

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: 7/17/24

City of De Pere
335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115-1199
www.deperewi.gov

Contact:
Communications & Marketing Manager
Phone: 920-339-2371
apantzlaff@deperewi.gov



Grand Opening of the Nelson Family Pavilion in De Pere is July 26

DE PERE, Wis. —The City of De Pere will host a grand opening event for the Nelson Family Pavilion on Friday, July 26 at Voyageur Park.

An evening of live music and fun are planned to celebrate with the community. The grand opening festivities will kick off at 5 PM with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

Following the ribbon cutting, there will be musical performances by Jackson Mankowski from 5:15 to 6:45 PM, followed by Johnny Wad from 7 to 10 PM.

To complement the entertainment, a variety of food trucks and refreshments will be onsite.

This beautiful new performance venue features a stunning patio overlooking a one-acre open space and the Fox River.

“We appreciate the support and partnerships that have helped make this a reality, and we’re excited to finally unveil this beautiful new venue to the community,” said Mayor James Boyd. “The Nelson Family Pavilion will be a cornerstone for community engagement and events in De Pere, while enhancing one of our most beloved and recognizable parks.”

The Nelson Family Pavilion features an interior multi-purpose room will feature an interior space accommodating up to 50 people with an adjoining patio to accommodate an additional 200 people. Garage doors enhance the use of the interior space by opening to the stunning patio, which overlooks a one-acre open space and Fox River. This patio can also serve as a stage for music festivals and concerts. The pavilion is designed for a wide range of year-round uses, from small intimate gatherings to community events and weekend festivals.

The Nelson Family Pavilion was made possible by the generous support of the David L. and Rita E. Nelson Family Fund and numerous local donations, underscoring the strong community spirit and dedication to enhancing De Pere’s cultural and recreational offerings.

David and Rita Nelson lived in De Pere. David was born in Kaukauna and Rita in Janesville. Both lived in Wisconsin nearly their entire lives

The addition of the Nelson Family Pavilion adds to one of De Pere's most popular destinations: Voyageur Park. Situated along the picturesque Fox River and incorporating the Fox River Trail, Voyageur Park is crown jewel of activity in De Pere, hosting events and programming such as Yoga in the Park, De Pere Beer Gardens, Community Band concerts, Celebrate De Pere, art walks, and much more.

The park is also home to biking and walking paths, large green spaces, the city's largest inclusive playground, and is adjacent to the popular De Pere Riverwalk and Wildlife Pier.

###