



BENTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

# BENTON COMMUNITY VOICE

July 2024

## WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Great communities don't just happen by chance. They are built by the local businesses, volunteers, and people who consciously support and cultivate a sense of community. You'll find a listing of our area businesses in this newsletter. Supporting them is crucial for our local economy and well-being.

- When you choose to buy local (whether in the 608, Driftless Region, or right here in Benton), you're investing in our community. Local businesses more often invest and source goods and services locally, which circulates money back into our area.
- Beyond transactions, local businesses foster personal connections. They know us by name, offer personalized service, and contribute to the fabric of our social interactions.
- They are quick to sponsor and respond to community needs further strengthening our community.

### How You Can Help:

- Patronize a local business – whether it's for a burger, gas, a place to stay, home maintenance, etc.
- Attend Community events – such as *Music In The Park* this August, the *Labor Day Weekend Celebration*, and the many school events...
- Donate to a cause that's important to you.
- Volunteer. There is a need and a place for everyone!
- Spread the Word about your favorite spots, local happenings, and more.

Every action counts!

Thank you for supporting our local events and businesses!

*Jessica Polfer*

President

Benton Community Development Corporation

## Contact Us

- **Web:** [www.bentonwi.us](http://www.bentonwi.us)
- **Facebook:** **BCDC - Benton Community Development Corporation**
- **Mail:** **BCDC**  
**PO Box 241**  
**Benton, WI 53803**
- **Officers:**
  - **President:** Jessica Polfer
  - **Vice President:** Vicki Farrey
  - **Treasurer:** Crystal Erdenberger
  - **Secretary:** Farrah Morrissey
  - **Board of Directors:**  
Myrna Sysko & Jason Morrissey

## Please keep us informed of any address changes that may occur.

We will only use your email and mailing address for our Newsletter, Alumni, & Benton Community Fund mailings. Through the Alumni, you may request a list of your classmates, and their current addresses from us.

To receive the newsletter by email, please send us your email address to [vicki.farrey@icloud.com](mailto:vicki.farrey@icloud.com).  
THANKS AGAIN for your help!





# THE Benton First Responders

## NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS!

If interested email us at [benton1st@gmail.com](mailto:benton1st@gmail.com)  
or call/text at (608) 482-5093.

As always when in an emergency help us help you!

- Call 911
- Have your house numbers visible from the road
- Have your outside light ON during evening hours



### BCDC 2024 TREE OF LOVE DONATIONS

\$5.00 DONATION per Ornament

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

(Or)

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Message to Be Read & Put on a Tree Ornament (please keep short)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contributor's Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Return to: BCDC  
PO Box 241  
Benton, WI 53803

Donations received will go towards the  
Tree of Love and Community Involvement  
Scholarships



## MUSIC IN THE PARK – Please Bring Your Own Chair



(Sunday evenings in August from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm @ the Benton Village Park)



8/4/24 – Jacquie Miller (Concessions by Benton Fire Department)

8/11/24 – Ron Lubbers (Concessions by Benton Christian Community Church)

8/18/24 – Tom Black (Concessions by Benton Public Library)

8/25/24 – Fever River String Band (Concessions by Historic Benton PM Church)

Music sponsored by the

BCDC



### 2024 BCDC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

- Tree of Love Scholarships (\$400.00) – Quintin Majerus-Findley, Elizabeth Ward & Madison Digman
- Keith Farrey Scholarship (\$500.00) - Elizabeth Ward
- Community Involvement Scholarships (\$400.00) – Marcella Polfer, Isabella DeMuth, & Madison Digman
- Percy and DeEtta Carter Scholarship (\$500.00) - Faith Santiago



# BENTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Summer 2024 - 95th Annual Banquet

**HONORED CLASSES: 1974, 1989, 1999, 2009 as well as classes 1954 and earlier**

To make a reservation, **print the form below** and mail to Myrna Sysko, Box 33, Benton, WI 53803 or call 608-778-8791 by **August 20**. Please make checks payable to Benton Alumni Association.

The banquet will be held at Banfield's Swiss Haus on **Saturday, August 31, 2024**. Cost for the family style meal is \$20. Doors will open at 4:00 with dinner at 6:00. All class reunions are welcome! Spouses and friends are encouraged to attend.

The Benton Alumni Association has a TAX-EXEMPT status. Donations to the Schoolhouse Museum or General Fund are greatly appreciated.

### ALUMNI AND FRIENDS GOLF

COLE ACRES - August 31, 2024

**Call 608-744-2476**

**SHOTGUN START AT 10:00**



**PLEASE JOIN US SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, FROM 3:00-5:00 FOR AN ALUMNI GATHERING AT THE VILLAGE PARK. BRING YOUR FRIENDS FOR A VISIT, VIEW PHOTOS AND SHARE MEMORIES!**

To update addresses, please email changes to [mmsysko@hotmail.com](mailto:mmsysko@hotmail.com).

***Please join us for Saturday Golf and the Banquet along with Benton's Labor Day festivities on Sunday!***

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### RESERVATION FOR THE 2024 ALUMNI BANQUET

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

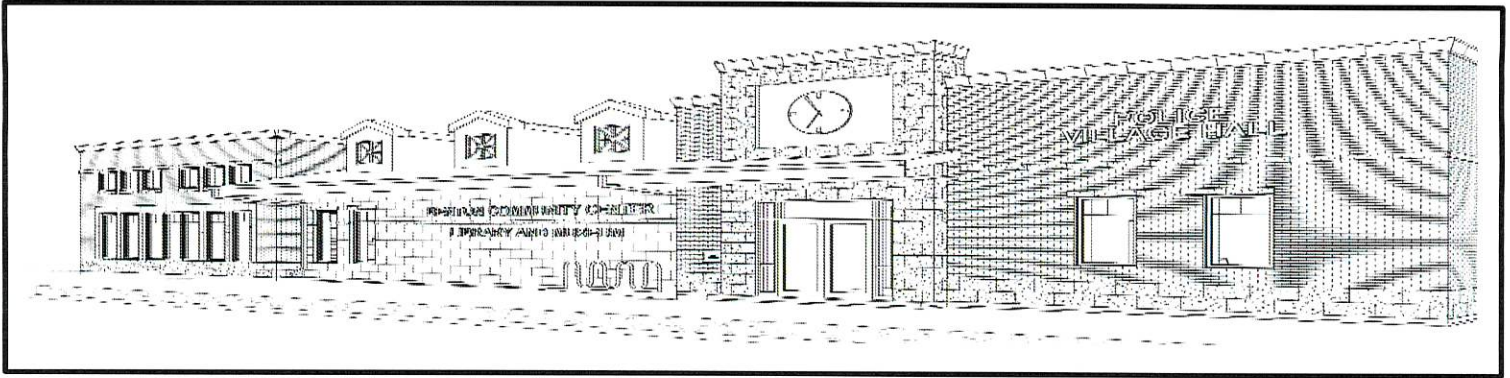
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Circle if preference: Schoolhouse Museum, General Fund

MAIL LIST: \_\_\_\_\_ **Please check if this is a change of address, so updates can be made.**



## Benton Library, Museum, and Community Center Project Update

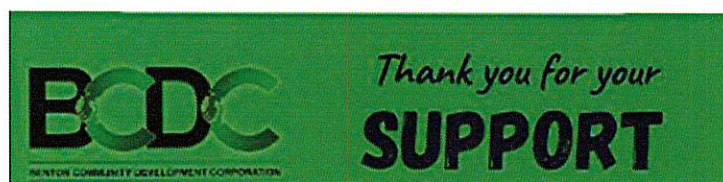
As we come to the two year mark of our capital fundraising campaign for the Benton Library, Museum, and Community Center project, we are excited to report that \$1,506,000 has been raised through grants and donations from business, families, and individuals who are committed to making the project a reality.

Additionally, for the past twenty months we have been diligently working to complete the requirements to obtain a USDA Rural Development loan. We are closing in on the end of a thirty day window where Tribal and State Historical Groups have an opportunity to comment on the project before the loan can be officially approved or obligated.

Finally, in late April our committee learned that the State of Wisconsin had allocated \$107,000,000 for Flexible Facilities Program Grants for projects just like ours. With a mid-July deadline, our group is doing everything it can to make sure our grant application is a worthy one. Awards will be announced no later than October 1. Any projects that have broken ground prior to that time will not be considered for awards.

By October 1, our committee will know exactly what funds we have available to build the Benton Library, Museum, and Community Center. At that time, we will be meeting with FEH Design, our architectural team, to finalize plans and documents so that the project can go out to bid.

We still have donor opportunities available in the form of pavers (121 purchased to date), Extraordinary Women (208 strong at this point), and other naming rights. Please feel free to contact Michelle Savatski at [savatskimv@gmail.com](mailto:savatskimv@gmail.com) or 608-778-5794 if you have questions regarding the project.



## Seniors United for Nutrition - SUN

We need YOU. We are lucky enough to have a SUN (Seniors United for Nutrition) meal site in Benton. This site is funded partially by government funds. The funds are paid out according to the number of people served. They pay more for the people who come into the site to eat. We currently don't have many people coming to the site. We need YOU to come join us a couple of times a week for lunch to make sure our site stays open. This is a wonderful program but we need your help to make sure it continues. Without this program, the people who are not mobile won't be able to get their meals delivered. Remember, at some time, you may not be able to get out and about and may need this service. Will it be there for you?

The advantages of the program are many and not limited to the following:

- less meal planning, prep, or clean up
- a varied menu
- less shopping for food
- choose only the meals you want
- pasta every month (4th Wednesday)
- liver & onions every 3 months (February, May, August, November)
- companionship and conversation
- BINGO 2nd Wednesday of each month.



We'd like to welcome you to the "Benton family table".

Lunch is served at noon at the Benton VFW. Call 608-759-6671 to make your reservation.

**BENTON Fire Dept WI**

# 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Sweet Corn Fundraiser

**Coming Soon**

Watch the **Benton Fire Department Facebook page** for details.  
@ **Leifker's Bins (HWY 11 - west of Benton)**

100% of proceeds go to the **Benton Fire Department**

Proudly sponsored by:

**Leifker Enterprises, LLC**



# Benton's 127th Annual Labor Day Celebration

(Some New Changes To Dates And Events)

## SATURDAY, August 31, 2024

ALUMNI & FRIEND GOLF TOURNAMENT (SHOTGUN START), COLE ACRES COUNTRY CLUB...10:00AM  
1851 VILLAGE SCHOOL HOUSE MUSEUM, VILLAGE PARK.....10AM-2PM  
BENTON HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI BANQUET, BANFIELD'S SWISS HAUS DOOR OPEN  
4:30 MEAL At 6:00

## SUNDAY, SEPT. 1, 2024

RED CHURCH OPEN HOUSE.....1:00PM-3:00PM  
LIBRARY BOOK SALE, VILLAGE PARK.....9:00AM-1:00PM  
1851 VILLAGE SCHOOL HOUSE MUSEUM, VILLAGE PARK.....NOON-3:00PM  
CRAFT FAIR, VILLAGE PARK.....9:30AM-4:00PM  
PARADE, MAIN STREET.....10:30AM  
NEIL THE DEAL BALLON TWISTER.....PARADE-2:45P  
INFLATABLES by THUNDERSHOWERS .....11:30AM-5:00PM  
BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT, VILLAGE PARK.....12:00 PM  
BINGO, VILLAGE PARK.....11:30AM-5:00PM  
AXE THROWING by HAULING'AXE.....11:30AM-4:30PM  
DARIN SHIREMAN.....1:00PM-5:00PM  
PASTY DINNER, ST. PATRICK'S .....APPROXIMATELY NOON  
DUCK RACES DRAWING IN THE VILLAGE PARK.....3:30PM  
THE MAGIC OF BRIAN HOLT, VILLAGE PARK.....NOON-1:00PM  
RAFFLE DRAWING & PARADE WINNERS ANNOUNCED, VILLAGE PARK.....5:00PM  
STREET DANCE WITH MEATPLOW.....8:00PM-MIDNIGHT



Have a good & safe Labor Day weekend

# Benton Business Directory

Business Name	Address	Phone Number	Email Address
AB Designs	34 W Main Street	608-732-7570	
All-Star Powerwashing	72 Easy Street	608-778-6757	<a href="mailto:allstarwash@live.com">allstarwash@live.com</a>
Be Rooted Chiropractic	188 E Main Street	608-759-6152	<a href="mailto:benton@thewellnessway.com">benton@thewellnessway.com</a>
Becky's Daycare	N Van Buren	608-732-0069	
Bella Blue Bottoms	5620 Horseshoe Bend Rd	815-297-5193	<a href="mailto:bellabluebottoms@gmail.com">bellabluebottoms@gmail.com</a>
Benton Cutz & Colorz	244 Ridge Avenue	608-759-2841	
Benton Feed & Farm Supply, Inc.	38 White Street	608-759-3861	<a href="mailto:benton.feed@plantpioneer.com">benton.feed@plantpioneer.com</a>
Benton Mini Storage	134 Ridge Avenue	815-777-8902	
Benton State Bank	42 W Main Street	608-759-3600	<a href="mailto:stevem@bentonbank.com">stevem@bentonbank.com</a>
Blackbourn Pet Hospital, LLC	149 E Main Street	608-759-3404	<a href="mailto:drdebiblackbourn@gmail.com">drdebiblackbourn@gmail.com</a>
Candid Touch Photography	244 Ridge Avenue	608-732-3422	<a href="mailto:info@candidtouch.com">info@candidtouch.com</a>
Carver's Hardwood Flooring, LLC	152 S County J	608-732-7507	<a href="mailto:ryan@carvershardwood.com">ryan@carvershardwood.com</a>
CL Robbins	32 E Main Street	608-759-2931	<a href="mailto:clrobbins21@hotmail.com">clrobbins21@hotmail.com</a>
DNS Manufacturing	244 Ridge Avenue	608-732-4414	<a href="mailto:dnsmanufacturing@yahoo.com">dnsmanufacturing@yahoo.com</a>
Fawcett's Garage	346 3rd Avenue	608-759-6721	
Felderman's Lawn & Garden	241 Ridge Avenue	608-778-8578	<a href="mailto:fpatijo@yahoo.com">fpatijo@yahoo.com</a>
Fever River Fitness	184 Ridge Avenue	608-778-8211	<a href="mailto:kyle@feverriverfitness.com">kyle@feverriverfitness.com</a>
J&S Mobile Blasting	175 Railroad Avenue	563-513-7603	<a href="mailto:joehayes@jandsmobileblasting.com">joehayes@jandsmobileblasting.com</a>
Journey's Nest Airbnb	67 E Main Street	563-581-7014	<a href="mailto:kellilucafe@gmail.com">kellilucafe@gmail.com</a>
K & K Kreations	420 Creek Drive	815-441-1833 608-732-3609	<a href="mailto:Kopepsi@3204.gmail.com">Kopepsi@3204.gmail.com</a>
Kelli's Place	67 E Main Street	563-581-7014	<a href="mailto:kellilucafe@gmail.com">kellilucafe@gmail.com</a>
Langkamp Auto Body	280 Alma Street	608-759-5072	<a href="mailto:carl.langkamp@icloud.com">carl.langkamp@icloud.com</a>
Lanez Custom Steel	75 Easy Street	608-574-5455	<a href="mailto:lanezcustomsteel@gmail.com">lanezcustomsteel@gmail.com</a>
Lawrence's Outback, LLC	46 E Main Street	608-759-4000	<a href="mailto:shane_lawrence18@hotmail.com">shane_lawrence18@hotmail.com</a>
McCarthy's Tavern	51 E Main Street	563-542-6840	<a href="mailto:kateyneis@gmail.com">kateyneis@gmail.com</a>
Milestone Agency	244 Ridge Avenue	608-574-2947	<a href="mailto:themilestoneagency@gmail.com">themilestoneagency@gmail.com</a>
Miller's 608 Guns/Hydro Dripping	77 E Main Street	563-451-3602	<a href="mailto:millerhydro@hotmail.com">millerhydro@hotmail.com</a>
Mowry Brothers, LLC	38 Bean Street	608-759-2451	
Much Love	34 W Main Street	608-574-6282	<a href="mailto:muchlovebecca@gmail.com">muchlovebecca@gmail.com</a>
Paw Prints on My Heart	11 E Main Street	608-732-2806	
Spooky Pinball	50 Easy Street	815-541-0054	<a href="mailto:kt@spookypinball.com">kt@spookypinball.com</a>
Sysko's Floor Sanding	101 White Street	608-759-3573	<a href="mailto:syskosfloorsanding@gmail.com">syskosfloorsanding@gmail.com</a>
Tanner Kieler Construction	94 County Road J	563-543-7788	-
Thimbles and Threads	58 W Main Street	608-778-6459	<a href="mailto:rose.thimblesthreads@gmail.com">rose.thimblesthreads@gmail.com</a>
Whitey's Bar and Grill	62 E Main Street	608-732-9574	-
Zephyr Depot, LLC	119 E Main Street-B	608-759-6281	

“ Please let us know if you see a business that needs to be added!”