

I Love FDL

A communal project.
Real Stories. Real People. Real Impact.



Fondly
“Six Pack”
Weekly
SERIES



Weekly news, inspiration, updates and happenings

The Fondy Frontline

Shop The Night is a new downtown Fond du Lac holiday event happening Wednesday, December 17th from 5–8 PM, bringing festive shopping, Christmas carolers, and classic holiday charm to Main Street. With Santa at Wonder Play Cafe and dozens of local shops participating, it's all about supporting local and starting a new holiday tradition together.

Faces Of Our Future

Casanna Rasch, a special education teacher at Evans Elementary, has spent 19 years helping students grow in ways that are not always visible but deeply meaningful. Supported by her colleagues and family, she continues to make a lasting difference while encouraging families to celebrate every step of progress together.

Finding Balance

Bauer Chiropractic, led by Dr. Shayne Bauer for 27 years, offers more than traditional chiropractic care with services like laser therapy, custom orthotics, strengthening exercises, and non-invasive traction treatments. Located on N. Peters Avenue in Fond du Lac, the clinic focuses on relieving pain, improving function, and supporting long-term wellness.

Hometown Heroes

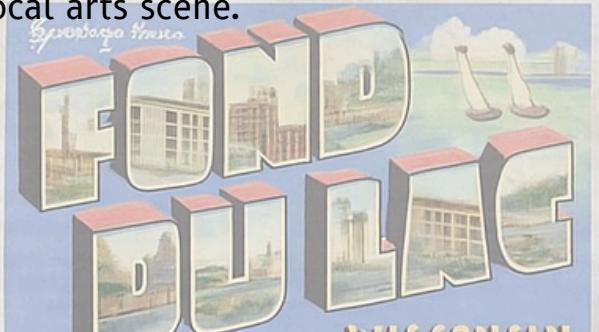
This week's Hometown Heroes are the City and County plow truck drivers who work through the night to keep our roads safe during winter storms. Their long hours and dedication help us get to work, school, and home safely, often without much recognition.

Creative Corner

Kooking With Kelly is a down-to-earth cooking series rooted in family tradition and a genuine love for supporting local food and makers. By keeping it real and approachable, Kelly shows how easy it can be to cook with local ingredients while sharing stories, history, and the joy of making meals at home.

Play Explore Repeat

The Jimmys are bringing their high-energy blues sound to THELMA Arts Center this Saturday, turning downtown Fond du Lac into a night of live music. Known for electric performances and strong crowd connection, this show highlights the power of live music in our local arts scene.



Fond du Lacs New Yearly Night Christmas Shopping Event!

Shop The Night-In Fond du Lac! And You're Invited!



THE FONDY FRONTLINE

LOVE FDL



Shop The Night is coming to downtown Fond du Lac this Wednesday, December 17th from 5-8 PM, and it is all about bringing that classic holiday feeling back to Main Street. This is a brand new event for our city and something we are hoping grows into a yearly tradition. Fond du Lac has not had a nighttime holiday shopping event like this before, so the goal is simple. Bring holiday cheer to downtown while supporting the local shops that help make our community feel like home.

As you walk from business to business, you will hear Christmas carolers singing classic holiday songs, dressed in full Christmas attire and spreading festive vibes throughout downtown. The night is meant to feel nostalgic, warm, and family friendly. It is the kind of experience that reminds you of what holiday shopping used to feel like, slow, joyful, and centered around community.

Santa Claus will be at Wonder Play Cafe, where families can stop in to take photos and warm up with a hot drink like coffee while the kids meet Santa. From there, you can explore all the participating businesses including Mike's Memorabilia, Shea Avenue Boutique, Blue Marble Botanicals, Cujak's Wine & Spirits, Dreamcatcher's Corner, Gallery Frame & Shop, Unique Knives and Signs, Lucky Dog Rescue Fond du Lac WI, Brothers Antiques, Knitty Gritty Shop, PS Beauty Lounge, La Belle FDL, Main Street Fashion, Nourish FDL, and The Diner.

Shop The Night is about more than shopping. It is about bringing people together, supporting local, and creating something special for Fond du Lac during the holidays. This is just the beginning, and each year we hope to improve and grow the event into a true holiday tradition. Grab your friends, bring the family, and come experience downtown Fond du Lac in a whole new way this Wednesday night.



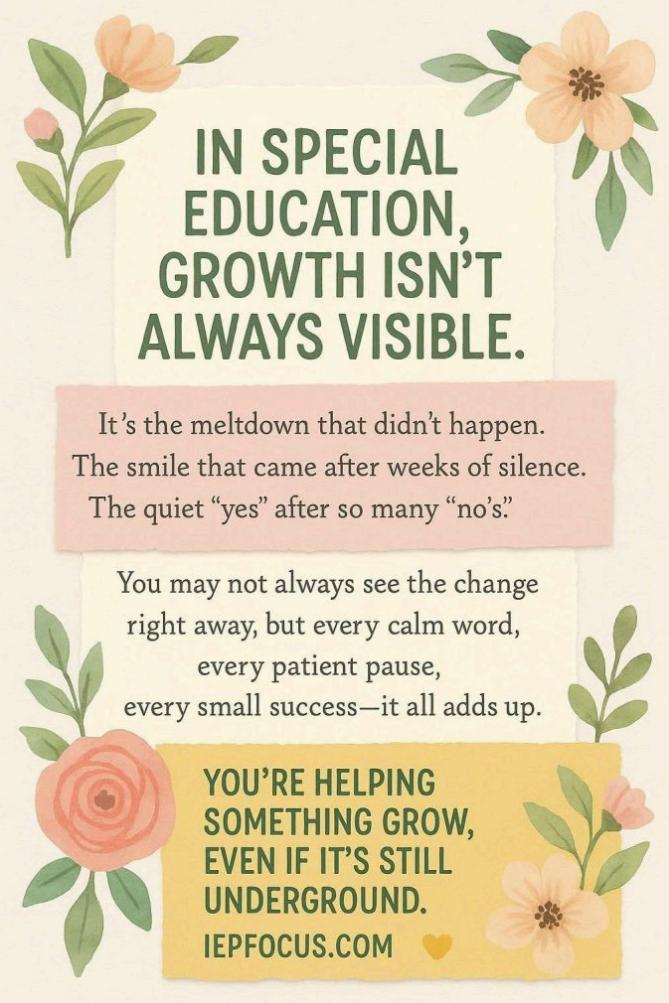
Faces of our future

EVANS ELEMENTARY TEACHER INSPIRES AND SHARES HOPE!

Evans Elementary, right here in Fond du Lac, has won awards and is highly esteemed in the local education world. Let's showcase an outstanding Evans teacher making a difference in our community.

I got to do a Q&A with Casanna Rasch, a teacher in the Special Education Department at Evans. She has been with Fondy schools for 19 years! She loves "being on the sidelines for all of my kids events-- school concerts, school sports, club sports, etc."

Her favorite part about teaching is, "seeing the individual growth each student makes--even though it's not always visible." She goes on to say, "This was shared by my instructional assistant recently and it resonated with me so strongly...I have since printed it and use it to guide me each day..."



IN SPECIAL
EDUCATION,
GROWTH ISN'T
ALWAYS VISIBLE.

It's the meltdown that didn't happen.
The smile that came after weeks of silence.
The quiet "yes" after so many "no's."

You may not always see the change
right away, but every calm word,
every patient pause,
every small success—it all adds up.

YOU'RE HELPING
SOMETHING GROW,
EVEN IF IT'S STILL
UNDERGROUND.
IEPFOCUS.COM

Mrs. Rasch's greatest support system is, "my colleagues and my own family! My colleagues- I'm only as strong as the people I work alongside! My family-over the past 19 years there have been a lot of late nights, early mornings, and so many weekends!"

Her words of encouragement to Special Education families: "Remember, progress is progress, no matter how little. Continue to be your child's biggest and best fan!!! And work alongside your child's teachers- it takes a team!!"

I'd like to extend a special thank you to all staff in the Fond du Lac School District. You are paving the way for our children's future!



City & County Plow Trucks Keeping Us Safe 1 Storm At A Time.

This weeks Hometown Hero's are the City and County Plow Truck Drivers. These Folks work all night during storms to make the roads as safe as possible for us to go to work, take kids to School, etc. I leave for work at 5AM. I expected the worst. The city roads were plowed although the salt hadnt had a chance to start working. Hwy 41 all the way to Brownsville was above average. When I came home at Noon, Both Hwy. 41 and FDL City Roads were great, thanks to our City and County Plow Truck Drivers that worked around the clock for us. I know some people get frustrated with the, but remeber, they are there for US, and our Safety.



Author: Darren Goodpaster



Kooking With Kelly: Bringing Local to the Table!

Kooking With Kelly is one of those ideas that just makes sense. Kelly and her family genuinely love to cook, and she's always made an effort to buy local whenever possible. Supporting local farmers, makers, and producers has been part of her everyday life, so sharing what she's cooking and where it comes from felt like a natural extension of that. This series is simply her doing what she already does, just with a camera on.

What I really love about the vision for Kooking With Kelly is how real it is. It's not about being perfect or pretending everything comes from one place. It's about getting what you can from your neighbors and local farmers, while still being honest about the fact that we all shop at Aldi and Festival for the basics. The goal is to show people how easy supporting local can be, and then actually help them figure out what to do with those ingredients once they get them home.

Cooking has deep roots in Kelly's family. Her grandmother is an incredible cook, with Sicilian roots through her great grandparents and hands-on training with local professionals. Those skills and traditions were passed down to Kelly and are now being shared with her kids. That's a big part of what makes this series special. It's not just recipes. It's family, history, and passing something meaningful on to the next generation.

Kelly and I met at CC's Chocolates in Fond du Lac and talked business and community ideas, and it was easy to see how this fit into the bigger picture of supporting local. With the first episode officially filmed, Kooking With Kelly is just getting started, and I'm excited to see it continue to highlight local food, local people, and the simple joy of cooking at home.



PLAY. EXPLORE. REPEAT.



The Jimmys Bring Big Sound to THELMA

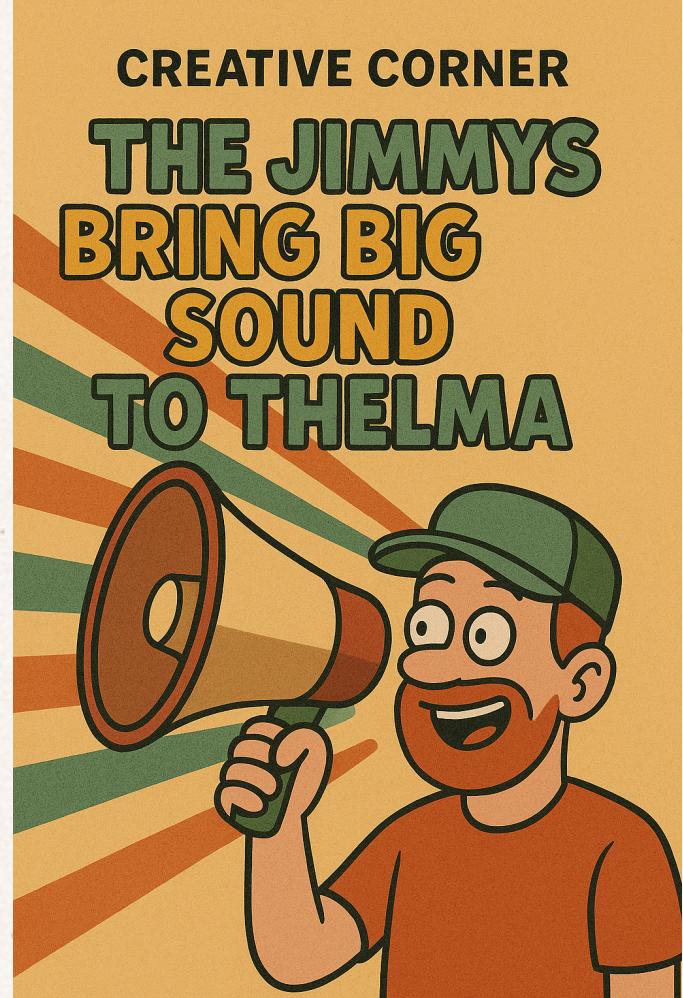
Fond du Lac is getting a serious dose of live music when The Jimmys hit the stage at THELMA Arts Center this Saturday night. Funny enough, the first time I ever heard about this band wasn't through a poster or an ad. It was from my buddy Tyler, who invited me to go check out one of their shows. Ever since then, they've been on my radar, so seeing them come through downtown Fond du Lac feels pretty exciting.

If you've ever seen The Jimmys live, you already know this isn't a "stand there and listen politely" kind of show. This is high-energy, blues-driven music that fills the room and pulls you in whether you planned on dancing or not. Even just watching clips and hearing stories, you can tell this is the kind of band that feeds off the crowd and turns a room into something electric.

What makes The Jimmys such a great fit for THELMA is the intimacy of the space. You're close enough to feel every note, every drum hit, every moment of interaction between the band and the crowd. It turns the show into a shared experience instead of just a performance, which is exactly what live music should be. It's loud, fun, and unapologetically alive.

From a Play Explore Repeat standpoint, this is a reminder of how important live music is to a community like ours. Bands like The Jimmys bring years of experience and real musicianship into local venues, and spaces like THELMA make it possible for that art to thrive right here. Tickets are available at thethelmaarts.org or at THELMA's box office, and if Tyler's invite is any indication, this might finally be the show that gets me there.

Author: Shane Michael



Finding Balance

I Love FDL

Bauer Chiropractic & Wellness

Dr. Shayne Bauer opened Bauer Chiropractic 27 years ago and has expanded from your traditional chiropractor office, offering an array of services. Dr. Bauer offers a unique array of services unlike other chiropractors. What kind of services are available?

Chiropractic Care using different techniques, muscle stimulation, to help ease pain, correct alignment issues, improve function and support overall wellness.

Strengthening Exercises offers special benefits of its own. Stretches can release muscle tension and strengthen up the tissues to ease muscle spasms, making the everyday motion more comfortable. Strengthening is also known to maintain your posture, symmetry, and balance.

MLS Laser Therapy is a non-invasive, drug-free, treatment that treats acute injuries, arthritis, bursitis, back and neck issues, musculoskeletal disorders, neuropathy, occupational & sports injuries, plantar fasciitis, post-surgical recovery, sprains & strains, tendon & ligament injuries, and wound healing.

Custom Foot Leveler Orthotics can be created using a real 3D scan of your feet and an exam. These orthotics are handmade and customized to all three arches of your feet. The orthotics are effective in reducing lower back pain and other forms of pain related to foot conditions. Custom orthotics last two to three years, provide precise fit & customization and arch support.

Knee Decompression, Cervical & Lumbar Traction offers non-invasive therapy for those with chronic knee, back, arm, neck, and leg pain.

Bauer Chiropractic is located inside the Professional Center at 355 N Peters Avenue Fond du Lac, WI 54935. Give them a call (920) 923-3322 to schedule your appointment today!



Author: Ashley Ernst

Holiday Coloring Contest

Remember the thrill of seeing a coloring contest in the newspaper and rushing to grab your crayons? They're back, and New Directions Chiropractic is bringing that magical tradition to our community once again!

- 1. Print Your Coloring Page** Download and print the official coloring sheet for the contest. One entry per person, please!
- 2. Get Creative!** Color your page using crayons, markers, colored pencils, or any art supplies you love. Be as festive and imaginative as you'd like!
- 3. Submit Your Masterpiece** When finished, submit your completed coloring page to: **New Directions Chiropractic**

📍 21 N. Portland St. STE 1B - FDL

You may **drop it off in the mailbox** at the clinic anytime during business hours or after hours – just make sure it's clearly labeled with age and name, and contact information.

4. Include Your Info

On the back of your artwork, please write:

Your name

Age (under 18 only)

Phone number or email

5. Deadline All entries must be received by 12-20-2025. No late submissions will be accepted.

6. Winners & Prizes

Winners will be selected based on creativity and effort. Prizes will be announced on our New Directions Chiropractic Facebook and Instagram pages. Stay tuned

Coloring page on next page:

New Directions Chiropractic



This week is PACKED with awesome deals from some of Fond du Lac's favorite small businesses!  If you've been needing a sign to shop local... this is it.  Dive into the specials below, show love to the shops that make our city feel like home, and have an amazing week, Fondy! 



ONE WEEK FREE

• Muay Thai • Jiu Jitsu • Wrestling



EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY
Ages 5-12 5 PM
Ages 13-18 6 PM

EVERY THURSDAY
Jiu jitsu
6:30-7:45
EVERYONE WELCOME

EVERY FRIDAY
Open mat
6:00-7:30
13 and up

15 E 2ND ST, Fond du Lac
Knockouts- Woman's Kickboxing Studio
Like us on Facebook Downtown Mixed Martial Arts
<https://www.facebook.com/share/19cJQdP96c/>



LEADER DOGS
FOR THE BLIND

DINNER IN THE DARK

Fundraising Event

Friday, April 10, 2026

Cocktails at 5pm Dinner at 6pm

Avenue 795
795 Fond du Lac Avenue, Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Stuffed Chicken Breast
Salad, Roll, California Medley
Cheesecake

Stuffed Haddock
Salad, Roll, California Medley
Cheesecake

\$60 per person

Call 920-313-0919 to purchase tickets

Proceeds to Leader Dogs for the Blind
Advance Ticket Purchase • Tickets are Transferrable • Ticket Sales FINAL



Big Brothers Big Sisters.
OF FOND DU LAC COUNTY

Giving Tree GIFT DRIVE

- 1 Pick a name from a tree located at any of our 3 Summit Automotive locations and support a local family in need!
- 2 Return your wrapped gift with original gift tag to the Giving Tree by December 15th!



Professional Dry Cleaning & Laundry - Delivered Straight to Your office!

GEORGETOWN CLEANERS

Georgetown Cleaners has been Fond du Lac's dry cleaning and laundromat specialists for over 50 years!

Our mission is to provide quality and professional dry cleaning and laundry services at a competitive price.

Now, with our Bi-Weekly office pickup & delivery service, looking sharp has never been easier:

- Convenient pickup and delivery right at your workplace
- Expert care for suits, dress shirts, business attire & more
- Wash, dry & fold service for everyday laundry needs available
- No minimum order required
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Let us save you the trip — we bring fresh, clean clothes directly to you, so you can focus on what matters most.

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Buck Dumanch - General Manager
Buck@georgetowncleaners.com • 920-922-7021



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- Dress shirts
- Dresses & gowns
- Pants, skirts & blouses
- Coats & outerwear

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- Crisp finish, collar stays sharp
- Perfect for office & professional wear

Household Items:

- Comforters & bedding
- Blankets & quilts
- Table linens & drapes
- Banners & tablecloths

Uniform Services:

- Cleaning and repairs for company owned uniforms
- Shop rag rental

Specialty Care:

- Wedding gowns (cleaning & preservation)
- Leather & suede
- Rug rental programs

Convenient Services:

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- Residential pickup & delivery

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Fond du Lac WI 54935

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