

(For June 2018)

Around the City with City Manager David Thayer

Have you ever gone to an event or party and had a great time where everything seems just perfect? That probably happen because someone worked very hard planning and attending to all the details. That is the case with the UP Championship Rodeo. Behind the scenes, volunteers are the ones responsible for the great time we experience when we go to the rodeo and related activities.

The success of the rodeo is based on civic minded individuals who donate their time to make it all happen. From raising funds to making sure that everyone leaves with a smile, some volunteer had a hand with it. The corps of volunteers goes with ebbs and flows. There are never enough volunteers because the more the hands the easier the lifting. You should consider volunteering.

The typical volunteer goes to see what everything is all about and lends a hand where they think they can be helpful. After a couple years of participating, one begins to learn the ropes and steps into a leadership role. We need volunteers to bring fresh ideas. We need volunteers to replace those that have served lengthy stints. We need volunteers to ensure we continue the 52nd Annual UP Championship Rodeo for many years to come.

Back in 2015 when it appeared the rodeo would cease to exist due to the lack of funds, community leaders came forward and organized a fundraiser that was well received by the community and the rodeo was saved. With that effort, new volunteers came forward to lend a hand. Now we need others to come forward to carry on the tradition. For more information about the rodeo, visit their Website at uprodeo.com or E-mail them at info@uprodeo.com. For those us that still like to dial someone up, you can contact the Board at 906.284.9680.

This year's 52nd Annual UP Championship Rodeo takes place from July 10th through July 14th. The actual production of the rodeo is put on by 3 Hills Rodeo and we thank them for their continue involvement.

On Tuesday, there is a Rodeo Kick Off Party from 6 to 9 p.m. at the RV Park with food, libations, music, and games.

On Wednesday, there is a steak feed at Angeli's from 11 to 2 p.m.

On Thursday, Family Fun Night is planned at the fairgrounds from 5 to 8 p.m. with food vendors, libations, music, and games.

On Friday, Market Days will take place on Genesee Street from 9 to 3 p.m. with many art and craft vendors. Do not forget the West Iron County Library book and bake sale. At 7 p.m. the first rodeo performance will take place. Overlapping, the rodeo organizers are bringing back the Street Dance from 8 to 11 p.m. with the craziest DJ from Eagle River. The 100 block of Genesee Street will contain the Bullpen where the music, dancing, and libations will be held. The 200 block of Genesee Street will house food vendors and carnival type activities.

On Saturday, the Wild West Parade will begin at 10 a.m. and will wind its way from the fairgrounds to downtown. The Senior Center will provide breakfast that morning and the VFW will host a brat feed that afternoon. The second performance of the rodeo will start at 2 p.m. with the final performance starting at 7 p.m.

This is our big week of the year, so I hope everyone enjoys themselves and shares the event with friends throughout the UP and downstate. Even with those in Wisconsin.