



SHAWANOFEST IS BACK!

SHAWANOFEST RETURNS Saturday, July 10, after a year's hiatus. In addition to the Car Show on South Main Street, the event features live music, food trucks, and craft vendors, all starting at 10 a.m. in the 100 and 200 blocks of South Main Street in Shawano. The weekly FRESH Project Farmers Market at Franklin Park is extending its hours from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the event, and FRESH is hosting a 5k run/walk starting at 9 a.m. The day's entertainment is capped by a Franklin Park concert featuring the Kids from Wisconsin at 7 p.m.

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FAT TUESDAY ON A WEEKEND

Lakewood Mardi Gras returns July 17-18: Live music, carnival, food, fun and a parade

The COVID pandemic curtailed plans for the 2020 Lakewood Mardi Gras after 65 consecutive years of the celebration, just as the many other popular events had to be canceled last summer.

However, the Lakewood Area Chamber of Commerce and the Mardi Gras Planning Committee have made the decision to hold the 66th Lakewood Mardi Gras on July 17-18 at the Memorial Park Pavilion. Though somewhat scaled down to only a two-day event, the organizers felt that the tradition that started in 1955 should continue, even if some changes were necessary.

The softball tournament that has been a staple of the Mardi Gras for many years will return, but will be scaled back to only a 12-team tournament. The games will be scheduled to start at 8 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Play will continue through Sunday afternoon until a champion has been determined. Also scheduled for Saturday morning is a pickleball tournament sponsored by the Chamber and the Lions Club. That tournament will be an individual switch doubles round robin tournament with registration at 8 a.m. and play to start at 8 a.m. Entries are due by July 12 at LAPPPlayers@gmail.com.

Saturday afternoon will be "Kids Time," and a couple of very popular events from two years ago will return. The kids Fish Pond, sponsored by the Lions and Trout Unlimited, will open at approximately noon. Arrangements have again been made with Mischief and Magic to be on the grounds on Saturday afternoon. A balloon twister and a henna artist will be on hand at about 1 p.m. There will also be a magic clinic, and a

magic show that will be on stage at approximately 2 p.m. These activities are free.

Another activity paying tribute to the area's logging history will take place at 1 p.m. July 17. The staff at the Holt and Balcom Logging Camp Museum will be putting on the presentation Lucy Loves Lakewood. The presentation is open to the public and is about Lucy Holt, who recorded both written and film accounts of the area in the early 1900s. The Logging Camp Museum is located on the grounds of the McCauslin Brook Golf Course.

Adults on the Mardi Gras grounds will be in line for some free evening entertainment as well, with the popular band Crankin' Yankees on stage Saturday from 7-11 p.m.

The concession stands will open for lunch on Saturday, and there will be a wide variety of foods and beverages available on Saturday and Sunday. The Chamber Food Stand will feature hot beef sandwiches on Saturday afternoon. Corn on the cob will also be available. The Lions Snack Shack will also be open and will be serving the usual brats, burgers, and dogs.

One of Sunday's highlights is the Mardi Gras Parade scheduled for noon through downtown and back to the festival grounds. There is no cost to enter the parade, and businesses and organizations are encouraged to be represented in the parade. Entries are asked to line up near the Lakewood Cemetery about 11:30 a.m. Sunday.

Following the parade, in addition to the softball tournament and other activities, music will be provided on stage by DJ Greg Tallier.



An appropriately masked ATV, fully equipped with sound system, lines up for the parade during a recent Lakewood Mardi Gras parade. The parade, canceled during the pandemic summer of 2020, is scheduled to return in all its glory on Sunday, July 18.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, JULY 9

GILLET: Nicki Sims live, 5-8 p.m., Primal Eats, 14109 County Road W.

SATURDAY, JULY 10

SHAWANO: Shawano Farmers Market, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St.

LITTLE RIVER: 15th annual fire department pancake breakfast, 8-11 a.m., Little River Fire Department, 3627 County Road A.

SHAWANO: ShawanoFest and Car Show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Franklin Park and South Main Street. Free live entertainment, food trucks, craft vendors, kids games and car show with trophies.

NAVARINO: Navarino Days, Athletic Field, W5071 State Highway 156, Parade at noon, food and beverages available, kids give away, kids games, water fights, live auction, live music, baseball game, raffle, fireworks at dusk.

SHAWANO: Vignettes and Music, 1-3 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. Hosted by Box in the Woods Theatre Guild. Beloved classics and bold new works.

SHAWANO: Kids from Wisconsin, 7 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St.

SUNDAY, JULY 11

SHAWANO: Zurko Promotions flea market, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St.

OCONTO FALLS: Oconto Falls Flea Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Memorial Field.

SHAWANO: Shawano Ski Sharks, 6 p.m., Smalley Park. Pre-show 5:30 p.m.

SHAWANO: Music in the Park featuring Patchwork Band, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Memorial Park, 909 S. Lincoln St. Bring a lawn chair.

TUESDAY, JULY 13

OCONTO FALLS: Oconto County Farmers Market, 4-8 p.m., Highland Plaza, 323 E. Highland Drive.

OCONTO: Tunes on Tuesday featuring Jasha, 6-8 p.m., Beyer Home Gazebo, 917 Park Ave.

WITTENBERG: Concert Series in the Art Park featuring Quarry Road, 6-8 p.m.,

Washington Park, East Vinal Street.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

LAKEWOOD: Kid's Watermelon Eating Contest, 1 p.m., Lakewood Memorial Park and Pavilion.

SHAWANO: Shawano Ski Sharks, 6 p.m., Smalley Park. Pre-show 5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 15

SHAWANO: Thursdays at Franklin featuring Driftwood, 6-8:30 p.m., Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. Food and beverage vendors.

PULASKI: Polka Days, 4-11:30 p.m. Community Night, admission \$2. Music, food, souvenirs.

FRIDAY, JULY 16

PULASKI: Polka Days, 1 p.m.-1:15 a.m. Music, food, souvenirs. Dance lessons 1:30-3 p.m.

GILLET: Jim Counter live, 5-8 p.m. Primal Eats, 14109 County Road W, Gillett.

WITTENBERG: 43rd annual Wittenberg-Birnamwood FFA Corn Roast, 7-11 p.m., Washington Park, East Vinal Street.

SATURDAY, JULY 17

LAKEWOOD: Mardi Gras, see Page 2.

PULASKI: Polka Days, 9 a.m.-1 a.m. Music, food, souvenirs. Arts and Crafts Fair 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Dance lessons noon-1:30 p.m.

LAKEWOOD: Gilbert Brown and Friends Meet and Greet and Games, 11 a.m. Heaven's Up North Campground, 18344 Lake John Road. Autographs for sale and games, supporting Wisconsin children's charities through the former Packers player's Gilbert Brown Foundation.

DOTY: Fire Department Picnic, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Town Hall, County Road T and Star Lake Road. Music, food, ice cream, raffles and corn hole tournament.

LENA: Truck pulls, 6 p.m. East Main Street, sponsored by the Lena Snowdrifters, NEW Motorsports, St. Louis Concrete, KW Rusch and Ashmar, Duame Sand and Gravel Revolution, and Blue Spruce. Registration 3-5 p.m.

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