



EAGLE RIVER, WI 54521

Lifestyle

Section B

(715) 479-4421

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VILAS COUNTY FAIR



FUN AT THE FAIR — The Vilas County Fair offered something for everyone at the fairgrounds in Eagle River last weekend despite rain Saturday and cool temperatures Sunday. Rides, children's games, live entertainment and more were part of the four-day event, along with food offerings including ears of sweet corn, deep fried everything and giant lemonades. Although the children's games were rained out Saturday, they went off Sunday with youths competing in watermelon-eating contests, gunny sack races and more. —Staff Photos By MICHELLE DREW



Madtown Mannish Boys coming to Three Lakes

The Madtown Mannish Boys, a band from Madison, will be performing at the Three Lakes Center for the Arts (TLCFA) Saturday, Aug. 20, at 7:30 p.m.

The band has become a favorite across generations, motivating dancers with music rooted in the 60s and 70s, while keeping the blues tradition alive, said TLCFA event organizers.

Influenced by Chicago-style blues bands like Muddy Waters and Jr. Wells, they also include soulful bal-

lads, like those by Otis Redding and Sam Cooke.

The band won the Madison Magazine's "Best of Madison Award" and were finalists for the Madison Area Music Awards in 2020.

Wine, beer, soda and concessions will be available for purchase.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 13 and may be purchased online at tlcfa.org, at the door, or reserved at (715) 546-2299.

For more information, visit tlcfa.org.

Vendors sought for annual Phelps Scarecrow Fest

The 13th annual Phelps Scarecrow Fest is seeking vendors for its arts and crafts show.

Held in downtown Phelps, the festival will take place Saturday, Sept. 17, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost per booth is \$25 each for a 12-foot by 12-foot space.

Applications are available at phelpsscscrowfest.org and should be mailed to the

Phelps Woman's Club, P.O. Box 225, Phelps, WI 54554.

Application deadline is Thursday, Sept. 1; after that date booth fees will be raised to \$50.

Spaces are available for free for children age 18 and younger.

For more information, contact Sharon Gifford at (715) 617-0308 or gifford.se3@gmail.com.

Eagle River Car and Truck Show to be held Aug. 27

The Eagle River Car and Truck Show is set for Saturday, Aug. 27, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in downtown Eagle River.

Classics, muscles, and vintage vehicles will be lined up for viewing on Wall Street. The event is free to attend for the public.

Trophies will be awarded to show participants in various categories, including the People's Choice Award.

Food, drinks and music will be available throughout the day.

Car and truck enthusiasts that would like to show a car or truck at this event, contact Terry Lyon at (920) 246-0116.

For more information, contact the Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center at 1-(800) 359-6315 or visit eagleriver.org.

Not that you asked, but...

By Eric Johnson



Field of dreams

"Any game becomes important when you know and love the players."

—"Shoeless" Joe Jackson "Field of Dreams"

With sports, fantasy, drama film "Field of Dreams" rounding out my favorite trio of silver screen go-to baseball movies — after comedy-drama "A League of Their Own," a fictionalized 1992 account of the real-life Rockford Peaches of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League; and the Milwaukee County Stadium-filmed '89 comedy "Major League" — I have to admit I was drawn into last Thursday's small-screen drama on Fox that played out between the Chicago Cubs and Cincinnati Reds in the second annual Major League Baseball (MLB) at Field of Dreams; a spectacle at the famed silver-screen cornfield ballpark in Dyersville, Iowa.

But while the Field of Dreams game counts in the 2022 standings, I couldn't help but feel like I was watching a movie; from the stalks of corn in the 8,000-seat pop-up stadium's outfield to the historically authentic throwback uniforms to the jaunty retro sportswriters attire of announcers Joe Davis and John Smoltz.

My feelings weren't altogether surprising. After all, MLB is a business and nostalgia sells. The 6 million viewers tuning in to the inaugural MLB at Field of Dreams game last year clocking in on the radar gun as the most-watched regular-season game on any TV network in 16 years. As the old saying goes "follow the money."

Taking a "Shoeless" Jackson page from author W.P. Kinsella's magic realist '82 novel that inspired the '89 film — famously headlined by Kevin Costner, James Earl Jones, Ray Liotta, Amy Madigan and Burt Lancaster — for me the real "Field of Dreams" is where "you know and love the players."

For much of the 2022 baseball season, I've had a literal front row seat on the authentic "Field of Dreams" action 13.08 miles south of the Cheddar Curtain at Rivets Stadium in suburban Loves Park, Ill., home to the Rockford Rivets of the Rochester, Minn.-based North-

To JOHNSON, Pg. 2B