901-4550.

EVERY MONDAY
T.O.P.S. Weight Loss Support: 9:45am-11:00am (please arrive before 10am). St Paul's U.C.C., Sheboygan. Call Noreen for info 920-467-1248.
T.O.P.S. Weight Loss Support--Chapter WI 1363: 10:00am-11:15am. Fountain Park UMC, Sheboygan. Call Doreen for more info: 920-893-8118.
Al-Anon Meeting: 4-5pm. Do you worry about someone else's drinking? Help and hope are available. Al-Anon meeting for those affected by another's alcoholism. Rightway Club, 4627 S 12th St, Sheboygan. Call 1-888-425-2666 or visit al-anon.org for more information.

SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH
Compassionate Parents: Grief support for families that lost a child: 6:00PM. Mental Health America, 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth.
THRIVE: Women's Chronic Pain Support: 6:30PM. Virtual Zoom. Contact info@mhakeshore.org for more information.

THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH
Christian Women Connect

After 5: Fountain Park Global Methodist Church, 828 Erie Ave, Sheboygan, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., light meal, features a business or organization in our county, and an inspirational speaker affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries. Call or text Lynn at 920-918-2604 for a reservation, cancellation, or more information.
BRAVE TOGETHER: Support for those caregiving for someone with mental illness: 6:00-7:00PM. Mental Health America, 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth.

EVERY TUESDAY
Camo Quilt Project: 439 Factory St., Plymouth. 9am-3pm. Quilts are donated to soldiers. Linda, 627-3460, linda.camoquilt@gmail.com.
GriefShare Support Group: Evangelical Free Church, 1710 N. 15th St., Sheboygan, 9:30am-11am. Support for those who've lost a loved one. 920-452-6520.
AA Meeting: 10am. Alliance Church, 1203 Fairview Dr, Plymouth 920-226-4268.
Plymouth Food Pantry: 2225 Eastern Ave., 2-5pm. Elkhart Lake & Plymouth school districts. Call 893-2989 for information.
Knight Chess: Sheboygan Falls Library, Lower Level. 4-7pm. Information 920-234-2010.
LGBTQ+ 12 Step Recovery Program: 6:00pm. The Right Way Club, 4627 South 12th Street, Sheboygan. Ask for Dan L. 920-226-8145.
Al-Anon: 6:30pm. Alliance Church, 1203 Fairview Dr, Plymouth, 6:30pm. Use the south door. 920-254-2097
The Sheboygan Railroad Museum: 6:30 to 9:00 PM. 1001 North 10th St., Sheboygan. Home to 8 train

layouts in various scales and many railroad antiques. Open for your viewing pleasure.
Concordia Singing Society: Rehearsals 7:00-8:30pm, 1130 N. 9th St, Sheboygan. Knowledge of German not required. Info: 815-883-0035. concordiasingerswi.org

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
Alliant Energy Wives and Widows of Retirees Breakfast: 9:00 a.m. Sheboygan Family Restaurant. 2704 S. Business Drive.
Lemonade: Widow's Support Group: 6:00-7:30pm. Rogers Behavioral Health, (Main Entrance), 1108 S. Wildwood Ave., Sheboygan, WI 53081.

FIRST & THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
VFW World Cheese Center Post VFW Post 5612 Meetings: 7:00pm. 337 N. Stafford St., Plymouth, WI.

SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
Going Further: Mental Health Recovery Support: 5:00pm. Rogers Behavioral Health, (Main Entrance), 1108 S. Wildwood Ave., Sheboygan, WI 53081.

THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
Christian Women Connection: Sheboygan Yacht Club, 214 Pennsylvania Ave, Sheboygan, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m., brunch, features a business, organization, or interest in our county, and an inspirational speaker affiliated with Stonecroft Ministries. Call or text Ann for a reservation or more info at 920-946-3898.

LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
There is Hope Suicide Loss: Support for those who have lost a loved one to suicide. 6:30pm. Hosted by MHA Lakeshore at Mental Health America 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth.

EVERY WEDNESDAY
TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly): Weight Loss Support Meeting: 9:00-10:30 a.m. Sheboygan Falls Library. 9-10:30 a.m. First meeting is FREE! For more info, please call Riki at 920-946-2425 or check out www.tops.org.
Camo Quilt Project: 439 Factory St., Plymouth. 9am-3pm. Quilts are donated to soldiers. Linda, 627-3460, linda.camoquilt@gmail.com
Al-Anon Wednesday Winners: 1907 Club, N 21st



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The Sounds of Summer: Enjoying the Season While Protecting Your Hearing
By: Joelle Steffen

Summer brings a soundtrack all its own. From the roar of motorcycles cruising down open highways to the crackle and boom of fireworks lighting up the night sky, the season is filled with sounds that signal fun, freedom, and outdoor adventure. While these activities are often part of cherished summer traditions, many people don't realize that some seasonal sounds can pose a risk to their hearing.

Motorcycles are among the most recognizable sounds of summer. While the engine noise itself can be loud, riders face another hidden source of sound exposure: wind noise. At highway speeds, wind rushing past a helmet can reach levels capable of damaging hearing over time. Long rides without hearing protection may contribute to noise-induced hearing loss, a permanent condition that can make it difficult to hear conversations, music, and other everyday sounds.

Cyclists can also experience significant wind noise, especially during fast rides or races. Although bicycles are much quieter than motorcycles, prolonged exposure to rushing air can still strain the ears and contribute to hearing fatigue. Wearing properly fitted helmets and considering specialized hearing protection designed for riders can help reduce exposure without compromising awareness of surroundings.

Another hallmark of summer is fireworks season. Whether celebrating Independence Day, attending a community festival, or enjoying a backyard display, people are often exposed to sudden bursts of extremely loud noise. Fireworks can produce sound levels exceeding 150 decibels at close range—loud enough to cause immediate hearing damage. Children are particularly vulnerable because their ears are more sensitive and they may not recognize when a sound is dangerously loud.

Fortunately, protecting your hearing doesn't mean missing out on summer fun. Simple precautions can make a significant difference. When riding a motorcycle, consider wearing high-quality earplugs designed to reduce harmful noise while still allowing important sounds, such as traffic and sirens, to be heard. For fireworks displays, maintain a safe distance from launch sites and use hearing protection, especially for young children. Foam earplugs, earmuffs, or a combination of both can provide effective protection in noisy environments.

It's also important to recognize the warning signs of hearing damage. Ringing in the ears, known as tinnitus, muffled hearing, or difficulty understanding speech after a loud event may indicate that your ears have been exposed to excessive noise. If these symptoms persist, consult a hearing healthcare professional.

Summer's sounds are part of what makes the season memorable. By taking a few simple steps to protect your hearing, you can continue enjoying motorcycle rides, bike trails, fireworks shows, and other seasonal activities for years to come—without sacrificing your long-term hearing health.

Contact Welsch Hearing Aid Co. at 920-452-0213 for a hearing evaluation or any other hearing-related needs.



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WILDERNESS JOURNAL

Hello friends,

This week and ever since 1982, I am fishing and escaping from the real world with friends and family at a fly in fishing lake in Ontario, Canada.

I am going to write my annual independent way of living, way of life story and I hope that you enjoy it.

On a good day, my truck is not started and I do not have to go town.

I have enough garden planted to feed myself and probably five other people with sweet corn (five crops), potatoes (400 hills), tomatoes (27 plants) and a whole bunch of veggies from onions to squash.

Last year I put up five Nesco's of chili, which I bag and freeze and makes an excellent meal.

I no longer raise cattle, as the calf price has become too high which in the past, I was breaking even but had manure. Now I would lose about \$800 per animal. My guess would be when my soil/sand becomes worthless due to a lack of nutrients I will get back into the cattle business.

My woodshed is stocked for the 2026/27 winter with split and drying oak.

Over the years I have planted 11 apple trees, and my life has become so busy that the last few

years I neglected them and did not make apple sauce.

This year I have been on top of pruning and spraying and hope to make 40 to 60 quarts of applesauce this fall. When my apple trees were blossoming in late April, there was a hard frost, I put my Mr. Buddy propane heaters next to them as well as some electric heaters and it helped but I still lost some potential apples. Necedah has cold overnight lows.

I have been working on the financial end of a retirement plan for 26 years, for a self-employed person that has a low income that has been a challenge but a few years down the road, and if Social Security still works, I should be fine when the time comes to slow down.

My time in the garden is a total addiction for me. The brown to green to brown phase of spring,

summer and fall for a garden and the at least 1,500 pounds of food I will harvest is like catching a really nice stringer of walleye every day.

Speaking of walleye, there used to be a yard in front of my house, now there is Lake Matilda which is named after Michelle Chiaro who was the coolest lady I have ever known. Michelle passed away on 6/15/22 and I will never stop honoring her.

Lake Matilda is my getaway, whether I am looking out my window, working on it, sitting next to a fire by it or like yesterday, swimming in it. So far I have planted bluegill, perch, crappie and last fall I planted twenty, 5 to 8-inch walleye in it.

The perch have spawned the last two springs, the bluegill the last three, the crappie are too young, the walleye will not

spawn but I will add 20 each fall and after 3 years harvest maybe 15 a year.

My entire life and I swear this is the truth, I have had a dream where I have tip-ups in my backyard, and I am fishing on the lawn where I grew up in Poynette. In a few years I think that dream will come true as I will have a shack on Matilda

and the thrill of catching a wall-eye will become reality, while the panfish will become a staple of my diet.

To feed the panfish and wall-eye, I have been stocking three gallons of fathead minnows each spring and fall. Fatheads are very prolific and spawn up to five times each warm season.

Most importantly is the newspaper staff and owners that run this column so I can live like I do since I was 27, thirty-seven years as of this past May. If you get a chance, tell them thank you, it makes a difference.

The truck pulls out of the driveway for Red Lake, Ontario in a few hours.

Time to hang with The Canada Gang!

Sunset



St., Sheboygan, 9:30am. Call 920-838-5249 for more information.

Al-Anon Serenity Seekers: Meets at Right Way Club, 4627 S. 12th St, Sheboygan, 9:30am. Call 920-918-6324 for information.

Al-Anon Meeting: 9:30-10:30am. Do you worry about someone else's drinking? Help and hope are available. Al-Anon meeting for those affected by another's alcoholism. Rightway Club, 4627 S 12th St, Sheboygan. Call 1-888-425-2666 or visit al-anon.org for more information.

Family Nights: * NOT IN JUNE, JULY OR AUGUST * Plymouth Alliance Church, 1203 Fairview Drive, 6:00-7:30pm. Family night offers something for everyone! Kids PreK-5th meet for Rooted, youth 6th-12th grade meet for Anchored, and adults meet for small groups. Nursery is also available for infants and toddlers. 920-893-5525.

Christian Science Reading Room: 5:30-6:00pm. A quiet place to pray & read the Bible. Christian Science publications and to study other books, pamphlets and materials. All are welcome! First Church of Christ, Scientist, 2512 N 9th St., Sheboygan. 920-458-2673.

Christian Science Testimony Meeting: 6:00 pm. We invite you to share testimonies of healings, experiences, and/or remarks on Christian Science.

All are welcome! First Church of Christ, Scientist, 2512 N 9th St., Sheboygan. 920-458-2673.

Divorce Care: A faith-based program offering help, hope & healing for those in all stages of divorce. Will meet on Wednesday nights as interest/need demand. Please contact Dana at 920-980-7637 for meeting details and see divorcecare.org for program information.

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Vollrath Company Retirees Breakfast Club: Log Cabin Restaurant, 633 Madison Ave, Howards Grove, WI. 8:15 am. Call 920-918-9981 for more details.

Over 60+ in our county? (AACC) Adell Area Community Center, 510 Seifert St, Adell (920) 994-9934, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Mary Kempf your Elder Benefit Specialist from the Aging Disability Resource Center. Please give Mary a call at 920-467-4076 before stopping to make sure she has an open appointment or send an email to mary.kempf@sheboygancounty.com.

ARTIST NETWORKING-SOCIALIZING EVENT: Artists invited to connect, Collaborate and Socialize at the Plymouth Arts Center 4:00 - 6:00pm for more info contact the Plymouth Arts Center at 920-892-8409 or

visit PlymouthArts.org.

Overdose Loss: Support for those that lost someone to overdose. 6:00-7:00pm. Hosted by MHA Lakeshore at Mental Health America 410 S. Milwaukee St., Plymouth.

FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Suicide Loss Support: Support for family and friends who've lost someone to suicide: 6:30-7:30PM. Girl Scouts of Manitou Council, 5212 Windward Ct, Sheboygan, Conference Room.

SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Fostering Support: Support for parents and guardians in the Fostering, and Kinship Care world: 6:00-7:00PM. Virtual through ZOOM. Fill out the form at <https://bit.ly/4eV5TsS> to receive ZOOM link.

THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Over 60+ in our county? (AACC) Adell Area Community Center, 510 Seifert St, Adell (920) 994-9934, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Mary Kempf your Elder Benefit Specialist from the Aging Disability Resource Center. Please give Mary a

call at 920-467-4076 before stopping to make sure she has an open appointment or send an email to mary.kempf@sheboygancounty.com.

TWO ALBUMS TWO COCKTAILS: Free and open to the public, offerings a relaxed and welcoming way to unwind, connect, and experience the arts in a fresh setting, 4:00 - 6:00pm for more info contact the Plymouth Arts

Center at 920-892-8409 or visit PlymouthArts.org.

EVERY THURSDAY Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry: 529 Giddings Ave, Sheboygan Falls. 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM. Please remember to bring the following each time you visit: Photo ID, Current Utility Bill, Paper Grocery Bags.

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AA Step & Tradition Study: entrance.
Grace Episcopal Church, 1011 N 7th St., Sheboygan, 10am. Use the Ontario Street
AA Meeting: 10am. Alliance Church, 1203 Fairview Dr, Plymouth 920-226-4268.

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**North Side Christian Food
Pantry:** 2133 N. 22nd St.,
Sheboygan, 12:30-2pm.
Call 920-458-7070 for
information.

Overeaters Anonymous
Meeting: 4:00-5:00pm. Our
Redeemer Church, 1808
Eastern Avenue, Plymouth.
OA is a fellowship of
individuals who through
shared experiences, strength
and hope, are recovering from
compulsive overeating. Please
use back door with key coder.
920-889-3719.

GriefShare Support Group:
Evangelical Free Church,
1710 N. 15th St., Sheboygan.
6:30-8pm. Support for those
who have lost a loved one.
920-452-6520.

**SECOND
THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH**
**Plymouth Area Garden
Club:** 6 pm September thru
May in the Craft Room at
Generations in Plymouth to
discuss garden related topics.
Contact Sandy for more
information. 920-912-3817.

**THIRD
THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH**
Hope is Alive: Support for

**mothers who have lost a child
to suicide:** 6:00-7:00pm.
MHA Lakeshore, 410 S.
Milwaukee St., Plymouth.

**FOURTH
THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH**
**Shoreline Striders Social
Run:** 6pm at 3 Sheeps
Brewing, 1837 North Ave,
Sheboygan. All runners
welcome. Distance = 3-6
miles, variety of paces. No
one runs alone! Email Amber
at president@sheboyganruns.
com for more info.

EVERY SATURDAY
**Let it Begin with Me Al-
anon Meeting:** 1907 Club,
2908 N. 21st St., Sheboygan,
9:30am. Call Debbie, 207-
2774 or Mark at 920-374-9302
for information.

Plymouth Food Pantry:
2225 Eastern Ave., 10-noon.
Elkhart Lake & Plymouth
school districts. Call 893-
2989 for information.

The Way Youth Group:
The Upper Room, 1125
N 8th Street, Sheboygan.
6:00-8:00pm. Looking for
something fun for your kid
to do this weekend? The
Upper Room in downtown
Sheboygan is hosting a

Youth Group for ages 12-18
years old on Saturday nights.
Come join us from 6-8pm for
worship, a bible-based lesson,
food, games and fun! See you
there!

**FIRST SATURDAY
OF THE MONTH**
**The Sheboygan Railroad
Museum:** 10:00 AM to 2:00
PM. 1001 North 10th St.,
Sheboygan. Home to 8 train
layouts in various scales and
many railroad antiques. Open
for your viewing pleasure.
**Christian Science Reading
Room:** 10am-1pm. A quiet
place to pray & read the Bible.
Christian Science publications
and to study other books,
pamphlets and materials. All
are welcome! First Church
of Christ, Scientist, 2512 N
9th St., Sheboygan. 920-458-
2673.

**SECOND
SATURDAY
OF THE MONTH**
**Sheboygan Falls Food
Pantry:** 529 Giddings Ave,
Sheboygan Falls. 9:00 AM –
11:00 AM. Please remember
to bring the following each
time you visit: Photo ID,
Current Utility Bill, Paper
Grocery Bags.

**Plymouth Button Box
Club:** 10am-Noon. Plymouth
Library, 130 Division Street,
Plymouth. Learn about
and marvel at the history
and beauty of buttons. All
are welcome who are also
intrigued by these little pieces
of art. Questions? Email
btncpywi@gmail.com.

**SECOND & LAST
SATURDAY
OF THE MONTH**
Women Within: 11AM.
Rogers Behavioral Health,
Community Room, 1108 S
Wildwood Ave., Sheboygan.
Making our wellbeing and
need for connection a priority
in our lives. All women are
welcome. No cost or need to
register. Any questions, call
or text Jill at 920-609-5151.

**THIRD SATURDAY
OF THE MONTH**
**The Sheboygan Railroad
Museum:** 10:00 AM to 2:00
PM. 1001 North 10th St.,
Sheboygan. Home to 8 train
layouts in various scales and
many railroad antiques. Open
for your viewing pleasure.
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Room:** 10am-1pm. A quiet
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COURT REPORT

June 8 to June 12, 2026

Forfeitures

Hoppe, Melissa M., 10/1982, Sheboygan, Trespass to Dwelling, \$389.50.

Martinez, Gilberto, 4/1971, Sheboygan, Possession of Marijuana (<25 gm), \$389.50.

Traffic and other charges

April, Carlos L., 6/1985, Sheboygan, Possession of Marijuana (<25 gm), Operate w/Restricted Controlled Substance, License Revoked 7 months, \$1,382.50.

Traffic

Collins, Antonio M., 4/1986, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Vehicle Operator Fail/Wear Seat Belt, \$210.50.

Conkrite, Casey Z., 6/1989, Sheboygan, Operating while Revoked, (1st), \$200.50.

Cullen, Alexandria R., 3/1993, Sheboygan, Automobile Following too Closely, \$200.50.

Demmin, Lois S., 11/1964, Sheboygan, Inattentive Driving, Fail/Yield Right/Way from Stop Sign-(Resulting Bodily Harm), \$577.40.

Duchow, Larissa K., 2/1994, Sheboygan, OWI (1st), License Revoked 9 months, \$1,056.00.

Duran Gomez, Juan M., 7/1981, Sheboygan, Passing in No Passing Zone, \$213.10.

Fields, Stefan D., 2/2010, Sheboygan, Unsafe Backing of Vehicle, \$175.30.

Forgues, Aaron C., 9/1972, Sheboygan, Fail/Change Lane-Passing Stopped Emergency/Disabled Vehicle, \$263.50.

Garcia Preciado, Ramon, 8/1988, Sheboygan, Operate after Revocation/Suspension of Registration, Vehicle Operator Fail/Wear Seat Belt, \$185.30.

Lyles, Aliyah A., 10/2006, Sheboygan, Speeding in a 55 mph Zone (16-19 mph), Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, \$401.00.

Nitsch, Phyllis M., 5/18/1937, Sheboygan, Hit and Run, \$843.00.

Pungarcher, Janet L., 5/1970, Sheboygan, Driving the Wrong Way on a Divided Highway, \$326.50.

Rosenthal, David J., 7/1968, Sheboygan, Unsafe Passing on Right, \$232.00.

Smith, Kristin E., 4/3/1986, Sheboygan, Hit and Run, OWI (2nd), Jail 30 days, License Revoked 16 months, Ignition Interlock 16 months, \$3965.00.

Valadez, Eric S., 7/1999, Sheboygan, Speeding on City Highway (25-29 mph), Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, \$451.40.

Operating while Suspended

Davis, Kyle L., 11/1996, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

St. Pierre, Stephanie N., 8/1984, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Operate w/o Carrying License

Norman, Alexis J., 9/1986, Sheboygan, \$150.10.

Wanner, Rebecca A., 1/18/1996, Sheboygan, \$217.10.

Operate w/o Valid License

Gomez Ruiz, Luz M., 4/29/2002, Sheboygan, (2nd within 3 years), \$654.00.

Operate a Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance

ance

Cortes, Arath, 10/2000, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Holtz, Kayla M., 4/1993, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Lisowe-Hass, Ryan M., 11/1999, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Speeding in 55 mph Zone

Black, Mallory G., 3/2001, Sheboygan, (25-29 mph), \$250.90.

Martinez Huerta, John D., 7/2005, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), \$200.50.

McKeag, Kathryn M., 7/1994, Sheboygan, (11-15 mph), \$175.30.

Werner, Christopher O., 3/1962, Sheboygan, (11-15 mph), \$175.30.

Wood, Aaliah S., 4/2007, Sheboygan, (16-19 mph), \$200.50.

Speeding on Freeway

Banuelos, Angelica C., 11/1995, Sheboygan (16-19 mph), \$250.90.

Sachse, Joshua S., 5/1977, Sheboygan, (11-15 mph), \$200.50.

Exceeding Speed Zones

Horen, Lindsey R., 3/2002, Sheboygan, (11-15 mph), \$175.30.

Salgado, Abigail, 10/1999, Sheboygan, (25-29 mph), \$250.90.

Toniolo, Adoni P., 1/1992, Sheboygan, (11-15 mph), \$200.50.

Misdemeanors

Garcia Reyes, Antonio, 7/2/26, Sheboygan, Battery (2 counts), Disorderly Conduct, Jail 630 days, \$2,048.20.

Watts, Donzell R., 3/24/1972, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct (2 counts), Battery, Jail 5 months and 90 days, \$1,353.00.

Misdemeanors and other charges

Exum, George B., 6/27/1980, Sheboygan, Possession of Methamphetamine (Felony), Possession of THC (Misdemeanor), Prison 17 months, Extended Supervision 12 months, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$995.40.

Jamison, Timothy T., 9/18/1991, Sheboygan, Bail Jumping (3 counts-Felonies), Possession of THC, Operating while Revoked (due to alcohol/controlled substance/refusal), (Misdemeanors), Jail 90 days, \$3,240.65.

Sherrer, Dezerai G., 3/8/1994, Sheboygan, Driver or Operate Vehicle w/o Consent (Felony), OWI (2nd)-Misdemeanor, Jail 10 days, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, License Revoked 12 months, Ignition Interlock 12 months, \$2,795.50.

June 15 to June 19, 2026

DCA and other charges

Stewart, Trevor J., 10/31/1987, Sheboygan, 3rd Degree Sexual Assault (Felony-DCA-2 years), Intentionally Mistreat Animals, Disorderly Conduct (Domestic Abuse), \$1,557.40.

Revoke Probation

Jaeger, Brooke LC., 12/27/1995, Sheboygan, Prison 3 years, Extended Supervision 3 years, Still owes \$175.00.

Katerski, James J., 7/7/1982, Sheboygan, Prison 15 months, Extended Supervision 1 year, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, Still owes \$175.00.

Strickland, Eddie M., 2/19/1997, Sheboygan, Jail 9 months, Still owes \$314.40.

Forfeitures

Foster, Sharquize D.M., 4/1997, Sheboygan, Retail Theft, Trespass to Land, \$653.00.

Sanders, Italo L., 10/1982, Sheboygan, Retail Theft, \$389.50.

gan, Retail Theft, \$389.50.

Traffic

Aguilar, Sergio R., 3/2002, Sheboygan, Inattentive Driving, \$187.90.

Castruita, Brian X., 4/1996, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Speeding in a 55 mph Zone (11-15 mph), \$375.80.

Griffith, Cody M., 3/1993, Sheboygan, Operating while Suspended, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, \$401.00.

Hermann, Donald J., 1/1995, Sheboygan, Exceeding Speed Zones, (25-29 mph), \$250.90.

Hernandez, Wilmarie R., 9/2001, Sheboygan, Speeding on the Expressway, (16-19 mph), \$250.90.

Hernandez Diaz, Rosa, 5/13/1988, Sheboygan, Operating while Revoked (due to alcohol/controlled substance/refusal) -2 counts, Ignition Interlock Device Tampering/Failure to Install/Violate Court Order, -2 counts, \$2,718.00.

Nehring, Craig H., 11/1969, Sheboygan, Driving too Fast for Conditions, \$213.10.

Ordenez, Rene, 9/21/1989, Sheboygan, Hit and Run, Jail 21 days, \$455.00.

Rodriguez Lopez, Eduardo E., 5/2000, Sheboygan, Operate Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance, Speeding in a 55 mph Zone (16-19 mph), \$401.00.

Operate w/o Carrying License

Miguel Burgoa, Sherlyn J., 7/2008, Sheboygan, \$217.10.

Papke, Destiny A.M., 2/27/2000, Sheboygan, \$217.10.

Operate w/o Valid License

Rodriguez, Calvillo, Ivan, 8/2004, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Operate a Motor Vehicle w/o Insurance

Yang, Cuarhure Xzing, 8/1996, Sheboygan, \$200.50.

Speeding in 55 mph Zone

Hargrave, Sawyer J., 4/1994, Sheboygan, (1-10 mph), \$175.30.

OWI and other charges

Daniel, Jacob D., 3/24/1988, Sheboygan, (2nd and 3rd), Bail Jumping (Misdemeanor), Jail 72 days, License Revoked 28 months, Ignition Interlock 47 months, \$5,670.50.

OWI

Gabriele, Scott T., 2/12/1961, Sheboygan, (5th or 6th), Prison 1 year 6 months, Extended Supervision 5 years, License Revoked 3 years, Ignition Interlock 3 years, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions \$4,300.90.

Ramminger, Fatoulee J., 9/1993, Sheboygan, (1st), License Revoked 7 months, \$993.00.

Misdemeanors

Becker, Caleb S., 6/22/2002, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct (Domestic Abuse), Bail Jumping (3 counts), Domestic Abuse Assessments, Jail 1 day, \$2,008.00.

Bolden, Lurlie C., 12/1/1998, Sheboygan, Bail Jumping, Ignition Interlock Device/Tampering/Fail to Install/Violate Court Order, \$1,548.00.

Clark, Nashon A., 9/18/1994, Sheboygan, Battery, Disorderly Conduct (Domestic Abuse-both), \$1,098.00.

Juarez Mendoza, Jose A., 3/11/1987, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct (Domestic Abuse), Intimidate Victim/Dissuade Reporting (Domestic

Abuse), \$1,114.40.

Seefeldt, Samuel J., 11/11/1993, Sheboygan, Bail Jumping, \$717.00.

Stout, Teri Ann, 10/18/1975, Sheboygan, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, (3 counts), Bail Jumping (3 counts), Jail 9 months, \$2,694.00.

Disorderly Conduct

Benton, Jr., Ollie D., 6/5/1979, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct (3 counts-Domestic Abuse Repeater), Prison 2 years, Extended Supervision 1 year, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$1,919.60.

Crayton, Adrian T., 5/3/2007, Waldo, \$455.00.

Cruz, Adeline A., 9/12/2000, Sheboygan Falls, \$455.00.

Medina Emilio M., 12/4/1992, Sheboygan, (Domestic Abuse), Jail 45 days, \$455.00.

Patino, Aliana, 8/19/1998, Sheboygan, \$1,200.15.

Perkins, Tiffani A., 6/24/1982, Sheboygan, (Use of Dangerous Weapon), Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$455.00.

Misdemeanors and other charges

Hightower, Dondrevis M., 12/1/2003, Sheboygan, Disorderly Conduct (Domestic Abuse-Misdemeanor),

2nd Degree Recklessly Endangering Safety-(Domestic Abuse-Use of Dangerous Weapon), Retail Theft-Intentionally Take >\$500-5000 (Felonies), Jail 217 days, \$1,703.00.

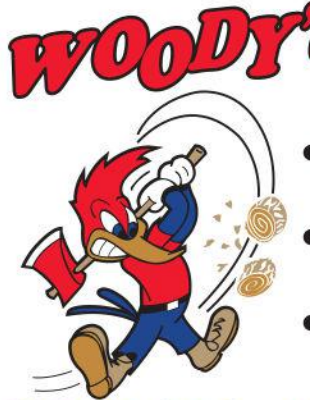
Klumb, Kyle J., 4/19/2000, Sheboygan, Possession of Narcotic Drugs, Maintain Drug Trafficking Place, (Felonies), Neglecting a Child (Specific Harm did not Occur), Jail 9 months, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$1,416.00.

Perez, Albert S., 10/31/1983, Sheboygan, Battery, Disorderly Conduct (Domestic Abuse-Misdemeanors), Substantial Battery-Intend Bodily Harm (Felony), Jail 12 months, (6 months stayed), Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$1,660.80.

Soto, Daniel E., 4/3/1988, Sheboygan, Operating while Revoked (due to alcohol/controlled substance/refusal), Disorderly Conduct (2 counts-Domestic Abuse) (Misdemeanors), Bail Jumping (2 counts-Felony), Jail 60 days (stayed), \$2,788.00.

Felonies

McGee, Eric M., 2/21/1986, Sheboygan, Battery by Prisoners (Repeater), Prison 1 year, Extended Supervision 1 year, Firearms/Weapons Restrictions, \$530.00.



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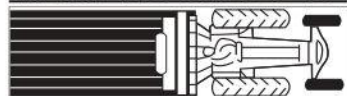
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GARAGE SALES

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SHEBOYGAN CITY

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE: July 10th & 11th 8AM-4:30PM. Women's clothes, books, salt & pepper shakers collection, housewares, home decor, games, and bar mirrors. **5611 S 12 St., Sheboygan 53081**

GARAGE SALE: Fri/Sat, July 10th & 11th, 8AM-3PM. Household, yard items, tools and much more! **4119 N 46th St. Sheboygan**

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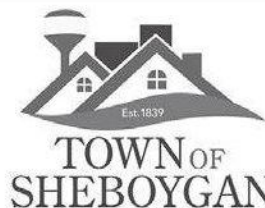
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Summer Fun & Entertainment

Check out all the fun activities and events for summer!

Plymouth's 2026 Mill Street Festival sold out for the third year in a row

Plymouth's Chamber of Commerce presents its annual Mill Street Festival, sponsored by Great Lakes

Cheese and Import Repair Center. The festival will take place in downtown Plymouth on Saturday, July 11, 2026 from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. This community event offers live entertainment, downtown merchants and a wide variety of vendors food and refreshments – a fun day for the entire family!

We will be having our regular acts and music stages, sponsored by: Anchor of Hope, Johnsonville, Kettle Moraine Veterinary Clinic, Master's Gallery Foods, and Richard J. Wirtz Law Office.

On the Stayer Park Music Stage, located at the Pavilion at Stayer Park, the line-up includes:

- Plymouth Musical Band – 10:00am – 11:00am
- Moon Pool – 11:30am – 1:30pm
- Suzie and the Detonators – 2:00pm – 4:00pm

The Acoustic Stage will be

located near the intersection of E. Mill and Stafford Street, the line-up includes:

- The Side Project – 10:00am – 12:00pm
- Mattea Joy – 12:00pm – 2:00pm
- Larry's Little Brothers – 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Additional festival happenings include:

- *NEW* this year: Food Court behind Mill Street at Stayer Park
- Petting zoo & pony rides at Stayer Park
- Various vendors, including downtown merchants, arts & crafts vendors, retail vendors and community organizations offering a wide variety of products, services, food and refreshments.

The Plymouth Chamber would also like to thank the Food Court sponsors: Haucke Plumbing & Heating, Shell Plastics, and Songbird Pond Assisted Living, as well as the in-kind donation from Lift-X Lift Services for making this event possible.

For additional information

please contact the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce at 920-893-0079 or visit www.plymouthwisconsin.com.

plymouthwisconsin.com.

Vendor Inquiries: all vendor spots have been sold out

for 2026. Details for the following year will be released in early 2027.



Ducktona preps to deliver fun

by Jeff Pederson

Sheboygan Falls News Editor

The largest and most anticipated annual event in the city of Sheboygan Falls is almost ready to launch.

The 38th Ducktona 500 Family Festival, Car Show and Antique Boat Show will bring revelers to the heart of the city on Sunday, July 5.

This year's event kicks off with a pancake breakfast behind the River Park large shelter from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. by St. Paul Lutheran Church Feed My Starving Children Committee, with proceeds benefitting Feed My Starving Children.

The Ducktona Family Festival runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will feature the popular classic car show, antique boat show, kids' Big Wheel races, petting zoo, kids zone, pony rides, balloon lady, science entertainment, food court and musical entertainment, as well as the signature duck race on the Sheboygan River.

"At age 38, Ducktona has

grown to new heights from its humble beginnings in the late 1980s," Sheboygan Falls Chamber-Main Street Executive Director Tammy Meyer said. "It is Chamber-Main Street's largest fundraiser of the year and a big key to our success each year.

Once again, the namesake and standout highlight of the day is the duck race at 3 p.m. along the Sheboygan River.

Duck race tickets will be sold for \$5 per ticket or five for \$20.

Those purchasing one of the top-four finishing ducks will receive cash prizes, with \$1,000 going to the race winner, \$500 for second, \$250 for third, and \$100 for fourth.

Duck race tickets are available in advance through Thursday, July 2 at the Sheboygan Falls Chamber-Main Street Office (504 Broadway St.), Bloomin on Broadway (600 Broadway St.), Meadowland Credit Union (1040 North Main St.), Osthelder (513 Broadway St.),

See DUCKTONA/34



THE 38th SHEBOYGAN FALLS Chamber-Main Street Ducktona 500 Family Festival, Classic Car and Antique Boat Show will feature the event's signature duck race down the Sheboygan River at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 5 at River Park in Sheboygan Falls. - Falls News file photo by Jeff Pederson

DUCKTONA from 33

and the Richardson Resale Store (1130 Plankview Green Blvd.), and also on the day of the event. "The duck race tickets have sold very well over the last few years, so we encourage people to get their tickets early before they are sold out," Meyer said. The annual Classic Car and Antique Boat Show sponsored by Kennedy Ford, Richardson Industries and UMB Bank, will run all day. The show will fea-

ture classic and modern cars, motorcycles, and boats. Car show registration runs from 7 a.m. to noon on the day of the show for \$10 per vehicle. Awards will be presented at 4 p.m. Major car show awards to be distributed include the Best of Show Award and the Ken Brunnbauer Vintage Dodge Memorial Award presented by the Ken Brunnbauer Family.

See DUCKTONA/38



THE CLASSIC CAR SHOW at the 38th SHEBOYGAN FALLS Chamber-Main Street Ducktona 500 Family Festival is expected to draw another large field of entries on Sunday, July 5 at River Park in Sheboygan Falls. - Falls News file photo by Jeff Pederson

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July 25, 2026 Matinee & Evening

\$77.50 plus tax

In every one of the last 5 decades, multi award winner Cher, aka "The Goddess Of Pop", has had a number 1 song on The Billboard Chart. With more than 200,000,000 records sold, she has been a major force on radio and television and in movies and pop culture publications of all stripes. She is known the world over for her sense of humor, sultry voice, unique appearance and outrageous fashion sense.

With her uncanny resemblance to the famous star and with 10 years of theatrical experience in musicals behind her, Kara personifies Cher without any difficulty at all. She embodies the living legend on stage in a way like no other can. Now, after 6 years performing her Cher - Believe show in dinner theatres, casinos and concert halls, Kara has built a reputation as one of the top Cher tribute artists in the world. Her combination of boundless energy, charisma and talent lets her easily morph into her alter ego Cher and give audiences the powerful and unforgettable experience that only a true star is capable of giving. Like Cher, Kara is an entertainer of the highest order.

Believe - Turn Back Time - Bang Bang - Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves - Just Like Jesse James - Dark Lady - and many, many more!!



Everly Brothers Experience

July 15, 2026 Matinee & Evening

\$77.50 plus tax

In 2012, The Zmed Brothers began performing seriously as a duo, singing originals and close harmony standards from the 50's & 60's. They gained a strong local following, cutting their teeth in a multitude of professional settings in the greater Los Angeles area where they were born and raised. During this time, they developed transformative mentorships with music industry titans like engineer/producer team Richie Podolor & Bill Cooper, hit songwriter Billy Steinberg, and talent agent Rich Rees - who all fundamentally helped Zach & Dylan recognize the legacy in their sound and actualize their potential. In 2015, after partnering up with drummer Burleigh Drummond Jr. and assembling a handful of 'A-Team' musician friends of theirs, The Zmed Brothers created The Everly Brothers Experience. Through immersive research and years of extensive international touring, this hit show has arguably become the World's foremost tribute to the music and history of the greatest sibling Country/Rock Duo of all time.



Shotgun Willie Nelson Tribute Show

August 12, 2026 Matinee & Evening

\$77.50 plus tax

One winter night in 2022, at a spot outside Branson, Missouri, a Legends in Concert associate heard Terry sing, "Always on My Mind", and walked over to his table. "Who are you?" He asked. "Nobody," said Terry. "Man, I have never heard anyone who sounded exactly like Willie Nelson before. I am with Legends in Concert and you really need to come in and audition. Things happened pretty fast after that, and the next thing Terry knew he was given the opportunity to perform at Legends in Concert in Branson as Willie. This marked an important new chapter in Terry's life, fulfilling a lifelong goal of making people happy by singing their favorite Willie songs in front of a real audience. Here's to the Legends in Concert team that believed in a 67-year-old retired businessman who just so happened to sing like Willie and had always wanted to perform in front of an audience just like you.



RESERVATIONS: www.memoriesballroom.com

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Ducktona 500

HISTORIC SHEBOYGAN FALLS

38th
Annual

CLASSIC CAR & ANTIQUE BOAT SHOW & DUCK RACE

Sun., July 5, 2026 7am-5pm
Sheboygan Falls River Park

Presented by...

SHEBOYGAN
FALLS
CHAMBER MAIN-STREET

www.sheboyganfalls.org
920-467-6206

ATM on site!

**BEER
GARDEN**
11am-5pm

Media Partner

WOMT

1926 100 YEARS 2026
1240AM 98.9FM

VENDOR FAIR
PANCAKE BREAKFAST 7-11am
St Paul Lutheran Church - FMSC

CLASSIC CAR and ANTIQUE BOAT SHOW

Sponsored by
KENNEDY
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SHEBOYGAN FALLS

ANTIQUÉ BOAT SHOW SPONSORS
Richardson Industries, UMB Bank n.a.

Registration
7am to Noon
\$10.00

Duck Race Sponsor



RACE BEGINS 3:00PM

4 Cash Prizes – Top Prize \$1,000
Tickets...1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20

Tickets available at Chamber-Main Street,
Bloomin on Broadway, Meadowland Credit Union,
Osthelder, Richardson Resale Store
ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE EVENT!



FREE KID ZONE! BOUNCE HOUSES

Sponsored by Pentecostals of Sheboygan County

FREE!
2 SHOWS!
1AM & 1PM
Club SciKidz
Chemistry Chaos

KIDDIE BIG WHEEL RACE - FREE -



Children ages 3 to 6
Registration 11am
Located at the basketball court
Race begins Noon
Bikes provided
Prizes for all contestants!

Sponsored by Oostburg State Bank

PLAYLAND

Sponsored by Diamond Vogel

Pony Rides & Petting Zoo
FREE Balloon Lady
FREE Face Painting

FOOD COURT

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piggly wiggly
Rockline Industries
Harter's Lakeside
Disposal
BRATS by
Johnsonville



FREE ANTIQUÉ BOAT RIDES!

Open Door AV
Entertainment Specialists
10:00am-5:00pm
in Car Show Area



Suzie & The Detonators
12:00- 4:00pm

DUCKTONA 500 IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE SPONSORSHIP OF THESE GENEROUS LOCAL BUSINESSES!

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UMB Bank n.a.
Blattner's Piggly Wiggly
Rockline Industries
Johnsonville
WOMT 1240AM 98.9FM
Diamond Vogel
Bloomin on Broadway
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SUMMER CONCERTS

Presented by Sheboygan Falls Main Street Foundation

SHEBOYGAN FALLS CHAMBER MAIN-STREET

Concert Series *Marla's Partner*

WOMT
12:00AM - 9:00PM

FOOD AVAILABLE!
at 5PM

JULY 8

Buffalo Joe

All concerts in Sheboygan Falls River Park near the Gazebo 6:00-8:00pm

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

July 22 – Eddie Larsen's Classic Memories

August 12 – Past Curfew
Community Safety Day!

August 26 – Il Cool

MILL STREET FESTIVAL WEEKEND

Saturday, July 11 • 10am-5pm
Sunday, July 12 • 10am-2pm

\$10 & \$20

CLOTHING RACKS

– Boutique Clothing & Vintage Decor –

Hawthorn Home

styling you and your home

125 East Mill Street • Plymouth

Hours: W-F 10am-5pm • Sat 10am-4pm • Sun 10am-2pm

MILL STREET FESTIVAL

SATURDAY JULY 11, 2026

9AM-4PM

Mill Street, Plymouth, WI

Crafts | Food | Music | Fun

STAYER PARK MUSIC STAGE
10-11am: Plymouth Municipal Band
11:30am-1:30pm: Moon Pool
2-4pm: Suzie and the Detonators

ACOUSTIC STAGE
10am-12pm: The Side Project
12-2pm: Matteo Joy
2-4pm: Larry's Little Brothers

- Food Court, Pony Rides & Petting Zoo in Stayer Park -

JULY Specials

25% OFF

a selection of fun and unusual Wisconsin cheeses

[Selections vary throughout the month]

Curds on July 3rd

Closed July 4th

Fresh Cheddar Cheese Curds
Every Friday Starting at 11:00am.
Fresh String Cheese Daily!

Sundae of the Month

The All-American

Only \$2.99

Strawberry, vanilla, and Blue Moon ice cream topped with strawberries, whipped cream, patriotic sprinkles, and a vanilla wafer.
(NO SUBSTITUTIONS)

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FALLS
CHAMBER MAIN-STREET

Sheboygan Falls Annual **SIDEWALK SALE**

Wednesday, July 15 • Bargains All Day!

WeatherTech Vintage Weekend

with Brian Redman

JULY 16-19

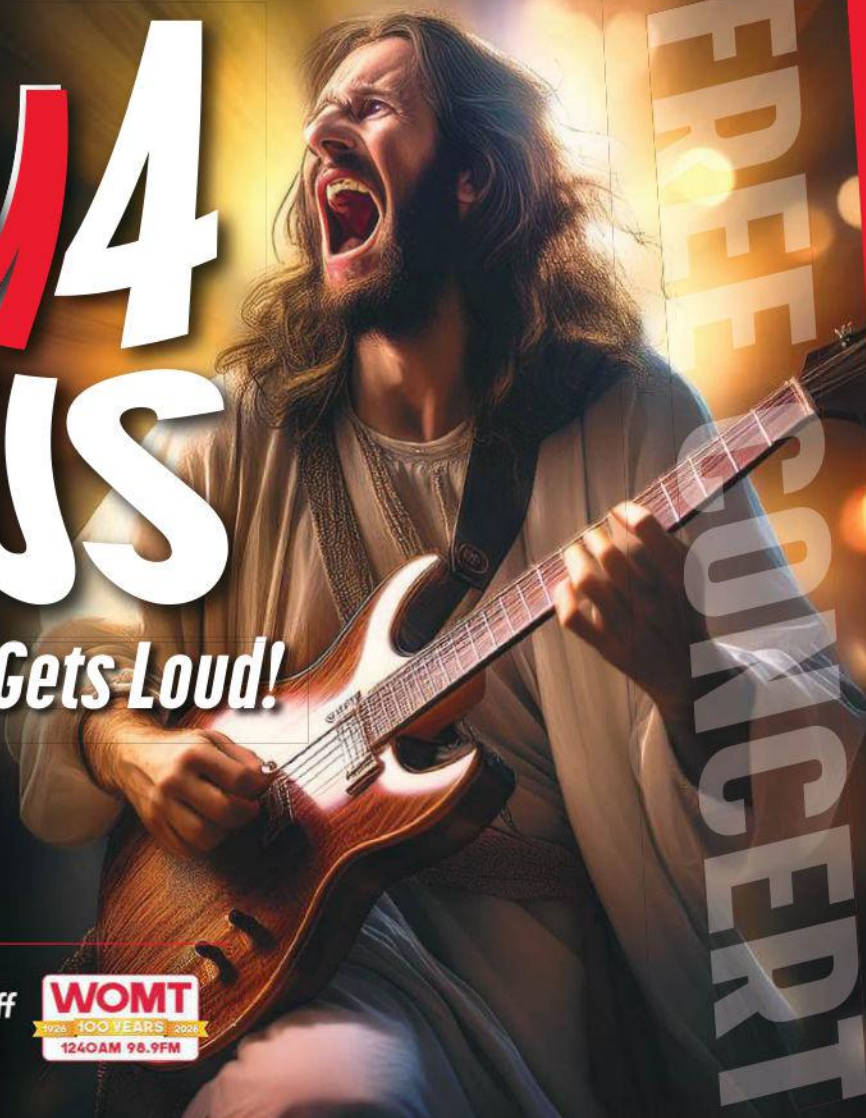


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JUL 25
CITY GREEN
SHEBOYGAN
3PM-8PM

3:00 ~ Word of Grace Worship

4:15 ~ Not To Us

5:30 ~ Lake Effect Worship

Food Trucks / Family Fun



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Long before air conditioning, there was ginger beer.

Sat., July 4 & Sun., July 5 | 9:30 am to 4:30 pm |

Nothing goes down better on a warm July day than refreshing homemade ginger beer.

Experience the production of ginger beer in the Wade House kitchens, and take home a period recipe to try at home.

W7965 State Hwy 23 Greenbush, WI 53026

Book your tickets at wadehouse.org





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HAYDEN COFFMAN

LIVE IN CONCERT
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2026
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY FAIR

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SCAN FOR TICKETS



LIMITED VIP AREA
Extremely limited availability!

- ★ Trackside standing-room VIP experience between the stage and grandstand
- ★ Private bar access

Tickets on sale now!

Fair admission sold separately

Elkhart Lake Firemen's Picnic

FRI AND SUN
July 3 AND July 5

Fireman's Park
Elkhart Lake

Friday
Sons of Sconnie
7:30-11:00pm

Fireworks at Dusk Friday

Food, Refreshments & Rides BOTH DAYS!

No Cover Charge All Weekend!

Sunday
Grand Parade
11:30am featuring The Badger Band

REBEL GRACE
1:30-5:00pm

DUCKTONA from 34

A Chamber-Main Street food booth will be located in the car show area in the Lions' large shelter from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. serving brats & burgers, hot ham sandwiches, soda, water, beer, and Carbliss.

Sweet Memories will also be serving ice cream in the car show section of the park.

The free Kids' Big Wheel Race is set to take place at the River Park basketball court. The races are open to children between the ages of 3 and 6. Registration begins at 11 a.m., with racing to start at noon. Prizes and Big Wheels will be provided for all participants.

Playland will return on the east side of River Park, sponsored by Diamond Vogel. Playland kids' activities include pony rides and a petting zoo from Bulitz Carriage Rides, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Free face painting will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A fishing booth, will also be featured.

The balloon lady, will be available from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Free Kid Zone bounce houses will return.

New this year is Club-SciKidz, which will present two free Chemistry Chaos shows at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the kid zone area by the main food court

on the east side of River Park, A vendor fair along the mid-way will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Brats for the food court are sponsored by Johnsonville, and cheese is sponsored by Gibbsville Cheese.

A variety of food trucks will also be available in the food court area.

The beer garden will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"We have a large selection of vendors and food trucks," Meyer said. "Be sure to walk around the entire park to see them all."

Open Door AV Entertainment Specialists will be playing DJ music all day in the car show area.

In addition, Suzie & The Detonators will perform free live music in the main food court area from 12 to 4 p.m.

Sheboygan Falls Chamber-Main Street is seeking volunteers for this year's Ducktona event in the food service areas.

A boat and driver are also needed to help with the duck race.

Those interested in volunteer opportunities, or providing a boat and driver, can call 920-467-6206 or email chambermst@sheboyganfalls.org.

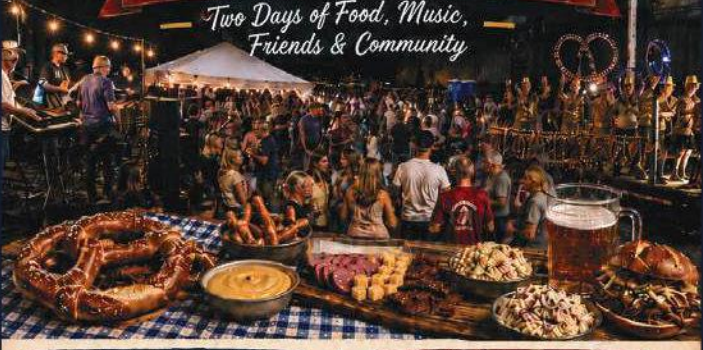
For more information, visit <https://sheboyganfalls.org/event/ducktona-500-family-fun-event/>

★ CELEBRATING 52 YEARS OF ★

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Two Days of Food, Music, Friends & Community



SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2026

PRETZEL FEST

★ Community Day ★

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
BELLA MUSIK
WEINGARTEN
Bring a lawn chair!
If over 80°, performance moves indoors.

11:00 AM – 5:00 PM
GREAT FOOD & FULL BAR

- Johnsonville Brats
- Pulled Pork Sandwiches on Pretzel Buns
- Soft Pretzels with Cheese
- Hard Pretzels with Cocktail Sauce
- German Potato Salad
- Sauerkraut • Cole Slaw

11:00 AM – 5:00 PM
DESSERTS & A CAUSE
Desserts provided by a local charitable organization.

2:30 PM – 5:00 PM
THE GOOD TIME DUTCHMEN
Inside the Ballroom

MONDAY, JULY 6, 2026

THE 52ND ANNUAL PRETZEL BENDER

8:00 PM **BARS OPEN**
Cold Beer • Wine • Full Service Bars

9:00 PM **THE GOOD TIME DUTCHMEN**
Live & Outdoors in the Parking Lot

ALL NIGHT **FOOD, FRIENDS & FUN**
Pretzel Bender Trays • Brats • Burgers
Jägermeister Specials & More!

12:00 AM **THE MIDNIGHT PARADE**
Anyone can enter! Floats, costumes, groups or just you!

PEOPLE'S CHOICE PRIZE
Vote for your favorite parade entry and they win \$100 CASH!

12:00 AM **AMERICAN LEGION**
Color Guard & Midnight Gun Salute
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INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JULY 3

Venetian Boat Parade Viewing Party

Anglers Pub & Grill

3:00pm - 8:00pm - Food

3:00pm - 10:00pm - Beverages

4:00pm - 10:00pm - Alex Music/Revelry Country

Bounce houses for the kids

Venetian Boat Parade

Dusk - Sheboygan Riverfront

Sponsored by the Sheboygan Yacht Club

SATURDAY, JULY 4

Sheboygan Y Freedom Run

7:30am - Start at the Sheboygan YMCA

Independence Day Parade

9:00am - N 8th Street & Center Avenue
to Michigan Avenue to Broughton Drive

Sponsored by UMB Bank

Music in the Park

Directly after the Parade - Fountain Park

Presented by Sheboygan Theatre Company

Live Music and Brat Fry

Harbor Lights Coastal Sports Bar

9:00am - 10:00pm - Beverages

11:00am - 10:00pm - Brat fry

12:00pm - Uncle Meat

5:00pm - Station 45



Live Music & Concessions

Blue Harbor - Tent near South Pier Circle

2:00pm - 9:00pm

5:00pm - Flying Zebras

Freedom Fest - Music, Food and Fun

12:00pm - 10:00pm - Deland Park

Sponsored by Plenco

Live Music Lineup:

12:00pm - Unfiltered

2:30pm - Bowser

5:00pm - Drugstore Cowboys

7:30pm - Fine Line



Live Music & Concessions

Anglers Pub & Grill

12:00pm - 8:00pm - Food

12:00pm - 10:00pm - Beverages

2:00pm - 5:00 pm - Anna Maria Music

5:00pm - 9:00pm - Lean Into It

Bounce houses for the kids

Festival Fireworks

9:30pm - South Pier Area

Sponsored by Festival Foods

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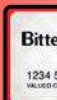
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