



JULY 15, 2022



Kobojian



7 PLAYING THE PATSY

Okoboji Summer Theatre alum returns with show



12 OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Arnolds Park officials celebrate Lake Street



15 ON YOUR MARKS

U of O Homecoming Races return after hiatus

OKOBOJI
BOAT WORKS

LIGHT UP *The Night*

JULY 15TH, 8-11 PM • \$40
DEPARTS OBW • 21+

SCAN FOR TICKETS

LIVE MUSIC



Thursday (7.7)

Big Nacho Karaoke 6pm

Friday (7.8)

Nebraska Showdown 7pm

Saturday (7.9)

Lonesome Losers 2:30pm

Nebraska Showdown 7pm

Sunday (7.10)

Lonesome Losers 2pm



Wednesday (7.13)

FULL MOON Callista Clark 7pm

Thursday (7.14)

Big Nacho Karaoke 6pm

Friday (7.15)

Thrillbillies 7pm

Saturday (7.16)

Mighty Nish Band 2:30pm

Thrillbillies 7pm

EAST LAKE OKOBOJI

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THE GARDENS

ON THE SHORES OF WEST LAKE OKOBOJI

Tuesday (7.5)

Charlie Leissler 5pm

Wednesday (7.6)

Christopher John 5pm

Thursday (7.7)

Boon and Lambert 5pm

Friday (7.8)

Charlie Leissler 5pm

Nick Hickman 9pm

Saturday (7.9)

Ryan Sather 5pm

TBD 9pm

Sunday (7.10)

Boji Bill 5pm

Karaoke 8pm

Monday (7.11)

Parker D & Boji Bill 5pm

Tuesday (7.12)

Tim Horsman 5pm

DAILY LIVE MUSIC @ 5PM

LAKE LEVEL OF THE CENTRAL EMPORIUM

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Dickinson County News • Okobojian*



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ABOUT THE COVER: Photo taken by Seth Boyes

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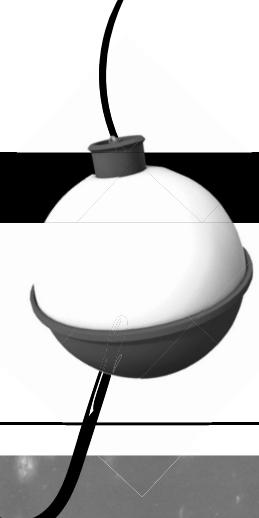
Okobojian

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NORTHWEST IOWA

FISHING REPORT



This weekly fishing report is compiled from information gathered from local bait shops, angler creel surveys and county and state parks staff. The report below is from July 7,

the latest report available at the time of publication. For current conditions, call the Spirit Lake District Office at 712-336-1840. Most area lake temperatures have warmed into the upper 70s-80s over the last week. Forecasts call for continued temperatures in the 80s. Algae blooms have popped up on a few area lakes, making visibility much lower. Bass and panfishing on most lakes has been great out along weed lines in 10-15 feet of water. Most fish are moving out deeper as they have finished with spawning. For current conditions, call the Spirit Lake District Office at 712-336-1840.

EAST LAKE OKOBOJI — The water level is about 4 inches over crest. Fish are moving shallower post-spawn. Trolling has been working very well. Find crappie and yellow bass in 10-16 feet of water. Try fishing weed lines where there is new vegetation growth. Black Crappie — Good: Best bite is in 10-15 feet of water along weed lines. Bluegill — Good. Walleye — Fair: Try spinners, crankbaits and long and shallow shad raps in the main basins. Best bite is an hour before and after sunset. Yellow Bass — Good.

LOST ISLAND LAKE — Fishing/trolling is getting more difficult as aquatic vegetation reaches the surface in many places. Black Crappie — Fair. Walleye — Slow: Try trolling crankbaits or with lindy rigs off weed lines. Best bite is an hour before and after sunset. Yellow Perch — Fair.

LAKE MINNEWASHTA — Bluegill and crappie fishing has been good; some sorting may be needed. Black Crappie — Good. Bluegill — Good.

SILVER LAKE (DICKINSON) — The late afternoon bite has been fair. Many anglers are targeting fish schools during the day. Vegetation growth is making fishing more difficult in many areas. Walleye — Fair: Try spinners, crankbaits and long and shallow shad raps.

SPIRIT LAKE — The lake is about 4 inches below crest. The walleye season is open. Black Bullhead — Good: Try fishing the northern grade of Spirit Lake. Black Crappie — Fair: Use a tube jig and bobber. Bluegill — Fair. Walleye — Good: Use spinners, crankbaits and long and shallow shad raps; try to find weed lines. Yellow Perch — Fair: Many perch can be caught, anglers may need to sort for size.

WEST LAKE OKOBOJI — The water level is about 4 inches over crest. Many fish are moving deeper post-spawn. Rocky points and areas with new vegetation growth have seen the most success. Black Crappie — Fair. Bluegill — Fair. Largemouth Bass — Fair. Smallmouth Bass — Fair: Try fishing off points with surface baits or jerk baits. Walleye — Fair: Try fishing off points by trolling crankbaits or with lindy rigs. Best bite is an hour before and after sunset.



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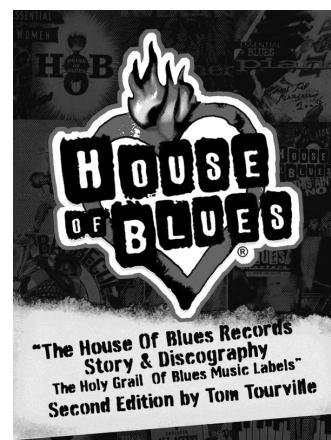
Doris Welle | Staff Writer

Spirit Lake resident **Connie Valens** attended the movie premiere of the documentary "The Day the Music Died: The Story of Don McLean's American Pie" at the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake on Tuesday evening. A national film making company from Miami, Florida, spent two years working on the film. I had the pleasure of meeting those young film makers and dining with McLean last February when they were interviewing members of the Valens family and officials from the ballroom about the amazing history behind that story. Connie is the sister of the late Richie Valens and represented the Valens family at the premiere. I was unable to attend the invitation-only premiere but am really looking forward to seeing the film.

Tom Tourville has completed another of his musical history books. Instead of being on the subject of rock and roll, this one is called "The House of Blues Records Story and Discography."

I have proofread many of his books, and I must say this one gave me an education on a musical genre I certainly knew little about. Tom will be holding a talk about his new book at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, July 16, in the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Museum in Arnolds Park. As you can see by the photo, the book has a very colorful cover. Credit for the creation of that cover goes to **Maddi Tesch**, curator at the museum. Tourville retired as executive director at the Pearson Lakes Art Center several years ago and really got into earnestly churning out book after book about music history.

Congratulations go out to **Fostoria Fire and Rescue** on their 100th anniversary. Thanks to all the men and women who have served that



community as volunteer firefighters and first responders over that century! Amazing. They are celebrating with a street dance and other fun things this Saturday evening.

While I am talking about centennial events, I found out last week that the town I reside in, **Okoboji**, is 100 years old in a matter of weeks. Apparently no celebration has been planned for this special occasion. The "city fathers" and staff still have

five months to come up with some sort of party to mark this momentous milestone.

Rich Nicklay pointed out to me the other day that a Spirit Lake High School graduate is coming back to the Lakes Area to perform on stage at the Okoboji Summer Theatre. **Nate Walsh** now lives in Boston, Massachusetts,

where he studies musical theatre in the Boston Conservatory at Berkley College of Music. He will be here visiting family and friends while performing in the musical "Legally Blonde" Aug. 9-14. Welcome home Nate!

Happy 105th birthday to **Gladys Zweifel**! She lives at Keelson Harbor and is an amazing person. I hope she enjoys this birthday!

The Northwest Iowa Concert Band will play in the Majestic Pavilion in Arnolds Park at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 24. This will be the 30th consecutive concert at that location for the band. That is a commendable record of stability, isn't it? The band is comprised of area citizens who like to get together and play music. I believe they will play four times in about two weeks for many music lovers.

If you have a reunion, family party or special event coming up this summer, let me know. You can email the information to doris@dickinsoncountynews.com or give me a call at 712-320-2850. Have a safe week!

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE GREAT EVENTS

July 15 — OUTDOOR EVENT

6-9 p.m. OBW Dock Hop
Okoboji Boat Works

July 15 — LIVE MUSIC

6 p.m. Sweet Trouble
The Ritz

July 15 — LIVE MUSIC

7 p.m. Thrillbillies
Barefoot Bar

July 15 — OUTDOOR EVENT

7-10 p.m. OBW Dock Hop
Okoboji Boat Works

July 15 — LIVE MUSIC

7:30 p.m. The Lettermen
Roof Garden Ballroom

July 15 — LIVE MUSIC

8 p.m. Damon Dotson
Okoboji Store

July 15 — LIVE EVENT

8 p.m. An Inspector Calls (mystery)
Okoboji Summer Theatre

July 15 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset with Michael Hope
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Joystick
The Gardens

July 15 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Tom's Top 8
Captain's Getaway

July 15 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Joystick
The Gardens

July 16 — SPECIAL EVENT

Dickinson County Fair
Dickinson County Fairgrounds

July 16 — OUTDOOR EVENT

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Farmers Market in the Park
Arnolds Park Amusement Park

July 16 — OUTDOOR ENTERTAINMENT

9-10 a.m. The Studio Yoga and Barre
Arnolds Park Amusement Park

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

9 a.m. to Noon. Kerry and Elle Shante
Arnolds Park Amusement Park

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

11:30 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
Mellow Dees of Okoboji
Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Museum Patio

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

1 p.m. Nuclear Bees

8 p.m. Damon Dotson
Okoboji Store

July 16 — OUTDOOR EVENT

2-5 p.m. Barefoot Dock Hop
Barefoot Bar

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

2-6 p.m. Trevor Rau
Round Lake Vineyards

July 16 — OUTDOOR EVENT

2:30-5:30 p.m. Millers Bay Yacht Party
Okoboji Boat Works

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

2:30 p.m. Mighty Nish Band
7 p.m. Thrillbillies
Barefoot Bar

July 16 — LIVE EVENT

4:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
An Inspector Calls (mystery)
Okoboji Summer Theatre

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

6 p.m. Sweet Trouble
The Ritz

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

6-8 p.m. Lauren & the Drifters
Little Swan Lake Winery

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

7:30 p.m. Appetite for Deception
Preservation Plaza
Fireworks after show

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

8 p.m. 100th Anniversary
Street Dance
for Fostoria Fire and Rescue with
Casey Muessigmann
Fostoria City Park

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Joystick
The Gardens

July 16 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Tom's Top 8
Captain's Getaway

July 17 — SPECIAL EVENT

Dickinson County Fair
Dickinson County Fairgrounds

July 17 — OUTDOOR EVENT

1-4 p.m. OBW Dock Hop
Okoboji Boat Works

July 17 — LIVE MUSIC

2-6 p.m. Polka Police
Barefoot Bar

July 17 — LIVE MUSIC

2-6 p.m. Rod and Pam
Round Lake Vineyards

July 17 — LIVE MUSIC

4 p.m. Sweet Trouble
The Ritz

July 17 — LIVE MUSIC

4-6 p.m. Dave and Ryan
Little Swan Lake Winery

July 17 — LIVE MUSIC

5-7 p.m. The Senders
Dickinson County Fair

July 17 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset with Jeremy DeWall
The Gardens

July 17 — LIVE EVENT

6 p.m. An Inspector Calls (mystery)
Okoboji Summer Theatre

July 18 — SPECIAL EVENT

Dickinson County Fair
Dickinson County Fairgrounds

July 18 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset with Boji Bill
The Gardens

July 18 — LIVE MUSIC

7-9 p.m. Dick Bauman Big Band
Pomerantz Hall at
Pearson Lakes Art Center

July 19 — SPECIAL EVENT

Dickinson County Fair
Dickinson County Fairgrounds

July 19 — GOLF TOURNAMENT

Four-Gal Best Shot
Emerald Hills Golf Course

July 19 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset with Tim Horsman
The Gardens

July 19 — LIVE MUSIC

7 p.m. Jazzed Up Big Band of Okoboji
Roof Garden Ballroom

July 19 — LIVE EVENT

8 p.m. Purely Patsy Cline (musical)
Okoboji Summer Theatre

July 20 — SPECIAL EVENT

Dickinson County Fair
Dickinson County Fairgrounds

July 20 — LIVE EVENT

10-11 a.m. Molly Shannon's Tilly the Trickster
Boji Bantam Children's Theatre
Okoboji Summer Theater

July 20 — LIVE EVENT

10 a.m. Rapunzel
Treasure Village

July 20 — OUTDOOR EVENT

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wild
Wednesday: Amphibians
Iowa Lakeside Laboratory

July 20 — OUTDOOR EVENT

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Nature Explorers
Non-Living Things in the Environment
Dickinson County Nature Center

July 20 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset with Christopher Jon
The Gardens

July 20 — LIVE MUSIC

6-8 p.m. Itty Bitty Boji Band
Spirit Lake VFW

July 20 — LIVE MUSIC

7:30 p.m. The Association
Pearson Lakes Art Center

July 20 — LIVE EVENT

8 p.m. Purely Patsy Cline (musical)
Okoboji Summer Theatre

July 20 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Cover to Cover
Captain's Getaway

July 21 — SPECIAL EVENT

Dickinson County Fair
Dickinson County Fairgrounds

July 21 — LIVE EVENT

10 a.m. Rapunzel
Treasure Village

July 21 — LIVE EVENT

10-11 a.m. Molly Shannon's
Tilly the Trickster
Boji Bantam Children's Theatre
Okoboji Summer Theatre

July 21 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset
with Boon and Lambert
The Gardens

July 21 — LIVE MUSIC

6 p.m. Sweet Trouble
The Ritz

July 21 — LIVE MUSIC

6-8 p.m. Joshua Sinclair
Round Lake Vineyards

July 21 — LIVE MUSIC

6-8 p.m. Kayla Brown
Little Swan Lake Winery

July 21 — LIVE MUSIC

7:30 p.m. River — Tribute to
Carole King, Joni Mitchell & Carly Simon
Pearson Lakes Art Center

July 21 — LIVE EVENT

8 p.m. Purely Patsy Cline (musical)
Okoboji Summer Theatre

July 21 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Cover to Cover
Captain's Getaway

July 22 — GOLF TOURNAMENT

Community Bankers of Iowa
Brooks Golf

July 22 — GOLF TOURNAMENT

Cattlemen's Regatta Charity
Emerald Hills Golf Course

July 22 — LIVE EVENT

Milford Pioneer Days
Florence Park — Milford

July 22 — LIVE EVENT

10-11 a.m. Molly Shannon's Tilly the Trickster
Boji Bantam Children's Theatre
Okoboji Summer Theatre

July 22 — LIVE EVENT

10 a.m. Rapunzel

Treasure Village

July 22 — OUTDOOR EVENT

5-7 p.m. Family Nature Night-Dig Deeper
Dickinson County Nature Center

July 22 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset with Matt & Laurel
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Brad Morgan

The Gardens

July 22 — OUTDOOR EVENT

6-9 p.m. Barefoot Dock Hop
Barefoot Bar

July 22 — LIVE MUSIC

6 p.m. Sweet Trouble
The Ritz

July 22 — LIVE MUSIC

7-11 p.m. The Dads
Barefoot Bar

July 22 — OUTDOOR EVENT

7-10 p.m. OBW Dock Hop
Okoboji Boat Works

July 22 — LIVE EVENT

8 p.m. Purely Patsy Cline (musical)
Okoboji Summer Theatre

July 22 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Chad Edwards Band
Captain's Getaway

ZINGE BRINGS CLINE MUSICAL TO LAKES AREA

Doris Welle
Staff Writer

Kelley Zinge has spent part of her summers here in the Iowa Great Lakes Region several times in the past.

"I am very excited to be coming back," she said. "It has been a magical place to me ever since I was a student at the Okoboji Summer Theatre."

Zinge performed in OST productions in 1996 and 2000. She also directed the Boji Bantam Theatre at OST in 2011-2012.

This trip back is especially meaningful for Zinge — she is bringing the musical play "Purely Patsy Cline" with her. Zinge wrote the play nine years ago for a reason which is very special to her.

"I want the people to meet the real Patsy,"

Zinge said. "She was a woman ahead of her time. She loved her family but didn't want to just sit home. She wanted to perform, use her musical talent back in the days when the entertainment industry was not very welcoming to women."

In "Purely Patsy Cline," Zinge portrays Patsy coming back to earth to tell us her stories, sing her songs, play with her band and even tell a few jokes for just one more night.

Zinge is not making the trip to Okoboji from her home in Colorado alone. Her band of "true, blue country fellows" will back her up on stage.

For Ari Rubenstein, Josh Long, Bret Billings, Mark Verschoor and Ed Skibbe, it is their first adventure in the Midwest.

"We have traveled all over Wyoming, New Mexico and Colorado doing this show," Zinge said. "These guys have never been this far

north. I keep telling them it is great."

When asked what was so special about Cline's music, Zinge without hesitation replied, "Her music is timeless. It is a combination of rock, jazz, big band and country. What's not to like about that?"

It is Zinge's deep desire as a writer/performer to let the audience see how strong a woman Cline was in the tough, somewhat unwelcoming music industry of the mid '50s and early '60s — while she was still also a mother with a family.

"I feel stronger, more like her, when I am on stage; different from the quieter real me," Zinge said.

"Purely Patsy Cline" will be performed Tuesday, July 19 through Sunday, July 24. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday with a 4:30 p.m. matinee on Saturday and the final performance Sunday at 6 p.m.



UPCOMING EVENTS

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7:30 PM @ OKOBONJI BARN - \$5 COVER

SONGWRITERS SHOWCASE, JULY 25

JASON WALSMITH (OF THE NADAS)

7:30 PM @ MAJESTIC PAVILION - \$10 SUGGESTED DONATION

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COUNTY FAIR OFFERING FOOD, FAMILY FUN



Doris Welle
Staff Writer

The Dickinson County Fair will once again host a Food Truck Round-Up from 4-8 p.m. Saturday in the Expo Center's parking lot. The returning round-up will be just one part of the fair's family night. The night will feature games, food, tours and demonstrations.

Madeleine Bretey-Smith, Dickinson County Youth and Agriculture Program coordinator with the local Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Office, said the fair's Family Night is aimed at drawing in members of the community who might not normally attend livestock competitions or other traditional events at the annual fair.

The fair will also debut its Touch-a-Truck event, showcasing various machinery from 5-8 p.m. on the east fairgrounds. Bretey-Smith said the fair hopes to have machinery from several industries, such as landscaping, construction and, of course, farming, on site.

"You're not necessarily always able to grasp how large this equipment is and how important it is for the everyday things that we have," she said. "Hopefully, it will inspire some youth to look into that career someday."

Meanwhile, talented equestrians will be taking some tight turns during the Open Jackpot Barrel Race in the outdoor arena. Hooves are expected to start beating at 5 p.m. Saturday.

The county fair kicked off Friday and will continue through Thursday. In addition to the livestock competitions, the fair will also be hosting a number of meals. The Dickinson County Fair Board will host a steak dinner and concert from 5-7 p.m. on Sunday in the Expo Center with The Senders playing. The local pork producers will host a dinner in the Expo Center from 5-7 p.m. Monday, and the public will be able to place their bids for pies and creative metalwork during the Pie and Bucket of Junk Auction at 7 p.m. in the Expo Center. The Okoboji FFA will offer lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday in the Indoor Arena, and the beef producer dinner is scheduled from 5-7 p.m. the same day. A pancake breakfast will be offered from 6:30-8 a.m. Thursday — the final day of the fair.

For more information, visit www.extension.iastate.edu/dickinson.

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Iowa Great Lakes

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CALVARY UNITED METHODIST

West Okoboji Road — Arnolds Park

Pastor: Chris St. Clair

- Saturday Worship: 6 p.m.
 - Sunday Lakeshore Worship — 7:30 a.m. at Clair Wilson Park between East and West Lake Okoboji
 - Sunday Worship — 9 a.m.
- Sunday service livestreamed through church website at www.calvarylovesall.com and on Facebook
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Email: camp@campokoboji.org www.campokoboji.org

CROSSWINDS CHURCH (EFCA)

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- Sunday Indoor Worship 9:30 a.m.

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Pastor: Dr. Martin Lucin

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- 4 p.m. Saturday: In-person
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AMUSEMENT PARK OFFICIALLY DEDICATES LAKE STREET UPGRADES

Seth Boyes
News Editor

It took nine months and a 100-foot-long tent over the winter, but upgrades to Lake Street in Arnolds Park are complete.

Officials with Arnolds Park Amusement Park officially dedicated the new street — which doubles as a pedestrian mall — on Saturday. The new and improved road still runs between the amusement park and associated retail stores, and the project included new plantings, turf, decorative hanging lights, concrete work, honey locust trees and thousands of new pavers.

While the city of Arnolds Park was incorporated in March of 1897, the name Arnolds Park predates the city by about 15 years. Historic Arnolds Park Incorporated CEO John Pausley said Wesley Arnold built a hotel and kitchen in the area in 1882. He said local legend holds that Arnold's daughter and a friend soon decided the area should be known as Arnolds Park. Pausley said, as fate would have it, Saturday's dedication of the street — and its 51,000 new pavers — happened to be 51,000 days after the park first earned its name.

"Here's to another 51,000 days of great memories and enjoyment toward the future," Pausley said Saturday.

The Lake Street improvement was a joint effort between the city, the amusement park and local beautification group Imagine Iowa Great Lakes. Arnolds Park City Councilman Matt Richter said talks regarding Lake Street began in April of last year. Both Richter and Imagine group president John Franken said all parties made concessions to some degree in order to reach a solution.

Removable metal posts have been installed near the corner of Lake Street and West Broadway Street, blocking motorists from turning into the heart of the amusement park during periods of significant pedestrian traffic.

Franken said the street has been built to city specifications, which he said was challenging at some points, but he said the Imagine group wasn't interested in moving forward if the street couldn't be used as a pedestrian mall.

"I think the concessions are working very good," Franken said. "It's a work in process,



Crews worked through the winter to make several improvements to Lake Street in Arnolds Park. The street runs through the heart of Arnolds Park Amusement Park and can now also double as a pedestrian mall during certain times. (Photos by Seth Boyes)

but now that's why on the weekends you can have families and kids roaming this and not have to worry about the street."

Pausley said park officials are now beginning to envision what they will do with the continued beautification of the park and its role in the greater community. In the mean time, Pausley said the park has received nothing but positive feedback regarding the changes to Lake Street.

"I think there's been more selfies, family pictures and senior pictures taken down here in the last two months than maybe ever in Arnolds Park," Pausley said.



Crews were installing the last few pavers near Lake Street in early June. Historic Arnolds Park Incorporated CEO John Pausley said 51,000 pavers were installed during the project — coincidentally, the park was said to have been dubbed Arnolds Park 51,000 days before Saturday's ribbon cutting.

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'LAUGH LAUGH' REMEMBERING THE BEAU BRUMMELS

Tom Tourville
Okobojian Contributor

"Laugh, laugh, I thought I'd die
It seemed so funny to me
Laugh, laugh you met a guy who taught you
How it feels to be lonely, oh so lonely"

I know every time I hear those lyrics on classic rock stations or SiriusXM's '60s, they bring back a flood of memories to my summer of 1965, one of the most important summers in my life. It was then that I really became hooked on the music of the decade of the '60s. It was a truly magical musical period for this impressionable teen. The group that produced those memorable lyrics was San Francisco's Beau Brummels, with its all-time classic hit "Laugh Laugh."

The band formed in early 1964 in San Francisco's teen club scene. Local big time radio DJs Tom Donahue and Bobby Mitchell wanted to form their own record label, Autumn Records, and were looking for bands to sign. After a series of "open try outs" the first band they signed to their label was the Beau Brummels. The name came from a term that was used to describe an excessively well-dressed man. It also had that English feel to it, and that was a bonus with the British Invasion now happening in full force.

The group consisted of Sal Valentino-vocals; Ron Elliott-guitar; John Peterson-drums; Ron Meagher-bass and Declan Mulligan-guitar.

The band entered the studio in late 1964 and recorded their first record, "Laugh Laugh/Still In Love With You" (Autumn No. 8). "Laugh Laugh" entered Billboard's charts in January of '65 and finally peaked at No. 15. It went to No. 2 in Canada. The song was named to the Rock & Roll Hall Of Fame's "500 Songs That Shaped Rock & Roll" and was included on the single greatest '60s compilation release of all time "Nuggets." "Laugh Laugh" was produced by the fast-rising music star in San Francisco Sylvester Stewart, better known as Sly Stone.

They followed up "Laugh Laugh" with "Just A Little/They'll Make You Cry" (Autumn



No.10), reaching No. 8 on Billboard; "You Tell Me Why/I Want You" (Autumn No. 16) reaching No. 38 on Billboard; "Don't Talk To Strangers/In Good Time" (Autumn No. 20); and "One Too Many Mornings/She Reigned" (Warner Brothers Records No. 5813).

By the time "One Too Many Mornings" came out, Autumn Records had gone out of business and the Beau Brummels were picked up by Warner Brothers Records.

The band would stay together from 1964 through 1969, then disband for multiple reasons. The original group reformed in 1974 and toured for one more year before calling it quits as a group. At the height of their popularity, they appeared on American Bandstand, Shindig, Hullabaloo and in the movies "Village Of Giants" and "Wild Wild Winter," as well as being recreated as the Beau Brummel-stones on the Flintstones in 1965.

The very best part of this story; yes, they did come and play for us at Okoboji at our own Roof Garden Ballroom on three different occasions. First in July of 1965 and again in June and September of 1966. No, I'm sorry to say, I did not see them on any of their three Midwest tours, but I was able to "Laugh Laugh" on my transistor radio.

UNTIL NEXT WEEK
TAKE CARE & REMEMBER THE MUSIC

APRONS

R. Aubrey La Foy
Okobojian Contributor

Watching TV today is a mixture of good and bad. Many of the programs are full of ads to the point you almost forget the show's theme or plot. Many of the ads do not make much sense, and we wonder just what their point is. For example, how many of you take your new car out in the country and drive through a stream or whip it around and make a donut or two? There is one insurance company commercial in which all the actors involved wear an apron. I don't know about you, but my insurance representative probably doesn't even own an apron. Anyway, this article is about aprons.

Do you have and use an apron? When I was a youngster, all of our mothers and grandmothers wore aprons. When my mother was working in the kitchen or doing housework, the apron was a must. She kept several work aprons hung up on the back of the kitchen door and, when she entered the room, she automatically reached for her apron. When she went outside to do some gardening or to hang up the wash, it was a different one than the one she wore for cooking in the kitchen. Ladies in those days wore aprons, and yet we have few photos of them wearing them. The aprons were for work, not play.

Aprons used to be a mark or uniform for grocers, butchers, bakers, hardware salesmen and printers. Aprons were used to protect clothing because in those days most people didn't have a great assortment of clothes. I worked at the local newspaper shop during most of my high school days and even, while in college, a print shop, and we always wore an apron. The aprons in the print shop covered our school clothes and also carried several pieces of equipment in the pockets.

The print shops in those days could be a very messy place working with lead, presses and ink. The printing presses in those days required rollers and plates that transferred the ink onto the type, and we were constantly applying more ink or cleaning off the type. After each printing job, the presses had to be



cleaned, so we used gasoline and a cloth rag to wipe the rollers and the type. We wore no gloves, so an apron saved our shirts and trousers from getting soiled with ink.

We also melted the used lead type in the basement, and it was an equally dirty job. I had only one shirt that I wore to school and work. Removing the ink from your hands was accomplished by using Lava soap.

I recall that my mother and grandmother all wore aprons when doing tasks around the house or outside. Here again they didn't have a great many dresses, so the apron protected them and they could also accomplish other things with items carried in the pockets. The aprons were easier to wash than dresses, and they were easier to cut and sew together and used less material. Their aprons were wonderful for serving as they were used as a pot-holder or a dust rag. The apron was wonder-

ful for drying children's tears or a leaky nose and cleaning out dirty ears.

Connie grew up on a farm, and I asked her about her mother's aprons. Connie told me her mother had two kinds: one for inside and another for outside work. The outside apron was longer and fuller and had more pockets. Her mother's apron was used to put chicks in, gather eggs, kittens and place garden products. The apron could carry eggs back to the house from the chicken coop or hold the chicken feed and then broadcast it to the chickens. The outside apron could also be used to carry chips of wood and kindling wood into the house. In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples or walnuts that had fallen on the ground. At lunch time, she might go to the kitchen door and flap her apron as a signal to the men that lunch was being served.

Connie made an apron for her mother. The

apron had appliqué and extra pockets. It was a beautiful piece of sewing, but her mother never wore it. Asked why, "It is too fancy." She liked the old apron she wore while living on the farm.

I remember that my grandmother used her apron to set her hot baked pie on the window sill to cool, and now her great-granddaughter sets her pies on the windowsill to thaw. Today the "germ wardens" would go crazy trying to figure out how many germs grandmother's apron had on it. We managed to survive, but maybe we had a lot more immunity than the kids today.

Grandmother would use the apron to wipe her brow and, if unexpected company drove up the lane, that apron could dust a whale of furniture in a matter of minutes. If the company were strangers, the little kids could hide behind the apron until they decided it was safe.

I recall that my mother would put on her very best apron when entertaining her friends for bridge parties. This apron was very special with lots of frilly lace and patterns. It was more for looks than utility. When we were first married, Connie had a number of aprons and for years received many as Christmas presents from her pupils. They were works of art and no two were ever alike.

When did the ladies stop wearing aprons? Today she would have to really hunt through her closet and dresser drawers to locate one. I recall that, when I was a kid, my mother's apron hung on a peg back of the kitchen door for many years. Aprons played a great part in our lives years ago, and it is somewhat a shame to see their demise. It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes.

Since I started to write this article, I have become more aware of aprons. Who wears aprons today? Florists, bartenders, cooks, waiters, attendants in the garden departments and occasionally one will observe a lady doing some gardening wearing an apron. I suppose many do not wear aprons, because washing clothes today is no big deal, whereas years ago Monday was wash day so you had to protect your clothes for that length of time.

The old aprons are still around, and many of the occupations today still use one. But one thing we did know, that grandmother and mother in their aprons also meant love. There was nothing that could compare with getting wrapped up in her apron on a cold January day in Iowa.

U OF O HOMECOMING RACES TO RETURN

Iowa Great Lakes Chamber to take baton this year

Seth Boyes
News Editor

After a two-year hiatus, organizers with the University of Okoboji Homecoming Races are preparing to once again welcome runners, swimmers and cyclers from across the country — and possibly a few from abroad. Firing pistols will sound Saturday, and U of O officials themselves are preparing to pass the proverbial baton this year. The 45th annual races will be under the umbrella of the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We're really excited about the events transitioning over to the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce," Herman Richter, U of O's director of student affairs, said. "They've been involved for so many years and doing more and more of the heavy lifting, so we're really looking forward to working with them."

Bob Rose, the university's director for life and one of the event's founding members, said the chamber has been extremely successful in handling events such as the U of O Winter Games, and he feels they're well suited for the new role.

"It's the end of an era somewhat, and it was time for some of us old-timers to back away," Rose said. "We will be there to help, if it's ever needed, and the tourism part of the Lakes Chamber will do an excellent job. It will continue much as it has for 45 years, attracting people from all over the country and sometimes several foreign countries."

The weekend's triathlon is set to begin at 7 a.m. Saturday, according to the chamber, and all other races — the half-marathon, 10K and 5K — will start at 8 a.m. No full marathon will be held this year. Rose said the course must be recertified, and organizers chose to forego the race in 2022 while work on several area streets is being done.

"There's no point in certifying it and then having streets change," Rose said. "Then you'd have to certify it again."

Event registration is open online at okobojichamber.com through Thursday. Rose noted

proceeds from the events go to support various community causes in both Clay and Dickinson County. Entrants may pick up their information packets at the IGL Chamber Office in Arnolds Park between 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Friday. A kick off party will also be held at West O Beer from 6-8 p.m. that day.

The university's inaugural homecoming races took place in 1978, after Rose, Steve Avery and Paul Williams were inspired to found a marathon event in the region. Rose believes it was Avery who suggested they opt for the scenic Lakes Area and involve Richter at the University of Okoboji. The 1978 races featured a marathon, half-marathon and five-mile fun run. In the early days, volunteers tracked times on large sheets of paper in the Roof Garden Ballroom.

"In the ensuing years, we started a mini-triathlon — it was a swim and a bike ride and a 10K run — then the fun run became an official 10K run, and the marathon and the half-marathon have been going since the very beginning," Rose said.

Both Rose and Richter thanked the various volunteers and emergency crews who help make the races a success each year, as well as those who cheer for racers along the way.

"People sit out in their front lawns or back lawns, watch the runners go by, and some of them put the garden hose out with the sprinkler so you can run through it," Rose said. "They're encouraging. They applaud you, and they lie to you and tell you how great you're looking."

Rose said U of O officials are indebted to the community for their support of the races over more than four decades, and he expects the annual staple will continue growing under the chamber's leadership. Richter felt similarly and noted the public can take advantage of many other Lakes Area amenities, such as the Okoboji Summer Theatre, area golf courses and other activities, during the weekend.

"It's a real tribute to the Iowa Great Lakes, the family atmosphere here and the positive attitude," Richter said. "What better way to celebrate this summer, especially with this event that's so well attended and keeps people outdoors?"



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