LOCAL



SPECIAL TO THE EAGLEHERALD

The Peshtigo High School band practices for a performance. The members say team unity was built at a camp this summer.

Peshtigo band creates music, amplifies student leadership

By Special to the EagleHerald

PESHTIGO-The Peshtigo High School Marching Band is 40 members strong and off to a great start performing duringfootball games. This year's show consists of hits from the British rock band Queen.

'We'll alternate which songs we play at each which performance, makes it more exciting for the kids and the audience," said band teacher Deanna Prosise. "We're also planning to play a lot more during the game to try to pump up the crowd and contribute to the atmosphere of the game."

Many are not aware of the intense preparation required for a marching band to perform at an athletic event.

'Practice is super important in order to make our show come together," Woodwind section leader Christina Powers said. "We definitely wouldn't have a show if every student didn't put in the work."

students Peshtigo meet with Prosise for a week in early August to prepare for the first football game performance. 'We got about a third of our halftime show completed at camp, plus we worked on marching

music rehearsals and parade marching," she explained.

Despite practicing all day long for an entire week during some of the hottest days of summer, students had fun learning and improving together.

When you're with friends, people and music that you love, the day goes by very quickly," said sophomore Evelyn Hurley.

Spirit captain Anne-liese Koch shares some of the fun activities student leaders planned for the group. "We were able to have a water balloon fight on one of our hottest days, march to the new ice cream shop 'Sprinkles,' have dress-up days, and my favorite, have stretching sessions," she said.

really well this year. We had nearly the entire band show up, and this helps us learn the show faster as a group before school starts," saids low brass section leader Hannah Piechota.

Songs this year will include Queen's "Crazy Little Thing Called Love," "Don't Stop Me Now," "Bohemian Rhapsody," along with the more wellknown hits "We Will Rock You" and "Another fundamentals, One Bites the Dust."

Hurley adds, "There were quite a few students who wanted band camp to continue the next week, including myself"

Prosise also created new band leadership positions this year to reward students for their hard work. She stated, "We added six new leadership positions, spirit captain and section leaders to our leadership team. Students have really taken over ownership of the band and brought it to the next level

Drum major student leader Lauren Halfmann explains, "Underclass-men are able to ask their section leaders, spirit captains, or the drum major their questions and make new friends in the process."

e said. Powers appreciated "Band camp went hearing from her section statements like "This isn't as hard as I thought it would be!" or "I think I'm getting it now."

> Once you put together and perform a piece there is a super cool shared sense of accomplishment I've never felt anywhere else," Halfmann voices, "Also you get to meet so many cool people from across the entire high school, not just your own grade." Being part of the band has numerous benefits.

Sophomore Alissa Mullins said, "Being in band has helped me grow not only as a musician, but also as a person. The commitment and focus I've developed because of being in band are skills I will use throughout all of my life. It's a fun show."

Halfmann encourages everyone to attend a performance. After football game performances, the Peshtigo Marching Band will be performing in the Historical Day parade. Besides upcoming concerts and parades, Powers is looking forward to "my personal favorite: playing pep band for basketball games in the winter."

Halfmann said plans are in the works for the band to perform in Nashville in the spring, and to also learn about the music and history of the area

Mullins said, "If the shows we've already done are any indication, this year will be a great one."

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Soil health workshop set in **Marinette County** Event will take place

near Peshtigo

PESHTIGO-The UW-Madison Division of Extension is hosting a Soil Health Workshop Friday in Peshtigo, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. for those farming, managing land, or working with landowners in the Peshtigo River watershed.

The workshop, hosted by Strutz Farm, N3890 County Trunk E, Peshtigo (next to Harmony Arboretum), will showcase how different management practices conserve soil and nutrients, and participants will see the results in real time with a rainfall simulator. Participants will also receive a free soil health test kit and learn how to use it to measure compaction, infiltration, and soil stability in their own fields.

Registration is free and lunch is included. People must pre-register by Sept. 21 to ensure enough meals and handouts are available for all participants. Space is limited and priority will be given to those farming or managing land/working with landowners in and around the Peshtigo River watershed.

For more information or to register, visit https://conservationprotraining.org/soil-healthworkshops-2022/ or call Scott Reuss at 715-732-7783.



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