BBQ event brings blues, beer to REC Center

Second ever event will take place in Marinette

By ERIN NOHA

EagleHerald Staff Writer

MARINETTE—As deer hunters gear up for the season, they can score some last "primal eats" before they shoot their own.

Six BBQ competitors will face off for the second annual Blues, Brews and BBQs: Battle of BBQ on the Bay at the Marinette REC Center, 2501 Pierce Avenue, Marinette, on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 2-7 p.m.

The event will feature live blues music from The Bad Mother Truckers, a Green Bay band, and craft beer provided by the Rail House in Marinette. The \$15 VIP ticket includes samples from all six vendors, a beverage of choice and a trifold with information, plus a voting ballot to pick a winner of the BBQ battle. General admission is \$5, and all vendors, including the Rail House, will sell at the event.

The BBQ competitors are:

- Primal Eats—Gillett, (last year's winner)
- · Smokler's BBQ & Catering—Iron Mountain, Michigan
- Thermal Chaos Pub n Grub—Dunbar



SUBMITTED

Primal Eats, the winner of the 2021 Battle of BBQ on the Bay, poses for a team photo at the Marinette Community REC Center last year.

- LBN—Crivitz
- Embers 1871—Peshtigo
- · Jack's Fry Shack-Mari-

Shawn Katzbeck, Marinette's director of marketing and tourism, said he hopes to bring more fun events like this to the center. The new building opened in January 2019 but

19 restrictions, which is when he was hired. As conditions the inaugural event, which had a turnout of 350 people. He hopes to bring those visitors back—and more—for this

"We wanted to celebrate

got a slow start due to COVID- some of our local culinary restaurants," he said.

Most vendors fall within an improved last year, they held hour's drive of the Rec Center, except for Smokler's, which is an hour and a half away in Iron Mountain, Michigan. He said a few booths they had for the first event are also unable to attend this year. Mikey's

Twisted Plate in Marinette, a hit at the previous battle, recently closed. He also contacted Mark's Smokin' BBQ, operating out of the Riverside Golf Club in Menominee, but the team wasn't able to join, he said. Katzbeck said he's interested in Jack's Fry Shack, a Marinette food truck specializing in french fries.

'The owner said their fries are elevated french friesthey're flash fried and go through a long process," he said. "I'm interested in seeing what it tastes like."

The money raised will fund future events, camps, expos and other services. The center's indoor track is an example of this, which is free of charge and open year-round for anyone in the community to use.

He's still finding the sweet spot of pricing that will drive people to events and is considering more music for next year, he said. His experience will be handy-previously, he worked as a marketing consultant for Results Broadcasting.

"I knew I'd have opportunities to use my interests to give back to the community," he said. "It's part of why I took the

So, the big question..., does

Turn to BBQ on Page A4

Peshtigo students learn about robotics

By SPECIAL TO THE EAGLEHERALD

PESHTIGO—Teachers in Peshtigo teach students for successful careers. Recently students have been following instructions to build robots and are learning to program them to complete

"Modern woodworking is switching from hands-on building to programming and monitoring machines to build products," said technology education teacher Beth Rocque.

Waupaca Foundry has helped Peshtigo teachers teach STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills to students from kindergarten through high school by purchasing many hands-on learning kits for students. Waupaca Foundry has donated grade-targeted kits to help all students from kindergarten through

high school learn STEM skills.

High school grade robotics kits called UKIT each come with all of the parts, lessons, and online support to help students and teachers learn to program motors and sensors while students at lower levels are taught how to follow step-by-step instructions to create their own robots.

'They have about 50 projects to choose from. This helps them learn teamwork, problem solving, and to follow directions and code." Rocque adds, "Once it's assembled, they code the motors and control them on iPads. This is a great way for students to connect coding with real life applications"

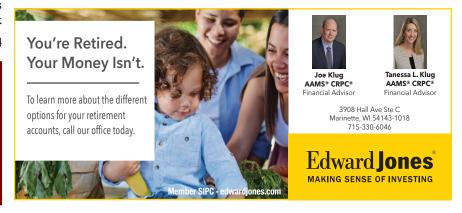
design and create their own creations and even help students to earn work

Turn to **ROBOTICS** on Page A4





At the higher levels students can Peshtigo eighth-graders Natalie Kropp-Sauve Keegan Pew work together to build a robot.





Greg Salmen from Stephenson National Bank & Trust enjoys some BBQ at the first Battle of BBQ on the Bay last year.

BBQ

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he like BBQ, then?

"I do really, really enjoy BBQ so that was also why I thought, 'Well, this would be fun," he said.

To purchase tickets, register online at marinette.recdesk.com or pay at the door. The event sponsors are The Ford Motor Company, Fincantieri Marine Group, Applejacks Bar & Grill and the Edgewater Sports Bar in Marinette.

For those looking to try some BBQ hour, 24 minutes after the event, the addresses and drive times from the Marinette Rec Center to the competing vendors' locations are listed below. LBN and Jack's Fry Shack enoha@eagleherald.com

are not included in this list, as they do not have operating hours.

Embers 1871—13 minutes

 W3529 County Trunk B, Peshtigo, Wisconsin, 54157

Primal Eats—59 minutes

• 14109 County Trunk VV, Gillett, Wisconsin, 54124

Thermal Chaos Pub n Grub-1 hour, 7 minutes

• W11515 U.S. 8, Dunbar, Wisconsin, 54119

Smokler's BBQ & Catering-1

• 701 N. Stephenson Ave., Iron Mountain, Michigan, 49801

Erin Noha can be reached by email at



Primal Eats of Gillett was a BBQ vendor at the inaugural Battle of BBQ on the Bay at the Marinette Community REC Center last year.

Robotics

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certifications. "It fits in well with one of this semester's high school work certifications, Certified Production Technician 4.0."

Vocational studies teacher Dan Vanidestine likes how the robot kits allows students to use content knowledge to apply to robot operation. "These STEM kits give students hands-on learning of basic robot operation, coding, sensors, and automation."

UKITs are designed to teach high school students engineering design and project management. With guidance from teachers, students learn persistence, endurance, and patience and will often design and create robots in pairs or small groups, helping them learn teamwork and communication skills. UKITs are also designed to improve student computational thinking, adaptability, digital literacy, and problem solving

"We have a need for STEM skills at Waupaca Foundry, and really throughout our whole



SUBMITTED

Peshtigo eighth-grader Hannah Winslow builds a UKIT

community," human resources manager Phil Eatherton. This year alone, Waupaca Foundry has donated nearly \$30,000 to local schools. Right now, there are openings at Waupaca in engineering and general operator positions.

Teachers in Peshtigo, along with community partners like Waupaca Foundry, are working to prepare students in our community for successful careers.

Eatherton has identified five traits he looks

shares for in his best employees. "We want employees who are on time, show respect, are energetic, care about their work, and are enjoyable to work with. Those five traits, applied to almost anything in life, will help almost anyone to be a valued teammate in any organization."

> Teachers in Peshtigo agree and work to instill these qualities in students for career success.

This article was submitted by the Peshtigo School District.



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