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## Veteran-centered music festival wraps up first season

MILWAUKEE — A new live music series geared toward Veterans and families will conclude its first season Thursday, Sept. 15.

The “Live on the Plaza” monthly series at the [War Memorial Center](#), 750 N. Lincoln Memorial Drive, premiered in June. The final concert, featuring the band Driving Buddies, will be 6-8 p.m. Sept. 15.

Presented by the [Southeastern Wisconsin Veteran Suicide Prevention Task Force](#), the outdoor series takes place in the [War Memorial Beer Garden](#), northeast of the War Memorial building.

Food and drinks from Kegel’s Inn will be available for purchase.

In addition to music and refreshments, the event includes information and resources for veterans and their families. It’s also a great place for veterans to come together, connect and share stories.

“Our first season was a big success,” said task force member Dona Drew, who is also the Community Engagement and Partnership Coordinator with the Suicide Prevention Team at the Milwaukee VA Medical Center. “We were able to connect with veterans in a fun, family-friendly environment while providing valuable information along with great music, food and drink.”

[Driving Buddies](#) is a Waukesha/Milwaukee-based pop piano and guitar duo specializing in “familiar, catchy, ’60s-’70s rock, pop and country songs across the decades and some originals that make you smile, dance or fall in love with the retro sounds of the past with a modern twist,” according to the band’s website.

Seating is available at the site. No outside food or drink is allowed. Parking is free with a purchase from the beer garden.

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The goals of the Southeastern Wisconsin Veteran Suicide Prevention Task Force include increasing public awareness, increasing and improving access to resources that help Veterans in crisis, having clinical resources readily available to all Veterans and conducting research to inform policy and systemic changes to decrease veteran suicides.