

CENTER *Connections*

THE HOLMEN AREA COMMUNITY CENTER NEWSLETTER
JULY 2026 | ISSUE 70

Cheese Fest Takes a Village!

Cheese Fest is our Annual Fundraiser for the Holmen Area Community Center!

Special Thanks to our Event Committee:

Chairs: Laurie Kessler and Patty Bagniewski. Beth Balder Schroeder, Kelly Graner, Julie Trotz, Julie Weber, Margaret Wage, Deb Deml, Michelle Mcelligott, Joann Ward, Kayla Ward.

Wine and Cheese: Lisa Kind and Karen McCathie. **Staff:** Amy Brezinka, Jodi Tamminga and Robin Moses

Thank you to our Board:

Patty Bagniewski, Laurie Kessler, Lisa Kind, Karen McCathie, Tonya Berget, Shawn Hauser, Haley Hesselberg, Tricia Johnson, Dave Justus, Peg Knobloch, Dean Mc Hugh, Patty Shepard, Brian Weber, Todd Trautmann, Betsy Midthun.

Thank you to our Event Volunteers:

Alene Keenan, Alice Polender, AJ White, Betty Baird, Bill Truttschel, Brittany Pietrek, Cecilia Mullenbach, Cheryl Helmreich, Cheryl Thienes, Dan Braund, Dave Burch, Dawn Davis, Donna Elsen, Dylan McCathie, Eric Moilien, Jeanne Brock, Jeff Davis, Judy McHugh, Karen Lown, Karen Sieben, Karla Toppen, Kathy Reinolt, Keith Valiquette, Kent Knutson, Kevin Baird, Len Beranek, Linda Knutson, Lisa Martin, Lynne Valiquette, Marilyn Caulum, Mary Johnson, Pam Bendel, Patrick Barlow, Penny Dillon, Rhonda Hesselberg, Richard Moses, Ruth Scholze, Scott Marshall, Sue Kline, Sue Swackhamer, Tom Hundt, Tom Abing

AND everyone else who jumped in and helped on the day of the event!

- Let us know if we missed you!

Thank you to our Event Partners

Thank You!

BIG CHEESE PARTNERS: \$1000



CREAM CHEESE PARTNERS: \$500



CHEDDAR CHEESE PARTNERS: \$250



MOZZARELLA: \$100

Andy's Main Street Auto
Food Dudes
Toppers

GOUDA PARTNERS: \$50

The Frame Gallery
Rudy's Feed & Seed
BP Gas Station
Scooter's Coffee

MAC & CHEESE PARTNERS

Lush Wine Bistro- Grand Prize
Features Restaurant- People's Choice
Holmen Rotary- Second Place
Kwik Trip- Third Place
Toppers . Five Star TeleCom . Smokey's

IN KIND PARTNERS

Coulee Region Riders . Holmen Burn Boot Camp
WNB . Elevate Media . Noffke Signs . Empire Printing

+Over 100 Donated Prizes

CHEESE & MEAT PARTNERS

Hidden Springs
Nordic Creamery
Holmen Meat Locker
Craig's Meats

WINE PARTNERS:

Lush Wine Bistro
Creekside Winery
Tenba Ridge Winery
Elmaro Winery

CHEESE FEST WAS CHEESY FUN!

- OVER 100+ SILENT AUCTION AND BASKET RAFFLES!
- SEVEN MAC & CHEESE COMPETITORS AND 125 EATERS!
- 20+ CRAFT, ART AND MAKER VENDORS!
- 20+ CHEESY ART SUBMISSIONS TO VOTE ON!
- OVER 1500 RAFFLE TICKETS SOLD!
- 90+ BOTTLES of WINE DRAWN
- OVER 100 CHEESE AND WINE TASTERS!
- LIVE MUSIC BY THE CHEEZLAND UKE BAND AND HUG - HOLMEN UKELELE GROUP, KENT KNUTSON, DAVE BURCH, JANET AND MARK HANSON+ REMIX AT FEATURES!
- LOTS OF HOTDOGS, PULLED PORK & CHEESE SERVED
- OVER 60+ VOLUNTEERS FOR THE DAY!
- GOOD MONEY RAISED FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

RAISED OVER \$20,000

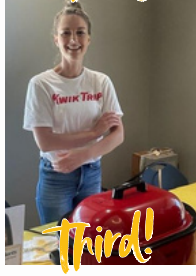


First Place
Lush Wine Bistro

People's Choice



Second



Third!



Honorable Mentions



MAC & CHEESE CONTEST

- First Place:** Lush Wine Bistro
- Second Place:** Holmen Rotary
- Third Place:** Kwik Trip
- People's Choice:** Features
- Honorable Mentions:** Toppers, Smokey's, Five Star Telecom.

The First Place Winner by Lush Wine Bistro was a gourmet dish of penne pasta with a cheese sauce of gouda, white cheddar, and parmesan with bold spices and homemade bacon jam. Crispy baked panko, pickled onions, and hot honey toppings put it over the top.

Judges: Patrick Barlow, Karla Toppen and Eric Moilien



Judges

CHEESY ART CONTEST!



First



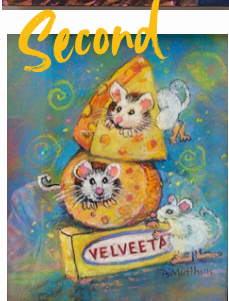
First

Youth Division

We had over 20 art entries! Check our Face Book to see them all!



3D Division



Second



Third



Honorable Mentions



Thank you to everyone who gave Donations for Basket Raffles, Silent Auction, Bakery, Concessions, Big Game Raffles, Wine Draw, Cheese and Wine Tasting and all In Kind Donations:

Altra Federal Credit Union, Amy Brezinka, Garden of Eatin, Angry's Way Out, Beth Balder-Schroeder, Bob Buck, Brushstrokes with Barbara, Bryan George, Bryan Helgeson, Burn Boot Camp, Caya's Dog & Cat, Champions, Charisma and Hair Hero, La Crosse Children's Museum, Chris Kammel, Coaches Corner, Craigs Meats, Creekside Winery, Crooked Pint, Culver's, Dan McHugh, Dave and Barb Skogen, Dawn's Dollar Deals, Dean and Nancy McHugh, Debbye Antoni, Doggie Zen & Den, Drugan's Castle Mound, Eckers Apple Farm, Elevate Media, Elmaro Winery, Emma's Bait & Tackle, Features of Holmen and West Salem, Five Star Telecom, Gary Schroeder, Gault Investments, LLC- Mitch Gault, Gill's Cove Marina- Ryan Hesselberg, Green Bay Packers- Julie Broeckl, Hacienda, Heather Franzini & Amanda Jensen, Hidden Springs Creamery, Holmen Rotary, Hot Springs Spa & Pools, Irene Keenan Jr., Janet Gerke, Jay Johnson, JoAnne Ward, John's Bar, Johnson Ops Tree Care, Jump Start, Karen MacCathie, Kari Ammerman, Kathy Henderson, Kayla Ward, Kelly Graner, Kwik Trip, La Crosse Area Family YMCA, La Crosse Loggers, Larry Bodin, Leading Edge Chiropractic, Len Beranek, Linda Green, Linda Trautman, Linda's Bakery, Lisa Kind, Lori Ehlke, Lost Island Winery & Brewery, Lush Wine Bistrot, Luxury Limo - Paul Hauser, Mahjong Group, Mary Johnson, Merengue Bakery, Misty's Dance, Mueller Photography, Noelke Distributing, Noffke Signs, Nordic Creamery, Omega Bakery, Pam Bendel, Patti Merfeld, Patty Bagniewski, Patty Shepard, Pawsome Pets Country Club, Pearl Street Books, Peg and Tom Knobloch, Pet Me Scratch Me, Pizza Corral, Pizza Ranch, Red Pines Bar & Grill, Riverside Amusement, Robin Moses, Ron Gatzloff, Ruth Bagniewski, Ruth Carroll, Ruth Scholze, Sam, Cody, Myla, & Briggs Hackett, Sandy Taylor, Sara Washburn- Peace by Piece, Scooter's, Scott Marshall, Senior Villa, Shawn Hauser, Shiny Objects, Ship Shape Car Wash, Sports Nut, Su Casa Pub & Grill, Tenba Ridge Winery, Texas Roadhouse, The Beach Club, The Pearl Street Ice Cream, Time Out Tavern, Toppers, Village of Holmen Parks and Recreation, WNB, and Ziegler's

Let us know if we missed your name and we will add it!

CHEESY ART CONTEST

- First Place:** Dee Dee Lewis
- Second Place:** Betsy Midthun
- Third Place:** Donna Elsen
- Youth Award:** Ella and Olivia Ehlke
- 3 D Award:** Pam Bendel
- Honorable Mentions:** Lori Ehlke, Sandy Taylor and Lynn Winter.
- Thanks to:** Gail Dent, Holly Thomas, Colleen Shore, Lynne Valiquette, Gene McNurlen, Sloan Etrheim for displaying some of last year's entries!

Big Raffle Winners

- Packers-** Jodi Slaby
- Badgers-** Tonya Berget
- Brewers-** Chip Balder



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Kay Baumann
Carita Baures
Therese Blim
Becky Brockman
Marvin Colbenson
Rita Connors
Deb Deml
Renee Druliner
Danny Eddy
Lois Fredrick
Joe Herrmann
Linda Hilton
Luanne Hjelle
Judy Hoffman
Susan Juve
Lisa Kind
Donna King
Carol Knapmiller
Dennis Krumenauer
Terri Larson
Renee Mahlum
Nancy McHugh
Ethel Monroe
Vickie Montgomery
Daniel Mullenbach

Pat Nelson
Charles Olson
Kathy Olson
Dani Page
Mary Pickett
Fred Puent
Lloyd Reno
Marilyn Rindfleisch
Karen Rooney
Ronald Rowden
Steve Sawby
Susan Schaller
Lori Schipper
Denise Shedivy
Jean Smith
Pat Steele
Deak Swanson
Leann Theisen
Curt Tolvstad
Linda Trautmann
Jackie Tulus
JoAnne Ward
Ginny Wegner
Joseph Zauner

Welcome < June
New Members

Lorie Abnet
Roxanne Felde
Lisa Hesch
Dani Page
Michelle Pesonen
Sue Schaus
Denise Shedivy
Carl Shedivy
Ed Van Ravenstein
Mary Van Ravenstein
Leona Vande Vrede



“Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.” —John F. Kennedy

HACC VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are an essential part of the Holmen Area Community Center. We could not accomplish everything we do throughout the year without help from our amazing volunteers. Each month we will recognize our volunteers and share their stories.

Our Volunteer Hours for June = 520

THANK YOU to all our amazing Cheese Fest volunteers and committee members! We could not possibly accomplish events of this size and impact without the dedication and generosity of our volunteers. Your time, energy, and commitment make all the difference, and we are deeply grateful for all you do.

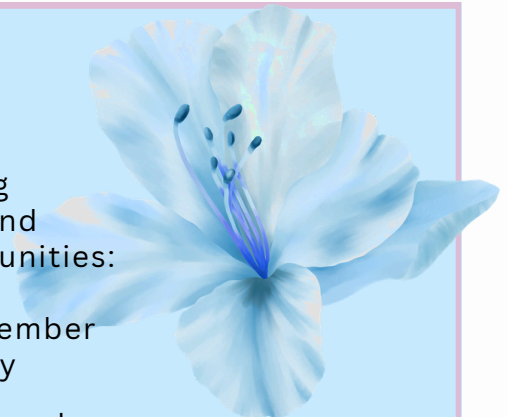


Upcoming Opportunities

Volunteering offers numerous benefits as we age, including improved mental health and a renewed sense of purpose and social connection. Below are a few HACC volunteer opportunities:

- Wonderland Tea Party- Tuesday, July 21st 2 pm
- Family Fun Night - Fall Series: September, October, November
- Toddler Story Time Readers- 1 x per month - Sept to May

Please contact us if you are interested in becoming a volunteer!



Fitness, Health and Wellness



Cardio Fitness Workout

Mondays & Wednesdays
10 - 10:45 am

Let's take a walk! Marching or walking in place is the foundation for these 30 - 40 minute video workouts. Perfect for seniors and beginner exercisers. FREE for HACC Members.



July and August
2026

Members
\$5
Non-Members
\$10

Beginner Line Dancing Classes

Mondays 12:30 - 1:30 pm

Get ready to kick up your heels and join us for a toe-tapping good time! No experience necessary.

Intermediate Line Dancing Classes

Wednesdays 12:30 - 1:30 pm

Intermediate line dancing classes teach more complex, longer step combinations, patterns, and choreography building on foundational skills.

Instructor: Amy Etrheim



StrongBodies

VIRTUAL STRENGTH-TRAINING VIDEO CLASS

Fridays 10 - 11 am

The Wisconsin StrongBodies Program empowers individuals of all ages to live stronger, healthier lives.

Through community-based strength training programs, participants improve fitness, build strength, gain confidence, and connect socially, enhancing overall well-being.

Participants follow a structured plan to strengthen all major muscle groups working to gradually increase the weights used.

FREE for Members | \$2 for Non-members



HOLMEN AREA COMMUNITY CENTER
608-399-1870
WWW.HOLMENC.CC.ORG



Cardio & Strength Fitness Class

Tuesdays & Thursdays

10 - 10:45 AM

These 40 minute video workouts are perfect for seniors and beginner exercisers. FREE for HACC Members.



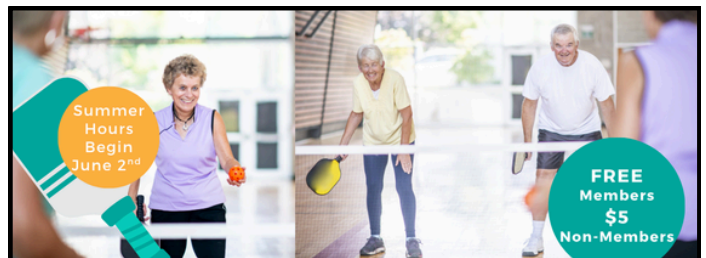
Summer Walking Path Hours

Monday - Friday

7:00 to 10:00 am

(June, July & August)

FREE for HACC members; \$2 non-members
Please check in and/or pay at our Welcome Desk



Summer
Hours
Begin
June 2nd

FREE
Members
\$5
Non-Members

Pickleball Open Play

Tuesdays

8:00 - 9:45 am

Open play is a time for pickleball players, of any skill level, to play on the courts and practice new skills. We have two courts, one will be designated for beginners and another for intermediate players.

We have a supply of pickleball equipment (paddles and balls) if needed.



Holmen Area Community Center
608-399-1870
600 N. Holmen Drive www.holmenc.c.c.org

Where Our
Community
Gathers!

Fitness, Health and Wellness



Chair Yoga *with Marty Landry*

Mondays 9:15 - 10 am

Chair yoga allows you to perform yoga poses while seated or using a chair for balance. Chair-based yoga offers the same benefits as traditional yoga, like boosting strength, flexibility, and mental well-being.



SOUND HEALING

Wednesday, July 15th
10:30 to 11:30 am

Wisdom of the Soul Wellness & Learning

Using a variety of instruments—anchored by the precision and subtle power of tuning forks—each session is a sacred invitation to return home to yourself. Step into stillness. Breathe into release. Leave with more light, more ease, and more of you.

Instructor: Laurie A Cafe, Certified Sound Practitioner



\$5 Members
\$10 Non-members



New Time! Summer Classes

Chair Yoga *with Sarah Fox*

Wednesdays 10:15 - 11:00 am
(June 3, 17, 24; July 8, 22, 29; August 5, 12, 19 and 26)

We invite you to join our gentle chair yoga class—perfect for all levels. Improve strength and flexibility while exploring breathing techniques and mindfulness to support balance, relaxation, and overall well-being.

\$5 Members | \$10 Non-Members
Fitness Instructor: Sarah Fox



Holmen Area Community Center
608-399-1870
600 N. Holmen Drive | www.holmenc.org

Yoga Nidra and Sound Bath
with Sam Bigalke

Friday, July 31
10:15 - 11 am



Yoga for mind. No poses just relaxation, guided meditation and sound bowls.

Bring your comfy blankets and pillows to this class.

Members \$5
Non-Members \$10

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION:
608-399-1870
WWW.HOLMENC.ORG




New Class This Summer!

Wall Pilates *with Sarah Fox*

Wednesdays 11:00 - 11:45 am
(June 3, 17, 24; July 8, 22, 29; August 5, 12, 19 and 26)

Please join us for a gentle Pilates class designed for both beginners and seasoned Pilates practitioners. We'll incorporate equipment such as light weights, resistance bands, and Pilates balls - all while focusing on mindful breathing and having fun!

\$5 Members | \$10 Non-Members



Holmen Area Community Center
608-399-1870
600 N. Holmen Drive | www.holmenc.org

Gentle Yoga for Beginners
with Sam Bigalke

Every Other FRIDAY
8 - 9 am

July 17 & 31
August 28




Members \$5
Non-Members \$10

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION:
608-399-1870
WWW.HOLMENC.ORG



Community Education and Resources



HOLMEN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MONDAY
JULY 6
6:00 PM

STORY CIRCLE
BIRTHDAY MEMORIES

**FREE AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC**

HOLMEN AREA
COMMUNITY CENTER
600 N. HOLMEN DRIVE
HOLMEN, WI

We will make a personal connection to the nation's celebration of the 250th anniversary of its birth. Share a special memory of one of your birthdays or a memorable 4th of July. Red white and blue will be the order of the day, including frosting on the cupcakes!





Monday July 6th 10 am - 3 pm

600 North Holmen Drive
Holmen, WI

Pre-register with the American Red Cross
www.redcross.org

**GIVE BLOOD.
SAVE A LIFE.**

Your donation can make a huge difference. Join us at our upcoming blood drive.



Back to basics


Empowering Adults with Essential Tech Skills

Wednesday, July 8th at 1:00 pm

Are you ready to embrace the digital age but unsure where to start? Join our beginner-friendly computer and phone course designed specifically for adults who want to explore technology in an easy and enjoyable way! Instructed by Karla Walker

FREE
Members \$5
Non-members

Holmen Area Community Center
600 N. Holmen Drive, Holmen WI
www.holmenc.org 608-399-1870






Hello Holmen!

Third Thursday each month!
Coffee and Treats start at 8:00 am

Thursday, July 16th 8:30 - 9:30 am

Celebrating 250 Years!

The importance of the principles of democracy at 250 years – our reasons to celebrate, our challenges. Lee Rasch is Executive Director of LeaderEthics, a nonpartisan/nonprofit organization that promotes ethical leadership among elected officials. Enjoy patriotic songs and red, white & blue desserts as we celebrate!


HOLMEN AREA COMMUNITY CENTER
608-399-1870 WWW.HOLMENC.CC.ORG

VETERANS SERVICES

LA CROSSE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES
COMMUNITY HOURS

**FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
12:30 - 4:00 P.M.**

ERICA LAKOWSKA, COORDINATOR



Reading in July 2026

Cozy Readers

“The Queen of Crimes” by Marie Benedict

Page Turners

“The Round House” by Louise Erdrich

Arts, Entertainment and Community!

HACC Piano Care Sponsorship

Do you appreciate the sound of live piano music at the Center?

Pianos need love and care too.

Tuning, key regulation and leveling services range from \$200 - \$1000 annually, depending on the level of maintenance needed.

If you're interested in sponsoring the cost of piano care services, please let us know.




Music with
GREG GROKOWSKY
Friday, July 10
11 AM - 12 PM
HOLMEN AREA COMMUNITY CENTER




Fun with Watercolor
Mondays 8:30 - 10:30 am
Social and fun! This group is for watercolor enthusiasts who love sharing and learning to fine tune their craft. The group is willing to explore new techniques and to instruct with simple to more challenging projects.
All Levels are Welcome!



Holmen Area Community Center
600 N. Holmen Drive, Holmen WI
www.holmencc.org 608-399-1870

Where Our Community Gathers!



Holmen Ukulele Group (HUG)
Tuesdays
12:00 to 1:00 pm
Come and join the Holmen Ukulele Group (HUG)! Everyone is welcome. No musical experience required. We will learn together as we strum. If you have a ukulele and music stand, please bring them.
Members FREE
Non-Members \$2




Grumpy Old Men Big Band Concert
Tuesday, July 28
10 - 11 am
Join us for big band sounds and summertime fun at the Holmen Area Community Center!

Adult Watercolor Class
Subject: Jar with Flowers
Instructor: Lori Ehke
Wednesday, July 1st
9:30 - 11:30 am



Members: \$35 | Non-Members: \$40
Learn to paint a Jar with Flowers in watercolor on a 9x12 paper. Lori will walk you step by step through painting the image, applying color, using special techniques to achieve certain looks, and adding finishing detail work. All levels welcome!

Summer at the Center

Prices vary per program - Please check website for details



Creative Arts & Eats

Cupcake Decorating with *Laura Lindahl*
Wednesday, July 29th 10 - 11:30 am

Charcuterie Basics with *Aliah Laska*
Tuesday, August 11th 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Create & Paint with *Lori Ehlke*
Monday, August 17th 12:30 - 2 pm

Beaded Forever Plant with *Laura Lindahl*
Tuesday, August 18th 1 - 3 pm

Kids Corner

June, July and August 2026

Games, Toys, Books and Activity Bags are available everyday at Kids Corner

FREE Activity Bags- 1 bag per child
Bring the bag back for a free refill!

Learn & Grow

Finding Your Peaceful Place: Storytime & Activity with *Natalie Nordlund*
Thursday, August 6th 10 - 11 am

Money Magic: Turning Pennies into Possibilities with *Theresa Zirbel*
Wednesday, August 12th 10 - 11 am

Family Fun & Flow Yoga

Fun and Flow with *Sarah Fox*
Each Tuesday 10-11 am
June 9th - August 25th
-excluding July 14th



Muscles in Motion

Muscles in Motion with *Parenting Place*
Each Tuesday 10 - 11 am
This free program is held at Deer Wood Park in Holmen.

Adventures in Nature

Guess Who am I? with *Dana Schelling*
Thursday, July 23rd 10-11 am

Birds Of All Sizes with *Jim Welander*
Thursday, July 30th 10-11 am

Wild About Bears with *Happy Dancing Turtle*
Wednesday, August 26th 1- 2 pm



10 Family Bingo

Family Bingo with *Scott Marshall*
Each Friday 1-2 pm



A Summer of fun awaits!

HOLMEN AREA COMMUNITY CENTER

600 N. Holmen Drive, Holmen WI 608-399-1870
www.holmencc.org



Family Friendly Programming

Get your tickets!

Don't be late!

Wonderland Tea Party

Tuesday, July 21 ♥ 2pm

Holmen Area Community Center
600 N. Holmen Drive, Holmen WI
www.holmencc.org 608-399-1870

More Here



Holmen FAMILY FUN NIGHT

HOLMEN AREA COMMUNITY CENTER

Second Tuesdays this fall from 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Join us for an evening filled with fun for your entire family!
Enjoy a shared meal, games, crafts, and activities.

September 8th
October 13th
November 10th

Holmen Area Community Center
600 N. Holmen Drive, Holmen WI
www.holmencc.org 608-399-1870

Drawing prizes provided by Caretta

More

Family Membership

\$150 Annual Membership

Includes: Tickets to all Family Fun Nights
(2 Adults and 2 Children- Rates to fit all family sizes)
Member rates for events, programs, and party rentals.

Check out our new 2026 Program Guide
www.holmencc.org

HOLMEN AREA COMMUNITY CENTER
600 North Drive Holmen, Wisconsin 54636
(608) 399-1870 www.holmencc.org

June Happenings at the Center

Community Crafts
4th of July Decor ▼



Crafternoon Thursdays at 1pm
Knit, Crochet and Embroidery ▼



Family Friendly Bingo
Fridays this summer! ▼



HUG members and
Kent & David performed
at Cheese Fest 2026! ▼



Hello Holmen!
Alice in Dairyland, Sarah Hagenow ▼



Banded Spider
Workshop
with Laura Lindahl ▼

