

Alpine Valley ready for a rockin' encore

Walworth County concert venue charts comeback in 2019, rebounding from two summers without major headliners

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EAST TROY — It will feel like old times this summer when Alpine Valley Music Theatre gets back in the business of blowout rock concerts.

After two years of relative quiet, Alpine Valley has announced a lineup of big-name musical performers reminiscent of the Walworth County venue's glorious past as a summer entertainment mecca.

Even crowd favorite Jimmy Buffett — with his

legions of "Parrothead" fans — is coming back to the concert stage where he once reigned as a perennial headliner with fun-in-the-sun shows every year.

With Buffett and others re-establishing Alpine Valley on the summer concert tour circuit in 2019, business and tourism promoters in Walworth County are cheering and eagerly awaiting the familiar sight of throngs of concert goers arriving by the carload.

"I think it's fabulous," said Kathleen Seeberg, executive director of the Wal-

worth County Visitors Bureau.

Capable of accommodating more than 30,000 fans, the outdoor arena will be rocking under the sun and under the stars on multiple weekends this summer.

The schedule so far includes three shows July 12, 13 and 14 by the popular jam band Phish, followed by Jimmy Buffett on July 20, then the reunited Hootie & The Blowfish on Aug. 23, and finally rock legends The Who on Sept. 8.

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A rainbow pops up behind the covered stage at Alpine Valley Music Theatre during a show that filled up the grass-covered lawn seating area. (Contributed photo/Regional News)