

Sun Prairie Hot Spots & Happenings

Compiled by Jason Francis

Hot Spots

The **Sun Prairie Historical Museum and Library** (115 E. Main St.) offers thought-provoking exhibits that document the area's fascinating heritage. Museum exhibits change annually. Walking tours and presentations are also part of the experience. The 1924 red-brick building located in downtown Sun Prairie was designed by Alvin E. Small, who was born in Sun Prairie in 1869. He attended school in Sun Prairie and became a well-known architect in Madison, responsible for the design of many prairie-style homes in Madison along with other well-known Madison buildings. Small died in 1932. The museum is open May through October, Monday through Saturday, 12-4 p.m. Check website or call to verify open hours. 608-837-2915, www.cityofsunprairie.com/322/Sun-Prairie-Historical-Museum-Library

Patrick Marsh, a natural wetland area on the northeast side of Sun Prairie, along Highway 151, offers picturesque walks among the sights and sounds of Mother Nature. The 145-acre marsh, which includes 60 acres of water, is the first wetland mitigation bank site in Wisconsin. In 2015 several new visitor features were installed, including a wildlife viewing platform, information signs, upgraded trails and additional access to Sun Prairie neighborhoods. Patrick Marsh is one of 229 places listed in the Wisconsin DNR's Land Legacy Report to be critical to protecting "Wisconsin's future conservation and recreation needs in the next 50 years." www.nhlt.org/page.asp?page=patrickmarsh

Angell Park Speedway (315 Park St.) is abuzz during the summer months, as the Badger Midget Auto Racing Association sanctions weekly races from mid-May through Labor Day each year. On select Sunday nights, racers from

around the world compete. The 1/3 mile track has been traveled by many now-famous drivers, including Tony Stewart and Jeff Gordon. Owned and operated by the Sun Prairie Volunteer Fire Company, Angell Park Speedway is also the home of the National Midget Auto Racing Hall of Fame. 608-837-5252, www.angellparkspeedway.com

Happenings

Ongoing-Sun Prairie Summer Farmers Market: Held May through October. Saturdays downtown (behind city hall, 300 E. Main St.), 7 a.m. to noon and Tuesdays on West Main Street (1120 W. Main St.), 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

June 1-2-Sun Prairie Fest/Motors and Music Car and Bike Show: Beer tent opens at 6 p.m. Friday, June 1, while Madison County performs starting at 8 p.m. On Saturday, June 2, the car show runs from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Blues bands will perform that afternoon and evening, including Last Open Road at 1 p.m., Joel Pingitore and the Playground of Sound at 3 p.m., Reverend Raven at 5 p.m., Aaron Williams and the Hoodoo at 7 p.m. and The Jimmys at 9 p.m. Plenty of food. Angell Park Speedway, 315 Park St. sunprairiefest.com

June 9-Taste of the Arts Fair: Art and craft vendors from around the state. Wine and cheese tasting, central shelter, free parking, food vendor booths, entertainment, children's playground and more. Sheehan Park, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 608-837-4547, www.sunprairiechamber.com

June 16-Annual Strawberry Fest and Craft Fair: Family friendly strawberry festival featuring craft fair, run/walk, breakfast/lunch, raffles, children's carnival, computer arcade, book sale, skateboard competition, lots of delicious strawberries and more. Colonial Club Senior Activity Center, 301 Blankenheim Lane, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. 608-837-4611, www.colonialclub.org

June 23-Taste of Sun Prairie: 11:30



Located near Sun Prairie, Patrick Marsh offers picturesque walks among the sights and sounds of Mother Nature. (Photo courtesy of the Sun Prairie Chamber of Commerce)

a.m.-8 p.m. at Cannery Square Plaza, East Main Street. Fifteen or more area restaurants will be set up so that you can sample their best dishes for \$5 or less. Kids activities, games and lots of fun. Special sales by local vendors. Live music. 608-298-3475, sunprairieilions.org

June 30-Flags of Freedom Parade and Field Show: The Sound of Sun Prairie competition band along with many competition bands from across the United States will be performing in a parade down Main Street with a field show in the evening. Parade at 2 p.m., field show at Ashley Field at 7 p.m. 608-886-1400, www.spbb.org

July 8-Budweiser Fireworks: Angell Park, 300 Park St., at dusk. 608-837-5252, www.angellparkspeedway.net

July 13-Relay for Life: Cardinal Heights Upper Middle School, 220 Kroncke Dr., 5 p.m. to midnight. 608-662-7551, main.acevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr_id=80193

Aug. 4-Book 'n It Run: 5K and 10K USATF Certified Course that is Chip timed and runs through the open farmland to the west, Sheehan Park and the Sun Prairie Business District. The event is designed to offer something for people of all ages and abilities. 6:30-7:30 a.m. registration, 8 a.m. race. Sheehan Park, 1351 Linnerud Dr. 608-512-3693,

www.sunlibfoundation.org

Aug. 16-19-Sweet Corn Festival: Festival begins with a parade down Main Street on Thursday evening. Events include a craft show, carnival rides, concessions, family stage, beer tent with live bands, kiddie korner activities, petting zoo, tractor pulls and lots of sweet corn on Saturday and Sunday. Thursday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 6 p.m. to midnight; Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to midnight; and Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Angell Park, 100 Park St. 608-837-4547, www.sunprairiechamber.com

Sept. 8-9-Sacred Hearts Fall Festival: Musical entertainment Saturday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Chicken and ham dinner served Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Check website to confirm details. Sacred Hearts Catholic Church, 315 Columbus St., Sun Prairie. 608-837-7381, www.sacred-hearts.org

Oct. 20-Downtown Fall Festival: Cannery Square and participating downtown businesses, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., www.downtownsunprairie.com

Information compiled from internet sources, including local chamber of commerce websites, municipal websites, the Wisconsin Department of Tourism's www.travelwisconsin.com, and other websites, unless noted.

Fishing Lake Waubesa

Adapted from past Lakes Edition article and DNR website

Located just west of McFarland between Lake Kegonsa and Lake Monona, Lake Waubesa is a 2,074-acre lake with a maximum depth of 38 feet and mean depth of 16 feet.

Fish populations there include musky, panfish, largemouth and smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye and catfish. Muckier than neighboring Lake Kegonsa, Lake Waubesa's water clarity is low.

Regulations for Lake Waubesa's offerings:

- Panfish: No minimum length, daily bag limit of 25.

- Smallmouth and largemouth bass: 14" minimum length, daily bag limit of five.

- Northern pike: 26" minimum length, daily bag limit of two.

- Walleye and sauger: 15" minimum length, daily bag limit of five.

- Muskellunge: Minimum length of 40" and daily bag limit of one.

Visitors have access to the lake from four points, including (1) Lake Waubesa (one-lane paved ramp deeper than three feet on northeast side of lake), (2) Lake Farm County Park (four-lane paved ramp deeper than three feet on northwest side of lake), (3) McConnel Street Boat Launch (one-lane paved ramp deeper than three feet on west side of lake), and (4) Goodland County Park (two-lane paved ramp deeper than three feet on southwest side of lake).



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August 16-19, 2018 Angell Park, Sun Prairie



Questions?
(608) 837-4547,
spchamber@frontier.com or
sunprairiechamber.com

Includes:
Parade on Thursday;
Carnival, Car Show

Friday, family entertainment stage, craft fair, beer shelter, bands

Friday & Saturday, food and vendor booths, quad power jump, kiddie korner, midget auto racing

Sunday,
Sweet Corn served
Sat. & Sun. - \$8 per tote,
\$2.00 per single ear

Parking \$5
(includes admission)
Admission:
\$1.00 Sat. & Sun. only

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