

ALPHA—The Iron County Chamber of Commerce will present the second annual End of Summer Blues Fest here on Aug. 24.     PUBLIC    

“We’re planning some new things for this year, and we’re excited about the bands we have coming into town,” said Chamber Director Bob Black.

The event will kick off at 11 a.m. with a “blessing of the bikes,” followed by the Veterans Freedom Memorial Ride/Poker Run.

“We’re planning a tour of Iron County veterans’ memorials,” Black said. “The difference is that it is not a motorcycle-only event. Everyone is welcome.”

Gates to the Alpha Pavilion open at noon, with entertainment plus food and merchandise vendors starting at 12:30 p.m..

“We are still going to have the BluesBerry Pie eating contest,” Black said. “Bring back last year’s T-shirts for the Tie-Dye & Decorated T Shirt Contest.”

A new event featured this year is a “Blues Be Gone Wedding Ceremony.”

“Last year, there were four weddings scheduled for the same day as the end of Summer Blues Fest,” Black said. “This year, we’re going to have the county’s first-ever major public wedding ceremony. Bring your marriage license or renew your vows. The End of Summer Blues Fest can be your ready-made wedding reception,” Black added.

Performers will start at 12:30 when Iron Land takes the stage. Willie Tatu performs at 1:30, with the BluesBerry Pie Eating Contest at 2:30.

The Fireside Band performs at 3 p.m. with the Blues Be Gone wedding ceremony for 4:15 p.m.

Flat Broke Blues Band will perform at 4:30 p.m., and the tie-dye/decorated T-shirt contest at 6:45 p.m.

Interpose Productions of Iron River will handle sound production for the event.

Michael Murphy and MOB (Men of Blues) will take the stage at 7 p.m. The Village Inn of Alpha is scheduled to begin live music around 10 p.m.

“Last year, this event was a huge success,” Black said. “We’ve added a couple things that should be a lot of fun. Be ready for a full day.”

More details about the End of Summer Blues Fest are available on Facebook at [second annual EndofSummerBluesFest](#).