

Summer activities beginning to heat up in Stateline Area

By **ROBERT CROZIER** Staff writer | Posted: Monday, May 23, 2016 4:00 pm

BELOIT — As the weather heats up, music and food will once again come together over the noon hour every Friday at First National Bank Plaza.

“It’s a free summer concert series that takes place in Downtown Beloit,” said Crystal Cribbs with the Downtown Beloit Association, which organizes the Friday at the Park events.

Each week will bring a different local band to perform and a different downtown restaurant serves up a \$7 lunch, which includes the meal and a beverage.

The bands play from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and the restaurants serve food from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each week.

The season will kick off May 27 with the award-winning Beloit High School Jazz Orchestra playing the music and the Flying Pig supplying lunch.

Cribbs said the season opener always draws a big crowd.

“Since I’ve been here for 8 years, the jazz band has always been our opener,” she said. “It’s amazing. There’s something about live music that kind of gives you chills. They’re so talented.”

She added that last minute Friday at the Park updates, such as weather cancellations or relocations, will be posted to the Downtown Beloit Association’s Facebook page.

The coming summer weather will also bring outdoor swimming back to life.

Beloit’s pool opens June 9, Janesville’s and Evansville’s open June 11. Edgerton’s pool opens June 5. In Illinois, the Rockton pool opens on May 28.

Janesville also has a splash pad at Riverside Park that is already open, and the wading pool at Palmer Park will open June 4.

Milton’s splash pad will open Memorial Day.

Lions Beach, in Janesville, will be open May 28, contingent on the results of weekly tests for E. coli bacteria.

Pearl Lake, a private beach and camping resort with a \$15 gate fee located in South Beloit at 1220 Dearborn Ave., will open for swimming on Memorial Day.