

WORLD'S LARGEST BRAT FEST

GRILL AND BEAR IT



OWEN ZILIAK, STATE JOURNAL

Volunteer Matt Scovill flips brats on the grill at last year's Brat Fest in Madison.

Here's what to know about annual Madison event

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MADISON — Raise your glass to the best of the wurst in Madison Memorial Day weekend.

The World's Largest Brat Fest is returning to the Alliant Energy Center from Friday to Sunday, promising three days of live music, carnival attractions, friendly competition and, of course, brats.

The festival grounds at Willow Island come to life Friday morning with Take Your Brat to Work Day, where you can pick up brats for the office from 6 to 9 a.m. This year's menu includes plain or jalapeño cheddar chicken Johnsonville brats, Impossible plant-based brats and Boar's Head hot dogs, each for \$5. From then on, the grounds will be filled with activity, open from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday through Sunday, with brats served from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

After a successful inaugural run, the Brat Fest Marketplace will return in 2026,

Please see **BRAT FEST**, Page A2



JOHN HART, STATE JOURNAL

Volunteers at the World's Largest Brat Fest set up tables while assembling a VIP tent on the grounds at Alliant Energy Center's Willow Island.



LEAH MILLIS, REUTERS

Former national chairman of the Proud Boys Enrique Tarrio speaks on Jan. 6 in Washington, D.C. ahead of a remembrance march for the fifth anniversary of the attack on the U.S. Capitol.

'I'm not greedy': Rioters, others set sights on 'weaponization' fund

Former Proud Boys leader hopes to get up to \$5 million

DAN ROSENZWEIG-ZIFF
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Since President Donald Trump's administration announced the creation of a \$1.776 billion fund for Americans deemed to be victims of political "weaponization" Jan. 6 Capitol riot defendants and other Trump allies have scrambled to figure out how to get their share.

Enrique Tarrio, the Proud Boys leader sentenced to 22 years for seditious conspiracy over the Jan. 6, 2021 riot, said he planned to apply to the fund, assuming he could get between \$2 and \$5 million.

"I'm not greedy," Tarrio said. "But my life was all (messed) up because of this."

Trump pardoned more than 1,500 Jan. 6 defendants last year. Some have now begun to calculate the cost of their prosecution, jail time and businesses lost in the hope of compensation for what they regard as abuses by the Justice Department under former President Joe Biden.

Peter Tickin, an attorney representing more than 400 Jan. 6 defendants, said the fund may not be enough.

"People lost multimillion-dollar businesses while they were locked up," he said. "I don't think the DOJ is ready for us yet."

Trump also suggested the fund may be too small.

Please see **RIOTERS**, Page A2