# BARABOO AREAT CHAMBER & TOURISM ANTICIPATION BUILDING AS BIG TOP PARADE DAY NEARS

**George Althoff**Executive Director

The countdown to the return of the Big Top Parade is at 26 days, and the excitement is palpable. After being sidelined in 2020 and 2021 due to concerns over COVID, the parade will kick off in downtown Baraboo at

11 a.m. on Saturday, June 25. If past years are any indication, our lovely downtown will be teeming with 25,000 to 30,000 people who will be treated to a first-class

parade full of amazing circus wagons, exotic animals, energetic marching bands, cavorting clowns and worthy celebrities – most notably our own Dave SaLoutos, who will preside as grand marshal.

Few, if any, communities the size of Baraboo can lay claim to such a signature event. For that, we can credit Baraboo's rich circus tradition and the influence of Circus World, one of the many attractions that make Baraboo a destination for tourists.

The parade – and related activities planned for June 23-26 – would not happen without the tireless efforts of scores of volunteers. The Baraboo Area Chamber of Commerce is the sponsor of the parade, but much of the heavy lifting is done by the Big Top Parade Committee, which for many years has been co-chaired by Nanci Caflisch and Doug Hill. Circus World Executive Director Scott O'Donnell and Ringmaster SaLoutos also are integral members of the group. They and many other committee members begin meeting months in advance of the parade to map out every detail of this labor-intensive event. On the day of the parade, dozens of additional volunteers mobilize to assist with lining up the parade units, parade security and post-parade cleanup.

The parade would not happen without the support of the city of Baraboo, Sauk County, the Baraboo District Ambulance Service and



area law enforcement. Over the past several months, key city officials have been deeply involved with the planning process to ensure that the parade is safe and secure for the participants and the parade-watchers.

Financial support for the parade comes from the city of Baraboo through in-kind services and dozens of Baraboo-area businesses. Baraboo State Bank is the presenting sponsor. Gold level sponsors are Terrytown Plumbing, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells, Pizza Ranch, MAX-FM, SSM Health and Magnum Media.

See **PARADE**, Page 8

### **NEW MEMBERS**

Paul Davis Restoration
Baraboo Acts Coalition
Friends of the Zoo
EcoWellness LLC
St. Croix Hospice
Lamers Bus Lines



MILWAUKEE BREWERS GAME OUTING
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# Let us take you out to the ballgame

Play hooky with ... er, NETWORK with your fellow Chamber members as we spend a Wednesday at American Family Field!

Watch our Milwaukee Brewers take

on the Minnesota Twins in an outing that will include a Loge Outfield ticket and bus transportation from our friends at Kobussen for just \$60.

The bus will leave from the Visitor

Center at 9:30 a.m. First pitch will be at 1:10. We'll return around 6:30 p.m.

Raffles, giveaways, camaraderie and the ballgame will make for a great day. Register today!

# Teel Plastics named top manufacturer

Teel Plastics was named Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year for large companies in a ceremony in Milwaukee on Thursday, May 19. The award recognizes Teel's efforts across a wide array of activities, from safety and employee engagement to customer service and financial performance. The panel of judges was impressed by Teel's growth, including opening a new plant in February 2021, and its rapid work in expanding capacity and developing medical products to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jerry Pritchett, Teel's CEO, thanked employees during his acceptance speech and highlighted the challenges the team was able to overcome, including supply chain issues and rising costs. Despite the challenges, Teel grew rapidly in the medical, piping, and water treatment markets, doubling in revenue over the past three



years. Pritchett credited this growth to Teel "making products that address important problems society is facing here in Wisconsin and around the world."

Also prominently featured was Teel's culture, established by prior family owners and the company's Wisconsin roots. Teel's employees worked

through the pandemic making medical device components and swab sticks for COVID test kits. "Our people worked hard through the pandemic and took on incredible challenges for customers," Pritchett added.

Teel won Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year for 2015 in the small company category.

# 'Wild & Crazy Time' arrives next week

Just one week from today we'll be teeing off at the annual Chamber Golf Classic at Baraboo Country Club. This year's 1970s-themed "Wild & Crazy Time" outing is sure to delight all in attendance. Break out your leisure suits and bell bottoms, ya dig? There will be a prize for the best costume(s).

The Golf Classic will be held Tuesday, June 7. We will be starting the tournament an hour earlier this year - with an 11 a.m. shotgun start - to ensure play wraps up in time for dinner at 5:30 p.m. As always, this is a best-ball scramble with a two-putt maximum. We'll award trophies to the first- and last-place teams. Is that groovy, or what?

The day's festivities will include a putting contest, a 50/50 raffle, a silent auction and two - count 'em, TWO - chances to win a vehicle with a hole-in-one. Thanks to Don Larson Superstore and Baraboo Motors Group for



sponsoring these contests.

Speaking of sponsors ... Many thanks to the many generous members who are supporting this year's Golf Classic. Foremost among these is Baraboo State Bank, the event's Presenting Sponsor. Baraboo Sysco Foods is our Buffet Sponsor once again this year, and Tumbled Rock Brewery & Kitchen has stepped up to serve as

Beverage Sponsor.

We also appreciate the many members who purchased Gold and Silver Hole Sponsorships. Then there are the dozens of members - and even non-members - who donated items for our silent auction. Your support is so important!

All around the course, players will find hole events where participating members will be operating games and giveaways.

We're honored to report that our golf outing has sold out once again. With 144 players registered, plus several members signed up for the dinner-only option, we've enjoyed a spectacular response. It's far out.

As always, this outing will present a great opportunity to network with fellow business leaders and enjoy a fun day on the golf course! But watch out for a couple "wild and crazy guys" dressed up like the Festrunk brothers.



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# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

















### **Chamber Golf Classic**

11 a.m. Tuesday, June 7 Baraboo Country Club

Mark your calendar for one of the Baraboo Area's favorite summer events, the Chamber Golf Classic. Enjoy a best-ball tournament featuring hole events, raffles, meals by Fore Seasons and chances to win a new car! Volunteers are always welcome - give us a call.

### **Business After 5 at Baraboo Motors**

5-7 p.m. Monday, June 13 Baraboo Motors Group

Network with fellow Chamber members over snacks and beverages and check out the recent improvements made at Baraboo Motors, one of our Partner Package Sponsors. **REGISTER** 

# **Board of Directors meeting**

Monday, June 20 from noon to 1 p.m. Visitor Center

Board members, please mark your calendars if you haven't already, as President Raegen will lead our Board of Directors meeting in person (with a Zoom option) in the Visitor Center's conference room

## **Ambassadors Club meeting**

Monday, June 20 at 5:30 p.m. Mike's Italian Restaurant

Join us downtown at Mike's Italian Restaurant - the former Glacier Rock - for the June business meeting of the Ambassadors, where we'll share ideas for prospective members and upcoming Chamber events. Bring a friend who might be interested in becoming an Ambassador!

## Big Top Parade

11 a.m. Saturday, June 25 Downtown Baraboo

The Big Top Parade returns to the streets of downtown Baraboo on June 25, highlighting a weekend full of circus-themed events to be held throughout the Baraboo Area. A Circus Celebration featuring live music, movies at the Al. Ringling Theatre and trolley tours are planned. For information visit bigtopparade.com.

# **RESCHEDULED Business After 5 at Oak Park Place**

5-7 p.m. Monday, June 27 Oak Park Place

We had to reschedule the May installment of Business After 5 due to COVID cases at Oak Park. But we are going to try again! Network with fellow Chamber members over snacks and drinks, and enjoy tours of Oak Park Place in Baraboo. **REGISTER HERE** 

# **Business After 5 at Baraboo State Bank**

5-7 p.m. Monday, July 18 Baraboo State Bank

Network with fellow Chamber members over snacks and drinks, and celebrate this Baraboo institution's 165th anniversary. **REGISTER HERE** 

## **BACC** outing to a Milwaukee Brewers game

9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 27 American Family Field

Spend a Wednesday networking with your fellow Chamber members and have a great time while doing so! Your \$60 cost covers your game ticket and bus transportation. A raffle will be part of the fun as we watch the Brewers trounce the Twins. **REGISTER HERE** 

# **MAY HIGHLIGHTS**



AMBASSADORS MEETING AT ZEMAN'S OLD HIGHWAY HOUSE • MAY 16



CINCO DE MAYO AT LAS MILPAS





Welcome to Titan Pro Detailing, which joined the Chamber on May 1. Located in West Baraboo, Titan offers vehicle washing and polishing six days a week.

Bienvenido a Titan Pro Detailing, que se unió a la Cámara el 1 de mayo. Ubicado en West Baraboo, Titan ofrece lavado y pulido de vehículos seis días a la semana.



Sunday's fundraiser for the skatepark at Al. Ringling Brewing was a great success! The silent auction along with the 50/50 raffle, band tips and the brewery's donation brought in nearly \$2,400.



SAUK COUNTY FAIREST OF THE FAIR MAY 21

Fair conditions graced the spring installment of Fair on the Square on May 7, bringing scores of shoppers to downtown Baraboo.

Chamber
Ambassadors
dutifully sold
raffle tickets as
crafters hawked
their wares and
musicians and
other performers
entertained the
crowd.

We hope to see you at fall Fair on the Square on Saturday, October 8!



# FAIR THE SQUARE



BUY RAFFLE SATICKETS HERE



# **BIG TOP PARADE SPONSORS**



Many thanks to the many sponsors who make events like our June 25 Big Top Parade possible.

This group is led by Presenting Sponsor Baraboo State Bank, as well as Gold Level Sponsors SSM St. Clare Hospital, Pizza Ranch and Terrytown Plumbing.

Look for more sponsor photos in next month's Chamber Review.

**SMHealth** 









# Can't Sleep? Reduce Your Risk With WBD's 25-Year Fixed Rates

Affordable fixed rates with less money down on commercial real estate to help you sleep better at night,



FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE 504





El 4 de mayo dimos la bienvenida a Emma's Mexican Market y San Antonio Mexican Restaurant a través de nuestra asociación con la Cámara de Comercio Latina de Wisconsin.







# **PARADE**

From the front page

The parade also is supported by a grant from the Sauk County Extension Education, Arts and Culture Committee. For a full list of sponsors, please visit bigtopparade.com.

I encourage our Chamber members to take part in this outstanding weekend of activities. We are still looking for volunteers to help on parade day. If you are interested in volunteering, go to bigtopparade.com, click on the "Participate" link, then click on "Volunteer Opportunities" for a full list of volunteers needed. If you can't volunteer, please make time to take in the sights and sounds of this signature Baraboo event.

So, what does Baraboo gain from this event, other than a big crowd downtown and lots of media exposure? How about this: An estimated economic impact of \$2 million to \$2.4 million. That ain't peanuts, folks. I hope to see you on parade day.



# **LUNCH & LEARN: POWERED UP BARABOO**













On May 26 Powered Up Baraboo presented an inspiring Lunch & Learn seminar on renewable energy. Speakers said "going green" is good for business!

They detailed small measures business owners and residents can take every day to combat climate change and protect the planet.

Our next Lunch & Learn seminar will be presented by New Life Physical Therapy on July 21.

# It's Annual Raffle time again

Would you like to win \$1,500? Do you know some other people who would?

The Chamber's Annual Raffle campaign got under way May 7 at Fair on the Square, where George, Ben and a few Ambassadors sold 100 tickets.

This year tickets cost \$10 each, or three for \$20. They are available at the Visitor Center.

The grand prize is \$1,500 cash. We also will draw for three \$500 cash prizes, as well as five local dining gift cards.

Winning tickets will be drawn at a party to be held Saturday, November 12 at Al. Ringling Brewing Co. The drawing will take place at halftime of that day's Wisconsin Badgers-Iowa Hawkeyes football game. A purchased raffle ticket gets you into the Badger-themed drawing party!

We like to say there are three ways ticket buyers can win:

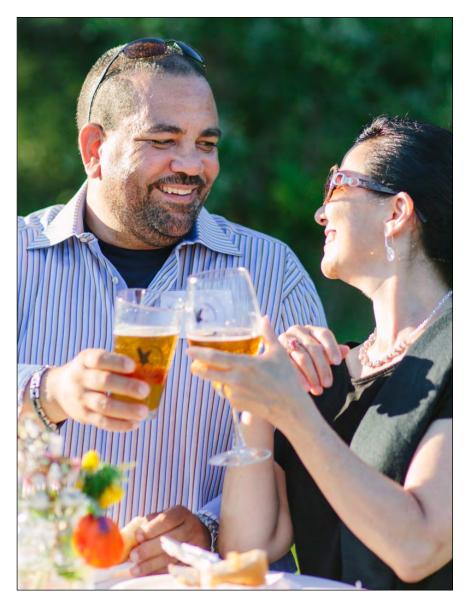
- taking home a prize
- getting invited to the party
- supporting the Chamber

If you'd like to buy tickets, or if you'd like to sell them at your business, please contact us at 608-356-8333. Or just stop in: The Visitor Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Did you know that if EVERY member bought or sold just a few tickets, the Chamber would meet its fundraising goal?

Please do your part to support this campaign and make this year's Annual Raffle a winner for the Chamber and for the entire Baraboo Area community!





Tickets Available!

# An Evening With the Cranes is Back on Saturday, June 25

Enjoy a beautiful evening with us Saturday, June 25, for the International Crane Foundation's annual fundraiser, An Evening With the Cranes, at our headquarters in Baraboo, Wisconsin, from 5 to 8 p.m. Enjoy wine, beer and food while you meet our staff, and of course, cranes!

## New to this Year's Event:

An online silent auction will take place in the days leading up to An Evening with the Cranes. We will be offering unique crane and birding experiences with International Crane Foundation staff, packages curated especially for this event from our gift shop and crane artwork. Items include limited edition artwork by Tom Mangelsen and Robert Bateman, opportunities to view endangered birds with our CEO and President Rich Beilfuss and Co-founder George Archibald. You may participate in the auction whether or not you are able to attend the event. Stay tuned for sign-up information. Learn more at <a href="https://savingcranes.org/ewtc/">https://savingcranes.org/ewtc/</a>.

# We thank our Visitor Season Sponsors:

Diana and David Moore: \$25,000 Tom and Kathy Leiden: \$25,000

Interested in sponsoring our events?

Learn how here!









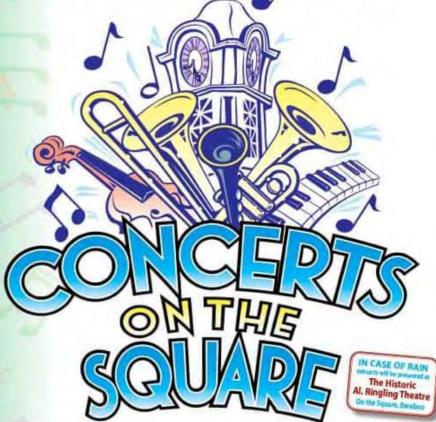








# 2022 Schedule



# DOWNTOWN BARABOO

# 7:00 P.M. Thursdays

June 9 Studebaker John and the Hawks

June 16 UWCB Campus/Community Concert Band

June 23 Professor Stich's Original Baraboo Circus Band

June 30 Driftless Brass Quinet & Chromos Tuba Quartet

July 7 UWCB Campus/Community Concert Band

July 14 Larry Busch Orchestra

July 21 Panchromatic Steel Drum Band

July 28 Novelty Band

August 4 Gypsy Swing Band

August 11 Scott Ellison Band

August 18 The Blacker Brothers Band

August 25 Madison Brass Band



Concerts on the Square

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

### .BarabooConcertsontheSquare.com

SPONSORED IN PART BY: University of Wisconsin Platteville Baraboo/Sauk County - Downtown Baraboo, Inc.

- MSA Professional Services - The City of Baraboo-Alma Waite Memorial Trust - The Greater Baraboo Area Chamber of Commerce

- Edwards Ice Cream - Dental Associates - Knight Barry Title - Baraboo Burger Company
Plus contributions from other businesses, professional offices, service organizations and individuals.

# BLOOD DRIVE

**BLOODCENTER.ORG** 

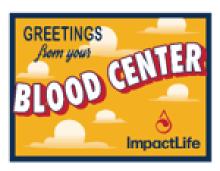


Tuesday, May 31

1:30 - 5:30pm

Walnut Hill Bible Church (Gym - 1900 East St.)

MASKS AND APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED. To schedule, please scan the QR code or call Sharee at 800-747-5401 x4128.



Give blood May 16 - July 10 and get a voucher for a gift card or bonus points to shop our online store!



SCAN ME!

Please eat before donating and bring Photo ID. Last Date to Donate Elsewhere: 04/05/2022 Group Sponsor Code: 3922





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# THURSDAY, JULY 14 | 9 AM-3 PM

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WISCONSIN DELLS

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or (608) 219-8088

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