

KENOSHA NEWS



Bloomin' Bands takes over the Moose Lodge

BY JEFFREY ZAMPANTI
jzampanti@kenoshanews.com

The fifth annual Bloomin' Bands music festival takes place this weekend at the Kenosha Moose Lodge No. 286, 3003 30th Ave.

The free, three-day event begins 5 p.m. Friday (June 17) and continues 2-10 p.m. Saturday (June 18) and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday (June 19). It is presented by Downtown Kiwanis Club of Kenosha in partnership with Cross Roads of Kenosha.

Organizer Peter Bindelli, owner of Bindelli Brothers Construction, started the festival in 2012 to support the Extreme Room Makeover Project. Each year, a local special-needs family is chosen as the recipient of a home remodel. The work is done by volunteers, and all funds raised by the festival are used for the project, according to Bindelli.

“Everybody has been so giving,” Bindelli said. “We do everything we can to help these special-needs children. It’s amazing the things we take for granted what they don’t have.”

Kenosha’s Amity Forsythe, 8, was recently chosen as next year’s recipient for the remodeling project. Forsythe, who was born with spina bifida, became well-known locally as the public face of the Dream Playground.

Bindelli wanted to give back to the community while supporting local musicians. More than a dozen bands are performing this weekend including Saturday’s headliner Trip, a five-member classic rock band comprised of Dave Surber, Todd Shwaiko, Willy Stanford, John VanBeekum and Bindelli.

Other bands playing are Boys and Toys, Dementia, Riff Raff, Speed Rail, Kickin’ Kountry, Three Left, Damage Theory, Mean Gene, Shout and the Kenosha Conservatory of Music.

Concessions will be available by Dela Rosa’s Food Truck, Derango’s, Kenosha Tap and the Bradford High School Key Club.

The festival took place on Kenosha’s lakefront the first three years before relocating to the Moose Lodge last year. Bindelli said the current site is more cost efficient and provides added convenience.

“It was more feasible for us,” Bindelli said. “It worked out very well last year.”

If you go

What: Fifth annual Bloomin’ Bands

When: 5-10 p.m. Friday (June 17), 2-10 p.m. Saturday (June 18), noon to 5 p.m. Sunday (June 19)

Where: Kenosha Moose Lodge No. 286, 3003 30th Ave.

Admission: Free

More information: www.bloominbandskenosha.com