

# SUNNY SKIES, DELIGHTFUL FOOD AND TUNES BRING CROWDS TO FRIDAYS IN THE PARK

May 31, 2019 at 1:52 pm | By [Ryan Silvola \(mailto:rsilvola@beloitdailynews.com\)](mailto:rsilvola@beloitdailynews.com)



Ryan Silvola/Beloit Daily News Musicians Justin Jones and Bryan Olson perform during the first Fridays in the Park of the season this afternoon. The Downtown Beloit Association will bring a different musical act every Friday until Sept. 20.

BELOIT - Tasty teriyaki and tantalizing tunes greeted those who attended the first Fridays in the Park of the season this afternoon.



Bright sunshine and blooming flowers were welcome after rainy weather forced the Downtown Beloit Association (DBA) to cancel the first Fridays in the Park on May 24. With temperatures in the 80s, DBA executive director Shauna El-Amin was thankful to finally have a nice day.

"Make sure to pray for great weather like this every Friday," El-Amin said with a laugh. "It's great that everyone from all different age groups can get out of the office or their home for this event. We love seeing this many people out and downtown."

Fridays in the Park is a beloved tradition in downtown Beloit. Meals are prepared by local businesses and are served from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in First National Bank Plaza, at the corner of State Street and Grand Avenue, each Friday. Live music also is provided by talented local musicians.

This week lunch was provided by Zen Sushi & Grill, which included chicken or beef teriyaki with white rice and ginger dressing salad and a cold beverage. While everyone munched down their food they were able to listen to Justin Jones and Bryan Olson as they played a little bit of country, blues and classic rock.

Ashley Jenkins, of South Beloit, took her sons Owen, 2, and Dylan, 11 months, out to Fridays in the Park, where they met grandma Joylyn Weibel.

"We were looking to get out and enjoy the nice weather," Ashley Jenkins said. "I like to come to downtown Beloit, because there's so much to do."

Dylan Jenkins said his favorite thing about Fridays in the Park was the music.

They made it out to several Fridays in the Parks last year.

"We're always looking for fun things to do around here with the kids," Ashley Jenkins said.

Teresa Granberg, of Beloit, said she couldn't wait to get outside.

"It's been a long week at work, so it's great to get out and get some sun on my face and enjoy the beautiful day," Granberg said.

She's been coming to Fridays in the Park for years.

Each week a \$7 lunch will be served, and live music will be performed until Sept. 20. On June 7, lunch by La Casa Grande will be served with music by Backroads Trio.

The rest of the Fridays in the Park lineup is as follows:

- June 14 - Lunch by Domenico's Italian Ristorante with music by Stateline Playboys
- June 21 - Lunch by Merrill & Houston's Steak Joint with music by Gary the Band
- June 28 - Lunch by La Casa Grande with music by the Harlan Jefferson Trio

- July 5 - Lunch by a downtown Beloit restaurant to be determined with music by Brothers Quinn
- July 12 - Lunch by Merrill & Houston's Steak Joint with music by Frank & Co. Band
- July 19 - Lunch by Zen Sushi & Grill with music by Fred & Ginger
- July 26 - Lunch by Fresco Fajita House with music by The Shufflers
- Aug. 2 - Lunch by truk't with music by Universal Joint
- Aug. 9 - Lunch by Domenico's Italian Ristorante with music by the Justin Jay Trio
- Aug. 16 - Lunch by Merrill & Houston's Steak Joint with music by That Gurl
- Aug. 23 - Lunch by a downtown Beloit restaurant to be determined with music by Susan Picking & the Leg Up Band
- Aug. 30 - Lunch by Fresco Fajita House with music by Denny Diamond
- Sept. 6 - Lunch by Lucy's #7 Burger Bar with music by Detour
- Sept. 13 - Lunch by Zen Sushi & Grill with music by The Bluegrass Reunion Band
- Sept. 20 - Lunch by Velvet Buffalo Cafe with music by the Zweifel Brothers

For more information on the DBA and its events, visit [www.downtownbeloit.com](http://www.downtownbeloit.com) or 'Like' the organization's Facebook page.