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SUBJECT: Gandy Dancer Days

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Four new events headline upcoming Gandy Dancer Days

A kick-off happy hour, bingo, pickleball tournament and car races are new events added to the 24th annual Gandy Dancer Days – bringing three full days of fun, food, and frolic August 12-14 to the Webster Fairgrounds, organized by the Webster Area Chamber of Commerce (WACC).

“We have a great team of sponsors, organizations, businesses and volunteers who’ve been planning this year’s festival since March,” says Bill Summer, Webster Area Chamber of Commerce president. “It’s bigger and better than ever. We just hope the weather holds!”

“We’re trying an experiment this year with the kick-off happy hour at the Beer Garden on Friday,” reports Harriet Rice, GDD Event Team Leader. “Sheryl Baker, River City Cloggers, has taught local clogging classes for more than a year. Her students have been invited to show off what they’ve learned!” The cloggers will perform on the Beer Garden stage at 3 p.m., followed by live music with the Bob & Howard Duo from 4-6 p.m. Refreshments will be for sale.

The car races are “Run Whatcha Brung,” held at the fairgrounds grandstand area promise to be exciting and fun. They are staged and sponsored by the Central Burnett Country Fair Board. “There are 3 classes: 4, 6 and 8 cylinder classes,” says Traci Hopkins of the Fair Board. “We’ve added two special event races: an appliance race and the other to be determined by drivers and the crowd! It sounds unplanned, but the drivers and crowd love the surprise of what will it be.”

The Webster/Siren Rotary will call cash bingo for adults on Saturday and fun bingo for kids on Sunday. The Siren/Webster Pickleball Association holds its 1st Annual Gandy Dancer Days Doubles Pickleball Tournament. It is organized by Jim Cook and held at the tennis courts on Pike Street that borders the Webster High School football/soccer fields.

Not to worry: the old favorites are still on the schedule: the Lions’ Club bake sale downtown Webster, the American Legion’s brat feed, arts and crafts shows, kids’ sawdust pile treasure hunt, the bicycle safety “roadeo,” live music . . . and the pony rides are back!

Roy Ward, Webster High School Cross Country coach took over the Saturday morning 5K Fun Run/Walk as a fundraiser for the team. The Friends of the Library book sale and Children’s Book Fair will be held at the Larsen Family Library in town.

The Burnett Area Arts Group hosts “Arts Alive on 35” at the Northwest Passage Gallery one mile south of Webster. Emily’s Luncheon and Log Home Country Store will feature flea market and collectibles shopping. Zia’s, just north of town, will have entertainment and games at their pavilion Friday and Saturday evenings into the night hours.

Registration links, details and the full three-day event schedule are can be found at websterwisconsin.com. Most activities and parking are free.

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