



THE SERGEANT BLUFF

ADVOCATE

SPECIAL ISSUE

RAGBRAI® XLIX CELEBRATION

JULY 23, 2022



It's called RAGBRAI®, and it all starts in Sergeant Bluff!

(SB) - The 2022 Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa, which will take place from July 23 to 30, will start in Sergeant Bluff and end in Lansing. In between, riders will overnight in, Ida Grove, Pocahontas, Emmetsburg, Mason City, Charles City, and West Union.

"I can't wait for riders to experience these eight overnight towns hospitality," said Matt Phippen, new RAGBRAI® director of operations. "This is truly a route through small-town Iowa communities that have some much to offer riders. 2022 is going to be a fun route."

The northern route is roughly 430 miles and nearly 11,900 feet of climb. That makes it the eleventh shortest ride and eighteenth flattest. The year's ride is dedicated to RAGBRAI® co-founder, John Karras, who died in November of last

year.

Pocahontas is hosting riders overnight for the first time with Sergeant Bluff kicking off the ride for only the second time. The towns along this year's route average population average. The full route, including pass-through towns is

expected to be released in March.

"The team at Tipico Sportsbook is thrilled to present this year's RAGBRAI® – an Iowa institution", said Keith Gormley, Vice President, Head of US Marketing at Tipico Sportsbook.

"We know how important this event is to Iowa and to the many riders that travel here to participate. With our mobile app launching soon in the state, we are excited to be on the ground and in the community to introduce our brand, and to support the RAGBRAI® tradition".

About 15,000 registered riders, with participants from all 50 states and a host of international locations, descend on Iowa every year to be part of the "oldest, largest and longest recreational bicycle touring event in the world."

RAGBRAI® is the oldest, largest, and longest recreational touring bicycle ride in the world. Started in 1973 by Des Moines Register reporters John Karras and Donald Kaul, RAGBRAI® is a seven-day bicycle tour that goes from the Missouri River to the Mississippi River with stops in overnight towns along the way.

One of the largest tourism events in the country, a 2008 study by the University of Northern Iowa estimates RAGBRAI's economic impact between \$24 million to \$25 million for the weeklong ride.

SB Coordinators provide a glimpse of events, entertainment and venues

By Wayne Dominowski, SBA Editor
By Sheri Kniple, SBA Feature Writer

(SB) – Do you know what big is? I mean BIG! That's the scope of RAGBRAI® coming to Sergeant Bluff starting the week of July 18-24, 2022. How big? For starters, we're talking 17,000 bike riders, all of whom already registered early (May 1), with a second wave expected to register in early June.

Yea, that BIG!

Visiting with the Sergeant Bluff RAGBRAI® coordinators (City Council members Andrea Johnson and Ron Hanson, Jessica Kneifl, Shari Zenor Kiple, and business owner Jim Burns), they provided the results of their planning to date. The events and timetables presented here do not represent a complete listing, but it provides a glimpse of what's on the events docket during the bikers stay Friday and Saturday (July 22-23). (The bikers begin their historic journey from Sergeant Bluff, across Iowa, on Sunday, July 24.)

EVENTS

*Events to date include vendors along 4th and D Streets. A Beer Garden (opening at noon and going to 11 p.m. with alcohol sales ending at 10:30 p.m.) The latter is open to all and there will be no entry fee. However, individuals en-

See **GLIMPSE** P.13



EVENTS

*Events include vendors along 4th and D Streets. A Beer Garden (opening at noon and going to 11 p.m. with alcohol sales ending at 10:30 p.m.) The latter is open to all and there will be no entry fee. However, individuals entering must be 21 years of age in order to purchase alcoholic beverages. (A wristband will be provided at the entry kiosk, and tickets must be purchased there for beverages.)

*The **RAGBRAI® EXPO** will open at 12 noon and continue to 9 p.m. on D Street. (Vendors must acquire a Vendor Permit from either RAGBRAI.com, SB-City Hall, or the REC Center.)

*The **Municipal Pool and Splash Pad** will be available throughout the week at regular hours, starting at Noon each day and going to 6 p.m. and sometimes later, depending on the day of the week.

***Goat Yoga** (Saturday, July 23) 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. at Splashpad Park.

See **EVENTS** P.2



Playing on the Main Stage during the Sergeant Bluff 2022 RAGBRAI® kickoff!

RAGBRAI
 July 23rd, 2022

Come and join us on the Main Stage in Sergeant Bluff to kick off RAGBRAI!

GET A LITTLE BLUFF ON YOUR TIRES

12:00-2:00
PLACID QUAKE
 During high school, a few of us got together to form a rock band that still plays more than 40 years later. (How many rock bands can boast that?!) We play classic rock and we are loud - but we are a bunch of guys from Iowa who love biking and playing music!

2:30-4:30
SMOKIN' CLAMS
 2015 Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductees, the Smokin Clams have played clubs, bars, street dances and other events across Western Iowa, Northeast Nebraska and the Iowa Lakes area for over 25 years. Siouxland's premier party band plays the classic rock music you love. They bring multiple guitars, keyboards, driving drums rhythms and complex vocal harmonies to every song!

5:00-7:30
WRECKED BECKY
 Wrecked Becky is one of Omaha's Premier Cover Bands! Playing everything from the Beatles to Weezer, their energetic setlists feature spectacular Vocals, monstrous Guitar playing and an aggressive rhythm section, to say the least!!! Come see why Wrecked Becky has fans all over the Midwest! Wreck yourself before ya check yourself!!

8:00-11:00
ABOVE THE COVERS
 Sioux City and Sergeant Bluff's own Above the Covers is an energetic party band that will have you dancing, singing, and rocking out like nobody is watching! Since 2020, they've been bringing their own flavor of fun to Siouxland. They dig their roots into the Pop Punk genre and branch off to include your favorite songs from the 1980s to today's top hits. From sold out shows here in town to late weekend nights in Okoboji, ATC is the life of the party and they are bringing that PARTY TO RAGBRAI!

We will have other entertainment events happening throughout town, so check out the events so you don't miss a thing!!

From **EVENTS P.1**

***Foam Party** (Saturday, July 23) 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. at Splashpad Park.

*80 bike riders from Adaptive Sports of Iowa, CEO Chuck Long will be in SB.

*Bands slated to perform on Saturday, July 23, at the downtown stage located on 4th Street, include Placid Quake (Noon), Smokin' Clams (2:30-4:30 p.m.), Wrecked Becky (5-7:30 p.m.), Above the Covers (8-11 p.m.).

*Every business that wishes to be open may do so.

*Coordinators stressed that: "RAGBRAI® is for the town."

SAFETY, MEDICAL, TRANSPORTATION

*For everyone's comfort and safety, law enforcement officials from the Sergeant Bluff PD, the Woodbury County Sheriff's Office, Sioux City PD and 12 State Hwy. Patrolmen (who remain with the RAGBRAI® riders throughout their Iowa journey) will be present.

***Transportation** will be provided by the S.R.T.S. (Siouxland Regional Transit System), the latter handicap accessible, and the SBL-CSD. Other motor vehicles will not be allowed anywhere within the venue areas. All visitors are encouraged to walk or ride bikes.

***Medical Depots** will be situated at the SB-Baseball-Softball Complex Concession Stand, the Fire Station, and a Mobile Hospital Unit from Merville will be located between the SB-Middle School and High School.

***Showers** will be available at the SB-L CSD and Municipal Swimming Pool Complex.

***Official t-shirts** with the Sergeant Bluff Bike logo are available at Little Red Embroidery, 406-4th Street, Sgt. Bluff, or call 712-259-7811, or email littleredembroidery@hotmail.com, or go online at www.littleredembroidery.com.

RAGBRAI® INFORMATION

*To volunteer to help with RAGBRAI®, please complete the appropriate form obtained at the SB-City Office.

*The RAGBRAI® Facebook can be viewed at: Sergeant Bluff RAGBRAI® 2022. There you will find a comprehensive

*The RAGBRAI® Executive Committee is looking for bikes, flower pots, and other supplies to be used in RAGBRAI® decorations. Please contact: Jessie Kneifl at 712-943-9602 to participate.

*Sponsorship Opportunities are available and may be obtained by contacting Michelle Gaukel at michelle.gaukel@gmail.com.

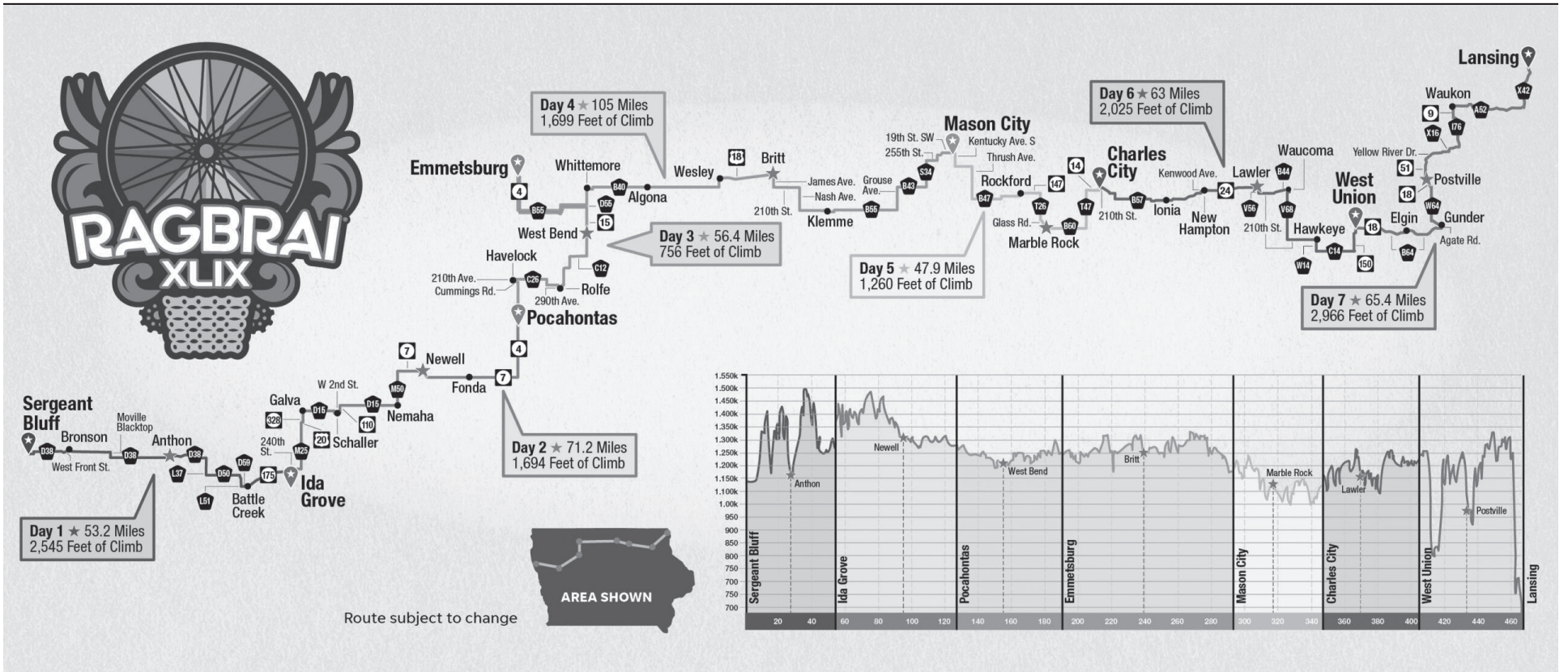
*The RAGBRAI® colors are GREEN, ORANGE AND WHITE, for purposes of community decorations along homes and businesses.

*Housing for registered RAGBRAI® riders are covered for liability purposes under RAGBRAI®. The latter will wear identifying bracelets.

*Hosts wishing to participate and provide available space for camping are to contact the City Office.



The Route



EXPO SATURDAY - JULY 23
SERGEANT BLUFF



DAY 1 SUNDAY - JULY 24
SERGEANT BLUFF TO IDA GROVE

DISTANCE
53.2 mi.

CLIMB
2,545 ft



DAY 2 MONDAY - JULY 25
IDA GROVE TO POCAHONTAS

DISTANCE
71.2 mi.

CLIMB
1,694 ft



DAY 3 TUESDAY - JULY 26
POCAHONTAS TO EMMETTSBURG

DISTANCE
56.4 mi.

CLIMB
1,699 ft



DAY 4 WEDNESDAY - JULY 27
EMMETTSBURG TO MASON CITY

DISTANCE
105 mi.

CLIMB
1,669 ft



DAY 5 THURSDAY - JULY 28
MASON CITY TO CHARLES CITY

DISTANCE
47.9 mi.

CLIMB
1,260 ft



DAY 6 FRIDAY - JULY 29
CHARLES CITY TO WEST UNION

DISTANCE
63 mi.

CLIMB
2,025 ft



DAY 7 SATURDAY - JULY 30
WEST UNION TO LANSING

DISTANCE
65.4 mi.

CLIMB
2,966 ft

Sergeant Bluff ADVOCATE

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Saturday, July 23, 2022
Volume 44, No.29A



Display & Classified
ADVERTISING

Display and Classified advertising deadline is:

Friday's by 1PM

Items received after the 1 PM deadline will be placed in the following issue of The Advocate. Information on display and classified advertising including current display rates, current classified rates, special placements, inserts or advertising mechanics, please contact our office at 712-943-2583 or stop by our offices at Pioneer Mall, 204 First St., #103, Sergeant Bluff, IA 51054.

Hours of OPERATION

Monday-Friday
9AM-4PM



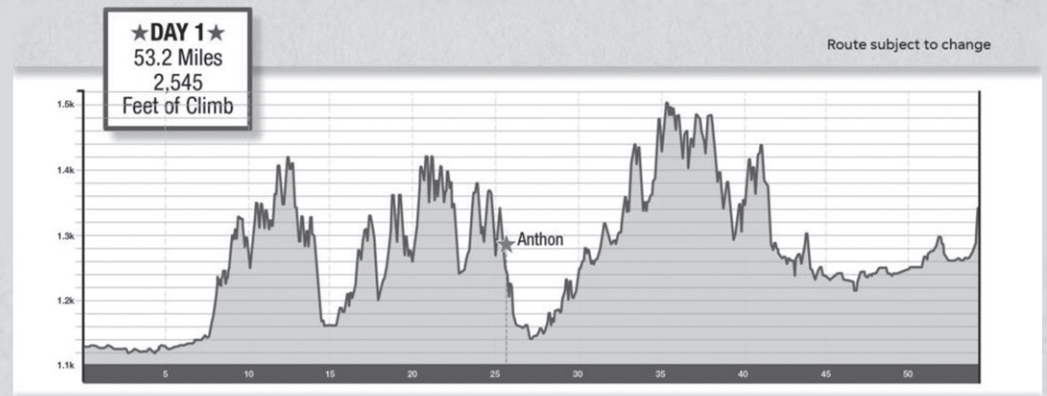
Member of the
IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



SERGEANT BLUFF TO IDA GROVE

Sunday, July 24

Air Force 75th Anniversary, Mile of Silence



Sergeant
Bluff



D38

Bronson

West Front St.

Moville
Blacktop

D38

Anthon

L37

D38

L51

D50

D59

175

Battle
Creek



Ida
Grove



RAGBRAI® XLIX IS DEDICATED TO CO-FOUNDER JOHN KARRAS

**WELCOME ALL SIOUXLAND FRIENDS
AND RAGBRAI® RIDERS!**

***The Venue at AGGIE'S
(The Catering Specialists)***

Aggies



*Doors open both Friday and Saturday (July 22-23).

*Serving our FAMOUS MENU from 2 – 10 p.m.

*Our Bar is Open for your favorite beverage.

107 Sergeant Square Dr., Sergeant Bluff, IA.

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www.aggiesbbq.com

The Route



IDA GROVE TO POCAHONTAS
 Monday, July 25
 PeopleForBikes Day, College Jersey Day

★ DAY 2 ★
 71.2 Miles
 1,694 Feet of Climb

AREA SHOWN

Route subject to change

RAGBRAI® XLIX IS DEDICATED TO CO-FOUNDER JOHN KARRAS

POCAHONTAS TO EMMETSBURG
 Tuesday, July 26
 Dream Team 25th Anniversary Day

★ DAY 3 ★
 56.4 Miles
 756 Feet of Climb

OPTIONAL GRAVEL
 48 Miles
 815 Feet of Climb

AREA SHOWN

Route subject to change

RAGBRAI® XLIX IS DEDICATED TO CO-FOUNDER JOHN KARRAS

CHARLES CITY TO WEST UNION
 Friday, July 29
 Iowa State Patrol Appreciation Day

★ DAY 6 ★
 63 Miles
 2,025 Feet of Climb

AREA SHOWN

Route subject to change

RAGBRAI® XLIX IS DEDICATED TO CO-FOUNDER JOHN KARRAS

MASON CITY TO CHARLES CITY
 Thursday, July 28
 Charlie Harper Day, Crazy Socks Day

★ DAY 5 ★
 47.9 Miles
 1,260 Feet of Climb

AREA SHOWN

Route subject to change

RAGBRAI® XLIX IS DEDICATED TO CO-FOUNDER JOHN KARRAS

EMMETSBURG TO MASON CITY
 Wednesday, July 27
 John Karras Day, RAGBRAI Jersey Day

★ DAY 4 ★
 105 Miles
 1,699 Feet of Climb

AREA SHOWN

Route subject to change

RAGBRAI® XLIX IS DEDICATED TO CO-FOUNDER JOHN KARRAS

WEST UNION TO LANSING
 Saturday, July 30
 Tire Dip

★ DAY 7 ★
 65.4 Miles
 2,966 Feet of Climb

AREA SHOWN

Route subject to change

RAGBRAI® XLIX IS DEDICATED TO CO-FOUNDER JOHN KARRAS

From the annals of Smithsonian Magazine

The Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa

By Megan Gambino, Senior Editor Smithsonian Magazine - July 1, 2009

(Special) - In the late 1960s, John Karras, a copy editor for the Des Moines Register, and his colleague Donald Kaul, a columnist for the paper, began to pile their ten-speed bicycles into Karras' Volkswagen bus and drive outside of Des Moines, where they'd ride a couple times a week. They were city boys. Karras grew up in Cleveland and Kaul in Detroit, and neither had spent much time on bikes since they were kids. But they were soon enamored with cycling, especially as a way to explore rural Iowa. Eventually they ventured further and further from home and by 1971, Karras and Kaul rode 125 miles from Des Moines to Iowa City. Karras recalls the trip took them about 13 hours, and the accomplishment got them thinking, why not pedal across the entire state in one week?

The journalists pitched the idea to the Register as a promotional event; they'd file stories about their experience

public.

"I wrote a little story, about six inches maybe," says Karras, now 79. "Donald Kaul and

ently, ran on July 22, 1973, and the six-day, 410-mile ride was scheduled to start in Sioux City, near the Nebraska-Iowa

official start, a motel parking lot. As the peloton, which swelled to about 500 people in the 40 miles or so between well-populated Ames and Des Moines, snaked through the cornfields, farmers offered up their hoses, towns supplied free sandwiches and school kids were let out to slap hands with 83-year-old Clarence Pickard, the oldest on the ride. At the end of the day, Karras and Kaul retired to motel rooms, where they would write stories on their portable typewriters and dictate them over the phone to the paper's city desk. Other riders staked out places to camp, often right on the motel grounds.



in the saddle. Really, Karras admits, they wanted to see if the newspaper would cover their expenses. The managing editor approved, but with one suggestion: Open it up to the

I had this incredibly stupid idea to ride across the state and anybody who wanted to come with us was welcome to do that." The actual announcement, worded slightly differ-

border, on August 26.

"We didn't expect anybody to show up, maybe three or four teenagers," says Karras. To his surprise, about 250 cyclists greeted them at the

Though only 114 of the riders on the Great Six-Day Bicycle Ride Across Iowa made it to the finish in Davenport, a tradition was born. Now in

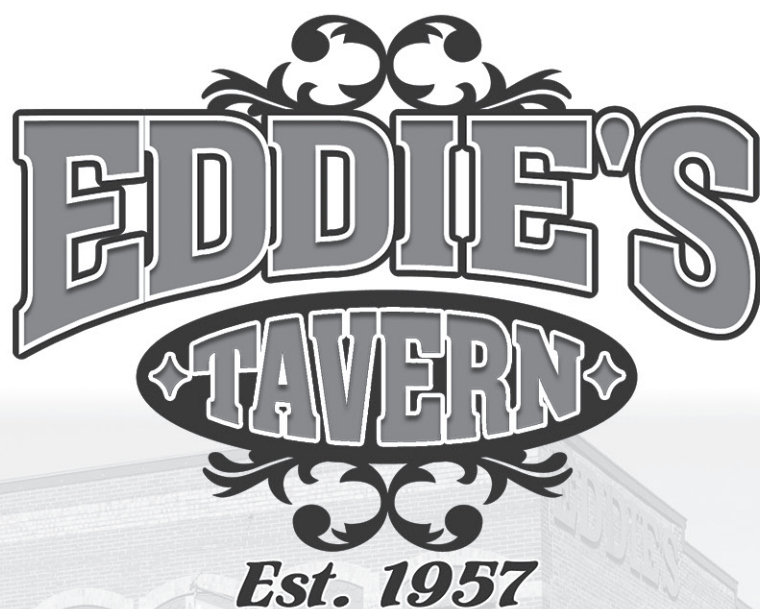
See **RIDE** P.11

BIG GROVE BREWERY

Emmetsburg Lansing
 Sergeant Bluff Mason City Charles City West Union
 Pocahontas
 Ida Grove

BIG GROVE BREWERY
RAGBRAI XLIX
 TAILWIN Golden Ale
 TAILWIND Golden Ale
 ILWIND Golden Ale

EDDIE'S, THE RIDE STARTS HERE!



Come see Kari at the She Shed for a home made Maid Rite or a pulled pork sandwich with chips.

Check out the grill. Grilling Greg will be cooking Grilled Bacon Wrapped Copsicles and Home Wreckers on a Stick.

SHIRT SHACK, plenty of Eddies t-shirts, tanks and koozies.

GAMES, DRINKS, BEER, AND FUN

Come over and cool down by our fan misters.

COFFEE, FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY ON THE PATIO.

407 D St., Sergeant Bluff, IA. 712-943-9924

Sergeant Bluff gets ready for a RAGBRAI® sleepover

By Shari Zenor Kiple, RAGBRAI® Marketing Volunteer

(SB) - Sergeant Bluff is gearing up for a giant sleepover later this month, as the Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa kicks off in our community on July 22-24.

Visiting Sergeant Bluff last month, RAGBRAI® officials said they have 18,000+ registered riders along with at least 1,500 support personnel. They expect many more riders to register at the RAGBRAI® Expo on July 23, the day before the ride leaves from Sergeant Bluff.

"We've had a tremendous response this year," stated

RAGBRAI® Director Matt Phippen. "People are definitely back and ready to ride bicycles."

Since RAGBRAI® is largely a camping event, local volunteers have worked diligently to provide campsites at many green spaces throughout town including the Parks & Recreation trail area, the Sergeant Bluff-Luton school grounds, and local parks. These spaces will become tent cities for thousands of riders later this month.

And thanks to the efforts of
See **SLEEPOVER** P.9

RAGBRAI® Dream Team



RAGBRAI® Dream Team members hold signs announcing the 2022 over night towns during the RAGBRAI® route announcement party at HyVee Hall in Des Moines, Friday, Jan. 28, 2022. Sergeant Bluff starts it off and our representative is seen the furthest left followed by the order of towns that will hold stopovers. The two photographers in the foreground are Mayor Jon Winkel and City Council Member Ron Hanson.



DON'T FORGET TO GET YOUR SERGEANT BLUFF KICKOFF APPAREL



Get your OFFICIAL Sergeant Bluff t-shirt to remember 2022 RAGBRAI® and show your community pride!



406 4th Street, Suite A
Sergeant Bluff, IA 51054
712.259.7811
littleredembroidery@hotmail.com
littleredembroidery.com



A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS FUNDS RAGBRAI COMMUNITY PROJECTS

***Welcome cicylists, friends and visitors!**

Bienvenidos ciclistas, amigos y visitantes!

Our FULL MENU includes:

- *12 Appetizers, *14 Side Orders, *8 Salads, *10 Burrito Platters, *6 Enchilada Platters, *21 Awesome Selections from the Grill
- A Selection of *8 Quesadillas, *15 Seafood Selections, *9 Vegetarian Dinners, *10 Fajitas, *5 T-Bone Dinner Selections, *7 Steak Dinner Selections, *12 Special Entrees



***Your Choice of Margarita, Wine, Beer (Draft, Domestic, Imported), Mixed Drinks, Tequila, and variety of soft drinks.**

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Fri: 11:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Sat: 11:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Sun: 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

SERVING SOME BREAKFAST RAGBRAI® HOURS:
July 22 (9AM-10PM)
July 23 (8AM-10PM)

YOUR HOMETOWN FAREWAY® STORE

Centrally located for all your needs to start the week. We carry farm fresh produce and the highest quality of meat for grilling.

*Farm Fresh Produce

*Exception Quality Meat
for Grilling

*Large selection of Spirits & Beer

*NEW Large Section of Beers, Soda & Water

*Try some of the local Sioux City brewed beers.

ICE

ICE



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<https://www.fareway.com/stores/store/93>

Store Hours: Monday - Saturday
8 a.m. - 9 p.m. (closed Sundays)

Adaptive Sports Iowa team starts 11th RAGBRAI® in Sergeant Bluff

By Shari Zenor Kiple, RAGBRAI® Marketing Volunteer



(SB) - Adaptive Sports Iowa, a nonprofit that provides sports & recreation opportunities for Iowans with physical disabilities, will bring a team of about 60 riders to kick off RAGBRAI®, the Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa, which starts in Sergeant Bluff on July 24.

"Anyone and everyone who has a physical disability who wants to ride on RAGBRAI® can join the team," explained Hannah Lundeen, CTRS, director of Adaptive Sports Iowa. Limited abilities may mean use of a wheelchair, amputation, visual impairment, and health issues that cause physical restrictions.

Heading into the morning sun, a member of the ASI Team.

"We provide about 12 different sports and rec programs throughout the year, but RAGBRAI® is definitely our most popular," Lundeen added. "We're the only adaptive sports organization on the ride."

As a result, ASI has a relationship with RAGBRAI® officials that is mutually beneficial. RAGBRAI® tells cyclists with physical disabilities about the nonprofit and helps connect ASI with local resources in overnight towns.

ASI's first RAGBRAI® was in

See **ADAPTIVE P.14**

HAPPY TRAILS

(as in bike trails) to YOU!

GET YOUR SERGEANT BLUFF KICKOFF APPAREL HERE!

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Jennifer Rassel

Hours of Operation:
M-T-W-F: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursdays: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
littleredembroidery@hotmail.com

From **SLEEPOVER P.7**

RAGBRAI® volunteers Francine Stewart and Molly Bixelman, our local Housing Committee coordinators, thousands of other riders will set up camp in neighborhoods throughout Sergeant Bluff.

Longtime school friends, Stewart and Bixelman have been a powerful and productive team. "We love to help our community in any way we can," said Stewart.

"Sergeant Bluff is our home, and we always love when people come visit our little community," added Bixelman. "RAGBRAI® brings in a lot of people from all over the country, and it gives us the chance to show why we are such a great town!"

The Housing Committee began working on April 24 and has found housing for nearly 3,100 riders in local Sergeant Bluff homes and yards.

"It is insane...and incredible!" Stewart shared. "We could not have done this without our fabulous friends and families throughout the Bluff."

There are about 50 local hosts allowing people to stay in their homes, park in their driveways, and/or tent in their yards.

"We try to match riders with our families, and that's how we'll get to know the riders and their teams," noted Stewart. "I think that's why you'll see so much positive feedback on the group's Facebook page."

Local residents establish all the boundaries for riders and teams. For example, it's

up to homeowners whether to allow access to showers and indoor sleeping arrangements... and whether to provide snacks.

According to local Housing Committee volunteers, riders are grateful for every gesture of kindness. Their most common requests so far have been for things like portable toilets, electrical outlets, and close proximity to the RAGBRAI® Expo.

"Our most unusual request was a team of 30 that wanted to have half of its people inside and half in tents," said Bixelman. "That was challenging!"

Local organizers have done their best to accommodate riders and teams of all sizes.

For example, Iowa Air National Guard's 185th Air Refueling Wing will take in about 140 participants.

And at the Sergeant Bluff-Luton High School, SB-L's After Prom Party planners will host 150 riders from Pork Belly Ventures, a private, full-service charter.

"Riders were looking for air conditioned space, so we're opening up the high school commons, hallways, and entryway areas to them," said Jenni McCrory, a junior parent helping with the fundraiser.

As part of its services to RAGBRAI® riders, Pork Belly Ventures provides amenities such as meals, showers, entertainment, and tent set-up. Participants who choose to stay at the high school will pay an extra fee to sleep in the climate-controlled space.

Welcome to...



Mateo
KITCHEN & CATERING

Mateo Kitchen & Catering is a simple and casual dine in restaurant, that offers mostly Filipino cuisine and some other Asian dishes.

The dishes in our menu are mostly served on special occasions at Filipino events or get togethers. such as HEARTY BEEF STEW (KALDERTA), ROASTED PORK BELLY, or LECHON, (PANCIT BIHON) or THIN RICE NOODLES, and many other specialty selections. We also have vegan, or vegetarian dishes and/or gluten free dishes.



Mateo

Fil-Am Kitchen and Catering

300 1st Street, Ste A,
Sergeant Bluff, Iowa.
(712) 943-1551



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OUR NEW MEMBER DEAL JUST GOT
BETTER!



WELCOME TO CLUB BLACKBIRD

Your free membership will make your experience at Blackbird Bend even more rewarding. You will automatically earn points for every dollar you spend playing your favorite games.

CLAIM YOUR
NEW MEMBER
BENEFITS

\$15 FREE PLAY + **\$5 OFF MEAL** + **1 FREE BEER**



Come back and see us...
You can visit a kiosk and claim
\$10 IN FREE PLAY once during each of these periods:



GET MORE FREE PLAY!
FOR THREE MORE WEEKS!

PERIOD 1 - One week from sign up day and the six days following.
PERIOD 2 - Two weeks from sign up day and the six days following.
PERIOD 3 - Three weeks from sign up day and six days following.



Blackbird Bend
Casino

35 MI SOUTH OF SIOUX CITY

1-29 S TO EXIT 112 1.844.622.2121

Proudly hosted and operated by the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska and Iowa.
Some restrictions apply. Management reserves the right to alter or cancel promotions at any time without prior notice.

Law Enforcement, Medical crews on hand
Officials agree: Public safety is #1 priority for RAGBRAI®

By Shari Zenor Kiple, RAGBRAI® Marketing Volunteer

(SB) - During a stop last week in Sergeant Bluff, RAGBRAI® Director Matt Phippen shared a clear message with local officials: "This ride doesn't function without all of you."

His audience for the June 20 meeting? Representatives from the Sergeant Bluff Police Department, Sergeant Bluff Fire & Rescue, Woodbury County Sheriff's Office, Sioux City Police Department, and Iowa Air National Guard's 185th Air Refueling Wing, along with City of Sergeant Bluff staff and city council members and local RAGBRAI® volunteers.

Thousands of riders expected

"Our goal is to get more than 20,000 riders across the state," Phippen said.

RAGBRAI® officials said they have more than 18,000 registered riders along with up to 1,500 support personnel. Additional riders are expected to register at the RAGBRAI® Expo on July 23, the day before the ride leaves from Sergeant Bluff.

"We've had a tremendous response this year," stated Phippen. "People are definitely back and ready to ride bicycles."

What is impossible to estimate is the number of local and regional cyclists who will hop on to the ride when it begins from Sergeant Bluff.

It's also hard to gauge when participants will begin arriving in town for the ride. Whenever that happens, however, RAGBRAI® officials believe they will be ready.

"The first town is always a little different," explained Anne

Lawrie, marketing director at RAGBRAI®. "We have a host of meetings for new riders, so we'll have some people coming in Thursday, and the rest of the crew showing up on Friday to set up for the RAGBRAI® Expo."

Free and open to the public, the RAGBRAI® Expo will showcase bike shops, bicycle/component manufacturers, travel and tour operators, and cycling industry retailers, and other vendors—about 80 in all. The Expo will be set up at the intersection of 4th & D Streets in Sergeant Bluff, not far from where the stage and the beer garden will be located.

Officers from RAGBRAI® and the Iowa State Patrol, the Sergeant Bluff Police Department, and Woodbury County Sheriff's Office will be out in full force near the beer garden and throughout town.

"We are not out to arrest every drunk person because that would take too long," shared one officer. "We're really just asking for compliance."

Medical crews on hand

When RAGBRAI® comes into town, the organization brings extensive services with it—including several Iowa State Patrol officers and a comprehensive medical crew.

To manage ambulance and medical services through the entire RAGBRAI® route, Care Ambulance provides four ambulances, each with a nurse and physician, a first aid truck, and two quick response motorcycles that stay nearby when riders need medical assistance. This

See SAFETY P.14

- *The Micah Project
- *Micah Fairtrade
- *T&W Enterprises
- *A Beautiful Mess by Samantha
- *My Rustic Cottage
- *Breyer B's Handmade Designs
- *Knock Out Looks by Jessica
- *J&S Custom Designs
- *Homemade with love by Susie
- *Be Happy Boutique
- *DJ's Designs
- *Smiling Moon Boutique
- *Mrs M's Home Decor
- *In the Stands Apparel
- *K&E Beads
- *Moon Dust Farms
- *Prairie Son Wood Craft
- *Texas Resin Brothers
- *Sky+Rainne Design
- *Next Step Creations
- *Petes Birdhouses
- *Allegory Merchantile
- *Baby Raes Boutique
- *Laurel Berry Soaps and Sundries
- *Clay by Jestina Rae
- *Knit/Crochet Works by Ricarda
- *Rebah Leigh's Boutique
- *HJK Handcraft Designs
- *Family Ties Boutique
- *Little Bits N Pieces
- *Wild Child Creations
- *Kellys Gnomes
- *Rustic Family Traditions
- *Its-a-flip & more
- *Angel Creations
- *Off the hook by Vanessa
- *Windy Hill Merchantile
- *Be Radiant Boutique
- *Healing HeARTS Art Studio
- *Trouts Wood Craft
- *Funny Farm Crafts
- *Lokal Vintage
- *Wine girl
- *Kat's Crafty Creations
- *Drenkhahn Honey Farms
- *Embellished Boutique
- *Rustic Bootique
- *Hopes Hidden Treasures
- *S&F Customs Designs
- *jason pfitzer photography
- *Sunny Days Creations and Wine
- *The Big Apple Lady
- *K&D Photo Art
- *Divine Oil Co.
- *Jeremiah's Marble Portraits
- *Be Happy Boutique
- *Mallets honey
- *Cake pops by Sara
- *King Mings N Things
- *Sonshine and Blooms
- *My Rustic Cottage
- *Yumi photographs
- *Soulshine

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<https://g.co/kgs/VN3c1U>





From **RIDE** P.6

its 37th year, the Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa, or RAGBRAI® (pronounced Rag-bray by Karras, and Rag-brye by most everyone else), held the last full week in July, is the longest, largest and oldest touring bike ride in the world, with some 20,000 day- and weeklong-riders from 27 countries.

As Karras would later describe in his book RAGBRAI®: Everyone Pronounces it Wrong, the gaggle included cyclists such as Carter LeBeau of Davenport. LeBeau was on a three speed in jean cut offs and red-striped rugby socks. He bought a 12-pack of the socks and convinced three friends to come and wear them too. Now 82, LeBeau has ridden in all 36 so far, sporting his trademark tube socks each time. He had just gotten off his stationary bike when I called him. "I don't care if you're in Germany or Sweden," he said. "Bicyclers know two things, the Tour de France and RAGBRAI®."

By LeBeau's definition, I became a true bicycler last year, when I entered my first RAGBRAI®. The west-east route varies from year to year, and the 2008 ride would be a 471-mile stretch just north of Interstate 80, from Missouri Valley on the Missouri River to Le Claire on the Mississippi. With the mileage per day ranging from 52 to 83, all but the shortest day would be longer than my personal best of about 55 miles. But I had heard that RAGBRAI® was a party on wheels and figured that if people could do it hung-over, sometimes even in costumes, I could manage it sober and with the proper gear.

My boyfriend Ryan and I registered by the April 1 deadline and paid the \$140 fee, guaranteeing us designated campsites at parks, fairgrounds and school campuses along the way and the ability to throw our baggage on a semi truck each morning to be hauled to the next overnight town. The event's organizers cap the numbers at 8,500 weeklong and 1,500 daylong riders, understanding that up to 10,000 riders jump in unregistered and have friends or family drive support vehicles along the way. We found out we made the lottery in May, and by late July, strapped our Treks to the back of Ryan's Ford Explorer and drove to Iowa.

About a hundred miles outside of Missouri Valley, we started witnessing the circus-like quality of RAGBRAI®. Reconditioned school buses painted bright colors, inscribed with wacky team names and outfitted with rooftop bike racks barreled past us on the interstate and were peppered throughout the town once we arrived. A cotton-

candy pink one transporting the "Sigourney Weavers" was parked right near the playground where we pitched our tent the first night, between the swings and the monkey bars.

The event's organizers cap the numbers at 8,500 weeklong and 1,500 daylong riders, understanding that up to 10,000 riders jump in unregistered.

Then, there were the riders to gawk at come morning, as we set out in a steady stream. Like the originals, they are still a rag-tag group—whole families on tandems, people blaring "Thunderstruck" or "Sweet Home Alabama" from sound systems in wagons trailing behind them and riders on towering unicycles.

Teams go to comical lengths to identify themselves; "Team Pie Hunters" doggedly pursued pie sold at churches and school fundraisers in each town and wore Styrofoam slices of their favorite kinds—cherry, apple, key lime—on top of their helmets.

The vendors and onlookers along the route are often as entertaining as the riders. Within the first few miles on the first day, we were just gaining momentum when we circled a bend and spotted a mass of cyclists forming a line just off the road.

The Pancake Man, Jim Kuper of Council Bluffs, Iowa, was busy tending to a grill that he jury-rigged to make 96 pancakes every two minutes. A box that slides over the grill dispenses batter four pancakes at a time. "We flip them over our heads, around our back and onto a plate," says Kuper, a RAGBRAI® personality for 24 years now. "They always challenge me to see if I can throw a pancake 50 or 60 feet. I'm good to about 40 feet."

Further down the road, we found Mr. Pork Chop, who sets up a pink bus with a corkscrew tail and hawks pork chops. In Coon Rapids, Iowa, we held a squealing piglet at a makeshift petting zoo in the main street of town. "The thing that has really astonished me over the years is the imagination of these people," says Karras, who is taking Spinning classes to train for his 33rd ride. Karras remembers a bunch of farmers in northwest Iowa who got together and figured out how to square dance with tractors. "They were steering like hell, dosey-do-ing," he says.

Amidst the circus, there are also signs of old-fashioned America. Lemonade stands spring up at the ends of driveways, Slip 'N Slides spread across yards and cheerleaders and mayors often greet riders at the entrances into towns. When we made it to Underwood, the first town about 25

miles outside Missouri Valley, little kids in cowboy boots were handing out silver sheriff badge stickers. "The hometown goodness of Iowa still applies today like it did back in 1973," says T.J. Juskiewicz, RAGBRAI's director. In fact, he says, it's RAGBRAI's greatest resource.

When it comes to hospitality, towns maneuver to outdo each other. People offer up rooms in their homes and yards for overnight campers, home-cooked meals and dips in their swimming pools. "They have this mi casa, su casa mentality," says Juskiewicz. One time, LeBeau and a friend had made arrangements to stay at a stranger's home along the way, and when they showed up there was no one home, just a note on the door directing them to their rooms and the keys to the Oldsmobile parked in the garage.

The preparation it takes for a town of 3,500 or less to handle the onslaught of 20,000 cyclists is a feat in itself. Towns hosting the event are responsible for coordinating public safety and signage right down to how much ketchup is needed for the barbecues. And, in the end, it seems as though the sense of accomplishment felt by the towns is as great as that of the riders.

It's the things you can't control, like the weather, that are the most stressful, according to Juskiewicz. On my

journey, we experienced this in Harlan, Iowa, on the second night of the ride, when we awoke to sirens, the thrashing of our tent and a loudspeaker advising everyone to take shelter. A band of storms coming through was bringing high winds, lots of rain and a possible tornado. "It's July in Iowa," says Juskiewicz. "It can get kind of dicey sometimes."

The truly treacherous days in RAGBRAI® history are always remembered. "Soggy Monday," of 1981, left many hitching \$5 rides from Iowans with pickups and cattle trucks. "If you want to know what Monday was like, get on your exercise bike and crank down the tension so that you can hardly turn the pedals then, have someone spray you lightly with a hose while a high-speed fan blows on you. Pedal for 10 hours," wrote Donald Kaul in his recap of the day.

Then, in 1995, on "Saggy Thursday," winds of up to 40 miles per hour left many piling into the ride's sag wagons, for tired riders. Commemorative patches were made for both days; the harder the ride, the prouder the riders are for having weathered it. Headwinds, heat rashes and cold showers (both outside, and inside locker rooms) are all part of the adventure.

For Ryan and me, it didn't take long to decide that we'd be back for RAGBRAI® again,

joining the 66 percent of riders every year that are repeaters. Under bright blue skies and with the wind at our backs, we spent the last day's 52-mile ride devising a team jersey for the crew of friends we hoped would join us. Would we get an RV? Doctor up a bus? Camp? Those would be details to work out, but it would be done. We sailed downhill into the river town of Le Claire, birthplace of Buffalo Bill, dunked our wheel in the Mississippi, as is tradition, and lifted our bikes above our heads in victory. We had done it—all 471 miles.

Heading home, we drove back across Iowa on the interstate. What took us seven days by bike took us four and a half hours, but when we noticed the names of towns we had ridden through listed on exit signs, we found ourselves reminiscing about the young violinist who serenaded us in Mount Vernon, the little market where we ate corn on the cob and fed the husks to the goats in Homestead and the monster hill between Ogden and Boone, Iowa, birthplace of Mamie Eisenhower. "From a car, Iowa is fairly dull," says Karras. "But from a bike seat, it can be beautiful."

ED. NOTE. Megan Gambino is a senior web editor for Smithsonian magazine.

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Everything and anything you wish to know about SB major event

Sergeant Bluff finalizes RAGBRAI® op plans

By Shari Zenor Kiple, RAGBRAI® Marketing Volunteer

The Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa is coming to Sergeant Bluff on July 22-24, and the community is gearing up for cyclists and support crews who will be coming in from around the country. Local residents met July 6 to share updates on preparations for RAGBRAI®.

LONG-TERM PARKING

Long-term parking will be provided in the old MCI building parking lot along Sergeant Square. Planners have already approved extended parking for nearly 100 vehicles whose owners will begin RAGBRAI® in Sergeant Bluff and return after the ride ends July 30.

"So far we have registered vehicles from every state west of Iowa, plus many eastern states, as well," stated Ron Hanson, who led the meeting.

CAMPGROUNDS

Campgrounds Committee chairs Neil and Beth Stockfleth next provided updates on campground locations for the largest teams coming into town.

"We've been working with every group over 30 people, coordinating with transportation, law enforcement, and other volunteer teams to make sure everything goes smoothly in the campgrounds throughout town,"

said Neil Stockfleth. "These large groups are called charters and they are full-service organizations that provide all kinds of amenities for the riders."

The largest charter has about 1,500 cyclists, for example, and the second largest charter has more than 700 riders

Stockfleth said these groups will come into Sergeant Bluff well before the weekend.

"Some of those large charters will start pre-staging starting on Wednesday, July 20, and soon after that there will be busses of 50 to 100 riders rolling in as the event gets closer."

The largest campground will surround the Sergeant Bluff ball fields complex and the trail area. Charter unloading will occur in the Recreation Center parking lot, entering from the south park entrance off U.S. Highway 75 and exiting out the north road back on to the Highway 75.

From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, July 23, groups of Boy Scouts and high school students will serve as campground valets to assist riders to transport their gear from the unloading area to various campground sites. Planners intend to keep the walking trail and the lanes between the ball fields open for emergency

response services.

Charter campgrounds will cover much of the Sergeant Bluff-Luton Primary and Elementary school grounds and countless other green spaces throughout town.

The Campgrounds Committee has been working to accommodate registered RAGBRAI® charters, they realize there will be many people who show up at the last minute. "Unregistered campers will be charged \$50 to utilize our prepared campgrounds, unless they want to use the area south of the City Water plant," explained Stockfleth.

In addition to needing more volunteers on the days RAGBRAI® is in town, the Campground Committee has another urgent request.

"Especially for our larger campgrounds, we need to borrow as many wagons and wheelbarrows as possible for the valets to use," said Stockfleth. Local residents willing to lend their wagons and wheelbarrows may email stockfam@longlines.com.

HOUSING

Groups with fewer than 30 riders will camp in neighborhoods throughout the community. While the Housing Committee has placed more than 3,100 registered RAGBRAI® riders in 50+



local homes, planners said there is still great demand for small-group housing. Area homeowners may contact Francine Stewart at 712-560-2793 or Molly Bixelman at 712-539-9477 if they wish to house registered riders.

ENTERTAINMENT

Along with four bands starting at noon and running until 11 p.m., other RAGBRAI® entertainment will include a giant foam party and goat yoga by the splashpad. Check "Sergeant Bluff RAGBRAI 2022" on Facebook for times as the event gets closer.

To help shuttle riders pass the time while waiting for the busses, planners will have giant blowup easels and "fun centers" with bubbles and sidewalk chalk at several places along the route.

There will also be a RAGBRAI® scavenger hunt in Sergeant Bluff. To complete the hunt, participants will need to take selfies at various locations in our community and show them to Information Center volunteers before receiving their prizes.

BEER GARDEN

There will be a beer garden on D Street with the following rules: 1. Beer must be consumed within the fenced area. 2. There is no age requirement but wristband (ver-

fying age) is required to purchase alcohol. 3. All beer will be sold by tickets only.

A VIP beer garden will also be available.

VENDORS

D Street will become restaurant row, as up to 20 vendors feature options for every taste. Food vendors will also provide meals at the Sergeant Bluff-Luton Middle School and Elementary School on Saturday.

INFORMATION CENTER

While RAGBRAI® is in town, there will be three Information Centers throughout the community. While these are designed for RAGBRAI® participants, all are welcome to have their questions answered! Information Center volunteer Amber Bliss has been coordinating an Information Center handbook that will include everything from where to catch the shuttle to how late certain local businesses are open. These handbooks will be available at the Information Centers and also with RAGBRAI® volunteers in key areas.

At press time, RAGBRAI® planners expect to have three Information Centers at key Sergeant Bluff locations: Elevate

See **PLANS P.14**

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- *Assorted Fruit - \$6
- *Bananas (1) - \$2
- *Apple (1) - \$2
- *Bacon Biscuit Sandwich - \$8
- *Sausage Biscuit Sandwich - \$7
- *Sausage Patties (2) - \$3
- *Bacon (3) - \$4
- *Scrambled Eggs - \$3
- *French Toast Sticks - \$5
- *Breakfast Potato - \$4

Lunch/Dinner

- (All sandwich prices include the fixins')
- *Iowa-in-a-Bag (Corn Chips, Pulled Pork, BBQ Sauce @ Sweet Corn) - \$7
 - *Pulled Pork Sandwich - \$10
 - *Grilled Chicken Sandwich - \$10
 - *Angus Burger - \$10
 - *Pizza by the Slice (Sausage, Pepperoni, Cheese, or Combo) (Large Slice) - \$5
 - *Penne Alfredo/Marinara - \$10 (Add Chicken \$2)
 - *Grilled Chicken Salad - \$7
 - *Side Salad - \$5
 - *Taco-in-a-Bag - \$7

Sides

- *Kettle Chips - \$2
- *Chips (Variety Pack) - \$2
- *Fried Potatoes - \$4

Dessert

- *Pie by the Slice - \$4
- *Cookies - \$3
- *Dessert Bars - \$4
- *Muffins - \$4



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JUST Bluffing

By Ann Petersen, SBA Columnist

RAGBRAI® XLIX

Sergeant Bluff, Iowa ☉ July 23, 2022

13

(SB) - In less than a month, the population of our town will increase by about 18,000 riders for a single day and night. RAGBRAI® 2022 begins in Sergeant Bluff on Saturday, July 23rd through Sunday, July 24th. Being an "overnight" stop during RAGBRAI® is a major undertaking for any community, and especially for a town as small as Sergeant Bluff. Various committees have been active since January to ensure that we will make a good showing when the bikers come to town.

RAGBRAI® is "the world's biggest annual mobile party." Participation is not inexpensive as each rider pays \$175 registration fee and also must pay for housing (homes that will host riders for free are in high demand!) food and entertainment along the way. Those who drive "support vehicles" add the cost of gas as well as a registration fee of \$35 per person. Each vehicle requires a \$40 payment for a personal vehicle. RV/bus costs an additional \$90, and RV/bus with trailer is \$110. A straight truck, U-Haul is \$80 with an additional \$20 fee for a trailer. Registration is no longer done by lottery; instead, the tickets are first come, first serve. There is a limit to the number of registered riders/support personnel, although many other riders without registration participate in the event.

Each overnight town is responsible for meeting the needs of each rider and hundreds of volunteers are needed to assure a good experience for those who spend a day and a night in our town. This work is divided into committees including beverage garden, campground, communications, entertainment and special events, hospitality, food and vendor, housing, information center, medical, publicity, public safety, showers and sanitation, transportation and more. Volunteers are always welcome!

I had an opportunity this week to chat with two of the members of the Hospitality committee, Jenni McCrory and Carol Clark. Their job is to present a welcoming environment for the riders as they roll into town and then the next day when the riders leave town. Right now, the committee is working on displays including brightly colored pots full of beautiful flowers. The committee didn't need to buy a single flowerpot—all the containers were donated by Sergeant Bluff residents. Southdale Nursery has been generous in supplying flowers at a reasonable cost.

Another decorative element in town is three different photo background areas where riders can take photos of themselves as a memory of their visit to Sergeant Bluff. One

particularly impressive area features an arch comprised of old bicycles. Port Neal Welding put the arch together. Another photo area will be created by Jenice Pry using hand-created murals. Other decorations feature old bicycle wheels crafted as pin wheels. Every decoration in town will also feature a large pot of colorful, growing flowers.

The intent of the decorations is to show off the beauty of our town. Such effort, however, requires a large volunteer commitment. July 19th will be a town clean-up day. Judy Monson and Jenni McCrory will use volunteer labor to pick up the detritus that is evident in town, particularly in the ditches or behind some homes. Such an effort can be aided if community members pay attention to their own yards and as they travel around town, pulling weeds and picking up any trash that they see.

After a good meal and a great night of sleep, riders will hop on their bikes as early as 6:00 a.m. to pedal the 53.2 miles from Sergeant Bluff to the next overnight stop in Ida Grove. Carol Clark would like to have hundreds of our citizens out lining the streets to wave goodbye to the riders in a "Grand Farewell" between 6:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. Volunteers can wear their pajamas if they wish and may create signs to show our support for the riders as they depart on Sunday. The riders will start at the community center, ride along the portion of Warrior Road that abuts the community center area, then turn left on Old Lakeport Road and then right at Rogers' Corner going east towards Bronson. Those citizens who will be waving goodbye would be wise to walk or ride their own bicycles to a spot along the town route to say goodbye to our town.

The RAGBRAI® Committee is still in need of additional volunteers to staff several information sites including at the Rec Center, in front of City Hall and in the area by the Unity Point Clinic. If you are interested in signing up as a volunteer, there are volunteer sheets available online or you can call Jessie Kneifl at the Maintenance Facility. Such a venture needs our entire "village" to pull off such an important event!

From GLIMPSE P.1

tering must be 21 years of age in order to purchase alcoholic beverages. (A wristband will be provided at the entry kiosk, and tickets must be purchased there for beverages.)

*The RAGBRAI® EXPO will open at 12 noon and continue to 9 p.m. on D Street. (Vendors must acquire a Vendor Permit from either RAGBRAI.com, SB-City Hall, or the REC Center.)

*The Municipal Pool and Splash Pad will be available throughout the week at regular hours, starting at Noon each day and going to 6 p.m. and sometimes later, depending on the day of the week.

*Planned are Goat Yoga and a Foam Party.

*80 bike riders from Adaptive Sports of Iowa, CEO Chuck Long will be in SB.

*Bands slated to perform on Saturday, July 23, at the downtown stage located on 4th Street, include Placid Quake (Noon), Smokin' Clams (2:30-4:30 p.m.), Wrecked Becky (5-7:30 p.m.), Above the Covers (8-11 p.m.).

*Every business that wishes to be open may do so.

*The Coordinators stressed that: "RAGBRAI® is for the town."

SAFETY, MEDICAL, TRANSPORTATION

*For everyone's comfort and safety, law enforcement officials from the Sergeant Bluff PD, the Woodbury County Sheriff's Office, Sioux City PD and 12 State Hwy. Patrolmen (who remain with the RAGBRAI® riders throughout their Iowa journey) will be present.

*Transportation will be provided by the S.R.T.S. (Siouxland Regional Transit System), the latter handicap accessible, and the SBL-CSD. Other motor vehicles will not be allowed anywhere within the venue areas. All visitors are encouraged to walk or ride bikes.

*Medical Depots will be situated at the SB-Baseball-Softball Complex Concession Stand, the Fire Station, and a Mobile Hospital Unit from Merville will be located between the SB-Middle School and High School.

*Showers will be available at the SB-L CSD and Municipal Swimming Pool Complex.

*Official t-shirts with the Sergeant Bluff Bike logo are available at Little Red Embroidery, 406-4th Street, Sgt. Bluff, or call 712-259-7811, or email littleredembroidery@

hotmail.com, or go online at www.littleredembroidery.com.

RAGBRAI® INFORMATION

*To volunteer to help with RAGBRAI®, please complete the appropriate form obtained at the SB-City Office.

*The RAGBRAI® Facebook can be viewed at: Sergeant Bluff RAGBRAI 2022. There you will find a comprehensive

*The RAGBRAI® Executive Committee is looking for bikes, flower pots, and other supplies to be used in RAGBRAI® decorations. Please contact: Jessie Kneifl at 712-943-9602 to participate.

*Sponsorship Opportunities are available and may be obtained by contacting Michelle Gaukel at michelle.gaukel@gmail.com.

*The RAGBRAI® colors are GREEN, ORANGE AND WHITE, for purposes of community decorations along homes and businesses.

*Housing for registered RAGBRAI® riders are covered for liability purposes under RAGBRAI®. The latter will wear identifying bracelets.

*Hosts wishing to participate and provide available space for camping are to contact the City Office.

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From **ADAPTIVE** P.8

2011 with fewer than 20 cyclists. Since the ride was called off in 2020 due to the pandemic, this year marks the group's 11th trek across the Hawkeye State.

"Now our maximum is 80 riders because we have so many who need accommodations," shared Lundeen, who joined ASI in 2019 and is the only staff member who travels with the team. "Usually more than half are riders with physical disabilities and the remainder are support volunteers."

Participants benefit from a full service experience that includes a team bike mechanic, a nurse, and a dedicated "sag" wagon for those who can't complete the day's ride. Adaptive Sports Iowa also checks in with riders at a designated meeting town along each day's route, it has a crew that goes ahead each morning to set up camp at the next overnight town.

"For us, 'camp' encompasses indoor space at places with necessities like accessible bathrooms, air conditioning, and ample electrical outlets," Lundeen explained. Some athletes have conditions that require climate-controlled facilities, while others must plug in to medical equipment overnight.

During the weeklong ride across Iowa, participants often team up with cyclists who ride at a similar

pace. They form lasting friendships and lifelong connections.

"I could tell you stories of countless people who have been transformed by their RAGBRAI® experience," Lundeen shared. "The group really is like one big happy family. We have local riders [from central Iowa] who get together for birthday parties!"

While Adaptive Sports Iowa serves only Iowans in its 11 other programs, the nonprofit pulls from other states for RAGBRAI®.

"About half our riders are from Iowa, with the rest coming from Arizona, Florida, Texas, the East Coast...really all over," said Lundeen. "Over the years we have probably represented 25 to 30 different states, and one year we had a rider from Italy."

ASI also sees repeat riders from one year to the next.

"There's one couple from Michigan who comes every year," noted Lundeen. "Some people save up their time off and ride RAGBRAI® as their vacation."

"RAGBRAI® is my favorite week of the year," said Emily Medina, ASI's Athlete of the Year. "Without the support of Adaptive Sports Iowa, I would not be able to participate for the entire week. ASI has opened so many doors...and is like an extended family."

In Sergeant Bluff, Adaptive Sports Iowa riders will stay at the Sergeant Bluff Community Center, but they will eat their meals and participate in activities throughout the community.

ASI will also have a booth at the RAGBRAI® Expo on June 23 in downtown Sergeant Bluff. "Being involved in the Expo helps us raise awareness about the organization," stated Lundeen. "It also lets mainstream riders know what kinds of adaptive equipment we'll have out on the route so they can be watching for it."

Because of equipment costs involved with athletes with physical disabilities, finances can be a huge barrier. "Thanks to support from generous sponsors, we can eliminate that barrier," said Lundeen.

All Adaptive Sports Iowa programs, including the RAGBRAI® team and its comprehensive services, are provided to athletes at no cost.

Led by Chief Executive Officer Chuck Long, Adaptive Sports Iowa is based in Ames. Its mission is to provide statewide leadership in the planning, promotion, education, and organization of sports and recreation opportunities for Iowans with physical disabilities. Visit adaptive-sportsiowa.org to learn more.



From **PLANS** P.12

Church parking lot off Sergeant Square, D Street near the Sergeant Bluff Museum, and the Fireside Room in the Sergeant Bluff Rec Building.

RAGBRAI® coordinators expressed a great need for Information Center volunteers. Locals can message on the "Sergeant Bluff RAGBRAI 2022" Facebook page to plug in.

GARBAGE / RECYCLING

As RAGBRAI® leaves town on Sunday, July 24, Hanson said cleanup will be the next logical step.

Bob Barton will handle trash and recycling needs. To facilitate cleanup, large and small dumpsters will be placed throughout the community in various places to provide as many different collection points as possible. To encourage recycling, Barton is creating a "game" that invites people to toss their cans through a designated hoop and then rewards successful tosses with bells and whistles!

"On Sunday, we certainly hope committees will provide all hands on deck for cleanup," Hanson said. "And if others want to come out and get involved, we'd love the help."

SPONSORSHIP

Bill and Michelle Gaukel have worked tirelessly to secure local sponsors for nearly every aspect of RAGBRAI® in Sergeant Bluff. A future issue of the Advocate will highlight these generous donors for their sponsorship efforts and in-kind gifts.

HOSPITALITY

Dubbed the "Fun Committee," RAGBRAI's local Hospitality Committee has been working on banners, sculptures, murals, wall hangings, signs, plants and flowers, and more.

"The decorations will blow your socks off," shared Carol Clark. Next week's Advocate will feature details about the fun and festive ways Hospitality Committee members will welcome RAGBRAI® to our community.

Along with beautification projects already initiated by the City of Sergeant Bluff, SB-L students will canvas the community on July 18 to assist with even more cleanup efforts.

For the Hospitality Committee, the culmination of their work is Sunday, July 24, as riders exit town. Locals should watch for more information about the RAGBRAI® send-off celebration!

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC SAFETY

Aaron Lincoln talked about transportation plans for the RAGBRAI® weekend.

"We couldn't have done this without the local school system letting us use their grounds and their resources," Lincoln said. SB-L will provide several busses

to run the shuttle routes, while Siouxland Regional Transit System (SRTS) will offer accessible busses.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Sergeant Bluff Fire Chief Anthony Gaul represented for local police, fire/rescue, and public safety personnel at the meeting.

"Public safety will be pulling from three states and nine communities," noted Gaul. "It's an incredible undertaking, and the number one priority is getting people into town safely and efficiently."

By the end of the week RAGBRAI® is scheduled to begin (July 22-23), Sergeant Bluff can expect to see riders and support crew coming in a steady stream.

To facilitate the flow of RAGBRAI® participants, Sergeant Bluff will enforce certain street closures and changes:

--Sergeant Square Drive will be one-way on Saturday, July 23.

--Warrior Road will be one-way on Saturday, July 23.

--4th Street closed from Eddie's to the railroad tracks beginning on or before Friday, July 22.

--D Street closed from 2nd to 5th Streets beginning on or before Friday, July 22.

Gaul said there will be three ambulances on stand-by, including two from Sergeant Bluff and one from South Sioux City, Neb. In addition, first aid stations will be provided in four key areas:

--Baseball complex concessions building (second level) will be managed by Unity Point from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

--SB-L high school area (back doors) will be run by Merville's emergency services.

--Sergeant Bluff Fire Station #1 will serve as a station.

--Sergeant Bluff Police Department will have a station managed by Mercy from noon until 11 p.m.

"Of course, weather is our biggest concern," noted Gaul, reminding that a tornado hit Sheldon a few years ago during RAGBRAI®. "The National Weather Service will give us 40 minutes of lead time. Storm shelters will be assigned by campgrounds."

WORLD STAGE

As the meeting was ending, Andrea Johnson shared exciting information about how RAGBRAI® will be giving back to the overnight host towns by donating to local nonprofits in their area. The Advocate will share more information about this as details are finalized.

Mayor Jon Winkel closed by thanking everyone for their time and effort. "The detail that has been put into this has been absolutely incredible," he said. "It's putting Sergeant Bluff on the world stage...and we'll be ready."

From **SAFETY** P.10

year there will also be two cycling medical units participating on the ride.

"We're here to support RAGBRAI® riders so your town and your county won't be inundated with calls," says Care Ambulance owner Bob Libby.

Sergeant Bluff Fire & Rescue Chief Anthony Gaul, however, assures his crew is ready to serve. In addition to serving as the primary command post, Fire Station #1 will be one of four medical stations situated throughout the community.

First aid centers and portable hospitals will be located downtown, near the trail area and ball fields, and near the Sergeant Bluff-Luton High School.

Finally, officials discussed how—in the event of lightning, hail, thunderstorms, and/or tornadoes—certain buildings would be designated as shelters not only in Sergeant Bluff, but also near communities along the Day 1 route to Bronson, Anthon, and ultimately Ida Grove.

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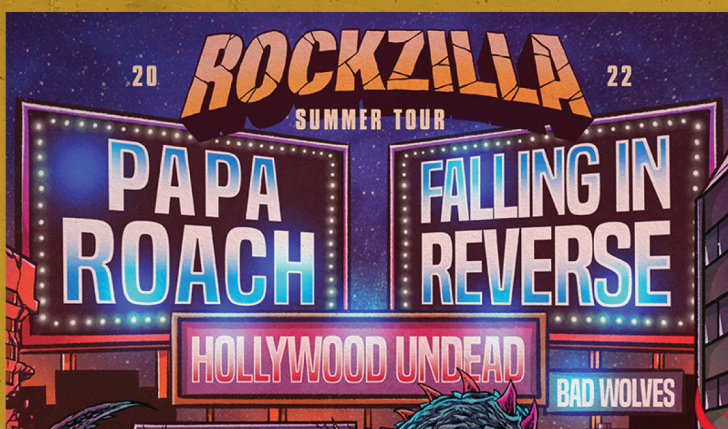
LITTLE BIG TOWN

7.23

+ Earned more than **45 AWARD SHOW NOMINATIONS** and has taken home nearly **20 AWARDS**, including multiple GRAMMY, AMA, People's Choice, CMA, ACM awards, and an Emmy award.

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ROCKZILLA TOUR

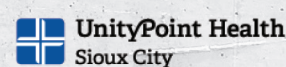
PAPA ROACH & FALLING IN REVERSE
WITH HOLLYWOOD UNDEAD AND BAD WOLVES

8.12

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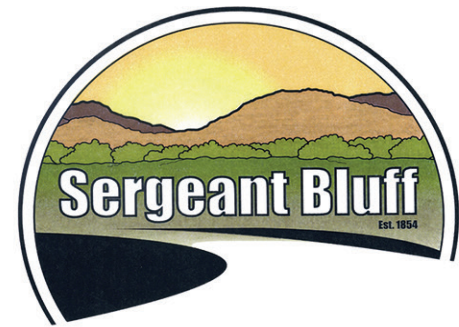
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*Welcome***WELCOME RAGBRAI®
BIKE RIDERS to
SERGEANT BLUFF, IA.**

*We wish you a pleasant stay in our community,
and hope you enjoy the many venues afforded
to you as you prepare for your 430 mile historic
journey that starts here and will culminate at
Lansing, IA.*

**GET A LITTLE
BLUFF
ON YOUR TIRES****SERGEANT BLUFF
JULY 23, 2022****#BLUFFONTHE TIRES****City of Sergeant Bluff City Hall**

Aaron Lincoln, City Administrator

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Sergeant Bluff

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CityHall@CityofSergeantBluff.com

**SERGEANT BLUFF
TO IDA GROVE**

Sunday, July 24

Air Force 75th Anniversary, Mile of Silence

**Sergeant
Bluff**Bronson
West Front St.Moville
Blacktop

Anthon

D38

L37

D50

D59

175

L51

Battle
CreekIda
Grove

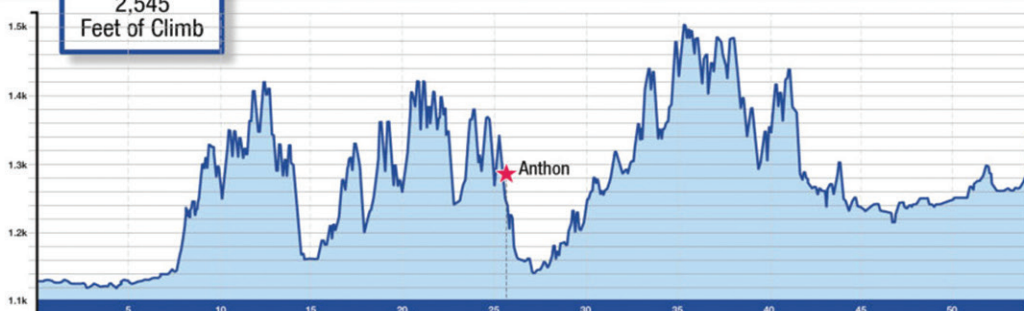
★ DAY 1 ★

53.2 Miles

2,545

Feet of Climb

Route subject to change



RAGBRAI® XLIX IS DEDICATED TO CO-FOUNDER JOHN KARRAS