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WEDNESDAY, AUG. 7, 2024

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Area high schoolers graduate from Rock Internship Program

On Friday, July 26, 35 high school students celebrated their graduation from the 2024 Summer Rock Internship Program in a ceremony held at Blackhawk Technical College. Each student shared a summary of their internship experiences, offering insights and achievements with family, friends and employers in attendance.

Through a partnership with Blackhawk, the County of Rock, Rock County 5.0 and the Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, the 2024 Summer Rock Internship Program is a paid, six-week earn-and-learn opportunity for high school students. Students must apply for the program and to ensure the best placement for each student, applications require a resume, a letter of recommendation, academic outlines and a career plan. Other factors, such as a student's identified career pathway and occupation of interest, were also used to match students to their worksites.

"I would tell any high schooler interested in one of the careers offered in this program to participate. It helped me clarify what I wanted to do and showed me what healthcare was really like. I ended up staying in touch with people at my worksite and

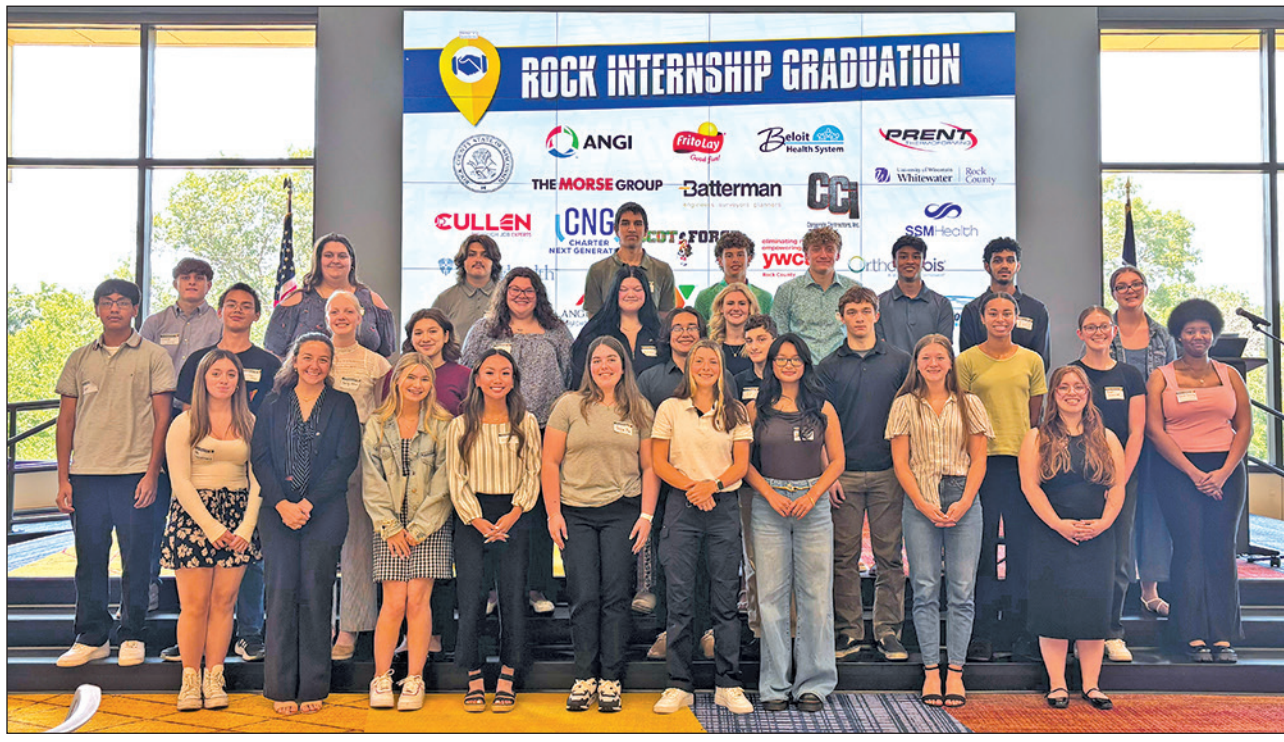


PHOTO COURTESY BLACKHAWK TECHNICAL COLLEGE *Rock Valley Publishing*

Row 1, left to right: Ava Guadarrama, Autumn Meris, Mallory Brown, Lillian Stadelman, Teagan Perkins Walker, Madelyn Leider, Angella Nguyen, Devlyn Halvorsen, Sorch Morris. Row 2: Johandry Leyte, Timotay Althaus, Hailey Aleson, Samantha Feldman, Nicole de la Mora, Audrianna Luchsinger, Angel Miranda, Bardot Sheehy, DJ Kristiansen, Max Briesemeister, Avianna Hughes, Abigail Middleton, Jakendra Gammage. Row 3: Jacob Haag, Ivory Christiansen, Alexander Rougvie, Noah Sookraj, Logan Tysse, Leo Koerth, Rohan Sen, Advit Sukheja, Brooklyn Watkins. Not pictured: Mea Torsini, Kamryn Clark and Jacob Schmalting.

they're my biggest mentors now," said Madison Sullivan, an alumna of the program.

Five of this summer's interns worked at Blackhawk, working with staff in Security, IT, Student Services and Athletics.

The Blackhawk 2024 Summer Interns:

- Ivory Christianson – IT
- Leo Koerth – Security
- Madelyn Leider – Security
- Sorch Morris – Student Services

• Logan Tysse – Athletics

Other employers participating in this summer's program include: ANGI Energy, Angus-Young Associates, Beloit Health System, Blackhawk Technical College, CCI, Charter Next Generation, Edgerton

Health, Frito-Lay, Helicopter Specialties, JP Cullen, MercyHealth, OrthoIllinois – Beloit Surgery Center, Prent Corporation, R.H. Batterman, Rock County Public Health, Scot Forge, SSM Health, Stateline YMCA, The Morse

Group, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater at Rock County and the YWCA.

These internships can often lead to long-term opportunities for participating students.

"Our intern has been fantastic to the extent we are working to extend her a full-time internship position next summer," said Alex Mielke, JP Cullen's Marketing Manager.

2024 Rock County Summer Interns:

- Hailey Aleson, Edgerton High School
- Timotay Althaus, The Lincoln Academy
- Max Briesemeister, Beloit Turner High School
- Mallory Brown, Craig High School
- Ivory Christianson, Rock University High School
- Kamryn Clark, Beloit Turner High School
- Nicole de la Mora, Craig High School
- Samantha Feldman, Arise Virtual Academy
- Jakendra Gammage, Beloit Memorial High School
- Ava Guadarrama, The Lincoln Academy
- Jacob Haag, Clinton High School
- Devlyn Halvorsen, Beloit Turner High School

See **INTERNSHIP**, Page 3

Festival lights up Janesville with music, food, and family fun

Downtown Janesville Inc. is proud to bring locals the Night On Festival, a lively celebration set to transform Festival Street in Town Square into a hub of entertainment and community spirit on Thursday, Aug. 15 from 4 to 8 p.m. This family-friendly event promises an evening packed with music, delicious food, local vendors, and activities for all ages.

"We're thrilled to bring Night On Festival to Downtown Janesville," said Elaina Szyjewski, Managing Director of Downtown Janesville Inc. "This event embodies the vibrancy and community spirit of our city, offering a fantastic lineup of entertainment and activities for everyone to enjoy."

Night On Festival is a free event that will feature an exciting lineup of festivities, including:

cluding:

- Live Music: Attendees can groove to the beats of Floyd and Associates, promising a mix of energetic tunes that will keep the crowd moving throughout the night.

- Food Trucks: A delectable array of local food trucks will be on hand, offering everything from gourmet treats to savory delights, ensuring there's something to satisfy every palate.

- Vendor Booths: Local organizations will showcase their initiatives in the community, providing a perfect opportunity to discover and support these wonderful organizations. A handful of retail businesses will be there as well.

- Kids Zone: Families can enjoy a bounce house, the Bubbler, and other activities, ensuring young festival-goers

have as much fun as their parents.

- Beer Tents: For the adults, there will be two beer tents serving up a variety of beer, hard seltzers, and Gray's Root Beer, creating a relaxed atmosphere to enjoy the evening's festivities.

Night On Festival is expected to draw residents and visitors alike, providing a platform for local businesses and non-profits to shine while fostering a sense of unity and celebration within the community.

Thanks go to the presenting sponsor TDS Fiber, as well as Paull Chiropractic Family Wellness Center, The Looking Glass, JP Cullen, Nowlan Law, Papa Docs Axe Throwing, and Big Radio.

All beer proceeds benefit DJI.

About Downtown Janes-

ville Inc.: Downtown Janesville Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit whose mission is to activate and beautify downtown Janesville. They are committed to promoting and enhancing Downtown Janesville as a destination for residents and visitors through events, economic development initiatives, and community partnerships.

Please consider donating to Downtown Janesville, Inc. to support the cause at downtownjanesville.com/donate. For more information, please visit the website downtownjanesville.com and the Facebook page @downtownjanesville.



An evening packed with music, food, local vendors, and activities for all ages is coming to downtown Janesville.



PHOTOS COURTESY JANESVILLE CVB *Rock Valley Publishing*

The Night On Festival is coming to Festival Street in Town Square in Janesville on Thursday, Aug. 15 from 4 to 8 p.m.



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Baldwin votes to pass bipartisan tax cut

Bill expands child tax credit, boosts Made in Wisconsin, increases access to housing

Recently, Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) voted for the bipartisan Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act, House-passed legislation that would cut taxes for Wisconsin parents by expanding the Child Tax Credit, support Wisconsin manufacturers that invest in American innovation, and reduce housing costs by boosting the supply of affordable housing.

"When I travel the state, I hear from hardworking families who need some breathing room from rising costs and small businesses who want to innovate and grow. That's exactly why I was proud to vote for this bipartisan tax cut, helping working families get by, our manufacturers expand their businesses and our economy, and boosting the affordable housing supply," said Senator Baldwin. "This bill has gained support from

across the board – from the Chamber of Commerce to our agricultural community to our Wisconsin families – and there is absolutely no reason that politics should have gotten in the way of passing it. I remain committed to working with Republicans and Democrats to create a tax code that is fair for Wisconsin's hard-working families and gives more Americans the chance to get ahead."

The bipartisan bill passed the House of Representatives with overwhelming bipartisan support, 357-70, and in February, Senator Baldwin called on the Senate to pass the bill immediately. The legislation would:

Cut taxes for working families with enhanced child tax credit

- Expand access to child tax credit: Phased increase to the refundable portion of the child tax credit for 2023, 2024, and 2025. Approximately 224,000 children in Wisconsin would benefit from the child tax credit expansion in the first year, according to

the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

- Eliminate penalty for larger families: Ensures the child tax credit phase-in is applied fairly to families with multiple children.

- One-year income look-back: Creates flexibility for taxpayers to use either current- or prior-year income to calculate the child tax credit in 2024 or 2025, similar to bipartisan action taken six times in the past 15 years.

- Inflation relief: Adjusts the tax credit for inflation starting in 2024.

Cut taxes for Made in Wisconsin manufacturers

- Research and Development (R&D): Encouraging American innovation and improving our competitiveness through R&D expensing so businesses of all sizes can immediately deduct the cost of their U.S.-based R&D investments over five years.

- Interest deductibility: Continues flexibility for businesses forced to borrow at higher interest rates to meet

their payroll obligations and expand their operations.

- 100 percent expensing: Restores full and immediate expensing for investments in machines, equipment, and vehicles.

- Taiwan double tax relief: Strengthens America's competitive position with China by removing the current double taxation that exists for businesses and workers with a footprint in both the United States and Taiwan.

Build up Main Street and rebuild communities struck by disasters

- Expand small business expensing cap: Increases the amount of investment that a small business can immediately write off to \$1.29 million, an increase above the \$1 million cap enacted in 2017.

- Cut red tape for small businesses: Adjusts the reporting threshold for businesses that use subcontract labor from \$600 to \$1,000 and index for inflation – the first update to the threshold since

See BALDWIN, Page 3

DATCP accepting applications for watershed protection grants

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is accepting applications for 2025 Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants through Sept. 13, 2024. These grants are awarded to producer-led groups to help support and advance producer-led conservation solutions and farmer participation in local watershed conservation efforts.

The total program budget for 2025 is \$1 million. Eligible groups that apply can receive up to \$40,000. The grants aim to help farmers find and promote conservation solutions best suited for their watershed, based on topography, soil, types of operations, and other factors that differ among regions of the state.

"Across Wisconsin, producers maintain and improve the state's soil and water resources," said DATCP Secretary Randy Romanski. "The producer-led program is yet another tool that producers can utilize as they maintain and improve those efforts. The positive outcomes of these conservation efforts will continue to have a positive effect for years to come."

Eligibility requirements

Applicants must be groups of at least five farmers whose farms are in the same or adjacent watershed. Each farm must have produced at least \$6,000 in gross farm revenue last year, or \$18,000 over the past three years. Each group

must partner with a county land conservation department, the University of Wisconsin-Extension, or a nonprofit conservation organization. Both newly formed and established groups are eligible to apply.

How to apply

Grant information and application materials are available online at https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/ProducerLedProjects.aspx and must be submitted by email in Microsoft Word format. For more information, contact Producer-Led Watershed Program Manager Dani Heisler at dani.heisler@wisconsin.gov or 608-640-7270.

Program information

The Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants program is the first state program of its kind in the nation. Since the program first began in 2015, DATCP has awarded over \$6.2 million to 47 producer-led watershed groups across the state. Requests for funding since the program's inception total nearly \$8.3 million. Grant projects have focused on providing conservation education to farmers, conducting on-farm demonstrations and research, issuing incentive payments for implementing conservation practices, organizing field days, and gathering data on soil health and water quality. In 2023, conservation practices implemented by groups in the program impacted over 1.58 million acres.

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Police news

Elkhorn woman arrested for fatal crash

On April 13, at approximately 12:04 p.m., Rock County deputies, Jefferson County deputies, Whitewater Police Department, Wisconsin State Patrol along with several fire and EMS agencies responded to a three-vehicle crash at Highway 12 and East County Line Road in Lima Township, Rock County. An adult male and two adult females were declared deceased at the scene of the crash. A third adult female also passed away days later from injuries sustained from the crash.



Lexus Boedecker

The Rock County Sheriff's Office concluded its investigation and on July 29, Lexus D. Boedecker, 24, Elkhorn, was arrested on four counts of homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle – controlled substance, one count of operating with a detectable amount of a controlled substance, two counts of injury by intoxicated use of a vehicle-controlled substance.

Boedecker was taken into custody with the assistance of the Walworth County Sheriff's Office.

Boedecker was transported to the Rock County Jail and has a future court date of Aug. 26 at 1 p.m.

"Pursuant to the directive of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, as found in Supreme Court Rule 20:3.6, Trial Publicity, you are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty."

Slow-no-wake removed from part of Rock River

According to the U.S. Geological Survey Gauge, the water level for the Rock River in Afton is currently 8.47 feet. County Ordinance allows for an abeyance of the slow-no-wake speed restriction on the portion of the Rock River downstream from the W B R Townline Road Bridge to the Staline when water levels are 8.50 feet or less.

Thus, the Rock County Sheriff's Office is removing the previously declared slow-no-wake speed restriction on this portion of the river. Deputies will update the signage at all public access points.

Slow-no-wake speed restrictions remain in effect for the portions of the Rock River from Lake Koshkonong to the Indianford Dam and from the Indianford Dam to the W B R Townline Road Bridge.

Celebrate Smokey Bear's 80th birthday at state parks

WISCONSIN DNR

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) encourages the public to celebrate Smokey Bear's 80th birthday by making sure they understand the basics of wildfire prevention and practice fire safety while enjoying the outdoors.

The Smokey Bear campaign has helped children and adults throughout Wisconsin understand their role in preventing wildfires. For 80 years, Smokey Bear has empowered people to make a difference through his message of personal responsibility.

To commemorate Smokey's 80th birthday, the DNR is hosting several events at state parks and state forests across the state over the coming weeks. Join DNR staff to hear the story of Smokey Bear, enjoy a slice of birthday cake, listen to some live music or participate in a family-friendly fire safety activity.

Check the DNR Events Calendar to find out if Smokey will be paying a visit to your favorite public lands this summer.

Smokey's message of campfire safety is important whether you're camping in one of our state parks or forests or simply roasting hotdogs in your backyard – the

same rules apply. Consider these safety tips when visiting a state campground and having a fire in one of our designated campfire rings.

- Keep fires small and manageable.
- Have plenty of water and tools handy to keep your fire in control.
- Only burn clean, dry wood (only use local firewood).
- Keep your tent and firewood a safe distance away from the campfire.
- Never leave fires unattended.
- Make sure fires are properly extinguished before leaving the site.
- Use a lot of water – drown, stir and repeat until embers are cold.
- Before your visit, check out the current fire danger on the WisBURN webpage.

Just like extinguishing a candle in a home before leaving, it's important to ensure campfires are completely extinguished before leaving your site. Keep a bucket of water nearby along with tools like a rake or shovel, and use the drown-stir-drown-feel method. Burying warm or hot coals or using sand are unreliable methods and can easily rekindle a fire.

By following these steps, everyone can safely enjoy



PHOTO COURTESY WISCONSIN DNR Rock Valley Publishing

For 80 years, Smokey Bear has empowered people to make a difference through his message of personal responsibility.

The cool nights by your cozy campfire. Remember, only you can prevent wildfires!

Learn more about the common causes of wild-

fires, including campfires, and how you can take appropriate action to prevent unwanted fires on our Wildfire Causes webpage.

News briefs

Footville creating memorial park for veterans

Footville is in the process of creating a permanent tribute to the area men and women that sacrificed so much for America's freedom. The Veterans Memorial Park will offer a Walk of Honor with seating and beautiful landscaping in which to sit and reflect.

They are also offering inscribed pavers for the walkway. Trees, planters, and signs can also be purchased with dedication plaques on each of them. Pavers can be purchased for all U.S. honorably discharge veterans, military, National Guard, and Auxiliary for the surrounding area or somehow affiliated with Footville.

Pavers are 8x8 and there can be up to five lines with 14 maximum characters per line; symbols count as 4 character spaces. All lines are centered. Spaces and punctuation count as characters. To order a paver, go to donationbricks.com/footvilleveterans. Clearly print the words that will be engraved on the brick next to the appropriate line number.

Footville to present movie in the park

On Saturday, Aug. 24, at 7:30 p.m. there will be a Movie in the Park at Footville Community Park. The movie will be "Disney's Elemental."

All proceeds go back to the community funds for future events.

In-person job fair at Rock County Job Center

There will be a job fair in Rock County on Wednesday, Aug. 21 at the Rock County Job Center located at 1717 Center Avenue in Janesville. The event will have 27 local employers in attendance and 600+ job openings.

The Job Fair will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Wednesday,

day, Aug. 21. Individuals may update and print their resumes in the Resource Room prior to the event. For a complete list of employers, please visit online at: <https://wisconsin-jobcenter.org/events/>. Individuals having questions can email DETWDA11Business-Services@dwd.wisconsin.gov.

Winning \$100,000 lottery ticket sold in Beloit

An All or Nothing \$100,000 top prize-winning ticket was sold for the Sunday, July 28, Evening draw. Purchased at Madison Road Mart on 1343 Madison Rd. in Beloit, the winning ticket matched 11 of 11 numbers drawn. The winning numbers were 2-4-6-9-10-11-15-18-19-21-22.

All or Nothing players can win the \$100,000 top prize by matching 11 of 11 numbers or by matching 0 of 11 numbers. A total of eight \$100,000 top prize All or Nothing winning tickets have been sold in 2024, with four winning tickets matching 11 of 11 numbers, including the win in Beloit.

The odds of winning the All or Nothing \$100,000 top prize are 1 in 352,716. Tickets are \$2 per draw. Drawings are held seven days a week, twice daily. Tickets must be purchased before 1:30 p.m. for the Midday drawing and before 9 p.m. for the Evening drawing.

Wisconsin Lottery retailers who sell winning tickets over \$599 receive a two percent Retailer Performance Winning Ticket Incentive, up to \$100,000.

Wisconsin Lottery winners have 180 days to claim prizes from the official draw date. Players can check to see if their ticket is a winner by going to wilottery.com or by using the Lottery's mobile app, available on the App Store or Google Play.

Spring waterfowl survey shows positive results

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recently announced that data from the annual spring survey of breeding waterfowl is available. The survey indicated both stable population numbers and habitat conditions for migratory birds.

The information from this survey is part of the overall survey of breeding waterfowl in North America. It aids the DNR in making management decisions about waterfowl in Wisconsin, including hunting season structure and harvest limits.

The spring waterfowl breeding survey has been conducted every year since 1973, except for 2020. Survey results are best interpreted as trends over several years rather than year-to-year comparisons.

“In addition to positive survey results, the wet conditions across the state should provide excellent brood-rearing opportunities for waterfowl throughout the remainder of the summer.”

– Taylor Finger, DNR game bird ecologist

Surveyors estimated the state's breeding duck population to be 502,058 birds, a 3.7% decrease from the 2023 estimate but above the long-term average. The mallard breeding population estimate is 146,561 birds, 7.9% lower compared to 2023 and lower than the long-term average.



PHOTO COURTESY U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Rock Valley Publishing

Spring waterfowl surveys indicate stable population numbers for migratory birds.

The wood duck population estimate was 96,711 birds, similar to last year and above the long-term average. The Canada goose population estimate was 153,402 birds, similar to 2023 and significantly higher than the long-term average.

“In addition to positive survey results, the wet conditions across the state should provide

excellent brood-rearing opportunities for waterfowl throughout the remainder of the summer,” said Taylor Finger, DNR game bird ecologist.

Find additional data from this and other wildlife survey reports on the DNR's Wisconsin Wildlife Reports webpage.

• Internship

(Continued from front page)

- Avianna Hughes, Craig High School
- Leo Koerth, Edgerton High School
- DJ Kristiansen, Milton High School
- Madelyn Leider, Edgerton High School
- Johandry Leyte, The Lincoln Academy
- Audrianna Luchsinger, Edgerton High School
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- Autumn Meris, Beloit Turner High School
- Abigail Middleton, Beloit Memorial High School
- Angel Miranda, Parker High School
- Sorch Morris, Parker High School
- Angella Nguyen, Edgerton High School
- Teagan Perkins Walker, Milton High School
- Alexander Rougvie, Beloit Memorial High School
- Jacob Schmalig, Parker High School
- Rohan Sen, Edgerton High School
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- Mea Torsini, Beloit Turner High School
- Logan Tysee, Beloit Turner High School
- Brooklyn Watkins, Beloit Memorial High School
- Kaleb Yuhas, Beloit Turner High School

To learn more about available workforce and talent development initiatives, please contact Blackhawk's Workforce and Community Development at businessdevelopment@blackhawk.edu or 608-757-7623.

• Baldwin

(Continued from page 2)

the 1950s.

- Help families get back on their feet with disaster tax relief covering recent hurricanes, flooding, wildfires, and the Ohio rail disaster.

Boosting affordable housing

- Increases supply of low-income housing: Enhancing the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, a public-private partnership with a proven track record, with increased state al-

locations and a reduced tax-exempt bond financing requirement.

Eliminate fraud, waste by ending tax credit program

- Saving taxpayer money: Saving over \$70 billion in taxpayer dollars by accelerating the deadline for filing backdated claims to January 31, 2024 under the COVID-era employee retention tax credit – a program hit by major cost overruns and fraud.

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COVERED BRIDGE DAYS

Friday, Saturday & Sunday • August 9, 10 & 11, 2024

Sidewalk Sales during Covered Bridge Days – Saturday, August 10 • 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Vendors will be on the sidewalks downtown and businesses throughout town.

Free concerts during Covered Bridge Days

Two music groups are coming to Brodhead to rock the stage during Covered Bridge Days this summer.

Cherry Pie will take the stage from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. on the first day of Brodhead's Covered Bridge Days on Friday, Aug. 9.

Bella Cain follows up with their own rocking performance Saturday, Aug. 10, from 8 to 11 p.m.

The city's signature annual event runs through Sunday, Aug. 11, featuring free concert performances.

About Cherry Pie

Cherry Pie is a fun, family-friendly festival band with over 24 years experience.

Cherry Pie plays all of the biggest "hair band" hits and ballads of the 80's, in addition to a few anthems from other eras. Cherry Pie prides itself on putting on the most "over the top" show by employing national artist level sound, lighting and special effects productions.

With tons of crowd participation, it's easy to see why Cherry Pie shows are always well attended.

As one of the most professional bands in the area, they will provide the venues with all the necessary tools to help make their events a success.

Come to a show to see them and have a good time.

Cherry Pie has Andy Gonzales on

vocals, Dave Zettle on guitar, Bob "Flap" Welsch on bass guitar, and Frankie Trash on drums.

Production is provided by Jason Lu- eck of Breezy Point Sound and Light Co.

About Bella Cain

Bella Cain was named "Country Group of the Year" by the Wisconsin Area Music Industry (WAMI).

With amazing musicianship, unmatched high energy onstage, production that includes one of the premier sound, light, and video shows in the business, musical variety not seen before on the regional Country Music scene and a sound all their own, Bella

Cain is winning the hearts of many all over the Midwest.

Established in 2010, Bella Cain has become one of the largest and most "in-demand" Top 40 Country Groups in the region. Equipped with their own tour bus, trucks, production and staff, they are performing over 120 shows a year and playing in multiple states. With over 23 members in the band, that include: musicians (including a new horns section), sound and light engineers, technicians and crew, merchandise staff and drivers. Performing at every major musical event, arena, venue, club, country bar, honky tonk, casino, outdoor music festival, corporate event and concert across the

Midwest they can be seen rocking the stages of Country Thunder, Country USA, SummerFest, FM106 and US-99 sponsored events, Navy Pier, WI State Fair, Allstate Arena, Fiserv Forum as well as headlining many fairs and private festivals in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Minnesota, Michigan, and Iowa, just to name a few.

Entering into their 14th year, Bella Cain has had the honor and privilege of sharing the stage with such national headliners as: Brad Paisley, Miranda Lambert, Luke Bryan, Colt Ford, The Nelsons, Phil Vassar, BIG & RICH, Jason Aldean, Jerrod Nieman, Justin

See **CONCERTS**, Page 5

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, AUG. 9

Downtown

• Brodhead Garden Club display, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Bank of Brodhead)

Downtown on the Square

• Live Music by Cherry Pie – 7:30 to 11:30 p.m.
• Food Stands and Beer Tent

SATURDAY, AUG. 10

Putnam Park (W. 3rd Ave. and 4th St.)

• 5K Run/Walk, 8 a.m.

Veterans Park (12th St. and WI-11)

• Wildflower Art Festival – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• Live Music – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• Food Trucks

Airport (N2463 Airport Rd)

• Kelch Aviation Museum – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Downtown on the Square

• Garden Club Display – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Bank of Brodhead)
• Downtown Vendor Market sponsored by Bucciferro Family – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• Historic Museum open – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
• Horse Drawn Wagon Rides – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Tickets sold at the Wagon Ride located at the Bank of Brodhead \$5 each, children 12 and under free)
• DJ Music – 10 a.m. to 7:30 pm
• Live Music by Bella Cain – 8 to 11 p.m.

• Food Stands and Beer Tent

Old water tower (1201 11th St.)

• "Embrace the Race" – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Boat rides on the Mill Race. Tickets sold there. Adults \$8, children \$5, 3 and under free.

South end of town (19th St. and CTY-T)

• Tractor Show/Threshere – 9 a.m. (all day)
• GTE Garden Tractor Expo – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
• Antique Tractor pull – 11 a.m.
• Food Stands and Piggly Wiggly Beer Trailer – 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
• Children's Pedal Tractor Pull – 10 a.m.
• Garden Tractor Pull – 1 p.m.

• Antique Tractor Drive – 4 p.m.
• Chicken BBQ – 11:30 a.m. until sold out

SUNDAY, AUG. 11

Veterans Park (12th St. and WI-11)

• Open Air Church Service Along with the 1st Brigade Band – 10 a.m. and at 2 p.m.
• Concert in the Park – 6 p.m. (Brodhead Community Band)

Putnam Park (W. 3rd Ave. and 4th St.)

• Wildflower Walk from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Airport (N2463 Airport Rd)

• Kelch Aviation Museum – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Rockin H Arena (W1127 Pedee Rd.)

• Brodhead Speed Show – 9 a.m.

Old water tower (1201 11th St.)

• "Embrace the Race" – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Boat rides on the Mill Race. Boat leaves every half hour – Adults \$8, children \$5, 3 and under free. Tickets sold at the dock side.

Downtown on the Square

• Car Show and Car Cruise – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

South end of town (19th St. and CTY-T)

• Saw Mill Demo – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
• Tractor Show/Threshere – 9 a.m. (all day)
• GTE Garden Tractor Expo – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Antique Tractor pull – 11 a.m.

• Food Stands and Piggly Wiggly Beer Wagon – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• Tractor Parade – Noon (starts at E. 3rd Ave. and 19th Street)

• Antique Tractor Pull – 1 p.m.

• Garden Tractor Pull – 1 p.m.

• Chicken BBQ – 11:30 a.m. until sold out

GENERAL INFORMATION

• Shuttle wagon on Saturday only: Free wagon shuttle between the south end and downtown.

• All events are subject to changes or cancellation.

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Come to the Wildflower Art Festival

The Wildflower Art Festival, sponsored by the Brodhead Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with its annual Covered Bridge Days celebration, is held annually on the second Saturday of August. It is a high-quality, juried art show that has drawn high praise from artists and the public alike.

Organized by artists who have been on the art show circuit for many years, the first priority was to provide a venue that would include everything that artists hope for, including a level, grassy, shady location, optional Friday set-up, large (14x14) booth spaces, help with unloading and transporting their goods, and cash awards, to name a few.

The community has been very supportive of the Wildflower Art Festival, and the thousands of people who come to town for Covered Bridge Days are excited to have this show taking place on that weekend. The customers who attend for the first time express appreciation for the high quality of the art that is displayed. Return attendees enjoy the variety of items offered as well as seeing many familiar artists along with a large number of new, first-time exhibitors.

Extensive advertising, including newspaper, posters, and banners in the park as well as at each end of town brings more and more people to the show each year as it establishes a reputation as a premier art show. Organizers

• Concerts

(Continued from page 4)

Moore, Lee Brice, Bucky Covington, Chris Cagle, Parmalee, Dustin Lynch, Dierks Bentley, Billy Currington, Joe Nichols, Phil Vasser, Glorianna, Jason Derulo, Little Big Town, Maggie Rose, Chris Young, Blake Shelton and The Oak Ridge Boys.

This fantastic group of performers bring pure talent to every Bella Cain show. No tracks, no harmonizers or added vocals/pre-recorded parts. What attendees hear and see is 100% Bella Cain and they pride themselves on delivering the best “live” musicianship to the stage each and every night. Original members Jackie Bucher and Judson Brown lead it off with vocals, while Bella Cain’s own Patrick Murphy delivers outstanding male lead vocals. Four-to-five part harmonies are the band’s signature sound and backup lead vocals are present on many of their songs with the additional lead singing ability of Fred Krubel. Two of the best guitar players in the business (Jud Brown and Fred Krubel) shock audiences with a big guitar sound and impressive solos. The rhythm section of Rob Harvey (drums) and Sara Marie (bass) are impressive as they lay down a solid groove, tight pocket and at the right time a thunderous “sit you back in your seat” experience. They even have their own horns section (Kevin Klemme and Mike Clobes) to add an extra bit of groove to the show. The best part is that Bella Cain delivers



BRODHEAD CHAMBER PHOTO Rock Valley Publishing

A visitor peruses items for sale at last year’s Wildflower Art Festival in Brodhead, which will take place again this year on Saturday, Aug. 10.

hope to see many locals there.

Educational activities

The Wildflower Festival was added to Covered Bridge Days in 2011 to raise awareness and promote enjoyment of the many native plantings that have been installed around Brodhead in the past several years. Planting native species is very important to the environment not only for the beauty they provide, but also for their value in preventing rainwater run-off and attracting beneficial insects

such as bees and butterflies. Various activities have taken place during this Festival, including interactive tours of native plantings around the Brodhead schools, the Brod-

head Public Library, and the UCC church. Visits to the pond at the library, feeding the spiders, scavenger hunts, and other fun activities for all ages have been presented.




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2024 Rock County Fair



Canines in the Clouds performed shows several times a day for fair-goers. Jonathan Offi and his mix of rescued shelter dogs performed Frisbee and dock-diving tricks to awe the crowds, as well as a meet and greet after for anyone who wanted to meet and pet his dog performing companions.

AMY CUSHING
PHOTOS
Rock Valley Publishing

The kids' tent was home to many family-friendly displays for the duration of fair as well as a "corn pit" for children to play in with toys, and a very popular – and cute – baby duck slide.

The Rock County 4-H Fair was held in Janesville from July 23 to 28. All week, 4-H and FFA members were on grounds showing their livestock and small animals. There was also a midway full of games and rides, as well as an extensive food promenade with plenty of tented seating.



Hot Glass Academy, based out of Georgia, was on grounds to provide live glass-blowing demonstrations several times a day, as well as having some of their unique and one-of-a-kind pieces for sale to the public.



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459227

• Rebates (Continued from page 6)

ning in early August, interested households can verify eligibility status and locate a registered contractor. By early September, households will be able to submit rebate requests through the online portal on the Focus on Energy website. More information about HOMES rebates and eligibility is available online.

Under the HEAR Program, \$74.5 million will be available to help low- and moderate-income households save energy and money by providing instant discounts to households that install high-efficiency home appliances and equipment, including heat pumps and electric appliances. HEAR rebates will be available beginning in fall 2024. More information about HEAR savings and eligibility is available online.

According to DOE, residents will first complete a home energy assessment provided by a licensed energy auditor to determine the home's upgrade needs and establish the estimated energy savings each upgrade would provide. Low-income

households are eligible for a rebate to help cover the cost of the home energy assessment. Rebate amounts are based on household income and the amount of estimated energy savings.

For single-family homes, rebates will range between:

- Up to \$10,000 for those making less than 80 percent of their area median income (AMI).

- Up to \$4,000 for those making between 80 percent to 150 percent AMI.

- Up to \$3,000 for those making at or above 150 percent AMI.

DOE states that multifamily properties are also eligible. Rental units with low-income tenants are eligible for up to \$10,000 in rebates, depending on estimated energy reductions.

Wisconsin is the first state to have both of its Home Energy Rebate program applications approved by the DOE. Focus on Energy, Wisconsin's statewide energy efficiency program, will administer HOMES and HEAR rebates. Utilizing Focus on Energy's

existing statewide framework for delivering energy efficiency programs and rebates uniquely positions Wisconsin to expeditiously and effectively deliver HOMES and HEAR rebates to households across the state. Focus on Energy will continue to manage and maintain its existing programs separately to ensure transparency, accountability, and compliance.

Recently, the PSC approved the program design for the Training for Residential Energy Contractors (TREC) grant program. TREC funds will be used to help further develop Wisconsin's residential energy efficiency and electrification workforce. Contractors trained, tested, and certified through this program can also be connected with projects funded by the Home Energy Rebates programs to help deliver these important initiatives. The initial round of the TREC competitive grant program will open in late 2024.

More information about the Home Energy Rebates programs is available online.