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"Preserving Our Past While Working On Our Future"

Rothsay Regional Report

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Prairie Days Family Festival Set For July 12-14

By: Karen Carpenter

The fun is about to begin! Rothsay is the place to be for the Prairie Days Festival. Things are getting geared up around Rothsay for the big weekend Friday, July 12 through Sunday, July 14.

The American Legion Memorial Park also known as East Park in Rothsay is the place where all of the action occurs. The celebration kicks off on Friday, July 12 with a community barbecue sponsored by the Rothsay School from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

After enjoying a good meal, people can delight in the ever popular pony pull and draft horse pull events. Animals and their trainers compete in a test of strength and endurance on Friday, July 12.

A beer garden will be available for those over 21 years of age. One can grab a brew at the American Legion Park hosted by the Powerhouse Bar & Grill of Rothsay from 5:00-10:00 p.m.

The Powerhouse Bar & Grill will feature karaoke on Friday night for the enjoyment of the public.

After dark that evening there will be fireworks at the high school football field.

Most of the events for Prairie Days Festival will take place around the city's American Legion Park,



The Saturday parade always highlights the Rothsay Prairie Days celebration. The festival will take place Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 12-14. Great family activities are packed into the three-day Prairie Days Festival. Don't miss all the events that are scheduled along with fantastic food and music.

with the exception of the fireworks and the softball tournament.

On Saturday, July 13, craft vendors will set up shop in the park. Colorful jewelry, temporary tattoos and art work featuring local artists can be found.

Kids can play on the inflatable games and playground equipment.

They have a great time tumbling and bouncing to their hearts content.

Several food vendors will be on hand selling shakes, malts, mini donuts, brisket sandwiches, pizza and gyros. No one will go away hungry from Prairie Days.

The wood bat softball tournament, which is a hit with

festival participants, will return again this year. Games will be played throughout the morning and afternoon on Saturday, July 13. The tournament is sure to be a family entertainment favorite.

A highlight of the annual festival is the Prairie Days Parade, which will take to the streets on Saturday morning with floats, classic cars, and community groups all present to celebrate the city.

Immediately following the parade, parents, family and friends will be able to watch the youngsters compete in the Kiddie Pedal Pull.

The Beer Garden will be open

from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. in the park on Saturday, hosted by the Powerhouse Bar & Grill.

A bean bag tournament is scheduled at the American Legion Memorial Park shelter. Bag registration begins at 1:00 p.m. and the bean bag competition at 2:00 p.m.

TC Club street dance featuring Billy D and the Crystals begins at 9:00 p.m. at the Powerhouse Bar & Grill.

On Sunday, July 14, there will

be coffee fellowship at 9:00 a.m. followed by the Prairie Community Joy Celebration at 10:00 a.m. at the Baptist Church.

The annual Prairie Days Festival offers the best the City of Rothsay has to offer, including small town friendliness. Swing by this July 12 through July 14 and experience it for yourself!

See the complete schedule of events in this edition of the Rothsay Regional Report or go to www.rothsay.org.



Kids of all ages have a great time collecting candy and goodies given out along the parade route at Rothsay Prairie Days Festival. Bring the family and join the fun happening July 12-14 in Rothsay.

Eric Rudh Faces Cancer With Help Of Friends And Family



The Rudh family is going through some tough times at present. Eric was diagnosed with throat cancer in February 2019. Such a diagnosis changed many things in his life. One thing that remains the same is the devoted friends and family who have rallied around Eric to help in any way they can. A benefit is planned to help with finances for Rudh on Saturday, July 20 at the Rothsay Event Center beginning at 3:00 p.m. Eric, left is pictured with his wife, Athena, center and stepdaughter, Lilly, right.

By: Karen Carpenter

Facing a dreaded cancer diagnosis is not for the faint of heart. All of the doctors appointments and treatments can be daunting and very wearing on the body and spirit.

As Eric Rudh has discovered, one thing that can make this journey of treatment and healing is the support and love of family and friends.

Rudh was diagnosed with stage 2 throat cancer in February 2019.

"I noticed a lump on the side of my neck in February. Went to a walk in clinic in Fargo. That led to a biopsy which showed I was P16 positive, a virus born throat cancer," said Rudh.

Doctors suspected a tumor on Rudh's left tonsil and back of his tongue. In March, Rudh had a tonsillectomy.

After that the rounds of radiation and chemo began in April. Doctors are hoping to kill any existing cancer cells in the tongue or anywhere else in the throat and mouth area.

Head and neck cancers, including cancers of the mouth, account for about three percent of all cancers in the United States, according to

the National Cancer Institute. More than 53,000 people are expected to be diagnosed with head and neck cancer in 2019.

Fortunately, the number of people with head and neck cancer and mortality associated with this disease has been decreasing over the past 20 years.

The majority of head and neck cancer patients are over the age of 50. Men are two to three times more likely to develop the disease than women.

"It has certainly been a humbling experience," said Rudh of his cancer journey. "Being unable to care for yourself is stressful and stressful to family and friends as well I'm sure.

"My family has always been close so that has been very comforting. Cousins and in-laws have been there for my family as well. It truly makes you appreciate the people around you," continued Rudh.

Eric and his wife, Athena, live in rural Rothsay. Rudh has a 15 year-old stepdaughter, Lilly, and a grown son Tyler.

Rudh has been part of the Rothsay community his entire life. His

extended family also live in the area, including one brother Pete Rudh and two sisters Kirsten Danielson and Emily Zender. His mother, Janice Rudh and stepfather, Warren Helgeson, live in Rothsay.

About 18 months ago Rudh opened his own business, Rudh Entertainment Audio and Video Solutions. His work involves installing residential and commercial audio/video, home theater, and security cameras.

"Incredibly business has really boomed as of late. I've joked that getting sick has made the phone ring!" said Rudh.

"It is a bit worrisome of course taking on projects not knowing how my health may affect my ability to finish what I've taken on. However, I have terrific clients that completely understand and are very supportive.

"Ed Careaga in particular has been terrific and has actively sought out work for me introducing me to new clients.

"Beyond that I've got wonderful friends that have stepped in to help finish projects that I had booked

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Next Show 'n Shine Set For Thursday, July 11



There are some very disturbing signs regarding the summer of 2019. The longest day of the year is three weeks behind us. . . . The Fourth of July Independence Day Holiday is now only a memory. . . . There are stores starting to mention back to school sales. . . . The Clay County Fair opens this Thursday for its four-day run. . . . The Barnesville Community Picnic is only a couple of weeks away on Thursday, July 25. . . . Potato Days and the Steam Thresher Reunion are both slated for next month. . . .

...And we have hit the mid-point of the Summer Show 'n Shine Classic Car Shows on Barnesville's Front Street. The third of the scheduled five events will be this Thursday, July 11. You can plan on coming down and seeing some very classy vintage automobiles and trucks displayed on Front Street. The show will begin at 5:00 p.m. and will run until 8:00 p.m.

There will be classic rock music from the 1950s being played by the Atomic DJ. There will be plenty of chances to enjoy some fine dining prepared and presented by the Barnesville Booster Club and the Ladies Auxiliary at the VFW Post 4628. There will be door prizes presented through a drawing process for those registering cars.

There are prize drawings throughout the evening and there are several awards at the end of each

show, one by the sponsor of the month and another by Mayor Gene Prim or Vice-Mayor Brad Field. It's all free, except for what you eat or drink.

This July edition of the Show 'n Shine will have a little different atmosphere to it. The Clay County Fair opens on Thursday and owners of vintage tractors are invited to participate in the classic car show. Many of the tractors will be in town on Saturday, July 13 anyway for the classic tractor parade. Owners are invited to get some double exposure by displaying their tractors on Front Street on July 11 before the fair's parade on Saturday.

Come on down to Barnesville's Front Street this Thursday. Kick a few tires. Enjoy a chat with the owners of the shiny chrome and paint that is on display. It's a fun evening to be downtown.

Show 'n Shine is hosted by the Barnesville Main Street Program on the second Thursday of the month, May through September.

After Thursday there are only two shows left for the summer, one on Thursday, August 8 and the last show of the season on Thursday, September 12. There is also the big Potato Days Classic Car Show held this year on Saturday, August 24 in McGrath Park in Barnesville.

Be sure to take in one or all of the remaining classic car shows in Barnesville before the summer of 2019 slips completely away.

