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Kip Hicks is a local singing talent

Check out the schedule of activities

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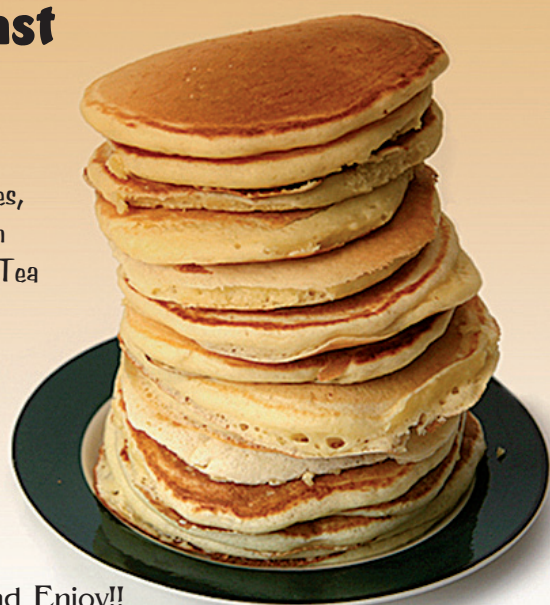
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Welcome to all our Fiddle Festival visitors

Welcome back to our old friends and to our new visitors. We are happy you have joined us for a fun and busy week in our community.

This is a time for our community residents, organizations and visitors to volunteer and come together to help put on a great week of entertainment for people of all ages.

I hope you will take time to enjoy many of the activities going on in our area and attend the contest.

If you are returning to our community from previous years, you will see some changes. Ridley's is still in a temporary location, but if you venture out to Bi-Mart, you will see the new store nearing completion. We are excited for the opening which is expected later in the summer.

Like many communities this time of year, we have street work going on across town to provide better walkability, safety and flow of traffic in two of our busy areas. Thank you for your patience in these areas.

All of our downtown businesses and businesses along the Highway 95 corridor look forward to your visit. Our two coffee businesses are friendly places to grab a good cup of your favorite hot or cold beverages and visit with some of the locals. Pepper's Coffee is located in downtown Weiser and Black Sheep Coffee is located on Highway 95.

They can also be a great source of information. Pepper's is a great store to visit, with books, yarns and Alma Naturals products. Don't forget to sample Angela's cookies when you pick up a drink at Black Sheep Coffee on Highway 95. You'll be back for more.

As you walk downtown be sure to stop and have some candy, meals or ice cream at Weiser Classic Candy, Legends on Main, Ruszoni's, Golden Horse, Idaho Pizza and the Homestead Cafe. Waffleberry's Cafe is located next to K Hardware Store on the north end of State Street. Look for Fiddle Week Specials at all the businesses this week. There will be music in most of the venues during fiddle week as well.

Arrow Creek Clothing has moved into Second Chance Consignment on Highway 95 south of town. Second Chance has also added several other fun corners of handmade and local products. It's just a short drive away.

Stop in town at Peoples Furniture for great buys and browse the Bee's Box inside of People's for great accessories for your home or home-away-from home. Stop across the street to see Ken at Picker's Paradise and look over his huge selection of guitars and banjos. You will find some great music going on in the store throughout the week.

Next door to Ken's is the wonderful Casey Girl Designs which has lots of great items and a talented upholsterer. We have stores with antique clothes, toys and other second-hand treasures. Walk on down to the Flower Basket and enjoy the beauty of the flowers and gifts Dana has. If your favorite four-footed friend needs a bath don't miss the Pampered Pooch next to Wells Fargo. Bike trouble? Stop in at JD'Z in the mini-mall.

Another great stop is Marbella's Pottery Painting, Mosaics and Wine. This is a fun place for kids to make something to take home and even for us older kids. They also have a wonderful garden in the back to enjoy your favorite adult beverage in a comfy setting. Legends on Main and Ruszoni's have also added areas to enjoy the weather, beverages and music.

Our local senior center provides a great breakfast each morning during fiddle week, along with a venue for fiddlers to showcase their talent. The Elks Lodge is a good place to enjoy dinner or you can enjoy a meal at one of our local restaurants. Take time to attend some of the additional activities as well as the contest itself. Take a few minutes to visit the many other businesses in our community.

Memorial Park is again a center of activity and is full of vendors and lots of talent on the stages. The City Park is being used again this year to allow families and friends to get together to share music and picnics. Check out local media for the schedule of events at Memorial Park throughout the week.

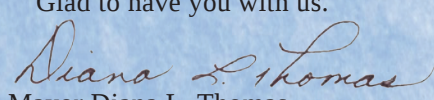
Take time to enjoy the historic architecture in our downtown and along many of our neighborhood streets. Stop at Pioneer Express for a cool drink or ice cream on your way to and from the contest area.

There is a lot going on this week at the "Institute" as well, so watch for the signs and listen for the sounds. If you have an opportunity take in some of the Weiser River Music Festival being held across the Weiser River Bridge. Entertainment will be non-stop for the weekend.

Don't miss the parade on Saturday and the great entertainment at the park stage.

Thanks for coming and we hope you enjoy your time with us. Have a safe and fun filled week.

Glad to have you with us.



Mayor Diana L. Thomas
City of Weiser



Fiddle Parade Grand Marshal



Lifelong Weiser resident Lila Harper plans to invite her family members to ride in the fiddle parade with her this year. She was selected as the grand marshal by the parade committee. It's an honor given annually to a community member who volunteers and gives back to make Weiser a better place. Above, Harper makes her potato casserole every December for the all-volunteer Citizens on Patrol Christmas dinner. *File photo*

Parade grand marshal has given much to community

Lifelong Weiser resident has always considered herself a 'people person'

by Steve Lyon

Weiser resident Lila Harper was equally surprised and thrilled at the news that she had been selected as the 2019 grand marshal for the fiddle contest parade on Saturday, June 22.

Harper has been a volunteer with many organizations for much of her adult life, and she has lived all of her youthful 86 years in Weiser.

"This town has been really good to me and I appreciate it," she said.

The National Oldtime Fiddler's Contest parade committee solicits nominations for grand marshal and votes on a selection every year.

Harper was nominated by a member of the parade committee, and it was a quick and unanimous decision to pick her for the honor, chairman Patrick Nauman said.

"Considering how much she has done for the community over the years, her level of service has never wavered," Nauman said.

"Once we found out that she and her husband even used to perform at the fiddle contest, we knew she had to be honored."

She volunteered with the Red Cross blood drives in Weiser for nearly six decades and never missed a single one. She scheduled donors, arranged locations, called on volunteers to donate sandwiches and greeted everyone with a big smile.

Harper began working elections in Washington County when John F. Kennedy was president. She was a young woman in her early 20s who

loved to be around people and wanted to be involved in an important job.

She's been in the same Weiser precinct for all that time. The polling was done at the old westside school, the Catholic church, downstairs at the courthouse, school gyms.

She often worked in the counting room on election night. She was such a fixture at elections that voters would look for her and knew they were in the right place to vote.

Harper was a senior judge at the polls on election day for many years, overseeing everything that went on at the polling location.

In that role, she had to decide important issues about ballots and voting. She had years of training to fall back on.

Although she retired a couple of years ago, she's been asked to once again assist at the polls.

Harper was one of the founding members of the volunteer Citizens on Patrol organization in Weiser and has been a member since 2007. She is currently the secretary-treasurer of the Weiser COPs.

She has a personal story about how she became involved with the group.

When her husband's health began to fail, he sometimes fell and she needed help to lift him. Weiser PD always offered assistance in those difficult situations. She joined COPs to pay a little something back.

"It's a way a could give back to the police department. They were so good and helpful," she said.

After Harper was invited to a meeting of the Friends of Weiser Memorial Hospital, she knew she wanted to join. She volunteered weekly, spreading her cheer at the hospital and enjoying the many friends she made. She became the president of the organization.

Harper has always wanted to keep busy in the community she has called home for more than eight decades. She jokes that she is a charter member of Weiser.

"I think I'm kind of a people person. I like to be involved when I can and help out when I can," she said.

Harper also has been a longtime music lover and singer, a talent she first exhibited at age four. She has graced many an event in the community with her singing – weddings, funerals, conventions and other venues. She has played piano at pageants and directed choirs at the Weiser Christian Church.

With her late husband Chuck, who also had a tremendous singing voice, the duo were invited to perform popular songs and show tunes around the valley. They even traveled to Sun Valley and performed at conventions. The two also were part of a quartet called the Melodeers.

In the 1960s, Lila and Chuck also sang at the fiddlers contest in Weiser. That was back when the contest and all the entertainment were held at the old bandshell in Memorial Park.

Harper has three children – Mike Ryan, Tim Ryan and Jan Adams.

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Longtime fiddler Vince Bingham, left, of Nyssa, Ore., was surprised to receive a plaque and learn that he was selected as this year’s inductee into the Blue Mountain Oldtime Fiddlers Hall of Fame. Kent Craig, right, a friend and fiddler, presented Bingham with the award during a session of the Gem State Fiddlers at the Weiser Senior and Community Center. Photo by Steve Lyon

Longtime area fiddler recently inducted into hall of fame

Vince Bingham plays with Gem State Fiddlers and the Blue Mountain Oldtime Fiddlers

by Steve Lyon

Vince Bingham was born 16 miles south of the Canadian border and to this day has a fondness for the style of fiddling found up north.

Bingham is a member of both the Gem State Fiddlers and the Blue Mountain Oldtime Fiddlers, two widely known fiddling groups in the region. He spends time playing with both groups of musicians in southwest Idaho and eastern Oregon.

His dedication to fiddling earned him recognition from the Blue Mountain Oldtime Fiddlers, which selected him for the group’s Hall of Fame this year. It is an honor that is bestowed on one member annually who has contributed significantly to keeping oldtime fiddle music alive and thriving.

The group has members scattered in seven counties in eastern Oregon. They play a lot around Vale, Nyssa and Ontario. The 200 or so members of the BMOF meet every April in Union, Ore., at the high school to elect officers and conduct business. Not all members are fiddlers. Some are banjo players, guitarists, bass players, singers and fiddlers.

This year they decided to induct Bingham, who lives in Nyssa, Ore., and has kicked around a few dancehalls in his 89 years, into the hall of fame. He has been a member of the BMOF group since about 1980.

Bingham was born in 1929 in the small town of Scobey, Mont., which on a map is not far from Canada. He started strumming a guitar at age 7 and picked up a fiddle when he was 20. From there he added piano and polished a honky tonk sound.

Some early musical influences included an aunt of Norwegian decent, who taught him songs. Growing up near the Canadian border, “up on the line,” he said, he was a fan of Canadian folk musician, band leader and radio broadcaster Don Messer, a practitioner of the “down east” fiddle style. Messer was a fixture on Canadian radio in the 1960s with his

“Don Messer’s Jubilee” show.

In the early 1950s Bingham joined a band and played for many years with Mel’s Westerners all over Montana. He also played with the Montana Plainsmen throughout eastern Montana in the 1940s as a young man.

He left Montana in 1968 and moved to Oregon for employment opportunities. He got into the cropdusting business and worked at that for 37 years, flying and spraying crops with the seasons. He even bought some land near Adrian, Ore., and built his own airstrip.

He has never stopped playing the fiddle, even after he lost a finger and part of another in an accident. Like many old-school fiddlers, he doesn’t read music. He picks up songs by ear. He’s constantly learning new tunes to add to his playlist. He leans toward the country music and swing style of fiddling.

Vince and his wife of more than 60 years, Doreen, have entertained all over the region, including Weiser. Vince played fiddle and Doreen played stand-up bass every Friday night for dances at the Ontario Senior Center and one Saturday a month at the Vale Senior Center.

Carolyn Craig and her husband Kent play with the Gem State Fiddlers and the Blue Mountain Oldtime Fiddlers and have been friends of Bingham for many years. Bingham is a natural born entertainer, Carolyn said, both as a musician and also as a singer.

“He can keep things going. Some people have that ability,” she said.

Fellow fiddler Kent Craig described Vince’s fiddling style as Nashville country and honky tonk when he sits down at the piano. The two collaborated on an original fiddle tune called “The Farewell Bend Waltz.” They played it at the twin fiddling competition in Weiser and placed eighth in the audience appreciation category.

“To me, he’s every audience member’s and musician’s best friend. He just eats

see HALL OF FAME, Page 5



The carnival during fiddle week at Memorial Park in Weiser is fun for all ages. There are food vendors to go along with many other retailers. The carnival has a new amusements operator this year, who plans to bring a dozen fun rides for kids of all ages. The carnival opens on June 19. *Courtesy photos*

New carnival vendor promises a fun time

A dozen rides and other attractions will be located in Memorial Park

by Candice Schimmel

One of the highlights of the fiddle festival has been the carnival that comes to town. A new vendor this year is bringing a dozen rides that will offer kids of all ages plenty of thrills.

Davis Amusement Cascadia stepped up to the plate to help Weiser and the Fiddle Festival committee out when the previous company backed out of their contract in March. This didn't leave Sandra Cooper and the rest of the fiddle committee much time to find a replacement.

Thankfully, Davis Amusement came to the rescue and agreed to be the carnival providers.

"We're very, very pleased to be able to get them," Cooper said of Davis Amusement.

It's especially lucky, since everyone is usually booked up months in advance.

The carnival will be bringing 12 rides that range from the ever popular and kid friendly carousel to more adventurous rides like the Twizzler and Zipper. They will also have a Mardi Gras fun house and Super Slides for those that don't feel like having an adrenaline rush.

"One of the most popular rides that we are bringing this year is the Windglider – gives a motion of being on a hang glider," Celeste Davis of Davis Amusement Cascadia said.

Adventure-goers can also get an aerial view of Weiser and the festivities in the park by taking a ride on the YoYo Swings.

There will also be several rides available for those with children that are at least 36 inches tall, such as the Berry Go Round and Sooper Jet.

The carnival isn't just about seeing if you can hold in all the food you ate while wandering the park, there will also be games.

"There are several games we are bring-

ing – we have winner every time games for all ages – and others are more challenging," Davis said.

If you get a yearning for carnival food, they will have a booth with all the traditional goodies of cotton candy, hand dipped corn dogs, fresh caramel apples, etc.

Tickets are available for a reduced rate of \$22 at the following businesses: Ridley's, Weiser Classic Candy, Columbia Bank, Zions Bank, MTE Communications, National Oldtime Fiddler's office, Styles Studio, Pepper's Coffee, and the Chamber of Commerce.

There are only 1,000 presale tickets. The reduced rate of \$22 will only be available until Wednesday, June 19. That afternoon, the ticket price will go up to \$32 at the box office. There is also an option to order tickets online at www.davisamusement.com.

The times for the carnival on Wednesday, June 19, and Thursday, June 20, will be 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, June 21, will be during the hours of 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, June 22, will be the last day, and the rides will start at 1 p.m. and end at 10 p.m. It is located at Memorial Park.

The first of Davis' equipment will arrive the weekend before. They will bring a staff of over 60 people and it will take them around 16 hours to set up and around 10 hours to disassemble once over.

Davis Amusement is a multigenerational family business out of Oregon. Celeste Davis married into the family and helps run it with her husband Michael now.

She is especially excited to finally see the Fiddle Fest, which is something she heard about growing up.

"I grew up in Boise since age 3 – my side of the family still resides in the area and plan to come to the event."

from page 4

Nyssa fiddler inducted into hall of fame

and sleeps music," Craig said.

Asked about his favorite songs he likes to play on the fiddle, Bingham thinks for a minute and mentions a couple of well-known tunes, including "Starlight Waltz." Most of the fiddlers he plays with can also jump into a rendition of "Faded Love," another favorite.

Even pushing 90, Bingham still loves to get together with the Gem State Fiddlers and the Blue Mountain Oldtime Fiddlers for a jam session. When he plays, he's got a big smile on his face.

"It's another family to me. You know the people and have something in common with them," he said.

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Singer and songwriter Kip Hicks performs last year during fiddle week at Memorial Park accompanied by Michelle Chinn-Cannon from North Carolina. Hicks said it's an honor to be asked to play. Photo by Sarah Imada

Weiser pastor, teacher and singer will perform Memorial Park

Kip Hicks began singing professionally at age 8

by Nicole Miller

Kip Hicks is a teacher at Weiser High School, a worship pastor at Weiser Community Church, and a devoted husband and father of four. He is also a talented singer/songwriter and performer, and each year Hicks enjoys performing at the Weiser fiddle festival. Hicks began performing professionally at the age of 8 when his mother began signing him up for local talent contests around central Idaho. This quickly turned into performing during halftime shows and entertainment venues all over Idaho and Oregon. By age 16, Hicks had a booking agent who helped him branch out either further. Although he enjoyed traveling and performing, Hicks found that his talent had what he believed was a more important purpose. He began using his talents for "God's Glory" around the age of 22, when he began helping lead worship at his local church. This eventually brought Hicks and his family to Weiser as the worship pastor at Weiser Community Church.

Hicks sings mostly country music with the incorporation of bluegrass, contemporary Christian, with a little modern cross-over contemporary. With his favorite inspirations, including Paul Overstreet, Josh Turner, George Strait, Clay Walker, Sawyer Brown, Ricky Scaggs and Steven Curtis Chapman, Hicks says he looks for personal character in his inspiration even more than each performer's talent. Hicks believes he may have performed multiple times at the fiddle festival during his traveling performances as a child, but since moving back to Weiser he has performed for the last four years. "It is an honor to be invited to perform each time," Hicks said. This year Hicks will be performing on June 19 at 4 p.m. at the main stage in Memorial Park. Hicks said his favorite song to perform changes like the weather in Weiser, but he is often partial to his original songs. He recently reworked a cover by Tenth Avenue North that he really enjoys.

One favorite song for Hicks actually started off as a little bit of a joke and a little way to cope with the snowpocalypse in 2017. His song about that epic and infamous winter received thousands of hits on Youtube, and Hicks says it is fun to see the recognition in people's eyes when he begins playing it. Hicks and his family moved here to Weiser in 2014 from Payette. He really enjoys the community and plans to continue to put down deep roots. "I like the unity of our little community as we represent Weiser to the world. I love listening to the talent at Stickerville as it fills our backyard with bluegrass lullabies," Hicks said. Hicks enjoys working with the youth of Weiser both through his work as the worship pastor at Weiser Community Church and as the automotive and mechanics teacher at Weiser High School. His work in Weiser and this community have been a wonderful blessing for him and his family.

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The National Oldtime Fiddlers’ Contest parade brings everyone together on Saturday, June 22, the last day of the contest. Everyone from musicians to local businesses and organizations to first responders and fire departments join the annual parade. Any spot along State Street will offer excellent viewing. If it’s hot, wear sunscreen and drink plenty of water. *Photo by Sarah Imada*

Fiddle contest parade is one of the best anywhere

This year’s theme for entries is ‘Fiddling – the Music of America’

by Nicole Miller

Each year, the National Oldtime Fiddlers’ Contest parade is the culminating event that brings contestants and the community together to celebrate events of fiddle week. The grand event takes place on Saturday, June 22, and begins at noon.

This year, the parade promises to continue the grand tradition with the theme: “Fiddling – the music of America.”

The fiddle parade is unique because the entries range from musical floats, to dancers, to classic cars and equestrian clubs. Entries must be submitted by June 15 in order to be considered for judging in one of the following categories: decorated bicycle (ages 12 and under), dance/drill team, 4-H/FFA, political entry, non-profit, commercial business, agriculture, school/preschool/daycare, car, ATV/motorcycle and equestrian.

With entries from each category aiming to be the best at representing the fiddle parade and this year’s theme, the parade is sure to showcase the variety of fun that it always has.

The entries are encouraged to have fun with the theme and to use music and or fiddlers in their entry. The “best of theme” entry will receive a traveling trophy and rosette ribbon award. Rosette awards will be given to the winner in all

other categories.

Parade committee chairman Patrick Nauman said that this year he has had more volunteers on the committee than ever before. With the Weiser music festival happening at the same time, he expects the crowds to be bigger than ever as well.

“It’s a great classic small-town America parade and a wonderful Weiser tradition,” Nauman said.

Nauman first began heading the parade committee six years ago with the hopes of having the parade return to the top spot for the largest parade in the state of Idaho. While he hasn’t made that goal yet, the parade has grown each year while staying true to its roots as a classic small town America parade.

The parade participants line up at 10 a.m. at the high school or in the empty lot across from the golf course for equestrian entries with the judging at 11 a.m., and the parade starting at noon.

The parade will follow the same route it has in recent years. It will proceed east on Indianhead, down to State Street. Turning right at State Street, it will continue south to Idaho Street. It will then turn left on East Idaho Street and head east to Fourth Street, where it will head south to the end of the route at Weiser Middle School.



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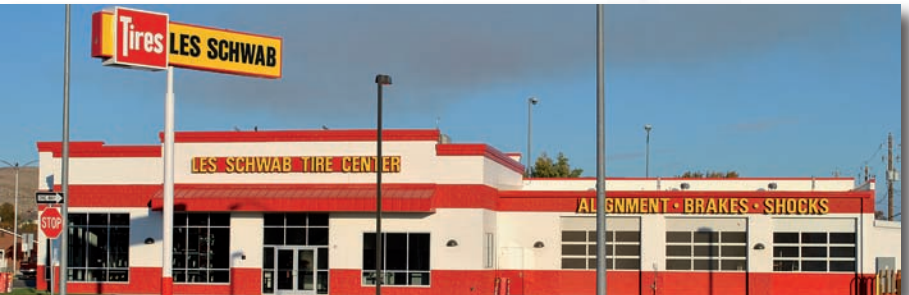
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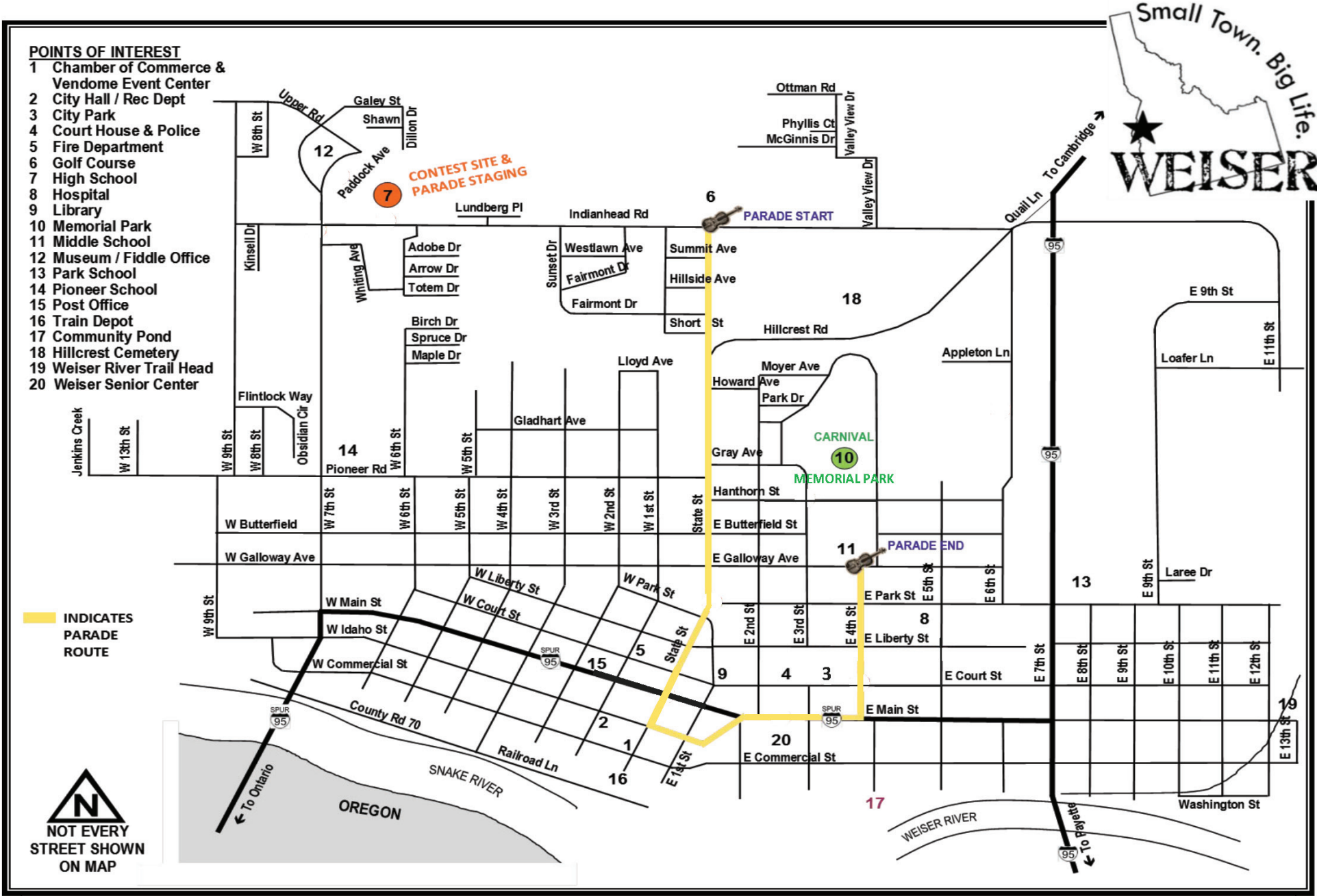


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This map shows key locations around Weiser to enjoy fiddle week events. The route for Saturday’s fiddle parade is also noted in yellow.

Activities, sightseeing and fun to be had

National Oldtime Fiddlers Hall of Fame

Visit the Hall of Fame inside historic Slocum Hall, 2235 Paddock Ave., and read all about the great fiddlers who have won the NOTFC in years past. Enjoy some light refreshments and take a tour. You can learn about the contest’s early days and how the grassroots fiddlers began the competition.

Breakfast daily at the Weiser Senior and Community Center

Visitors, regulars and locals are all invited to enjoy a hearty breakfast every morning during fiddle week at the Weiser Senior and Community Center, located at 115 East Main, from 7-11 a.m.

Money raised from the breakfast helps charities and the center. You can enjoy a breakfast of bacon, eggs, sausage, pancakes, along with your choice of coffee, juice or milk. Breakfast is \$6 per person, Monday through Saturday. The center will close at noon throughout the week except for their special events.

A dance will be held on Thursday, June 20 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. hosted by the Gem State Fiddlers.

You can purchase raffle tickets to win a variety of prizes. The drawing will be held June 22 during breakfast. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will go to the Weiser Senior and Community Center.

Weiser Elks Lodge #1683 Serving Dinner

The Elks will serve dinner Monday through Saturday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. all week except Thursday. The dining room will close at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday for bingo. Each evening will feature different main dishes, including tacos, Sloppy Joes, hamburgers, spaghetti, and Carolina pulled pork. Pool and entertainment every night. The lodge lounge is open daily at 4 p.m.



Snake River Heritage Center Has History

Weiser’s local museum offers a tremendous collection of artifacts that document the history of Weiser and Washington County. The museum houses many exhibits, including the Native American exhibit, the ranch room, the schoolroom, telephone room, camera room and the Intermountain Institute room. The museum has a superb new exhibit for the Knights of Pythias, and of course, there are souvenirs and books for sale, including signed copies of the Walter Johnson book. There is so much to see. Plan to spend a couple of hours in H.M. Hooker Hall, 2295 Paddock Ave., to take it all in. The building is part of the Idaho Industrial Institute founded in 1899. Guided tours will run daily during Fiddle Week from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Check out the first

floor hallway that features “Weiser the Way it Was.”

Downtown Kids Day is a load of fun

On Tuesday, June 18, a block of State Street in downtown Weiser will be blocked off so children can have fun on Kids Day. There will be tons of fun activities for all children – a splash pad, inflatable obstacle course, dunk booth, face painting, carnival games and much more. There will also be a ping-pong ball drop at the Depot with three age groups starting at 11 a.m. Plan on spending most of the day downtown for the annual Kids Day. Events start at 10 a.m. and go until 2 p.m. It’s inexpensive, fun, and all for kids.

Movie in the park

On Tuesday, June 18, an outdoor movie will be presented by Weiser Classic Candy, Dance Extreme 2.0 and the Nazarene Church. The movie will be “The Secret Life of Pets” and will take place at Memorial Park at dusk. This is a free event, donations are welcome and will go to the National Old Time Fiddlers’ Contest.

Get your Bikers Rodeo on

Stop by to check out a variety of motorcycles or sign up for the rodeo yourself. The Bikers Rodeo takes place after the parade on Saturday, June 22. Located at the original home for the bikers rodeo, the Weiser rodeo grounds. Sign-up begins at 1 p.m. and the rodeo begins at 3 p.m. Sponsored by Copper Lounge and Weiser Rodeo Association.

Stop by the Chamber of Commerce

The Weiser Chamber invites you to come down to the Charm Trailhead (Chamber Office, 309 State St.) and get your charm bracelet and your trail map. Various merchants carry the assorted charms, so it’s a great way to get a little fresh air and exercise and get a souvenir that’s uniquely Weiser – and uniquely you!



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The Weiser Senior and Community Center will serve breakfast every morning during fiddle week. It's a Weiser tradition to stop by every morning for some great food and fiddle music.

The Chamber office will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday of fiddle week. Come and see us!

Check out the yard sales

For those who love a good yard sale, many Weiser residents plan yard sales to coincide with fiddle week. Weiser will have plenty around. Look inside the *Weiser Signal American* for a listing and enjoy the hunt for treasures.

Local Artwork

For all of the art lovers out there, the Four County Art Guild offers a self-guided art walking tour. Participating businesses have teamed up with the Guild to help showcase our local artistic talent. The work of artists from Washington, Payette, Adams and Malheur counties is on display at several locations around downtown. Some of the pieces are for sale while others are just for visitors to enjoy.

Businesses where you can see the art include Weiser Classic Candy, Ruszoni's Pizza, Marbella Pottery, Painting, Mosaics and Wine, Weiser Public Library, Legends on Main Pub and Grill, *Weiser Signal American* newspaper and a short drive to Second Chance. We also have featured artists showcased at Zions Bank, Columbia Bank, and the Weiser Senior and Community Center. You can pick up a brochure, which includes a map, at any one of these local businesses and enjoy the art tour!

Fiddle Parade is the best

The 2019 Fiddle Parade promises to be filled with fun and entertainment. It's always a great part of fiddle week. See the horses, the fire engines, and the floats. This year's theme is "Fiddling - the music of America." Look inside this edition for more information on the parade.

Top players at the Banjo Contest

A banjo contest will be held Saturday, June 15, and Sunday, June 16, at Hooker Hall in the auditorium starting at 2 p.m. Four banjo-style categories and a fiddle/banjo duet category. There will also be some novelty contests.

Register at the information desk at Slocum Hall, 2235 Paddock Ave. You can register in advance at www.fiddlecontest.com. Come enjoy music from some of the best pickers to be found. For more information, visit banjocontest.weebly.com.

Gem State Fiddlers

The Gem State Fiddlers will be playing Monday through Saturday at the Weiser Senior and Community Center from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. There will be a sign

up board for musicians of all levels to participate in open mic sessions. It's a lot of fun for musicians and audience members. On Thursday, June 20, stop by and kick your heels up at the dance from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Library Book Sale

The Weiser Public Library will once again host the Friends of the Library annual book sale. The community has donated many books to help raise funds for the library. The sale will start on June 17 and run until the books are gone. Come by the library at 628 E. First St. between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. to find your next reading gem.

Weiser River Music Festival

The Weiser River Music Festival will start with a launch party at Ruszoni's Pizza in downtown Weiser Thursday, June 20, at 6 p.m. The concert Thursday night will be free.

Friday, June 21, the music will start at 1 p.m. at 606 Highway 95 (next to Steve's Hometown Motors) and run until 2 a.m.

On Saturday, June 22, the music will start around 2 p.m., after the fiddle parade in downtown Weiser and go until 2 a.m. Tickets are available online and at the gate.

Western swing dance

A western swing dance will be held at the Snake River Heritage Center in the ballroom on Sunday, June 16, from 9 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Admission will be by donation. Come on out and have some fun.

Pie making class

Learn the tips of making a great pie from Sally Carpenter on June 17 and 19 at the Slocum Hall kitchen. Classes will be held at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Enjoy music, vendors, beer garden at Memorial Park

Many activities are planned at Memorial Park. There will be free entertainment located on the stage, a beer garden and vendors. The park will open on Tuesday, June 18, and run throughout the week from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. The carnival will open on Wednesday, June 19, and will feature 13 rides. The carnival opens at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19, 3 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and at noon on Saturday.

Greg Boyd's House of Fine Instruments

Greg Boyd's House of Fine Instruments will be open all week, June 13-22, at Billings Gymnasium located on the Intermountain Institute campus on Paddock Avenue.

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A close-up photograph of a violin, showing its body, f-hole, and strings. The violin is positioned diagonally across the frame. It is resting on a sheet of musical notation, which is visible in the background. The lighting is soft, highlighting the wood grain of the violin.

The Violin Sings

*but the
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Dances*

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There will be plenty of entertainment to enjoy at Memorial Park during fiddle week. The organizers of the NOTFC have consolidated the entertainment and vendors at Memorial Park, which will be the hub of food and fun for the entire fiddle week. Check it out. The entertainment is always free. *Photo by Sarah Imada*

Memorial Park Stage Entertainment

Memorial Park is the venue for loads of fun during fiddle week in Weiser.

In addition to vendors and daily and nightly entertainment on the stage, the carnival is back with several new adult rides and the kids' favorites.

There will be nightly entertainment Thursday through Saturday. Look for the cloggers, dancers and the cheerleaders on the stage.

Memorial Park stage schedule
Tuesday June 18

12 p.m.-1 p.m. – Spur 95
1 p.m.-2 p.m. – Lisa Johnson
2 p.m.-3 p.m. – Britchy
3 p.m.-4 p.m. – Dennis Cooper
4 p.m.-5 p.m. – Naomi Konrady
5 p.m.-6 p.m. – The Webbs
6 p.m.-7 p.m. – Old Farthings
7 p.m.-8 p.m. – Roundhouse
8 p.m.-9 p.m. – Storytellers

Wednesday June 19

12 p.m.-1 p.m. – Harmony Ranch Music
1 p.m.-2 p.m. – Fiddle Express
2 p.m.-3 p.m. – Gem State Fiddlers
3 p.m.-4 p.m. – Jim Bateman
4 p.m.-5 p.m. – Kip Hicks & Friends
5 p.m.-6 p.m. – Sharon Rekwart, Blaine
and Molly Lilly
6 p.m.-7 p.m. – Yvonne Clark
7 p.m.-8 p.m. – Roundhouse
8 p.m.-9 p.m. – Just for Kicks

Thursday June 20

12 p.m.-1 p.m. – David Stroda
1 p.m.-2 p.m. – Uke-A-Ladies
2 p.m.-3 p.m. – Ken Worthington and
Friends

3 p.m.-4 p.m. – Dennis Cooper
4 p.m.-5 p.m. – Lisa Johnson
5 p.m.-6 p.m. – Gary Eller
6 p.m.-7 p.m. – Skookumchuck Bear
Claws
7 p.m.-8 p.m. – Michael Emert Lewis
8 p.m.-9 p.m. – Dennis Cooper
Friday June 21
12 p.m.-1 p.m. – Doug Slagle
1 p.m.-2 p.m. – Chris Talbot
2:30 p.m.-3 p.m. – Bailables Mexicanos
Folk Dancers
3 p.m.-4 p.m. – Damian Regalado - Ma-
gician
4 p.m.-5 p.m. – Brief & Breezy
5 p.m.-5:30 p.m. – Kip Hicks & Friends
5:30 p.m.-6 p.m. – Nocturnals
6 p.m.-7 p.m. – Kickup Kids Cloggers/
WHS Cheeleaders
7 p.m.-8 p.m. – Patrice Webb, Singer/
Songwriter
8 p.m.-9 p.m. – Roger Lemstrom
9 p.m.-10 p.m. – The Unexpected
Saturday June 22
12 p.m.-1 p.m. – Seattle Goes South
1 p.m.-2 p.m. – Blue Road Ramblers
2 p.m.-3:00 p.m. – Kickup Kids Clog-
gers
3 p.m.-3:30 p.m. – Damian Regalado-
Magician
3:30 p.m.-4 p.m. – Stu Carlson-Cowboy
Poet
4 p.m.-5 p.m. – Half-Fast Hillbillies
5 p.m.-6 p.m. – Hat Trick
6 p.m.-7 p.m. – Jim Bateman
7 p.m.-7:30 p.m. – Damian Regalado
8 p.m.-10 p.m. – The Sophisticats



Boise’s Lori Gilbert plays a tune during the 2018 Weiser Banjo Contest with Jay Fromlath, also of Boise, accompanying on the bass. Gilbert and Renee Homey won second place in the banjo and fiddle competition last year. This year’s contest will feature the best players around and begins on Saturday, June 15 and continues on Sunday, June 16. The contest, always a great prelude to the National Oldtime Fiddlers’ Contest, will take place at Hooker Hall. *Photo by Steve Lyon*

Weiser Banjo Contest back for seventh year

Two-day event starts weekend before fiddle week in Weiser, Idaho’s music capital

by Steve Lyon

Weiser is world famous for the annual National Oldtime Fiddlers’ Contest held every June, but it’s also a stop on the music map for the best banjo players around. Now in its seventh year, the Weiser Banjo Contest is held the first weekend of the fiddle festival, which this year is June 15-16. It’s a judged event that attracts top banjo players from around the Northwest. Musician Gary Eller, who resides in the uniquely named area of Canyon County, Idaho, known as Pickles Butte, is the founder, organizer and chief promoter of the banjo contest. The banjo competition is getting to be known to a wider audience year after year. It’s an event with great synergy with the fiddle contest, which follows it every year, he said. Eller’s goals with the Weiser Banjo Contest have not changed over the past seven years. The primary objective was to establish a banjo contest as an important

part of the National Oldtime Fiddlers’ Contest and Festival. The contest also provides an opportunity and venue for banjo players at all levels to compete and play in front of a live audience. Equally important, Eller wants the event to be fun for everyone, both contestants and audience members alike. There are the serious banjo competitions, but there are also novelty categories during the two-day event for anyone to participate in. The prizes for winners in the novelty contests are modest and include moon pies, bags of peanuts and cans of RC Cola. Eller said banjos are associated with the south, along with the staple southern foods of moon pies, RC Cola and packages of salted peanuts. In past years the contest has been held outside on the lawn in front of Beardsley Hall, one of the stately buildings that once made up what is known as the historic Intermountain Institute. This year,

to avoid any weather issues, the contest will be held in the Hooker Hall auditorium, which is next to the oldtime fiddlers headquarters in Slocum Hall. The contest will start with the open mic session on Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. It allows banjo players who are not comfortable competing or being judged a chance to play on stage in front of an audience. The novelty contest begins at 6 p.m. The serious competition will start on Saturday night at 6:15 p.m. with the intermediate banjo contest. It starts with the judges showcase. The three-judge panel includes J.D. Webb, Mike Bond and Chuck Holloway. The first-place winner in the intermediate class will earn \$50, plus a plaque and a coveted and edible prize, a handmade Idaho fruit pie baked by Sally Carpenter. Second place wins a plaque, \$25 and a pie, and third place earns \$10, a plaque and a pie.

The advanced banjo contest starts at 2:15 p.m. on Sunday. The contest begins with a judges showcase featuring Rick McCracken, Jason Homey and Mike Bond. The prize money goes up a little, with the first place finisher earning a plaque, \$75 and a handmade Idaho fruit pie. Second place wins a plaque, \$50 and a pie, and third place takes home a plaque, \$25 and a pie. At 6 p.m. on Sunday night, a trick fiddling contest will be held with certificates and novelty prizes for first through third place. At 6:15 on Sunday, the banjo plus fiddle contest starts with the judge showcase featuring Vivian Williams, Duane Boyer and Larry Chung. First place wins a plaque, \$150 and a handmade Idaho fruit pie. The winners also perform on Monday night at 6:30 p.m. to open the National Oldtime Fiddlers’ Contest. Second place wins a plaque, \$100 and a pie and third place earns a plaque, \$50 and a pie.



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Park your car and leave the driving around town to the free senior center bus during fiddle week. The bus will cover the entire city of Weiser and make nine stops once every hour during fiddle week, Monday through Friday, starting at 8 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Free bus will run during fiddle week

The Weiser Senior and Community Center bus sponsored by Ridley’s will take to the road at 8 a.m. on Monday, June 17, through Friday, June 21.

The bus route starts every hour on the hour at Weiser High School and will stop at eight other locations before returning to Weiser High School each hour until 7 p.m.

On Saturday, June 22, the hours will be 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

- Stop 1 – Weiser High School
- Stop 2 – Fiddletown Campground
- Stop 3 – Taylor Corner
- Stop 4 – Ridley’s Family Market
- Stop 5– Peoples Furniture/Zions
- Stop 6 – Vendome Events Center
- Stop 7 – The Weiser Senior and Community Center
- Stop 8 – Bi-Mart
- Stop 9 – Memorial Park (Entertainment and Vendors), Carnival and City Pool.

Daily Contest Schedule

The 2019 National Oldtime Fiddlers’ Contest will begin on Monday, June 17, and conclude with the Grand National finals on Saturday, June 22. The contest will be held at Weiser High School in the auditorium.

Daily information:

8:30 a.m. - Doors open daily Monday through Friday.

Day tickets are \$3 for adults/seniors and \$2 for children. They will be sold at the door.

Monday, June 17

9:30 a.m.-noon - Small Fry Round 1.

1-1:45 p.m. - Small Fry Round 2.

2-4:15 p.m. - Swing Fiddling (17 and under) Round 1 followed by swing fiddling (18 and over) Round 1.

6:30 p.m. - Host State - Washington Old-time Fiddlers, banjo plus fiddle winners from Sunday, Certified Showcase (Junior, Senior, and Senior Senior), Judges introduction, Youngest Fiddler, Small Fry Round 3, Swing 17 and under finals, Swing 18 and over finals, special - Stickerville Stompers, Certified awards, Swing awards and Small Fry awards.

Tuesday, June 18

9:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m. - Junior Junior Round 1.

3:30-4:30 p.m. - Twin Fiddling Round 1.

6:30 p.m. - Junior Jammers, Certified Showcase (Grand National, Adult, Young Adult), Judges, Junior Junior Round 2 and 3, Show Special - Country Club, Certified awards and Junior Junior Awards.

Wednesday, June 19

9:30 a.m.-3:15 p.m. - Junior Round 1.

3:30-5:00 p.m. - Senior Senior Round 1.

6:30 p.m. - Host State, Certified Showcase (Junior Junior and Small Fry),

Judges, Junior Round 2, Twin Fiddling Finals, Junior Round 3, Certified awards and Twin Fiddling awards.

Thursday, June 20

9:30 a.m.-11:10 a.m. - Senior Round 1.

11:20 a.m.-noon - Senior Senior Round 2.

1-3 p.m. - Adult Round 1.

3:15-4:05 - Senior Round 2

4:15-5:15 - Adult Round 2

6:30 p.m. - Host State, Special Show - Justin Branum and Friends, Judges, Senior Round 3, Adult Round 3, Grand Champion Round 1.

Friday, June 21

9:30 a.m.-noon - Young Adult Round 1.

1-2 p.m. - Young Adult Round 2.

2:20 p.m.-4 p.m. - Grand Champion Round 2.

4:10-5 p.m. - Young Adult Round 3.

6:30 p.m. - Host State, Judges, Senior Senior Round 3, Senior Round 4, Oldest Fiddler, Adults Round 4, Grand Champion Round 3, Special Clarridges and Simon, awards (Senior Senior, Senior and Adult divisions).

Saturday, June 22

Noon - Parade Downtown.

3-5 p.m. - Ticket sales at contest site! Souvenir Shop Open.

6:30 p.m. - Host State, Judges, Volunteer of the Year Award, Grand Champion Round 4, Amy Stukenholtz Award, Young Adult Round 4, announcement of raffle winners, Junior Round 4, Grand Champion Round 5, Show Special - Roundhouse, awards (Junior, Young Adult, Accompanists and Grand Champion.)

Tickets for the evening show may be purchased at the ticket office or on-line at www.fiddlecontest.org.



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Judges will pick the best of the best

All are extremely talented musicians in their own right

by Steve Lyon

The judges for the 2019 National Oldtime Fiddlers Contest in Weiser are all experienced musicians who have the unenviable task of selecting the best of the best fiddlers in the country, including a national grand champion.

The panel will spend the week judging the talents of nearly 200 competitors in numerous age divisions from Small Fry to Senior Senior. The NOTFC will culminate with the selection of the national champion on the evening of Saturday, June 22.

As she does every year, Cindy Campbell, the judging chairman for the fiddle contest, has lined up a blue-ribbon panel of musicians.

Many of the judges have competed before in fiddle contests, including at the NOTFC, and many have previously judged at the Weiser contest. Some are instructors and all are compensated for their week of judging.

Campbell said she looks for fiddlers who have scored high at previous fiddle competitions and also fiddlers who have experience at judging. She also likes to put together a panel that represents geographic diversity.

Here's how the judging works: Five judges will work as a panel during the week of competition. A sixth judge rotates through the panel to provide the other five judges with needed breaks during the competitive rounds.

Judges do not change once a round has started. They are sequestered and are not able to see the competitors perform on stage. The music is piped into the Weiser High School library for the judges to listen to on headphones. They are not influenced by anything but the music in their scoring of contestants.

According to the rules, the high score and low score for each contestant are discarded. The three middle scores are used in scoring. The judges score the fiddlers in four areas: old time style, danceability, tone and rhythm. Each contestant plays three songs during four minutes in a fast-paced performance.

Each contestant is required to play a hoedown, a waltz and a tune of their choice, as long as it is not a hoedown or a waltz.

Winners in the early rounds move on through the competition until they reach the final round.



Justin Branum – Nashville, Tenn.
Justin Branum is a fiddler and multi-instrumentalist based in the Nashville area, where he does recording sessions/

overdubs, tours, produces and teaches music.

Growing up playing western swing, bluegrass, country music, and old-time fiddle tunes, he was frequently playing in various instrument contests and has won the Grand Master Fiddler Contest, National Fiddle Contest (adult division), Tennessee State Fiddle Championship, Tennessee State Mandolin Championship, Texas State Fiddle Championship (Gone to Texas division), among many others before retiring from the contest scene.

During his performing career, Branum has played with a wide range of touring acts and artists, including Lee Ann Womack, Sons of the Pioneers, Son Volt, Pokey LaFarge, Bobby Flores and the Yellow Rose Band, Roland White, The Jim Hurst Trio, and Marty Haggard.

He holds a master's degree in jazz studies from Webster University and served as an adjunct professor of music at Washington University and Webster University.



Dan Emert – Walla Walla, Wash.
Dan Emert has been playing the fiddle for over 40 years. He has placed highly in many contests around the region including Oregon State, Washington State 2017 Adult Champion, Colorado State Adult Champion, the Northwest Regionals, Western Open Junior and Adult Champion, and two National Championships at the National Oldtime Fiddler's Contest in Weiser (Junior in 1986 and Adult in 2006).
Emert has been a clinical microbiologist for 25 years and currently resides in Walla Walla, Wash.



Dan Stewart - Spokane, Wash.
Dan Stewart has been fiddling for more than 35 years. Over the years, he has won a few local and regional contests, but more recently he has grown to enjoy judging.
He has now judged the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest four times and many other Weiser-certified contests

in the Northwest as well. In addition to playing and judging, Dan has developed an interest in digitizing old jam cassettes in order to preserve and share Texas-style fiddle music (these can be downloaded at: <https://texasfiddle.blogspot.com>).

By day, Dan is a mild-mannered Professor of Entrepreneurship at Gonzaga University and business owner/partner at Dardan Enterprises.



Eileen Walter – Portland, Ore.
Eileen Walter has enjoyed fiddling, teaching, judging, performing at restaurants, in shows, at farmers markets, and playing for dances since she first heard fiddle music when she moved to Oregon in 1971. Her life changed forever, she said.
She has attended and competed or judged at Weiser continually since 1986. She has judged many fiddle contests in Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, Oklahoma, and Nevada.
For the past five years she has served as the director of the Oregon State Open Contest. She is a former Oregon State and Northwest Regional Adult and Senior Champion.



Laura Waters – Provo, Utah
Laura Waters, originally from Idaho Falls, Idaho, is the 2013 National Junior fiddle champion and the 2013 Grand Master Fiddle champion.
Waters discovered her love for Texas style fiddle music at age 9, when she entered her first fiddle contest in Driggs, Idaho. She is proud to say that in this contest she took fourth place... out of four competitors.
Waters has improved in her contest standings since then, becoming the youngest female to win the Grand Master Fiddle Championships in Nashville, Tenn., in 2013 at age 17, and winning her age division at the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest in Weiser that same year.
She also holds several Idaho State, Idaho Open, Colorado State, and Northwest Regional Junior champion-

ship titles, and has had many top five finishes at the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest and the Grand Master Fiddle Championships. She has judged the Grand Master Fiddle Championships and other top contests around the country.

Waters has studied classical violin and Texas style fiddle music for over 16 years. She feels privileged to have learned from some of the best fiddlers in the nation, including Joe and Jacie Sites, Jesse Maw and Matthew Hartz.

Waters also enjoys playing the piano, guitar, mandolin, and other stringed instruments. She sings classical and contemporary music and has studied vocal performance at the collegiate level. Among other vocal awards, she was awarded first place in the 2014 Idaho state solo competition in the mezzo soprano division.

Waters is currently a senior studying marriage and family therapy at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah.

Since August 2017, she has been performing as the lead singer and fiddle player for the band Mountain Strings, an extension of the BYU International Folk Dance Ensemble that specializes in folk music styles from around the world.



Isaac Callender - Sand Coulee, Mont.
Isaac Callender was born in Great Falls, Mont., and began playing violin at the age of three. At age seven, due to sibling rivalry, he switched to fiddling. As a young teenager, Callender had the opportunity to learn and tour with Dick and Lisa Barrett as a fiddle student and guitarist.
During this time, he not only studied music but also studied violin luthiery with the Barretts. After joining the Army National Guard in 1998, Callender attended Western Montana College and Eastern Oregon University, where he studied music education.
During that time he recorded several albums and formed a band. After relocating to Spokane, Wash., Callender joined the 133rd Army Band as a bass and guitar player.
While living in Spokane, Callender taught at JayDean Ludiker's fiddle school and published three books of fiddle tunes.
In 2006 Isaac was honorably discharged from the Army and joined April Verch on tour. The year 2009 found Isaac in Pendleton, Ore., where he incorporated the Pendleton Music Company, a full service music store. He acted as general manager for two years before returning to playing and teaching full time.
Callender currently lives in Sand Coulee, Mont. He continues to teach, judge, tour, and publish tune books with his wife, Louise.

Enjoy your week in beautiful Weiser, Idaho

Swing, twin fiddling categories are fan favorites

Separate panels of three judges score each division

by Steve Lyon

There will be an all-new line-up of judges for the swing fiddling competition and another three exceptional judges picking the top players in the twin fiddling category.

The judges for twin and swing fiddling do not judge any other category at the NOTFC and dedicate their time and talents solely to either swing and twin fiddling.

One of the most popular styles of fiddling, swing is an upbeat and highly danceable sound that disappeared for a few years at the NOTFC but came roaring back at the request of fans and players.

There are two competitive divisions – under age 17 and over age 18.

Many swing players cite the legendary Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys as a major influence on Texas swing music. He just might be the grandfather of swing music. There are others who modern players reference, such as jazz violinist Joe Venuti, who was playing in the 1920s, and Stuff Smith, a fiddler in the 1930s.

NOTFC official Cindy Campbell lines up the judges for the swing and twin fiddling contests every year. She likes to go to sources in the swing fiddling community and ask for suggestions on judges.

Judges in the swing fiddling division typically look for swing feel, creativity, overall ability and impression. Players can get diversity bonuses for tunes that are not similar. Each fiddler plays two contrasting songs in each round.

“If it’s swing music, it better swing,” according to one of last year’s judges.

The twin fiddling category went away for a few years at the fiddle contest due to a drop in participation before it also was brought back by popular demand in 2015.

With two fiddlers playing at the same time, it’s a harmonic sound with a certain depth to it. One fiddler takes the melody and one plays the harmony.

Judges will be listening for creative harmony with synchronized phrasing, dynamics and articulations.

Swing fiddling judges Milly Raccoon – New Orleans, La.

Milly Raccoon is a songwriter and performer based out of New Orleans, La. She fiddles and sings in multiple bands, playing original songs inspired by classic country, bluegrass and jazz.



Paul Anastasio, left, won the swing fiddling competition last year in the 18 and over division during the National Oldtime Fiddlers’ Contest. Anastasio picked up a violin at age 9 and was classically trained on the instrument. He was accompanied on guitar by Joey McKenzie. There are two divisions in the swing fiddling, 18 and older and 17 and younger. Photo by Nancy Grindstaff

Her original songs and musical stylings seem to have travelled out of the past, emulating classic country, traditional jazz, and old-world Celtic music, one website noted.

Her latest albums can be heard online at millyraccoon.bandcamp.com. A long-time Stickerville jammer, she is very excited to be on the panel of judges for this year’s Swing Division contest.

Tony Marcus – Oakland, Calif.

Tony Marcus of Oakland, Calif., has played bluegrass with mandolin legend Frank Wakefield, jug band music and blues with Geoff Muldaur, fiddle tunes with the Arkansas Sheiks, string swing with Cats and Jammers, big band jazz with the Royal Society Jazz Orchestra, weird old Hawaiian and hokum with R. Crumb and the Cheap Suit Serenaders and honky tonk country with Rose Maddox, to name a few.

Playing music has taken him from Japan to Ireland, and from Alaska to Florida in the U.S. He currently plays guitar in the swing vocal duo Leftover Dreams and fiddle with the country band Crying Time.

Pete Martin – Seattle, Wash.

Pete Martin has been called a “national class mandolin and fiddle player” by the *Portland Oregonian* and “an impressive multi-instrumentalist” by *SPB-GMA Bluegrass Music News*.

Playing fiddle, mandolin, guitar and tenor guitar, he has performed and recorded with many Northwest artists. Martin is a former National Adult Fiddle Champion and has placed in the top five at the National Mandolin Contest.

He writes a regular instructional column for *Mandolin Magazine* and has authored 12 instructional books on mandolin and fiddle playing. Martin is a full-time private lesson teacher in Issaquah and Seattle and gives lessons via Skype all over the world.

He currently plays bluegrass and old country music with High and Lonesome and jazz with the Pete Martin Trio. Information on his publications, recordings and music lessons is available at www.petimarpress.com and www.Jazz-Mandolin.com.

The Twin Fiddling round 1 is Tuesday afternoon between 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. The final round is Wednesday evening between 9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

The twin fiddling judges include:

Tristan Clarridge – Mount Shasta, Calif.

Tristan Clarridge is a 5-time Grand National Fiddle Champion who began music studies at the age of two. He has toured the world as the cellist with folk-grass sensation Crooked Still, chambergrass trio The Bee Eaters, and Darol Anger’s

seminal group, The Republic of Strings, and performed with Mike Marshall, Bruce Molsky, and Cape Breton fiddle star Natalie MacMaster.

Raised in the mountains of northern California, music was always an important part of Clarridge’s life. Rather than attending school, Clarridge and his family spent much of their time learning at home, on wilderness backpacking trips, and on the road, sometimes traveling thousands of miles for music lessons and camps.

Inspired by musical revolutionaries he met along the way such as Darol Anger, Rushad Eggleston, Edgar Meyer and Bela Fleck, Clarridge found himself amidst a cello revolution, synthesizing traditional folk and fiddle influences along with rhythmic vocabulary from jazz, classical, and popular music.

Along with his sister Tashina, Clarridge directs the Shasta Music Summit and other music camps and workshops up and down the West Coast, inspiring and educating hundreds of young string musicians.

Aaron Fewkes – Meridian, Idaho

Aaron Fewkes started playing the fiddle about 25 years ago largely because his older brother, Jason, had taken up the fiddle.

Fewkes took lessons under the direction of Matthew Hartz

and Danita Gardner and fiddle music soon became a passion. He has competed in numerous fiddle contests throughout the Northwest and was the 2006 Northwest Regional Young Adult champion.

His favorite fiddlers include Orville Burns, James Chancellor, and Terry Morris.

Fewkes is currently the marketing director for Connections Credit Union and resides in Meridian with his wife, Alisa, and two girls, Emily and Leah.

Jeanine Orme – Beaverton, Ore.

Jeanine Orme was born in Ogden, Utah, and came to Weiser for the first time when she was eight years old.

She is a past Utah State Fiddle Champion, Oregon State Adult Champion and has served as a judge at Weiser and other regional and state contests.

Orme has been teaching violin and fiddle lessons for over 30 years. She also enjoys teaching workshops and fiddle camps. Her music has been influenced significantly by five-time National Fiddle Champion Herman Johnson who instructed her in Texas-style fiddling and Western swing.

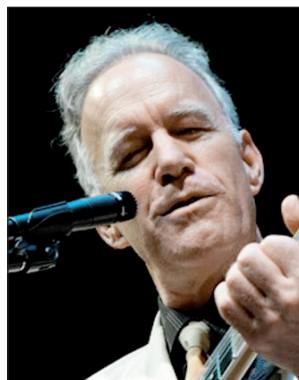
She is the author of “The Fiddlin’ Workshop,” “Herman Johnson Master Fiddler” and “Texas-Style Fiddlin’ Workshop,” Mel Bay Publications Inc. She resides in Beaverton, Ore.



Milly Raccoon



Pete Martin



Tony Marcus



Tristan Clarridge



Aaron Fewkes



Jeanine Orme



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