

# Inaugural winter disc golf tourney supports veterans

On Feb. 4, Eric Hauge, owner and founder of Five Seasons retreat center near Willard, along with Jeanette Harley, tournament director, hosted their first-ever disc golf tournament fundraiser named Victory for Vets as a part of the Veterans for Vets program created by one of the leading disc golf manufacturers, Dynamic Discs out of Emporia, Kan.

The Veterans for Vets is a new event designed to meet three goals: First, it gives disc golfers a chance to play in an organized event during the winter months — and get exclusive discs.

Second, it provides an environment for a disc golfer without any tournament experience to play in an organized event. All are welcome, especially United States veterans.

Finally, it provides an opportunity for the local disc golf community to raise money for a local organization tasked with serving veterans.

Five Seasons chose Camp Victory to be the recipient of funds raised at this event. Camp Victory offers outdoor activities, retreats and relaxation for veterans and first responders suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Jeff LeCount, camp director, was present to talk to the players about Camp Victory and its mission. All proceeds from the entry fees and raffle were presented to LeCount at the end of the event, with \$550 raised. Prizes included discs and a Dynamic Discs Recruit Lite disc golf target.

Five Seasons also partnered with local venue Wedges Creek Hideaway to offer hot, stone-fired pizza at the event, and Wedges Creek donated \$120 from the pizza profits to Camp Victory.

This tournament was the first to be held at the new Five Seasons disc golf course in its unique winter layout. Forty-one players signed up to compete against the course, including eight veterans. Trophy discs and minis were awarded to those placing first, second and third in each division, with several divisions available. Junior divisions were open to anyone 18 or younger. U.S. veteran divisions included any veteran or active-duty military member. Players could also compete in the novice or advanced/pro divisions, depending on their level of experience.

The idea for a disc golf course at Five Seasons came out of Jeanette and Eric's enjoyment of the sport themselves. Jeanette had been playing casually since 2008 but had no idea how popular the sport was going to become. When she moved to Neillsville in 2015, she discovered a few local nine-to-15 hole courses, including the Loyal West Side Park, Sherwood Park and Schuster Park, all of which are beginner-friendly.

Five Seasons was founded in 2020 as the permanent home of Rushing Wind USA's youth deer hunt. Since then, many other youth and

family-centered events have been hosted including the spring turkey hunt, Serve Local and snowshoe hikes. In fall 2021, Eric and Jeanette discussed putting in a disc golf course to benefit their ministry, but did not put in much action beyond that. However, with the influence of Eric's oldest son, Jordan, both Eric and Jeanette became members of the PDGA last June.

"We began competing in tournaments all over the state and came to realize how welcoming the disc golf community is to new players. People from all different backgrounds, genders and ages come together for a day to try to 'beat the course,'" Jeanette wrote in a press release.

Eric's wheels began turning and he put together a plan to build a Five Seasons course for everyone to enjoy. It would be the first 18-hole course in Clark County. He put together a packet to market it to local business for sponsorship as a means of advertising for their business. The main costs to a course are baskets and concrete tee pads. Most of the labor has been on a volunteer basis.

The goal is to have multiple tees and basket locations to accommodate beginner, intermediate and advanced skill levels. Eric, Jordan and Jeanette each played a role in the design and construction of the course.

"A temporary layout is currently in play and has been vastly enjoyed by everyone who has come out for a round. Eric has the primary responsibility of maintaining the course, keeping it playable after each precipitation event. We welcome any support from the community to keep this project moving forward," Jeanette wrote.

The Five Seasons disc golf course is located on private property but is open to the public with permission. Message Five Seasons on Facebook or call 715-743-2046 to check availability prior to arriving. More information is available by searching "Five Seasons" on Facebook or @fiveseasonswillard on Instagram. The course is published on the disc golf course app UDisc, PDGA.com and discgolfscore.com. Five Seasons welcomes donations for building and maintaining the course. Contact Five Seasons for information or to find out how to become a tee sponsor.

### More about disc golf

Disc golf is one of the most rapidly growing sports in the world. The Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) took 41 years to gain its first 100,000 members. The next 100,000 members signed up in less than four years. Since reaching 200,000, in less than one year, the PDGA has already issued another 40,000 PDGA numbers. These are only the numbers for registered players so one can imagine how many casual players throw on courses every day. Disc golf, similar to ball golf, uses discs from a tee to throw into a basket, trying to beat par for number of throws to complete the hole. Its accessibility for all ages and skill levels and the ability to play casual or competitive has led to this explosive growth. You can play with a group (card) or individually. Most courses are free or charge a small greens fee of a few dollars. Starter packs of discs are typically \$25, making it largely affordable to jump into the sport.



Above, Jeanette Harley and Eric Hauge present Jeff LeCount of Camp Victory near Willard with a \$550 check. The money will support outdoor activities for veterans and others dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder. Below, Simon Kerr of Plainview, Minn. tosses a disc in the Feb. 4 tournament. Bottom middle, Bill Kerr sends a disc into the basket. Bottom right, Kyle Lehmann of Menomonie makes his opening throw.



Shown are the veterans who participated in the first-ever Victory for Vets disc golf tournament fundraiser at Five Seasons retreat center. From l-r are Beau Stahnke, Russ Keith, Eric Hauge, Jordan Hauge, William Kerr, Chance Stocking, Michelle Pickett and Brian Chambers. Pickett is also pictured at the top left.

## Disc Golf Tournament Results

Division/Placings	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Junior 18 and under	Simon Kerr		
Junior Girls 18 and under	Kyra Orman	Erin Orman	Izzy Stenulson
Novice Female	Meredith Bray	Brittany Loon	Molly Orman
Advanced Pro Female	Megan Francis	Jeanette Harley	Kalie Ress
U.S. Veteran Female	Michelle Pickett		
Novice Male	Jake Johnson and Michael Cordes	Phil Orman	Nicholas Kibbons
Advanced Pro Male	Matthew Kufner and Austin Olson	Ryan Send and Thomas Sabelko	Chase Braswell
U.S. Veteran Male	Jordan Hauge	William Kerr	Russ Keith

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# Granton Dairy Breakfast



The weather was perfect for all the families that came out to enjoy a meal at the Granton Dairy Breakfast held at the Kayhart Family Farm on June 4. At its peak, the line to get breakfast stretched for hundreds of feet, but everyone eventually got their meal. Above, Elijah Stauber of Marshfield experiments with his food to see if eggs and applesauce are a good combination. Many other kids got to taste a good meal at the breakfast, like Aspyn Ortner (top right), who got help from her mother, Jackie, in pouring some syrup on her pancakes. When they weren't enjoying the food, many children found the petting zoo to be very enjoyable, as well as games such as bean bag toss that Emerald Nieman of Greenwood (2nd picture from top, right) was able to play. There were also displays put on by the Granton First Responders and the Granton Antique Tractor Club.



CHEYENNE THOMAS/STAFF PHOTOS  
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The communities of Greenwood and Loyal observed Memorial Day on Monday by taking time to remember our nation's fallen heroes. At top middle, Loyal Legionnaire Mike Bauer places a wreath in the Loyal cemetery in honor of those who have served. At top right, Legionnaire Dave Lucht salutes. Above, Loyal American Legion Post 175 members fire a gun salute following a moment of silence for the military departed. To right, Sarah Miller plays her saxophone in the Loyal High School Band. The band played the national anthem, "Armed Forces Salute" and "America the Beautiful." "The true cost of war is the men and women who died to keep America free," said Loyal Legion Post Commander Charlotte Avila.

# MEMORIAL DAY



The Greenwood Wallis-Hinker-Brux American Legion Post 238 conducted ceremonies at several area cemeteries on Memorial Day. Above, Legionnaires fire a salute at the Immanuel United Church of Christ Cemetery. To left, a memorial in the Greenwood City Cemetery is adorned with paper poppies, each representing one Greenwood veteran killed in combat. Below, the Greenwood High School Band performs "America the Beautiful." To right, a band member plays "Taps." The program at the high school also included an invocation by Father Emmanuel Famiyeh, a welcome by Legionnaire Roger Schwarze, an address by 7th District, 1st Vice Commander David Boe and singing of the national anthem by choir member Destiny Durrstein.



VALORIE BRECHT AND CHEYENNE THOMAS/STAFF PHOTOS  
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