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Sherman Music Fest Again Strikes Right

By DAVID PRENATT
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Ooooo, I hear laughter in the rain . . . and great music and a vivacious volleyball tournament at the fifth annual Sherman Music Festival.

The music festival, held Sept. 2, featured live bands, food, games, vendors, as well as volleyball tournament in Edmund Park behind the Cooler Bar & Grille.

The afternoon rain appeared to dampen spirits and early crowds, causing some of the vendors to pack up and leave. "The rain has had a little bit of an effect on the crowds," said Amanda Meeder, organizer of the event and co-owner of the Cooler Bar & Grille. "We are also competing with a football game and a festival in Clymer, but business has been pretty steady."



Bri L'yrnn, accompanied by musician Derek Davis, entertained the crowd at the Sherman Music Festival with her "mesmerizing vocals."

"It was packed last year," said Ed of Mystic Smoke BBQ, which was one of the most popular food vendors at the festival. "I remember the crowds from other years," said a visitor from Findley Lake.

"I think they'll flood in as soon as it stops raining because a lot of the people like to come and stay late."

In fact, this prediction proved to be true. By 5 o'clock the skies were clear and, indeed, a steady stream of people poured into Edmunds Park, as Bri L'yrnn entertained the crowd.

This year's bands included Jack Stevenson, Derek Davis and Hintz of Thunder. Bri L'yrnn, who is known for her "mesmerizing vocals and soul-stirring melodies," debuted at the Cooler Cafe in June, 2025 and continues to be a favorite.

Stevenson of Erie, PA has been a musician for 43 years and has a good following in the area. Davis is a staple at events in Chautauqua County, with his mix of country music, classic hits, and crowd favorites. Hintz of Thunder is a "Western New York female led country band playing today's and yesterday's

country hits!"

The rain also did not prevent the volleyball tournament from taking place. This event, which is a fundraiser for the Sherman Central School Class of 2027. This year's tournament ended with the defeat of three-time champions, known as "The Dads" by the team from the Cooler Cafe.

Meeder said the mix of fun and music is what makes the festival so popular. "It's really about getting people to come together to have fun," she said. "I'm a big supporter of local music and the festival gives a reason for people to come out."



The volleyball tournament remains a popular event at the Sherman Music Festival.

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