

A special supplement from the Weiser Signal American



Celebrate Idaho

Featured Events:

- Goat Roping, June 20 • Kid's Day, June 23
- Celebrate Idaho Parade, June 27 • Bikers Rodeo, June 27
- Weiser River Music Festival, June 25-27 and more...

Celebrate Idaho parade open to all entries

Parade on Saturday, June 27, will follow same route as fiddle parade

by Nicole Miller

Each summer one of the most memorable community events is the Weiser fiddle festival parade. The culminating event of the week always brings the fiddlers and community together for a great celebration of not only the music but of community.

With the restrictions brought about by COVID-19, the official National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest Parade had to also be canceled, but the tradition of Weiser hosting a parade on the fourth Saturday in June is one thing the community can still celebrate. Instead of the fiddle parade, Weiser will be hosting the "Celebrate Idaho" parade on June 27 at noon.

Although the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest directors had to make the decision to cancel the competition this year, the parade committee was able to plan a celebration that could still follow social distancing guidelines.

With the state now in stage four, and with the parade taking place all outdoors, the committee hoped that the parade could be the perfect way to allow the community members to still follow any social distancing guidelines that they feel are best, while still coming together to celebrate and focus on the positive things that bring us together.

The name of the parade and the theme of the parade go hand in hand: Celebrate Idaho. The parade committee invites anyone who wants to come and celebrate to

be in the parade. There will be no fee or form – just show up and be ready to have fun.

Those interested in participating in the parade are asked to check in on the morning of the parade between 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Weiser High School. The parade will begin there, with the horses staging at the empty lot by the cemetery.

The parade will follow the same route as the annual fiddle contest parade, heading south on State Street before turning east onto Idaho Street, and finally turning north on East 4th Street before finishing at Weiser Middle School.

Parade organizer Patrick Nauman shared that there has been a lot of interest in the parade. Invitations have been sent

to several local and area businesses and organizations. He is excited to announce that Weiser's very own state titleholders, Miss Idaho Grace Zimmerman, and Miss of Idaho Jasmine Rios, will both be at the head of the parade.

The committee is hopeful that the parade will help the local businesses and bring the community downtown for some safe fun together. With many of the other festivals and fairs around the state getting cancelled, the Celebrate Idaho parade will be the first of the 2020 parade season in the entire state.

Although Weiser will be excited to have the official National Oldtime Fiddlers' Parade back next year, what a great way to still come together and have a great time.



Weiser loves a parade. There is always a parade at the end of fiddle week, but things changed a bit this year due to the coronavirus pandemic. The fiddle contest was cancelled, unfortunately, but there will still be a parade. Organizers in the community have put together a week of events and are calling it Celebrate Idaho. The fun includes a parade on June 27 that is open to everyone who wants to participate. Show up at Weiser High School at noon and bring some candy to toss.


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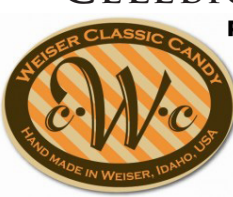
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 Join us for "Kids Day" Tuesday - June 23rd




Weiser will once again be on the live music map when the Weiser River Music Festival opens for a weekend of great music and bands June 25-27. The festival is located at a picturesque outdoor venue along the Weiser River just south of town. Camping is available and vendors will offer everything from food to clothes to beverages. A diverse lineup of bands will entertain all weekend long.

Weiser River Music Festival

brings top bands, musicians

Outdoor venue offers camping, variety of vendors and, of course, a weekend of bands

by Steve Lyon

The third annual Weiser River Music Festival coming up on June 25-27 will feature an eclectic and diverse lineup of bands and talented musicians that are guaranteed to get fans on their feet.

Festival promoter Nick Reed, the owner of Ruszoni's pizza in Weiser, founded the concert with the goal of bringing some of the best local, regional and national musicians around to Weiser for a weekend of almost nonstop entertainment in the great outdoors next to the Weiser River.

The festival will start on Thursday, June 25, at 4 p.m. and will wrap up on Saturday night. The outdoor venue is located immediately north of Hometown Motors at 606 U.S. Highway 95 next to the Weiser River and just south of the Weiser River bridge.

The lineup of bands this year celebrates all types of music, including bluegrass, country, Americana, blues, funk and rock, just to name a few. Bands will entertain on more than one stage at the spacious outdoor venue.

The bands and performers booked for the 2020 festival include the Steel Woods, Paul Caithen, Sunny Ledford, Dirty River Boys, Jeff Crosby, the outlaw country of Darci Carlson, Nick Sterling and the Nomads, Dodgy Mountain Men, Tylor and the Train Robbers, High Pine Whiskey Yell, Gary Takett and the list goes on.

Some well-known local musicians also will play at the festival, including the hardworking Dave Nudo Band and Weiser's own Stella.

Stella is a Berklee School of Music student Stella Beams, who describes her music as indie/folk and will be playing some originals when she takes the festival stage on Saturday at 3 p.m. She is looking forward to taking in a lot of good music at the festival.

"It's so awesome that we have these talented musicians right in our backyard," she said.

Nudo, a seasoned musician and performer, said the great thing about the Weiser River Music Festival is it's actually happening while so many other events have been cancelled because of the COVID-19 situation.

"I think it's a great thing for the community to have an event like this to bring people together and bring out of towners. I love the opportunity to hear other bands as well as share my music with everyone," he said.

Nudo said his music is a representation of country rock. Nudo writes songs that tell stories about life, love, failure, success, etc., with a bit of a southern rock or country feel. Because he's from the Northwest, he said he won't be singing songs about the Mississippi River or sweet tea.

"Our set list at Weiser River Music Festival will likely be all original. Unless of course we get the feeling to play an old favorite or something," he said.

Back in 2018, during planning for the first music festival, Reed had an architect look at the 16-acre venue, a hay field, and do an overlay of what would work best where with the Weiser River as a backdrop. A true weekend festival, there will be tent and RV camping and day parking available.

Besides the music, there will be lots of stuff to do for adults and kids at the concert site. The fun includes river rafting, float building, parade, face painting, tie dye, obstacle courses, dancing and more.

There will be food vendors set up at the festival. Beer and wine also will be sold on site, along with other vendors selling clothing and lots more, according to the event website.

Tickets for the festival vary in cost from single-day admission to

VIP tent and RV camping packages close to the stage and vendors for the weekend, according to the festival website. The cost depends on how many days are purchased. Kids 12 and under get in free. No dogs are allowed at the venue.

Weiser River Music Festival 2020 COVID-19 guidelines

The Weiser River Music Festival promises a weekend packed with music and fun. Organizers also are putting some safety precautions in place this year due to the coronavirus pandemic to keep everyone from music fan to vendors to bands and volunteers safe.

- Everyone attending the three-day outdoor festival will be screened for a temperature and any symptoms of flu or cough.

- Festival organizers will provide seating that is 6-10 feet apart. Families will be allowed to sit together. There will be 10 elevated spots for people to view the festival from their car.

- The interaction between bands and concert-goers will be limited, unfortunately.

- All vendors will be required to follow Southwest District Health's guidelines for 2020 and the COVID-19 requirements. This includes proper PPE and proper spacing.

- Camping spaces will be spaced a minimum of 10 feet apart.

- Guests will be allowed to bring their own food and drink into the camping areas. No alcohol.



Mason Rozin has the goat roped and now just needs to do the tying. Ole's Tavern in Weiser will be the site of the 'Dive on 95' summer series of goat roping events starting on June 20. The popular sport is a timed event that involves a header and a heeler, and it's all done on foot. The goal is to get a secure tie with the fastest time. Winners earn cash and prizes.

No horses needed for this fun goat-roping event

Anybody can register to participate in summer series starting June 20 at Ole's Tavern

by Nicole Miller

Goat roping will begin their "Dive on 95" summer series at Ole's Tavern with the season kick-off on June 20 at 7 p.m. The outdoor, family friendly event is fun for spectators and ropers alike.

Last spring Chad Hickey found a goat roping arena for sale and thought it would be fun to put on some goat ropings. He partnered up with his friend Quinn Messersmith, and after hosting a couple of private events the idea continued to grow for a local goat roping group.

The group hosted a summer

series at Mann Creek and a winter series indoors at the Double Diamond Saloon in New Plymouth, and they are excited to return to Weiser for their outdoor series this summer.

The goat roping is a timed event that includes a team of two ropers (a header and a heeler) and a goat. Unlike classic team roping, this event is all on foot. A goat is released from the chute, and one person ropes its head, and the other catches its hind legs. The goal is to catch the goat and get a secure tie with the fastest time.

While many just participate for fun, the event is competitive

and the top 5 can walk away with cash and prizes. Some of the prizes have included custom spurs, buckles, coolers, jackets, knives, and money clips.

For the summer series this year, participants will be able to score points at each roping, and at the end of the series, the highest point header and heeler will take home a new saddle.

As the event has grown, it's taken several people and sponsors to help bring it all together. The summer series has been sponsored by local businesses: Advanced Terrain Design, Creed Noah Real Estate, Root Ball and All, and Weiser Veteri-

nary Clinic.

To participate, all you do is show up and sign up. At only \$10 per person to enter (\$20 per team) for two chances to rope, anyone can jump in and give it a try. They only accept cash, and there is no limit to how many times you can enter.

"Even if you've never tried it before, we have a great crew that loves helping new ropers figure it out. We want everyone to feel comfortable and have a great time," Messersmith said.

The event is fun for not only the ropers, but is fun for the spectators of all ages as well. Kids love the goat ropings be-

cause they can see and play with goats, and get to run around and have fun with friends.

The group even has a "mas-cot goat" that hangs out to play before and after the roping. Each roping, the group tries to designate a period before the roping starts for kids to play around and try to rope some goats.

The summer series will continue on July 18, Aug. 8, Sept. 12 and Oct. 3. If you want to know more or if you'd like to be an event sponsor, please contact Chad Hickey at 208-550-2404 or Quinn Messersmith at 208-550-7995.

Bikers rodeo promises a wild time for participants and spectators

Bikers will compete in up to five skills challenges with the winners earning cash prizes

by Steve Lyon

Weiser's bikers rodeo is a wildly fun and entertaining event for participants and spectators alike.

Weiser has hosted an annual bikers rodeo for the Harley Davidson-riding crowd for many years, adding to the wide variety of entertainment options during fiddle week. The rodeo is sponsored by the Copper Lounge in Weiser.

This year, the bikers rodeo will be held during the week of Celebrate Idaho events in Weiser. The bikers rodeo will be held on Saturday, June 27, at Ole's Tavern just south of town on U.S. Highway 95.

Signups for the bikers rodeo events will start at 2 p.m. and the fun gets underway at 3 p.m. Riders sign up for one or all five in a series of competitive events that test their riding skills. It costs \$5 to enter an event or \$25 to enter all of them.

Some of the events riders can enter at the bikers rodeo are self explanatory and some need a few details filled in. There is the "Honey, I'm Home," event, the slow race, the keg push, the weiner bite, the balloon toss and the plank ride.

Event organizer A.J. Banderziel said the slow race challenges motorcycle riders to go as slow as they possibly can as far as they possibly can without putting

their feet down. The keg push is a distance event that requires bikers to roll a keg with their motorcycle. The plank ride tests how far a bike rider can go on a narrow 14-foot plank without tipping over or driving off.

There will be cash prizes given to the first and second place winners in each skill event. The overall top winner will win a tattoo from Mindsight Tattoo in Weiser. The biker who puts his bike down in the dirt the most time wins a trophy. The contests are unlike any other riding event.

There will be food and beverages for sale at the venue. The Ole's Men's Social Club will be cooking a deep pit pig barbecue.

The bikers rodeo returns to Ole's in 2020 after many years at the Fred Hust Rodeo Arena in Weiser. The arena is not available this year, so it's back to Ole's for the fun, Ole's Greg Coleman said.

"This is not our first rodeo," Coleman said.

There is no admission charge to attend the bikers rodeo. In the past, the organizers have charged a gate fee to defray expenses, but they have opted not to this year. Bring your own chair but no coolers are allowed.

"We just want everybody to come out and have a good time," Banderziel said.



Weiser has hosted a bikers rodeo for many years, and the fun event returns for 2020. Bikers can enter a number of skills challenges, such as the slow race, keg push, balloon toss, plank ride and more. The bikers rodeo will be held at Ole's Tavern on U.S. Highway 95 just south of Weiser. There's no charge to watch the bikers test their riding skills. Bring a chair but no coolers.



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Annual kids day returns to downtown Weiser

Full day of fun, activities and treats planned for June 23 as part of Celebrate Idaho!

by Nicole Miller

A favorite day of fiddle week for many of the families is kids day. The block of State Street between Main and Idaho streets is turned into a street side carnival of games, activities and treats.

Luckily, even though fiddle week was cancelled this year, the kids day tradition will continue. Weiser Classic Candy and the Weiser Elks Lodge are once again sponsoring this annual event and invite all kids and families to come celebrate on Tuesday, June 23, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Kids day offers not only fun and games downtown, but also a great way for local nonprofits to raise money for their organizations. The Elks and Weiser Classic Candy sponsor the event, providing all the supplies for the activities. Because the event is sponsored by the Elks, a focus of the event has always been affordable fun for the family.

The entrance to the event and many of the activities are free, but most of the activities require tickets to participate. At just 25 cents per ticket, the activities are a great way for families to have affordable fun, and help the organizations raise important funds. ROSE Advocates, C.O.P.S, the Greenhouse are just a few of the local nonprofits that will be there raising money for their organizations.

Kids can look forward to face



Kids day in downtown Weiser on June 23 will include lots of fun activities for youngsters, including face painting, bounce house, inflatable obstacle course and more. The block of State Street between Main and Idaho streets will be blocked off for the event, which is part of Celebrate Idaho! festivities in Weiser. Above, Samantha Pope gets creative with face-painting on Selah Watts at a previous kids day in Weiser.

painting, a bounce house, a basketball throw, an inflatable obstacle course, finger painting, a ring toss, snow cones and more. Many of the groups even offer prizes for the games on top of the fun activities.

A favorite booth each year

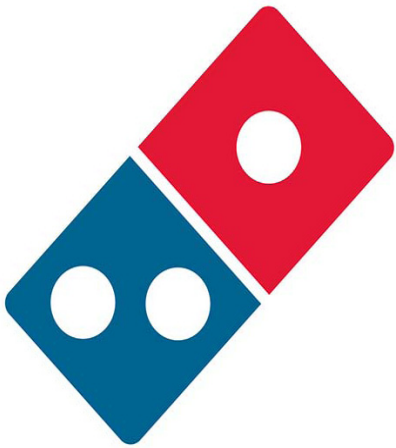
is the dunk tank for the Miss Western Idaho organization. Traditionally, this event is the perfect time to introduce contestants to that year's pageant. With the delay of this year's pageant, there are no new contestants, but kids will get to

dunk both current and past title holders to help the organization raise money for future scholarships.

One of the great things about kids day is that it brings families downtown. While spending time downtown together,

families can also check out the local businesses and all that they have to offer.

Many of them will be having specials and helping celebrate the day, so it's a great time to offer those businesses much deserved support.



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