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# REPUBLICAN EAGLE

## Red Wing Area Special Olympics

The Red Wing Area Special Olympics is looking for volunteers and participants. **Page A8**



www.republicaneagle.com | **Weekend, July 8-9, 2023** | \$2.00 | Goodhue County and Pierce County

### INSIDE



New program at the Universal Music Center features local musicians advice. **Page B3**



Local musician Mark Woerpel wears many music hats here in Red wing. **Page A3**



Hope Coalition launches Mobile Outreach to address rural communities needs. **Page A6**

### FOURTH OF JULY



ALYSSA MALYON/REPUBLICAN EAGLE

Fireworks shot off from the Harbor Bar Tuesday at dusk.

# Red Wing got their FIREWORKS

Owner of Harbor Bar arranged last minute show

BY ALYSSA MALYON  
Reporting Intern

This Fourth of July, music rang across the river and fireworks lit up the sky for all in Red Wing to enjoy.

During the day, Riverborne Creations docked their sunken houseboat recording studio on the edge of Levee Park.

The Patriotic Brass Band, Bucket Brigade, Universal Music Center Band and the Burnside Drifters, Mick Sterling and Friends and the Lonesome Losers Yacht Rock gave back-to-back performances from the deck of the houseboat.

Concert-goers brought blankets and lawn chairs down to the Levee, sitting back as they enjoyed the views of the river and listened to music for hours.

Across the Mississippi River at the Harbor Bar, live music also echoed over the water.

The owner of the Harbor Bar, Brad Smith, did everything in his power to ensure that this town was an exciting, welcoming place to celebrate Independence Day.

"This is an event that all of the children, the old people and the citizens of this town come together for [because] they all love the fireworks

show," Smith said. "It fills up all the campgrounds, the marina slips, and all the hotels in this town, which are made a year in advance. When they find out the fireworks show is canceled, they cancel their reservations. It doesn't just hurt the Harbor Bar - it hurts the whole town."

When word reached Smith that the volunteer group Mississippi Alumination would not be putting on a fireworks display this year, he organized to have a fireworks show lit off from the Harbor Bar.

With help from Island Fire-

See Fireworks Page A5

### GOODHUE COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE

## Missing swimmers found after incident in Red Wing

BY MELISSA THORUD  
Community News Editor

After three days of search efforts, the search for missing swimmers in Red Wing concluded on the morning of July 5.

According to a news release from the Goodhue County Sheriffs Office, "Two bodies were located at 0653 and the third at 0705. All three bodies were located in the search area. The families of the missing swimmers were made aware of the recovery. The Southern MN Regional Medical Examiner's office has responded to the scene, and will be releasing names of those located."

The search began on the evening of July 3 after the Goodhue County Dispatch received a 911 call at 7:35 p.m.

Responders arrived near the mouth of the Vermillion River where it enters the Mississippi River, within 10 minutes of the call.

The missing swimmers were part of a family gathering on the north side of Diamond Island on the Vermillion River.

"One family member was fishing from shore while three others were swimming in the river. All three of the swimmers started struggling in the water. The male fishing on shore entered the water to help the struggling swimmers," the Goodhue County Sheriffs Office stated. "He was able to rescue an adult female. He re-entered the water to assist the other two swimmers. All three of the subjects went under the water at

See Drowning Page A5

### FOURTH OF JULY

# Inaugural Bucket Brigade event a 'hit'

BY SKYLER STONE

Red Wing's first inaugural Bucket Brigade event was held last Tuesday as part of the Fourth of July celebration at Levee Park.

Several groups came together to make the event possible.

Mikes of America handed out 100 buckets, donated by Runnings, to the soon-to-be-drummers participating in the event.

Meanwhile, KWING Radio was reporting on the event as it happened.

The brigade was led by Mike Arturi, founder of Red Wing's Universal Music Center. Universal Music Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit

organization with the goal of making music and making music education fun and accessible in Red Wing. Though this was Arturi's first time leading the Bucket Brigade for the Fourth of July, he had taught similar lessons at Red Wing High School and the Red Wing Public Library before this event.

Arturi began by teaching the audience how to create a few different sounds using their buckets. He had them practice these sounds with a simple drum song he called "I Like Ice Cream."

Then, he had the audience practice

See Brigade Page A5



PHOTO BY SKYLER STONE

The inaugural bucket brigade was a hit among the community.

### OBITUARIES PAGE B5

William "Bill" Futrell  
Dwight Eugene Gustafson Jr.  
Laural Hinck  
Fay Kells  
Erwin Poncelet  
Gary D. Price