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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eighty-One Reasons to Celebrate Summer in Wisconsin

Travel Wisconsin's list of events from April through Labor Day 2016

MADISON, Wis. (Mar. 21, 2016) – From dawn to dusk, Monday through Sunday and all year long, Wisconsinites always find something to celebrate. This non-stop festive spirit shines even brighter during the spring and summer months when we trade in our snow boots for flip flops, and ski lift passes for festival tickets.

This summer's Wisconsin festival round-up features favorites like the 35th Annual Art Street in Green Bay and the 50th Annual Menominee Nation Contest Pow-Wow. New to the line-up this year, renowned actor and Wisconsinite Willem Dafoe returns to his home state to lead the brand new performing and visual arts celebration, Milwaukee Fringe Festival. Also teeing off for the first time in Wisconsin since 2009, the PGA Champions Tour returns for the 1st Annual American Family Insurance Championship in Madison. With so many distinctive events, it's no secret Wisconsin knows how to have fun during the spring and summer.

Please note that event changes may occur. We encourage the media to double-check dates and contact information before going to print or posting online.

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APRIL/MAY EVENTS (Page 3-5)

Woodson Art Museum's "Walter Wick" – Wausau	February 27-May 29, 2016
Season of Blossoms – Door County	April 9-June 5, 2016
Midwest Horse Fair – Madison	April 15-17, 2016
5th Annual Wisconsin Grilled Cheese Championship – Dodgeville	April 23, 2016
Taylor County Maple Festival – Medford	April 29-30, 2016
Festival of Beer – Kohler	April 29-May 1, 2016
Horicon Marsh Bird Festival – Horicon	May 6-9, 2016
Motorsports Mayhem – Richland Center	May 7, 2016
1 st Annual Milwaukee Museum Mile's Plein Air MKE – Milwaukee	May 7-14, 2016
Bayfield in Bloom – Bayfield	May 13-June 12, 2016
Morel Mushroom Festival – Muscoda	May 14-15, 2016
10th Annual Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival – Ashland	May 19-21, 2016
White Deer Triathlon – Boulder Junction	May 21, 2016
Hillbilly Hustle – Lancaster	May 21, 2016
World's Largest Brat Fest – Madison	May 27-30, 2016
Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Day – Spooner	May 28, 2016
Ho-Chunk Nation Pow-Wow – Black River Falls	May 28-30 & Sept. 3-5, 2016
Lawn Mower Races – Fifeild	May 29 & July 9, 2016
Pewaukee Lake Water Ski Show – Pewaukee	May 30-Sept. 5, 2016

JUNE EVENTS (Page 6-9)

Annual Fresh Art Spring Tour – Durand, Arkansaw, Pepin, Maiden Rock, Bay City, Stockholm, Plum City	June 3-5, 2016
Great Wisconsin Cheese Festival – Little Chute	June 3-5, 2016
Wright and Like Tour 2016 – Racine	June 4, 2016
4-Pack of Fun Weekend – Statewide	June 4-5, 2016
Outta Sight Kite Flight – Kenosha	June 4-5, 2016
Sparta Butterfest – Sparta	June 9-12, 2016
PrideFest – Milwaukee	June 10-12, 2016
Walleye Weekend Festival – Fond du Lac	June 10-12, 2016
Beer, Bacon, Cheese – New Glarus	June 11, 2016
Carp Fest – Two Rivers	June 11-12, 2016
Columbus Horse & Carriage Festival – Columbus	June 11-12, 2016
Northwoods Heritage Fest – Three Lakes	June 12, 2016
Hayward Musky Festival – Hayward	June 16-19, 2016
June Dairy Days – Gilman	June 17-19, 2016
35 th Annual Polish Fest – Milwaukee	June 17-19, 2016
Clean Energy & Sustainable Living Fair – Custer	June 17-19, 2016
Door County Beer Festival – Bailey's Harbor	June 18, 2016
1st Annual American Family Insurance Championship – Madison	June 20-26, 2016
Budweiser Dairyland Super National Truck & Tractor Pull – Tomah	June 23-26, 2016
Ellsworth Cheese Curd Festival – Ellsworth	June 24-25, 2016
Greek Fest – West Allis	June 24-26, 2016
Fete de Fleurs – St. Croix Falls	June 25, 2016
Uncork Summer Food, Wine & Music Festival – Ellison Bay	June 25, 2016
Strawberry Festival – Cedarburg	June 25-26, 2016
Summerfest – Milwaukee	June 29-July 3, July 5-10, 2016
National Women's Music Festival – Middleton	June 30-July 3, 2016

JULY EVENTS (Page 9-11)

Oneida Pow-Wow – Oneida	July 1-3, 2016
Red Cliff Traditional Pow-Wow – Red Cliff	July 1-3, 2016
Wisconsin Maritime Museum's SubFest – Manitowoc	July 8-10, 2016
Bear River Pow-Wow – Lac du Flambeau	July 8-10, 2016
Logging & Heritage Festival – Marinette	July 8-10, 2016
Vatten Paddlar Canoe and Kayak Races – Barnes	July 9, 2016
Art Fair on the Square – Madison	July 9-10, 2016
Salmon-A-Rama – Racine	July 9-17, 2016
Bastille Days – Milwaukee	July 14-17, 2016
Honor the Earth Pow-Wow – Hayward	July 15-17, 2016
40 th Annual World Champion Snowmobile Watercross – Grantsburg	July 15-17, 2016
The World of "Little House" – Eagle	July 16-Aug. 7, 2016
Midsummer Festival of the Arts – Sheboygan	July 16-17, 2016
Country JAM USA – Eau Claire	July 21-23, 2016
Festa Italiana – Milwaukee	July 22-24, 2016
Big Top Parade & Circus Celebration – Baraboo	July 23-24, 2016
EAA AirVenture – Oshkosh	July 25-31, 2016
Lumberjack World Championships – Hayward	July 28-30, 2016
German Fest – Milwaukee	July 29-31, 2016
Chocoholic Frolic – Appleton	July 31, 2016

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER EVENTS (Page 11-13)

U.S. Open Chainsaw Sculpture Championships – Eau Claire	Aug. 4-7, 2016
Wisconsin State Fair – West Allis	Aug. 4-14, 2016
50 th Annual Menominee Nation Contest Pow-Wow – Keshena	Aug. 5-7, 2016
Tall Ship Festival – Green Bay	Aug. 5-7, 2016
National Mustard Day – Middleton	Aug. 6, 2016
Cranes of the World Festival – Baraboo	Aug. 6, 2016
Burger Fest – Seymour	Aug. 12-13, 2016
Eaux Claires Music & Arts Festival – Eau Claire	Aug. 12-13, 2016
Irish Fest – Milwaukee	Aug. 18-21, 2016
Yum Yum Fest – Madison	Aug. 21, 2016
35 th Annual Art Street – Green Bay	Aug. 26-28, 2016
Mexican Fiesta – Milwaukee	Aug. 26-28, 2016
1 st Annual Milwaukee Fringe Festival – Milwaukee	Aug. 27-28, 2016
Wisconsin Cow Chip Throw – Prairie du Sac	Sept. 2-3, 2016
Taste of Madison – Madison	Sept. 3-4, 2016
30th Annual Indian Summer Festival – Milwaukee	Sept. 9-11, 2016

APRIL/MAY EVENTS**Woodson Art Museum's "Walter Wick: Games, Gizmos and Toys in the Attic" – Wausau
February 27-May 29, 2016**

Fans of *I SPY* will immediately know Walter Wick's work. As the illustrator of the popular book series, Wick created some of the most elaborate and visually stunning riddles, puzzles and optical illusions. This exhibition features large-scale photographs of his detailed work accompanied by interactive puzzles and games to solve. 715-845-7010; www.lywam.org

Season of Blossoms – Door County – April 9-June 5, 2016

Celebrate the start of spring in Door County when the landscape comes alive with an abundance of bright, multicolored blossoms. Enjoy the nature hikes, local festivals, winery tours and sunsets along the Peninsula's western coast. Be sure to keep an eye out for the Door County USA cream-colored double daffodil.

800-52-RELAX; www.doorcounty.com

Midwest Horse Fair – Madison – April 15-17, 2016

Saddle up! The annual Midwest Horse Fair brings more than 600 horses together. See the return of the World Blacksmith Championship as well as two nights of fast-paced rodeo fun in the coliseum. The festival has also added a new shopping area so everyone can shop 'till they drop!

920-623-5515; www.midwesthorsefair.com

5th Annual Wisconsin Grilled Cheese Championship – Dodgeville – April 23, 2016

In honor of its fifth anniversary, the Wisconsin Grilled Cheese Championship is opening the competition to 150 participants. Professionals, amateurs and kids will have the opportunity to make delectable grilled cheese sandwiches that are judged on presentation, taste and style. Sip beer and wine while sampling some of the best cheeses from Wisconsin.

608-935-9200; www.grilledcheesewisconsin.com

Taylor County Maple Festival – Medford – April 29-30, 2016

The Taylor County Maple Festival kicks off a day early this year in downtown Medford. Stop by for music, food and door prizes. Can't get enough maple syrup? Come for a pancake breakfast and sweet-as-can-be maple syrup tastings.

715-512-0018; www.taylorcountylionsmaplefest.org

Festival of Beer – Kohler – April 29-May 1, 2016

Celebrate the art of brewing. The festival has something for everyone from the 5K beer run, featuring three beer stops throughout the race, to a chocolate and beer pairing for those with a sweet tooth. Check out beer tastings with regional Brewmasters or learn the art of home brewing during one of many classes. Come Friday for a kick-off "Hops at the Shops" party, and stay Saturday evening for the new craft beer keg party.

800-344-2838; www.destinationkohler.com

Horicon Marsh Bird Festival – Horicon – May 6-9, 2016

Over the years, more than 300 species of birds have been spotted on the marsh wetland. Learn about the different birds on a boat tour or take part in the scavenger hunt, and meet Sandy Komito, the most traveled birder in North America. Have your binoculars ready, adventure is just around the marsh.

920-485-4663; www.horiconmarshbirdfestival.com



*Horicon Marsh Bird Festival
Photo Courtesy of Donald S. Abrams*

Motorsports Mayhem – Richland Center – May 7, 2016

Get ready for a fast-paced, fun-filled day with the family. The annual Motorsports Mayhem offers ATV and dirt bike drags, truck and tractor pulls, a demolition derby and helicopter rides throughout the day. Kids can enjoy the zip line and pedal cart pull. Stick around for nightly car and truck drags. It'll be quite engine-ious!

608-604-5068; www.hybridredneck.com

1st Annual Milwaukee Museum Mile's Plein Air MKE – Milwaukee – May 7-14, 2016

Explore the five museums that make up the Milwaukee Museum Mile: The Charles Allis Art Museum, the Jewish Museum Milwaukee, North Point Lighthouse, Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum and Saint John's On the Lake. These exclusive locations are the backdrop for Plein Air MKE, an open-air painting event with the city's iconic landscapes and architecture as inspiration.

414-278-8295; www.milwaukeeuseummile.org

Bayfield in Bloom – Bayfield – May 13-June 12, 2016

Spring has sprung in Bayfield with a month-long celebration of more than 50,000 blooming apple blossoms, daffodils and lupines scattered throughout the town. Saturday, June 4 welcomes the Bayfield Garden Tour of more than 20 area gardens offering personal tours of their spectacular gardens.

715-779-3335; www.bayfield.org

Morel Mushroom Festival – Muscoda – May 14-15, 2016

Enjoy the fungus among us at the annual Morel Mushroom Festival. Try fried morels and mushroom brats, and wash it down with a Morel Microbrew. This event also includes a flea market, arts and crafts and a parade the whole family will love.

608-739-3182; www.muscoda.com

10th Annual Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Festival – Ashland – May 19-21, 2016

Immerse yourself in nature with 100 different types of birding excursions around the Apostle Islands. With spring migration in peak, check out a variety of birds and mammals by kayak, bike or boat tour around Kakagon Sloughs. The Apostle Islands National Lakeshore also celebrates its 100-year anniversary.

800-284-9484; www.birdandnaturefest.com

White Deer Triathlon – Boulder Junction – May 21, 2016

Boulder Junction is the proud home of the annual White Deer Triathlon. This fun event features a 3K canoe/kayak/stand-up paddleboard course on Boulder Lake, 23K bike ride on Boulder Junction's rustic roads and a 6.5K run. Stay the weekend and bike the paved trail that runs through the woods of Boulder Junction.

715-385-2400; www.whitedeertriathlon.com

Hillbilly Hustle – Lancaster – May 21, 2016

Get ready for muddy, outdoor fun! The annual Hillbilly Hustle, a non-competitive 5K race with 12 farm-themed obstacles, will test your endurance. Register individually or as a team at Vesperman Farms in Lancaster. Kids ages 5-13 can also join in the 1-mile course. Hustle on over and get ready to get down n' dirty!

608-723-2820; www.hillbillyhustle.com

World's Largest Brat Fest – Madison – May 27-30, 2016

Cele-BRAT the start of summer at the World's Largest Brat Fest in downtown Madison. This family-friendly event offers free live music from more than 100 bands, a kid zone and of course, lots of brats. Play a little "Bratneyball," the fest's version of volleyball, or join the Bun Run. Proceeds from this event will go to more than 100 local charities.

608-236-2031; www.bratfest.com

Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Day – Spooner – May 28, 2016

To honor the one and only Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Day, exhibitors from across the state display all shapes, sizes and styles of canoes and boats on the front lawn of the Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum. This year the museum will celebrate the legacy of Tom MacKenzie, a consummate craftsman and builder. Enjoy the live music and food in the beer garden or paddle on over to the canoe and wooden boat show.

715-635-2479; www.wisconsincanoeheritagemuseum.org

Ho-Chunk Nation Pow-Wow – Black River Falls – May 28-30 & September 3-5, 2016

The Ho-Chunk Nation welcomes friends and neighbors alike for the annual Memorial Day and Labor Day pow-wow weekends. This celebration of community and thanks includes a colorful display of traditional dancing, drumming and native crafts.

715-284-9343; www.ho-chunknation.com

Lawn Mower Races – Fifiel – May 29 & July 9, 2016

On your mark, get set, mow! Sponsored by the Fifiel Fire Department, this fun and quirky event has expert mowers race around the track as fast as they can. Trophies are given to the top competitors. The event has become so popular it now has two summer dates.

715-661-2432

Pewaukee Lake Water Ski Show – Pewaukee – May 30-Sept. 5, 2016

For highflying family fun, check out the Pewaukee Lake Water Ski Show. This year's theme, "Cirque du Ski," promises colorful costumes and mesmerizing trick skiing including the famous pyramid. Don't miss the Fourth of July show complete with music and fireworks at Lakefront Park in downtown Pewaukee.

www.plwsc.org

JUNE EVENTS

Annual Fresh Art Spring Tour –

Durand, Arkansaw, Pepin, Maiden Rock, Bay City, Stockholm, Plum City – June 3-5, 2016

The Fresh Art Spring Tour is a self-guided road trip to 16 of the most delightful studios and galleries in the Lake Pepin and Chippewa River Valley. Explore artists' studios that showcase pottery, hand-spun wool products, jewelry, glass, photography, hand-forged metal work and paintings of every kind.

715-672-8188; www.freshart.org

Great Wisconsin Cheese Festival – Little Chute – June 3-5, 2016

Celebrate national dairy month at the Great Wisconsin Cheese Festival. Nestled along the Fox River, this three-day entertainment extravaganza is packed with fun for everyone. Enjoy the Big Cheese Parade, the Cheddar Chase and more while indulging in your favorite kind of cheese.

920-423-3869; www.littlechutewi.org/cheesefest

Wright and Like Tour 2016 – Racine – June 4, 2016

Head to Racine, a city rich in Frank Lloyd Wright architecture, for guided tours of private homes and public buildings created by the master architect and his contemporaries. This year's tour incorporates Wright's early 20th century lakefront property, the Thomas P. Hardy house, which has been meticulously renovated.

608-287-0339; www.wrightinwisconsin.org

4-Pack of Fun Weekend – Statewide – June 4-5, 2016

Enjoy the great outdoors with the whole family this weekend as all Wisconsin state parks offer free admission. Grab your hiking boots and explore one of Wisconsin's 42 breathtaking state trails. Pack your pole for free fishing statewide without a trout stamp or license. Or bust out your ATV and enjoy free access to public trails.

888-936-7463; <http://dnr.wi.gov>

Outta Sight Kite Flight – Kenosha – June 4-5, 2016

It's up, up and away! Watch as 600 kites along the shoreline of Lake Michigan in Kennedy Park take flight. Bring your kite and

join in on the fun with kite flying lessons and the Kids Mad Dash competition. This year features a performance by the Canadian Dream Team and their 150-foot long giant octopus kite. Also, don't miss America's Got Talent finalist Connor Doran and his unbelievable indoor kite flying skills.

414-305-3145; www.giftofwings.com



*Outta Sight Kite Flight
Photo Courtesy of Scott Fisher*

Sparta Butterfest – Sparta – June 9-12, 2016

Known as the butter capital of Wisconsin, Sparta celebrates all things butter during this four-day festival. Take part in the cow-milking contest, butter making demos and don't miss the popular Butterfest parade. Butter not miss out on the family fun.

608-269-4123; www.spartabutterfest.com

PrideFest – Milwaukee – June 10-12, 2016

For more than 25 years, PrideFest has been celebrating the LGBT community and has become one of the nation's largest LGBT festivals. Held at Henry W. Maier Festival Park, this fest promises high-energy entertainment with more than 150 local and national acts including performances by Ani DiFranco and En Vogue.

414-272-3378; www.pridefest.com

Walleye Weekend Festival – Fond du Lac – June 10-12, 2016

More than just a fishing competition, Walleye Weekend is quite a catch. Reel in the fun with live music, good eats and family activities all for a good cause. Walleye Weekend has partnered with Hearts of Heroes motorcycle charity ride to benefit American Legion Riders.

920-923-6555; www.walleyeweekend.com

Beer, Bacon, Cheese – New Glarus – June 11, 2016

Calling all foodies. Get ready for a weekend filled with some of the greatest flavors known to man. Pick up a wristband and stroll through the streets of New Glarus for the annual Beer, Bacon, and Cheese festival. Sample ice cold craft beer, specialty meats and artisan cheeses. Come hungry and stay for unlimited goodness!

800-527-6838; www.swisstown.com

Carp Fest – Two Rivers – June 11-12, 2016

Head to Two Rivers for some good old-fashioned fishing fun. Cheer on your favorite angler while they compete for Carp Champion and a coveted spot on Team USA at the World Carp Championship. Stick around for tasty food and live music throughout the weekend.

920-973-0761; www.trba.info

Columbus Horse & Carriage Festival – Columbus – June 11-12, 2016

Considered one of the largest horse and carriage driving shows in the nation, this fest is sure to delight. From elegant antique carriages to sleek modern vehicles, drivers from across the Midwest compete in eight different divisions.

608-235-1755; www.columbuscarriagefestival.org

Northwoods Heritage Fest – Three Lakes – June 12, 2016

Pay tribute to various heritages and cultures of the Northwoods with German, Italian, Polish and Wisconsin cuisines. This year also features the annual beanbag toss competition and a "Parade of Flags." Stop by the International Wine and Beer Garden for yummy roasted corn and live entertainment.

715-546-3344; www.threelakes.com

Hayward Musky Festival – Hayward – June 16-19, 2016

There's something fishy about this festival! Hayward's largest festival celebrates Wisconsin's Northwoods fishing traditions. Stay the weekend and enjoy a catch and release fishing contest, sidewalk sales, live music, children's games and much more.

715-634-8662; www.muskyfest.com

June Dairy Days – Gilman – June 17-19, 2016

This fest promises a weekend of entertainment for the whole family. Stroll through the Dairy Days swap meet and Swinging Bridge Classic Car Show. Take part in the volleyball tournament or one-mile fun run. If you're feeling hungry, check out the delicious June Dairy breakfast or chicken dinner.

715-447-8650; www.gilmanwi.com/junedairydays

35th Annual Polish Fest – Milwaukee – June 17-19, 2016

This year's celebration will showcase the history of Polish Fest with memorable moments of the last 35 years, including entertainment, souvenirs, brochures, and most importantly, its volunteers. Enjoy cooking demonstrations, Polish artwork, folk dancers, the beer garden and many more activities throughout the weekend.

414-529-2140; www.polishfest.org

Clean Energy & Sustainable Living Fair – Custer – June 17-19, 2016

For years the Energy Fair has been transforming rural Central Wisconsin into the hot spot for renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable living education. From the workshops to the exhibitors, the fair brings more than 13,000 attendees together to learn. Don't miss the latest and greatest in clean energy and sustainability.

715-592-6595; www.midwestrenew.org/energyfair

Door County Beer Festival – Bailey's Harbor – June 18, 2016

The Door County Beer Festival returns to Baileys Harbor with more than 150 carefully curated craft beers with a focus on Wisconsin brewers. Enjoy your beverage with mouth-watering street food prepared by area chefs. This year's event is also held in conjunction with the Peninsula Century Spring Classic bicycle ride, which starts and finishes on the festival grounds.

920-915-9880; www.doorcountybeerfestival.com

1st Annual American Family Insurance Championship – Madison – June 20-26, 2016

Wisconsin native and 12-time PGA Tour champion Steve Stricker will host a new PGA Champions Tour event at Madison's University Ridge Golf Course – the first PGA Tour event in Wisconsin since 2009. Eighty-one players, all over the age of 50, will compete for a \$2 million purse. Proceeds will go to the Steve Stricker American Family Insurance Foundation and American Family Hospital.

904-280-5058; www.strickerfoundation.org

Budweiser Dairyland Super National Truck & Tractor Pull – Tomah – June 23-26, 2016

Still pulling strong and better than ever, this event features six shows and two pull tracks. Guests can enjoy food, camping, flea markets and arts and crafts. Get ready for some seriously high-energy tractor pulling including Light Unlimited, Super Stock Diesel 4x4 and Light SST.

608-372-2081; www.tomahtractorpull.com

Ellsworth Cheese Curd Festival – Ellsworth – June 24-25, 2016

There's something cheesy going on here. This event celebrates Ellsworth's designation as the cheese curd capital of Wisconsin. Enjoy hand battered curds, signature dipping sauces, cheese curd influenced cuisine, and a cheese curd eating contest. The festival also features live entertainment, family friendly activities and a grand parade.

715-273-6442; www.ellsworthchamber.com

Greek Fest – West Allis – June 24-26, 2016

Celebrate all things Greek at Wisconsin State Fair Park. Shop at the Greek Market, which is stocked full of imported goods. Enjoy traditional Greek music and dancing. Try a wide variety of authentic foods, including gyros, Greek chicken, lamb, souvlaki and baklava. Don't miss a chance to be Greek for a day!

414-461-9400; www.annunciationwi.org

Fete de Fleurs – St. Croix Falls – June 25, 2016

No need to "wine," Fete de Fleurs is here. Kick off the summer in western Wisconsin at Fete de Fleurs or the "flowering of the vines" festival. The popular French celebration offers fine food from local vendors, winery tours and, of course, delicious Chateau wine. Enjoy the summer sun along with live musical performances.

715-483-2556; www.chateaustcroix.com

Uncork Summer Food, Wine & Music Festival – Ellison Bay – June 25, 2016

Get a taste of Door County with the best food, wine and entertainment from around the Peninsula. Sample a variety of fare, including Scandinavian and Spanish. Relax to the sounds of local musicians while sipping on the region's best wine, beer and cider.

920-854-4450; www.uncorksummer.com

Strawberry Festival – Cedarburg – June 25-26, 2016

Get your strawberry fix at this festival that brings in more than 100,000 people annually to celebrate one of nature's finest fruits. Try delicious strawberry shortcake, strawberry crepes, strawberry wine and strawberry brats. The festival also features strawberry contests, arts and crafts and live musical performances. Don't miss out on this berry sweet event.

262-377-3891; www.cedarburgfestivals.org



*Cedarburg Strawberry Festival
Photo Courtesy of C.J. Hoffman*

Summerfest – Milwaukee – June 29-July 3, July 5-10, 2016

With over 1,000 musical acts and more than 900,000 visitors, “The World’s Largest Music Festival” never disappoints. Head to Milwaukee’s lakefront to see headliners Luke Bryan, Selena Gomez, Weezer and Panic! At The Disco.

414-273-2680; www.summerfest.com

National Women’s Music Festival – Middleton – June 30-July 3, 2016

For years, the National Women’s Music Festival has celebrated life, spoken word, music and female empowerment by offering workshops, concerts, comedy and theater presentations. This year’s festival features performances by Alive, Mary Watkins, Nan Washburn, Suede, Andrea Gibson, Ubaka Hill, and many more.

317-395-3809; www.wiaonline.org

JULY EVENTS

Oneida Pow-Wow – Oneida – July 1-3, 2016

Watch an impressive grand entry featuring more than 400 dancers at the Oneida tribe’s annual Fourth of July weekend pow-wow. Be sure to check out Native American arts and crafts and traditional foods.

920-713-0608; <http://www.exploreoneida.com/>

Red Cliff Traditional Pow-Wow – Red Cliff – July 1-3, 2016

With stunning views of Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands, this annual pow-wow doesn’t disappoint.

Experience customary Chippewa culture and hospitality with traditional drumming and song, colorful dancers and a variety of Native American vendors.

715-779-3700; <http://www.redcliff-nsn.gov>

Wisconsin Maritime Museum’s SubFest – Manitowoc – July 8-10, 2016

Back and better than ever, Subfest’s second year is guaranteed family fun along the Manitowoc River. This year’s theme is “Subs in Pop Culture,” featuring Beatles tribute band “Meet the Beatles.” Check out self-guided submarine tours, a water ski show, Venetian boat parade and fireworks. Kiddos can enjoy hands-on fun at the remote control submarine pond.

866-724-2356; www.wisconsinmaritime.org

Bear River Pow-Wow – Lac du Flambeau – July 8-10, 2016

Celebrate the rich and distinct heritage of Native American tribal nations at the Bear River Pow-Wow celebration, offering food, crafts, dancing and four grand entries.

715-588-3333

Logging & Heritage Festival – Marinette – July 8-10, 2016

Learn about Marinette’s lumbering history at the Logging and Heritage Festival. Bring the whole family for a weekend full of forest fun. Enjoy multiple performances of the popular Timberworks Lumberjack Show, live music, children’s activities, craft vendors and so much more.

715-732-4333; www.marinetteloggingandheritagefestival.com

Vatten Paddlar Canoe and Kayak Races – Barnes – July 9, 2016

Beat the heat with the friendly competition of the Vatten Paddlar Canoe and Kayak Races around northwestern Wisconsin’s beautiful chain of lakes. Choose from the 5-mile course around Middle Eau Claire Lake or the 10-mile race from Robinson Lake to Mooney Bay. The fastest finishers receive cash prizes and the admiration from their fellow competitors.

715-795-2782; www.vattenpaddlar.com

Art Fair on the Square – Madison – July 9-10, 2016

Join the 200,000 visitors who head to Madison’s Capitol Square each year for Art Fair on the Square. The outdoor festival features more than 500 artists from across the country and is one of the largest and most popular juried art fairs in the Midwest. Browse unique paintings, prints, photographs, sculptures and jewelry during this sensational event.

608-257-0158; www.mmoca.org/art-fair

Salmon-A-Rama – Racine – July 9-17, 2016

Calling all fishing pros! The Salmon-A-Rama fishing contest is back. Soak in the sun at one of the largest and most popular fishing competitions in the Great Lakes. Contest divisions include offshore, onshore, youth and perch divisions with a grand prize of \$20,000.

800-272-2463; www.salmon-a-rama.com

Bastille Days – Milwaukee – July 14-17, 2016

Tap into your own inner Parisian at this free, four-day affair boasting an international marketplace, epicurean delights, roaming busker entertainment and a 43-ft Eiffel Tower replica. Guests will find a variety of musical stylings across five stages including jazz, folk and Cajun. Don't miss an opportunity to see one of the nation's largest French-themed celebrations!

414-274-1182; www.bastilledaysfestival.com

Honor the Earth Pow-Wow – Hayward – July 15-17, 2016

Considered the largest pow-wow in North America, this event draws nearly 10,000 visitors from around the world. The Lac Courte Orielles Ojibwe tribe hosts this annual celebration honoring Mother Earth. Festivities include dancing, drumming, traditional games, art displays and tasty Native American foods.

715-634-8934; www.haywardareachamber.com

40th Annual World Championship Snowmobile Watercross – Grantsburg – July 15-17, 2016

No need to ditch your snowmobile for the summer, instead head to Memory Lake in Grantsburg for the high-octane action of athletes racing their snowmobiles across the water. Cheer on the competitors and stay for the live music and famous street dance with the aptly named "The Best Fireworks Around" show.

715-463-4269; www.grantsburgwatercross.com

The World of "Little House" – Eagle – July 16, 2016-August 7, 2016

Take a step back into the 1860s and experience what life was like for Laura Ingalls Wilder. Participate in old-time activities and chores like washing clothes by hand, jumping in a pile of hay and attending class in a one-room school. Dress up as your favorite character and watch as the World of Little House comes to life.

262-594-6301; www.oldworldwisconsin.org

Midsummer Festival of the Arts – Sheboygan – July 16-17, 2016

This exciting family-friendly festival attracts tens of thousands of visitors who shop the 135 artists' booths, enjoy live music, participate in art-making activities and browse the Arts Center galleries. Delicious local cuisine is available in the food court and from food trucks

920-458-6144; www.jmkac.org

Country Jam USA – Eau Claire – July 21-23, 2016

This extravaganza draws some of the hottest names in country music to Eau Claire. This year's lineup includes Florida Georgia Line, Jason Aldean, Jake Owen and The Band Perry. Camping and shuttle services to and from the festival grounds are also available.

715-839-7500; www.countryjamwi.com

Festa Italiana – Milwaukee – July 22-24, 2016

Milwaukee is home to the country's largest Italian-American festival – Festa Italiana. Each summer, more than 100,000 Italian aficionados visit the shores of Lake Michigan for a festival celebrating all things Italian – food, family, arts and culture! Enjoy wine tastings, fireworks, cooking demonstrations, children's activities and live entertainment all weekend.

414-223-2808; www.festaitaliana.com

Big Top Parade & Circus Celebration – Baraboo – July 23-24, 2016

This year the Circus City celebrates the 125th anniversary of the Gollmar Bros. Circus whose contributions helped establish Baraboo's impressive circus history. Descendants of the Gollmar Bros. will be this year's grand marshals in the Big Top Parade through downtown. Afterwards, enjoy a classic car show, artisan fair, live music and plenty of children's activities.

608-356-8333; www.bigtopparade.com

EAA AirVenture – Oshkosh – July 25-31, 2016

“The World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration” brings together 50,000 aviation enthusiasts from across the world to honor the past, present and future of flight. Check out daily air shows, workshops and seminars, industry vendors and over 10,000 airplanes. This year features the highly skilled AeroShell Aerobatic Team and the Canadian Forces Snowbirds, their first appearance in Oshkosh in 30 years.

920-426-4800; www.airventure.org



*Lumberjack World Championships
Photo Courtesy of Darlene Prois*

**Lumberjack World Championships – Hayward
July 28-30, 2016**

Get ready for a weekend full of strength, skill and high-energy. The Lumberjack World Championships showcases everything from log rolling and chopping to the pull climb. The All-Female Bucking Saw Competition will make its return this year with even more competitors. With more than \$50,000 in prize money and 12,000 attendees each year, this event is sure to excite.

715-634-2484 ; www.lumberjackworldchampionships.com

German Fest – Milwaukee – July 29-31, 2016

German Fest is the nation’s largest German festival, serving more than 10,000 pounds of sauerkraut and enough brats to stretch the length of eight Empire State Buildings! Don your lederhosen and enjoy authentic German food, music, entertainment, a cultural village and the traditional German beer.

414-464-9444; www.germanfest.com

Chocoholic Frolic – Appleton – July 31, 2016

The Chocoholic Frolic 5K and 10K race returns to Appleton this summer. Run, jog or walk through the courses and enjoy two chocolate stops along the way. For all your hardwork, treat yourself to a chocolatey reward at the finish line.

507-664-9438; www.chocoholicfrolicrun.com

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER EVENTS

U.S. Open Chainsaw Sculpture Championships – Eau Claire – Aug. 4-7, 2016

Head to Eau Claire to watch the world’s best chainsaw artists carve masterpieces using just a wooden log and a chainsaw. See each carver in action and watch as this stunning artwork comes to life. Between carvings enjoy live entertainment, family-friendly activities and tasty food. Stick around on Sunday for a chance to bid on your favorite sculpture.

715-835-6200; www.uschainsawchamps.com

Wisconsin State Fair – West Allis – August 4-14, 2016

A visit to the Wisconsin State Fair is an annual summer tradition. Explore agriculture through numerous animal barns. Indulge in novel fair food like deep-fried fish and chips on-a-stick. Listen to live music on 30 stages or hop on a ride in SpinCity, the Fair’s amusement park and game area. Be on the lookout for performances by Halestorm, Rascal Flatts, Shawn Mendes and more.

414-266-7000; www.wistatefair.com

50th Annual Menominee Nation Contest Pow-Wow – Keshena – August 5-7, 2016

This pow-wow celebrates 50 years of eclectic events and activities showcasing the Native American spirit. Enjoy singing and dancing competitions, yummy native cuisine and an array of gifts, including traditional beadwork and apparel.

715-799-5114 Ext. 1267; www.menominee-nsn.gov

Tall Ship Festival – Green Bay – August 5-7, 2016

All hands on deck! Check out nine of the tallest mid-20th century ships you'll ever see docked in Green Bay. Step aboard for a tour and find out what it takes to be a crewmember or captain on one of these massive vessels. Take a spin around the bay in one of the ships. Stop by the Maritime Market for nautical gifts for the Jack Sparrow in your life.

920-405-1194; www.tallshipgreenbay.com

National Mustard Day – Middleton – August 6, 2016

National Mustard Day is celebrated annually at the National Mustard Museum on the first Saturday in August. Enjoy free hot dogs, mustard samples, music, games, entertainment and more. Bring the whole family and come hungry.

608-831-2222; www.mustardmuseum.com

Cranes of the World Festival – Baraboo – August 6, 2016

Celebrate 15 different crane species all in one place. This unbeatable opportunity is paired with guided crane and prairie hikes, tours, special programs, arts and crafts and more.

608-356-9462; <https://www.savingcranes.org/>

Burger Fest – Seymour – Aug. 12-13, 2016

Did you know the very first hamburger was sold at the Seymour County Fair in 1885? Celebrate the birth of the hamburger in all its glory with a parade, hamburger eating contest, the popular ketchup slide, live music and a car show. There's also a 190-pound giant cheeseburger – a can't miss sight for all burger lovers!

920-833-6688; www.homeofthehamburger.org

Eaux Claires Music & Arts Festival – Eau Claire – Aug. 12-13, 2016

Created by Wisconsin native and Bon Iver frontman Justin Vernon, this rapidly growing indie fest offers not only an eclectic line up of 54 musical acts but interactive art installations and sculptures spread throughout 60-acres. The fest's newly expanded campground, Camp Eaux, offers free shuttle service to and from the festival grounds.

617-371-3955; www.eauxclaires.com

Irish Fest – Milwaukee – August 18-21, 2016

Break out your green attire for Milwaukee's Irish Fest, home to the world's largest celebration of Irish music and culture. The four-day festival showcases more than 100 entertainment acts on 16 stages. The fest includes traditional Irish fare, a Celtic cultural village and emerging international musicians.

414-476-3378; www.irishfest.com

Yum Yum Fest – Madison – August 21, 2015

This end of summer celebration in Madison Central Park is organized by the Madison Area Chefs Network to benefit food-related programming for children. The festival features dishes and drinks from 24 of the most celebrated restaurants in the area with exciting regional and national musical acts. Bring the whole family for a day of deliciously creative cuisine

www.yumyumfest.org

35th Annual Artstreet – Green Bay – August 26-28, 2016

This year's festival features 200 visual artists from throughout the country with three stages of music, dance, theater and literary performances. Be sure to check out the children's activities, artist demos, and a tempting variety of specialty food tents sure to satisfy.

920-435-5220; www.mosaicartsinc.org/artstreet



Irish Fest
Photo Courtesy of Milwaukee Irish Fest

Mexican Fiesta – Milwaukee – August 26-28, 2016

Experience the sights, sounds and tastes of Mexico at Milwaukee's lakefront. Check out some of the international entertainment at the Cultural Pavilion or head to the marketplace for traditional crafts and delicious food. Save room for the Mexican bread "pan de feria" baked by authentic Mexican bakers.

414-383-7066; www.mexicanfiesta.org

1st Annual Milwaukee Fringe Festival – Milwaukee – Aug. 27-28, 2016

Acting as a platform for local artists, the inaugural Milwaukee Fringe Festival hosts more than 60 shows over two days in celebration of the city's distinct art scene. The fest encourages collaboration beyond traditional art in the form of live theatre, comedy, music and dance under the direction of renowned actor and Wisconsinite Willem Dafoe.

<http://mkefringe.com/>

Wisconsin Cow Chip Throw – Prairie du Sac – September 2-3, 2016

Quirky, crazy and a lot of fun - that's how best to describe the Wisconsin State Cow Chip Throw. More than 50,000 people come to watch competitors throw flat cow chips (also known as dried cow patties) as far as they can. The record is 248-feet! Stay for the fun run/walk, arts and crafts fair and two stages of live entertainment.

608-643-4317, www.wiscowchip.com

Taste of Madison – Madison – September 3-4, 2016

Each year during Labor Day weekend, Wisconsin's Capitol Square is filled with local food, beverage and entertainment. This year will feature more than 85 vendors. Try samples from Madison's top restaurants while enjoying the best free concert experience the city offers.

608-276-9797; www.tasteofmadison.com

30th Annual Indian Summer Festival – Milwaukee – Sept. 9-11, 2016

Head to Milwaukee's lakefront for North America's largest American Indian festival. Celebrate 30 years of time-honored traditions joined by contemporary fun like the popular competition pow-wow. Plus, there's food, art, live music and fireworks, too.

414-604-1000; www.indiansummer.org

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