

July 15th - 20th

Fete des Lacs

Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park, Centerville MN

"America the Beautiful"

Schedule of Events

Tuesday - July 15th

6:00 p.m. Opening ceremony
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Capital City Wind Ensemble at Hidden Spring Park

Wednesday - July 16th

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Safety night at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park

Thursday - July 17th

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Mainstreet Market
Food trucks and more
7:00 p.m. Bald Eagle Waterski Show at Trailside Park, Centerville Lake

Friday - July 18th

5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Food trucks, Junior bags, Bingo

Saturday - July 19th

6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Kids Dance DJ
Beer Garden
Fireworks at dusk
at Laurie LaMotte Memorial Park

7:30 a.m. 5K/8K Run
8:30 a.m. Kids "FUN" Run
11:00 a.m. Parade
- Kid Fest following Parade
- Car Show following Parade
- Food trucks
- Beer Garden
1:00 p.m. Bags tournament
4:00-6:00 p.m. Bingo
6:00-9:00 p.m. DJ - all ages welcome

Sunday - July 20th

11:00 a.m. - Canoe races
at Trailside Park, Centerville Lake

Fete des Lacs honors veterans, the stars and stripes

BY TYLER QUATTRIN
NEWS INTERN

Centerville will shine red, white and blue as it hosts the 34th annual Fete des Lacs July 15-20, with the theme “America the Beautiful.”

The five-day event, hosted by the city of Centerville and the Centerville Lions Club, will feature festival favorites, including the Kids Dance DJ on Friday and the parade and car show on Saturday, along with many other activities.

The “America the Beautiful” theme aims to “bring us all together as one country,” Centerville Lions President Mel Lawlis said. “There’s so much divide right now. I think it’s just ‘America the Beautiful’, be proud of our country.”

To match the theme, the parade will not feature one individual as its grand marshal this year. Instead, “all veter-

ans” will be recognized.

The festival is free for everyone to attend, except for a fee to participate in Bingo and the bag tournaments.

New additions to this year’s event include an additional night of Bingo, a Lions Club food truck at the Mainstreet Market and a junior bags tournament for ages 12 to 17.

DJ Skoolz will also make his Fete des Lacs debut Saturday night with an all-ages set.

French for “Festival of Lakes,” Fete des Lacs was started to celebrate the city’s French-Canadian heritage.

Planning for the annual tradition begins nearly a year in advance and ramps up in January, Lawlis said.

After a stretch of less-than-ideal weather this summer, organizers are hoping for sunshine during this year’s celebration.

DJ Skoolz to make Fete debut

BY TYLER QUATTRIN
NEWS INTERN

DJ Skoolz, a familiar face from local school dances, will bring an open-format, all-ages set to Fete des Lacs at 6 p.m. Saturday, July 19.

In addition to DJing, he will co-host the 11 a.m. parade alongside former Centerville Mayor D. Love.

Behind the turntables, DJ Skoolz is Tom Schoolmeesters: a family man, materials manager at a printing company, president of the Centennial Youth Hockey program and former 14-year Lino Lakes resident now living in Columbus.

As a DJ, Schoolmeesters enjoys doing it all, and that’s the approach he’s bringing to Fete des Lacs. Engaging large, mixed-age crowds is both his biggest challenge and one of the most rewarding parts of his work, he said.

“There’s nothing better than live music with instruments. However, that doesn’t relate very well to a park full of all kinds of people, and it’s very tough to entertain a big crowd like that,” he said.

“The most entertaining part of my career now is that I can take that kind of crowd and just adapt

CONTRIBUTED

Tom Schoolmeesters

to what they are doing, what they want to hear, and let them request some songs that they want to hear, and go from there.”

Schoolmeesters has been a musician since starting percussion in the third grade. His DJ career began when he worked as a doorman and security guard at different establishments.

“A day that a DJ didn’t come in, I was in there messing around with the equipment and thought, being a musician, ‘I think I could figure out how to learn how to do this stuff,’” he said.

After investing in his own turntables, he did just that, and realized he was better than other aspiring DJs, he said.

Now, nearly three decades later, Schoolmeesters is marking his

27th year behind the turntables.

During his time DJing in nightclubs, he was contacted by schools looking for DJs for dances. He realized that he was a good fit and signed on.

He’s DJ’d for St. Croix Preparatory Academy, Anoka High School, Spring Lake Park High School and always does Centennial High School’s dances.

He has also performed at weddings, elementary school fundraisers and other community events, such as Blue Heron Days.

Schoolmeesters and his wife, Kellie, have two sons, both following in his percussionist footsteps.

Their oldest son, Nate, is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and played percussion there after Centennial High School’s music program. Their youngest son, 11-year-old Tanner, will begin middle school band this fall, also as a percussionist.

Schoolmeesters said performing in the community is his way of giving back.

“Music’s just my life,” Schoolmeester said. “So, I just love being able to share the talent and skill with everyone else.”



Centerville

Main Street Market & Water Ski Show

Thursday Evenings, July 17 – August 21, 2025

Market, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.;

Bald Eagle Waterski Show, 7 p.m.

July 17 – Kickoff & Fete des Lacs Night

July 24 – Community Night – Local Businesses/Org.

July 31 – Pet Night – Cutest Pet Contest & Parade

August 7 – Regular Market Night

August 14 – Regular Market Night

August 22 – Kids’ Night – Bounce House & More!

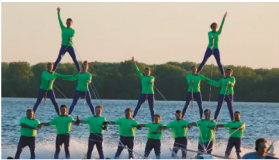
Free Parking at Centerville Elementary. Market is adjacent to the parking lot.

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LET’S HAVE SOME SUMMER FUN!

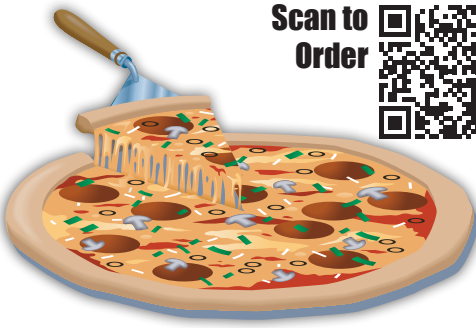
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Centerville Elementary Winners



1st Place

E. Scanlon

2nd Place

R. Vang

Honorable Mention

L. Keefe

Centennial Middle School Winners



1st Place

H. Ziobro

2nd Place

A. Mckelvey

Honorable Mention

I. Christensen

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Students at Centerville Elementary and Centennial Middle School were eligible to participate in the contest.

2025 annual Fete des Lacs Logo Contest winners named

The city received 103 entries from Centennial Middle School students and X entries from Centerville Elementary School for the 2025 Fete des Lacs logo contest.

The contest committee chose a first and second-place winner from each school as well as honorable mentions. Mayor Nancy Golden presented the winning students with a letter of congratulations, an award certificate and a check.

Centerville Elementary School fourth grader Emma Scanlon won first place and received a \$100 check for her accomplishment; Fifth grader Rose Vang won second place, fetching a \$50 check; and fifth grader Leon Keefe won honorable mention fetching her a \$25 check.

Centennial Middle School sixth grader Hannah Ziobro received first place; Eight grader Alexandria Mckelvey won second place; and Isaac Christensen, eighth grade, received honorable mention.

The first two place winners will have their logos placed on Fete des Lacs flyers and 5K/8K T-shirts.

Madeline Dolby

Fete des Lacs Parade

Parade Route: Start at Brian Drive End at St. Gen's

Staging Area:

Participant Check In:

Route Check In:

Barricades: Road closures begin around 10:30 am on Saturday



Parade Route 2025

Just a friendly reminder of the Main Street road closure on parade day from approximately 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The street closure is in blue. Purple is the staging area for the parade floats. The orange marks are no entry/exit points and are where street barricades will be placed.

20th Avenue (in green) will remain open for use. Please plan accordingly during this time frame.

For weather information, event updates and/or cancellations, follow Fete des Lacs on Facebook.

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