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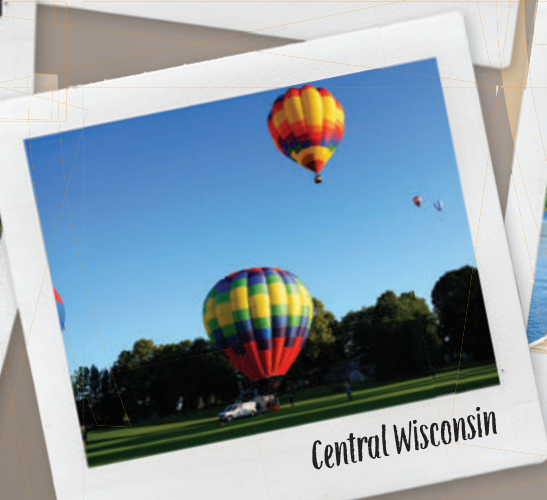
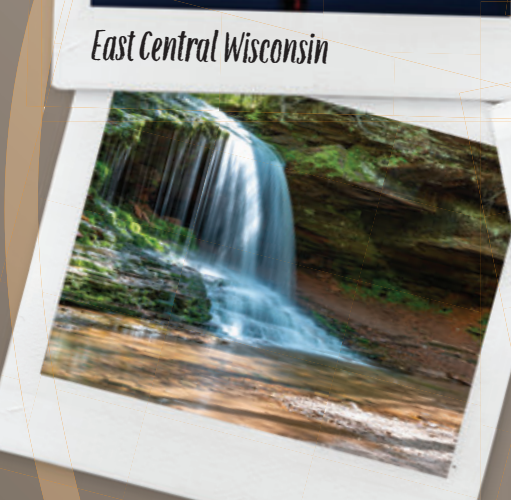
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CONTENTS


- 4 Palmquist Farm: A one-of-a-kind Northwoods getaway
- 6 Plan to stop, enjoy Wisconsin's national forest
- 8 The thundering beauty of cascading water
- 10 Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts, a unique experience in Merrill
- 20 Who needs a boat? Where to fish from shore
- 24 Wild Rose – Home to world record old fashioned
- 26 New center shows food-farm connection
- 30 Mead for the country in Marathon County
- 36 A celebration of culture and community in De Pere
- 38 Heritage Hill exhibit tells story of American Dream
- 42 Horicon Marsh, a wetland of global importance
- 44 Road trip safety tips



WROADTRIP
WISCONSIN
MAGAZINE

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Palmquist Farm: A one-of-a-kind Northwoods getaway

By Jalen Maki

Tucked away in a quiet Northwoods community is one of the area's most unique and welcoming vacation destinations.

Palmquist Farm, located at N5136 N. River Rd. in Brantwood, about 30 minutes west of Tomahawk, is operated by Jim and Helen Palmquist.

Although Jim raises beef cattle on the 800-acre property, the Palmquists' real passion is great Finnish hospitality that dates back more than 110 years.

The Farm has been in Jim's family since 1902.

"Back then, it was just a 40-acre subsistence farm that my great-grandfather started," Jim explained. "Since then, many generations of my family have lived and worked this farm and made it what it is today. We are proud to be a family business that has been taking in guests since 1949."



Jim and Helen Palmquist

For more than seven decades, Palmquist Farm has hosted guests from around the United States and the world, with many returning year after year.

"For our guests, visiting The Farm is like coming home to Grandma's house," Jim said. "We would love to treat you to that same warm, pleasant experience."

Palmquist Farm features five cottages for guests to stay in, ranging from small cabins for two to six people, to the White Pine Inn, which can accommodate larger groups.



The grounds of the Palmquist Farm offer visitors quiet, peaceful and comfortable surroundings.



Palmquist Farm is located Brantwood, about 30 minutes west of Tomahawk.



Miles of farm trails and quiet country roads provide an opportunity for guests to bring their own horses to ride, with The Farm providing comfortable accommodations.

Photos courtesy Palmquist Farm

Jim noted that he had a hand in designing and building most of the cabins, with the help of family and friends.

“Each one is unique, cozy and rustic in the best way,” he said. “All our cabins have wood-burning fireplaces and comfortable, country-style décor.”

The lodge is perfect for hosting events, including weddings, reunions, business meetings and parties.

A variety of activities are offered at Palmquist Farm. In the summer and fall, guests can enjoy hiking, biking, horse-drawn wagon rides and more, as well as in-season hunting for ruffed grouse and whitetail deer.

Miles of farm trails and quiet country roads provide an opportunity for guests to bring their own horses to ride, with The Farm providing comfortable accommodations.

In the winter, guests can enjoy Palmquist Farm’s cross-country ski trails, horse-drawn sleigh rides, sledding hill and ice skating pond.

An authentic Finnish sauna and delicious home-cooked meals prepared by Helen and her staff are provided to those staying at The Farm.

“Our meals are nutritious and well-balanced with a variety of meats, soups, vegetables, salads and desserts, featuring some special Finnish dishes, including The Farm’s award-winning creamed rice and raspberry sauce, oven pancakes with pure maple syrup and Finnish whole wheat bread,” Helen said, adding that mealtime is “always a treat and a time to mingle with other guests or simply enjoy time with the ones you love.”

“We look forward to your visit at The Farm, whether you come to ski, hunt, hike, or ride your horse,” Jim and Helen said.

To learn more about Palmquist Farm, visit www.palmquistfarm.com/ or www.facebook.com/palmquistfarm. 🇺🇸



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D. BORG

Volunteers with the Wilderness Volunteers, a national non-profit group, take a break for a photo at Whispering Lake. The volunteers cleared trails and boardwalks in the Blackjack Springs and Headwaters wilderness areas in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in early September 2023. From left, Michael Smith, Sue Blish, Vania Gillette, Laura Hansen, and Christina Lake.

USDA FS Photo by Valerie Knurr

Plan to stop, enjoy Wisconsin's national forest

Marvel at history, beauty of the Northwoods

By Eileen Persike

What covers more than 1.5 million acres, is part of 11 Northwoods counties and is one-of-a-kind in Wisconsin? The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest checks all those boxes and more.

The Chequamegon and Nicolet National Forests were born in the 1930s. They were created following the timber baron era of the 1800s and early 1900s, when forests in the Northwoods were clear cut and used for railroad ties, construction, ships, fuel and more. Once cleared, a new group of immigrants moved to the area to farm the land. Hard economic times forced many of those would-be farmers to abandon their property or turn it over to county governments during the Great Depression; counties sold the land to the federal government. The restoration of the "Great Northwoods" is considered one of the greatest conservation stories in the world, according to the USDA. The two national forests merged in 1993.

Today, the CNNF covers a vast area; as such, travelers have no doubt seen the National Forest signage as they drive through Sawyer, Price, Oconto, Langlade, Oneida, Vilas, Ashland and Bayfield counties and

others. But there are so many reasons to make a plan to stop, go hiking, paddling, camping or picnicking in the forest.

"This is a very special place," Public Affairs Officer for CNNF Veronica Hinke said. "There are so many distinct and meaningful places in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest where you can go to hit the re-set button by connecting with nature."

For starters, check out the five officially designated "wilderness areas." The Wilderness Act of 1964 created the National Preservation System that includes wilderness areas.

- There are more than 750 wilderness areas from coast to coast
- Includes more than 111 million acres of protected wilderness
- Wilderness areas are in all but six U.S. states

Vilas and Forest counties are home to two wilderness areas within the CNNF.

In Vilas County, there is the Blackjack Springs Wilderness. This 5,800 acre area is located seven miles northeast of Eagle River, in Vilas County.

"A series of four large, crystal clear springs form the headwaters

of Blackjack Creek, in the midst of dense forest cover,” Hinke explained. “This wilderness contains diverse vegetation typical of the Lake Superior Highlands of northern Wisconsin. There is also a lake, three streams with associated spring ponds; and wetlands in this area.”

In Forest County, there is the Headwaters Wilderness. Officially designated as a wilderness in 1984, this 18,000-plus acre wilderness is located 16 miles southeast of Eagle River. Portions of this area contain some of the largest and oldest trees in the forest. Kimball Creek, Shelp Lake and the Headwaters of the Pine River are popular features within this wilderness.

So much to do

Thinking about spending more time at the Chequamegon-Nicolet? Look into the more than 40 developed recreation areas and campgrounds. There are family campsites, group sites, ATV/UTV sites and walk-in sites. Some campgrounds offer electricity. Other options include boat landings, swim or picnic areas and choices between being on or near moving water or lakes. For information on reserving a campsite, visit www.recreation.gov.

There are more than 50 recreation areas that make up a paddler’s paradise at all of the ranger districts, Eagle River, Florence, Lake-wood, Medford and Washburn. Visit fs.usda.gov for a list of recreation areas for non-motorized boating and also for day hiking and packpacking trails.

How to get there

Recreational passes and permits can be purchased at USDA FS offices: fs.usda.gov



Scott Hefferon holds white spruce seedlings to plant at the campus of Trees For Tomorrow.

USDA FS photo by Veronica Hinke

detail/cnnf/about-forest/offices. Permits for forest products (holiday trees, balsam boughs, firewood, Every Kid Outdoors, and more) can be purchased online or at USDA FS offices. More information about forest products permits is available online, here: fs.usda.gov/main/cnnf/passes-permits/forestproducts.

For more information about the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest visit the website at www.fs.usda.gov/CNNF or follow updates on Facebook; and Twitter/X (@CNNF002) 🇺🇸

Wilderness Act of 1964

Defines wilderness as an area of undeveloped federally owned land, designated by an Act of Congress that has the following characteristics:

- It is affected primarily by the forces of nature, where people are visitors who do not remain. It may contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value.
- It possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude and a primitive and unconfined type of recreation.
- It is an area large enough so that continued use will not change its unspoiled, natural condition.
- It provides the opportunity for (and often requires) self-reliance and challenge.



Headwaters Wilderness area. Improvements made by the Wilderness Volunteers group.

USDA FS photo

Shelp Boardwalk at the Headwaters Wilderness area in Forest County. The work was completed by Wilderness Volunteers.

USDA FS photo

The thundering beauty of cascading water

Self-guided waterfall tours in Marinette County

By Kaity Coisman

A view of Dave's Falls from the Log Jam Tour.
Marinette County Tourism photo

Journey to the waterfall capital of Wisconsin for self-guided waterfall tours. Marinette County contains 15 waterfalls presented in four self-guided tours which require a drive from one site to the next. Allocate two to three days this spring or summer to complete all four tours. The tours contain diversified difficulty ratings and distances. The Explore Marinette County Map contains

the tours in the centerfold with directions of each tour and amenities that can be found on the trails.

A Marinette County park pass will be required to enter Marinette County-owned parks. Day passes are for purchase at any park or secure both annual and day passes in advance at marinettecountywi.gov/parks/.

The tours

The Rocky Trails Tour will require a Marinette County Pass and a Michigan Recreation Passport. The tour includes a difficult-level, 250-yard hike on unimproved hiking surfaces with steep climbs to Smalley Falls, located on the Pemebonwon River. Smalley Falls is on the same river as Long Slide Falls, which includes a moderate-level quarter-mile hike on mostly smooth dirt paths with variable width and uneven surfaces. The Menominee River hosts another moderate-level quarter-mile hike to Pier's Gorge. The trilogy concludes with an easy level 175-yard hike to Quiver Falls. This hike includes a smooth dirt path with minimal uneven surfaces.

The Log Jam Tour includes two waterfalls located on Pike River and requires a Marinette County Pass. The first is Dave's Falls, which includes a moderate 250-yard hike. Bull Falls follows, located at the end of a difficult level 250-yard hike.



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The most extensive tour includes six waterfalls — all located on Pike River. A Marinette County Pass is required for parts of the tour. First on the Hidden Falls Tours is Carney Rapids, visible from the roadway bridge. Following is a moderate-level 225 yards to Four Foot Falls. Difficulty escalates to the Eighteen Foot Falls, requiring a difficult-level 300-yard journey. The complexity drops to an easy-level 350-yard hike to Twelve Foot Falls. Next is Eight Foot Falls, which includes a moderate-level 225-yard hike. Completing the tour is Horseshoe Falls, including a moderate-level 0.7 mile hike.

The Enchanted Trails Tour requires a Marinette County pass to view all three waterfalls. First is Veteran's Falls, located on the tail end of a moderate-level 125-yard hike. Sequentially is McClintock Rapids requiring a moderate-level 275-yard hike. Finally, an easy-level 175-yard hike leads to Strong Falls.

Elements of Consideration

The range of skill levels ensures something for everyone. A variable to consider is the tours aren't certified ADA-accessible.

"There are no boardwalks or man-made structures you are in the woods in untouched areas," Marinette County Development and Tourism Director Jennifer Short explained. However, this means that the trails create a serene environment. "It is a peaceful moment even though you can hear the power of the water. The rushing water is cool. It is just nice to be out in nature," stated Short. The tours are open to all, including furry friends. "All of these locations are dog friendly, so if you're on a road trip, at the cabin, or camping, bring the family and your four-legged friend and get out and enjoy nature." 🌿



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Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts, a unique experience in downtown Merrill

By Tina L. Scott



A north-facing view showcases the old tin ceilings and the raised seating areas in front of the brightly lit street-facing windows. **Tina L. Scott photo**

A south-facing view in Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts from the upper level showcases the custom live-edge bar, new archway into the kitchen area, and warm atmosphere with an old-world Italian feel.

Tina L. Scott photo

Sunset Hollow Ranch & Winery in the Town of Pine River east of Merrill has been offering their clientele an opportunity to meet their animals on the ranch, enjoy their handcrafted wines made on-site, purchase their organic meat products and wines and even experience the opportunity to unwind with goat yoga and wine for about two years.

Now that same name — and the same organic meat products raised on that ranch and handcrafted wines produced in their winery — have made their way into downtown Merrill, providing residents and area visitors with a unique experience in an unexpected setting. Melissa and Joe Hoffman, owners of both, decided to open a new, larger location where guests can enjoy their wine indoors in a comfortable setting year-round, with outdoor seating available when the weather permits.

Tucked into an historic building brought to new life, guests can expect the same house and seasonal wines and the same attention to creating a unique experience they've come to know out at the ranch, but now they can also enjoy food, desserts and specials to pair with their wine, as well as a selection of gifts available for purchase. And, of course, that handcrafted wine is the highlight of the bistro.

Located at 811 E. First St. in Merrill, the business held several soft opening dates in December 2023 and early January this year before holding their Grand Opening Saturday, Jan. 11. They used the time to test out a few things, get a feel for busier times, and create some new offerings.



One of Sunset Hollow's seasonal specialty wines, Country Christmas, is a featured wine during the winter months. **Tina L. Scott photo**

Currently, they are open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from noon to 7 p.m. They also occasionally open additional days for special occasions, with special entrees such as they did on Wednesday, Feb. 14, for Valentine's Day with a special romantic Italian pasta dinner.

Stepping into the bistro is an unexpected surprise. The interior space the Hoffmans have created features a somewhat modern rustic Italian ambiance, with seating available on two levels to add interest. Some of the decor items in the bistro are actually gift items available for purchase. Owner Melissa is focusing on decor and gift items that complement their aesthetic and are "gifts that might work well for anniversaries, birthdays, something if somebody's looking for something to add in for a gift," and said they will be locally sourced and hand-crafted items. And many of those



» CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

A couple enjoys an evening together and Sunset Hollow wines at the new bistro.

Blue Sky Photography LLC/Peter Tesch photo

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Owner Melissa Hoffman serves up a glass of wine and a smile at her new Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts location on E. First St. in downtown Merrill.

Tina L. Scott photo



Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro's staff includes (not in order): Briana (bartender/manager) Gabriella, Rebekah, Chelsey (kitchen staff/waitresses), and Melissa (owner).

Blue Sky Photography LLC/Peter Tesch photo

» SUNSET HOLLOW CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

gift items, as you might imagine, will likely pair well with a good bottle of wine.

Speaking of pairing well with wine, Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts changes their menu up seasonally.

The current menu features unique flavor combinations to delight the palate, including four panini options, all served with a side of fresh veggies.

Four flatbread options are also on the menu, including an all-meat topped flatbread; an Italian-topped flatbread; the “margarita” - flatbread topped with smoked provolone, five-cheese blend, grape tomato,

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arugula, and margarita sauce; and a sweet option, the “caramel apple” — flatbread topped with sliced apples, cinnamon, and sugar, then topped with their oat crisp and drizzled with caramel.

A caprese pasta salad is another spring menu option and for those who prefer even lighter fare, the bistro offers charcuterie boards. This season’s charcuterie offering includes hard salami, ham, bistro crackers, three varieties of cheese, garlic-stuffed olives, nuts, and seasonal fruit.

Guests can also choose from other interesting Italian menu items, such as baked tomatoes with bruschetta with a side of hard salami.

Italiano Fridays offer a new pasta option each week, made in-house, with a side of garlic bread; Saturdays feature Bloody Marys and Thursdays are “Girls Nights Out” with cocktail cheese plates available for cocktail hour and specialty cocktails change weekly.

The meats for all of their entrees are organic, GMO-free meats from the Hoffman’s farm, Sunset Hollow Ranch. Everything is prepared fresh in their on-site kitchen.

Savory or sweet, the bistro offers a variety of seasonal on-the-menu options and also has ever-changing dessert options. The desserts aren’t made on-site, but they are baked fresh for them by Auntie Ray’s Coffee House, which is located across the street. Melissa said she believes in working together and collaboratively with other businesses in town, and this is just one of many more opportunities she envisions where area businesses can and will work together.

» CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



Cheers. Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts is one of Merrill’s newest downtown businesses, offering a variety of handcrafted wines made in their town of Pine River winery.

Blue Sky Photography LLC/Peter Tesch photo



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» SUNSET HOLLOW CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro also introduces frequent specials and wine punch cards as a thank you to regular and repeat customers. Wine lovers will want to stop by for the seasonally-changing wine list. “We’re only going to have specific wines here that fit the season,” Melissa said.

“The other wines that I’m choosing to place here will be more geared for the season, like your Blackberry, your Sunset Sangria [in winter], versus in summer I’ll pull in the Peach Raspberry Sangria, pull in the Kiwi Pear instead of maybe having the Apple, and kind of start changing them a little bit that way,” Melissa noted.

Not sure what kind of wine to pick? Ask for a sample. Better yet, try a pre-selected flight of four wines or create your own flight of four wines that sound appealing to enjoy.

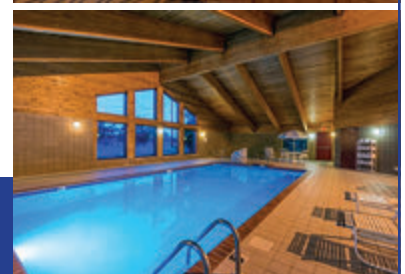
The wine bistro also offers a specialty daily cocktail and Jameson old fashion. For those who prefer beer over wine Sunset Hollow offers a selection of bottled craft beers, as well as non-alcoholic options.

With the opening of Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts, the wine barn out at the ranch will still be used, but more focused on special events, Melissa said. And they are still planning to have goat yoga and wine in the summer on the ranch. So if you’re looking to cross goat yoga and wine off your bucket list, contact Melissa to find out when that will be scheduled next.

For more information about both locations, follow Sunset Hollow Ranch & Winery and Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts on their combined Facebook page at: facebook.com/sunsethollowranch or call Melissa at 715-722-0471. 🇺🇸



Sunset Hollow Wine Bistro & Gifts opened on a Wednesday evening in February for a special occasion — Valentine’s Day — providing area couples with a romantic Italian-inspired meal and wines to celebrate their love. **Blue Sky Photography LLC/Peter Tesch photo**



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Northwoods Events Calendar

MAY

- 10 Wine Walk:** Downtown Tomahawk. tomahawkmainstreet.org
- 10-11 Birding and Wildlife Festival:** North Lakeland Discovery Center, Manitowish Waters. discoverycenter.net
- 18 Hodag Heritage Festival:** Pioneer Park, Rhinelander. rhinelanderchamber.com
- 24-26 Bullhead Fishing Tournament:** Elcho. postlakes.org
- 26 Arts & Craft Show and Sidewalk Sales:** Downtown Eagle River. eagleriver.org
- 26 Main Street Memories Car Show:** Downtown Tomahawk. tomahawkmainstreet.org

JUNE

- 1 June Bloom Arts & Crafts Festival:** Torpy Park, Minocqua. minocqua.org
- 7-8 Up North Beerfest:** Hi-Pines Campground, Eagle River. eagleriver.org
- 7-9 Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo:** Merrill Festival Grounds. wrpr.org
- 8 Lupine Junefest Bike Tour:** Carow Park, Mercer. mercerbybike.com
- 8 Art Fair on the Courthouse Lawn:** Oneida County Courthouse Lawn, Rhinelander. 9 am-3 pm. rhinelanderchamber.com
- 8 Rhinelander Car Show:** 9 a.m.-3 p.m., downtown Rhinelander. rhinelanderchamber.com
- 8 Walk in the Woods Art Fair:** St Germain Chamber Park. 9 am-3 pm. st-germain.com
- 8-9 Roaring Raceway Off-Road Race:** Antigo. antigoracing.com
- 12 Lincoln County June Dairy Breakfast:** MARC, Merrill. 8 am-noon. wisconsinmilk.org
- 14-15 Minocqua Antique & Classic Boat Show:** Torpy Park, Minocqua. minocquaboatshow.com
- 14-16 Solstice Festival:** Koller Park, Manitowish Waters. solsticefestival.us

- 21 Make Music Day:** Land O'Lakes, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. lolartswi.com
- 27-29 Northern Roundup Car Show:** MC Festival Grounds, Gleason. northernroundup.com
- June 27-Aug. 30 Car Park Summer Music Series:** Land O'Lakes, 5 p.m. Thursdays. lolartswi.com

JULY

- 3 Annual Arts, Crafts & Vendor Fair:** SARA Park, Tomahawk. gototomahawk.com
- 11 Car Park Summer Music Series:** Land O'Lakes, 5 p.m. Thursdays through Aug. 30. lolartswi.com
- 11-14 46th Annual Hodag Country Festival:** Rhinelander. hodag.com
- 18-21 59th Annual Art Show:** Manitowish Waters Community Center. manitoartleague.org
- 20 Cranberry Country Quilters Show:** NLP High School, Eagle River, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 20 Backyard BBQ Cook-Off:** Carow Park, Mercer. mercercc.com
- 23-28 Langlade County Fair:** Antigo. langladecountyfair.net
- 25 Car Park Summer Music Series:** Land O'Lakes, 5 p.m. Thursdays through Aug. 30. lolartswi.com
- 25-28 Oneida County Fair:** Pioneer Park, Rhinelander. ocfairwi.com
- 26-27 NorthwoodStock:** Bent's Camp Resort, Land O'Lakes. northwoodstockmusicfest.com
- 27-11 Iron County Heritage Days Festival:** Iron County Fairgrounds, Hurley. hurleywi.com
- 27 Ride with Leinie:** Conover-Phelps Trail, Conover. ghtrails.org
- 27 Forest Fest:** Trees for Tomorrow, Eagle River. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. treesfortomorrow.com

AUGUST

- 2-3 Merrill Festival of Quilts:** Merrill Expo Center. ci.merrill.wi.us

- 7 Loon Day:** Mercer. mercerloonday.com
- 7-10 MC Festival:** MC Festival Grounds, Gleason. mcfests.com
- 7-11 Lincoln County Fair:** Merrill Festival Grounds. lincolncfair.com
- 8-11 Vilas County Fair:** Eagle River
- 8 After Loon Delight Craft Show:** Torpy Park, Minocqua. minocqua.org
- 8 Car Park Summer Music Series:** Land O'Lakes, 5 p.m. Thursdays through Aug. 30. lolartswi.com
- 11-16 Trails of the North Bicycle Tour:** Oneida and Vilas counties. aroundwisbike.com
- 17-23 Northern Woods & Waters Bicycle Tour:** Oneida and Vilas counties. aroundwisbike.com
- 22 Car Park Summer Music Series:** Land O'Lakes, 5 p.m. Thursdays through Aug. 30. lolartswi.com
- 24 44th Eagle River Car & Truck Show:** Downtown Eagle River. eagleriver.org

FARMERS MARKETS

- Antigo:** Saturday 8 am-noon. Peaceful Valley Park
- Crandon:** Tuesday, 9 am-1 pm. 200 S. Lake Ave
- Eagle River:** Wednesday, 8:30 am-1 pm. Sunday 10 am-2 pm. Opens May 8. May-October. Hwy 45 north of the bridge
- Hurley:** Wednesday 3 pm-6 pm. Saturday 10 am-2 pm. June-October. 13420 N 10th Ave.
- Merrill:** Wednesday & Saturday 7:30 am-noon. June-October. 600 Block of North Center Ave.
- Minocqua:** Friday 8 am-1 pm. May-October. 408 E. Chicago St.
- Rhinelander:** Hodag Farmers Market. Saturday 8 am-1 pm. End of May-mid October. Pioneer Park
- Tomahawk Main Street Farmer's Market:** Tuesday 11 am-3 pm. June-October. Third Street off West Wisconsin Avenue
- Tomahawk Farm & Flea Market:** Saturday. 8 am-2 pm. May 4-October. 79 Hometown Drive

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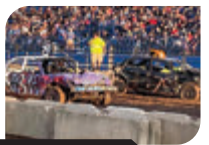
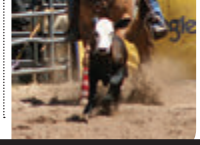
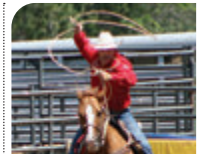
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| June 3 | - Merrill Chamber Golf Classic |
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| June 15 | - Mud 'N Jams ATV/UTV Ride & Poker Run |
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A group of friends fish for trout on Homme Pond, an impoundment of the Middle Branch of the Embarras River just north of Wittenberg. The pond is one of thousands of bodies of water in Wisconsin that offer the opportunity to fish from shore.

Greg Seubert Photo

Who needs a boat?

Wisconsin offers plenty of places to fish from shore

By Greg Seubert

Expensive boats and fancy electronics are nice, but they're not necessary when it comes to dropping a line for fish. Wisconsin is home to more than 15,000 inland lakes and ponds; thousands of miles of trout streams; hundreds of rivers; and shoreline on two Great Lakes.

That all adds up to plenty of opportunities to fish from shore.

The question many anglers ask is, where do I start?

That depends, but dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing/anglereducation/wheretofish is a good place to begin.

The state Department of Natural Resources webpage has detailed information on everything from year-round shore fishing opportunities on Lake Michigan to where to fish from shore each fall in Milwaukee to disabled-accessible sites to places to take the family.

Here are some places to fish from shore worth checking out.

Urban waters

The DNR has designated several bodies of water as urban fishing waters to make fishing opportunities more readily available and encourage more people — especially kids — to go fishing.

Urban fishing waters are small lakes and ponds under 25 acres that are intensively and cooperatively managed with a municipality. They are posted with signs, have special regulations and their shoreline is accessible to the public.

Many of these waters are located in southeastern Wisconsin, including

Brown Deer, Dineen, Estabrook, Greenfield, Holler, Humboldt, Jackson, Juneau, Kosciuszko, McCarty, McGovern, Miller, Mitchell, Saveland, Shoetz, Scout, Sheridan, Washington and Wilson parks in Milwaukee County; Delafield Rearing, Foxbrook and Lapham Peak ponds and Calhoun, Heyer, Menomonee Park, Minooka, Muskego, Nixon and Regal parks in Waukesha County; Boot and Wells lakes, Hartford and Kewaskum millponds and Homestead Hollow and Sandy Knoll parks in Washington County; Puckett's Pond and Quarry Lake in Harrington Beach State Park and Mequon Rotary, Schowalter and Willow Brooke parks in Ozaukee County; Anderson Park and Bong Children's Pond in Kenosha County; and Quarry Lake and Gorney, Johnson, Lockwood, Pritchard and Reservoir parks in Racine County.

A handful of other urban waters are located throughout Wisconsin. Remington Pond and Mirror Lake are located in Antigo and Tomahawk, respectively; Manger Lagoon is located in Green Bay's Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary; and Appleton Memorial Park in Appleton is home to a pond stocked with fish.

The above-listed waters have a year-round season, no length limits and a special season each year for ages 15 and younger and certain disabled anglers.

These waters also have a daily bag limit of three trout, one gamefish (largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, walleye, sauger and northern pike) and 10 panfish (bluegill, crappie, pumpkinseed, yellow perch and bullhead).

Fall in Milwaukee

A DNR brochure that can be found on the agency's website lists 50 fall shore fishing sites within an hour of downtown Milwaukee.

Areas in Milwaukee include Lakeshore State Park (brown trout, salmon, largemouth bass); McKinley Marina, Jones Island, Veteran's Park, Grant Park Pier, Lake Express Ferry Dock and Cupertino Pier (salmon, steelhead, brown trout); Milwaukee River at Estabrook and Kletzsch parks (salmon, steelhead, smallmouth bass); and Hank Aaron State Trail (steelhead, salmon, walleye).

Other areas near the city to fish for salmon, steelhead and brown trout include Port Washington's marina, power plant and breakwalls; the Sheboygan River in Eslingen and Kohler; Racine's marina, Pershing Park, North Pier and South Pier; and the Pike River in Kenosha's Petrifying Springs Park, North Pier, South Pier and Southport Marina.

State parks

Several state parks have shore fishing opportunities and many have disabled-accessible fishing piers.

Those parks include Big Foot Beach (Walworth County); Brunet Island and Lake Wissota (Chippewa County); Buckhorn (Juneau County); Copper Falls (Ashland County); Council Grounds (Lincoln County); Devil's Lake and Mirror Lake (Sauk County); Gov. Dodge (Iowa County); Gov. Nelson and Lake Kegonsa (Dane County); Gov. Thompson (Marquette County); Hartman Creek (Waupaca and Portage counties); High Cliff (Calumet County); Interstate and Straight Lake (Polk County); Merrick (Buffalo County); Peninsula and Potawatomi (Door County); Perrot (Trempealeau County); Willow River (St. Croix County); Wyalusing (Crawford County); and Yellowstone Lake (Lafayette County).

National forest

Four separate units of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest cover more than one and a half million acres in northern Wisconsin.

Several of the forest's campgrounds and recreation areas have shore fishing sites, including the Day Lake Recreation Area (Ashland County); Franklin Lake Recreation Area (Forest County); Mondeaux Dam Recreation Area (Taylor County); Newman Lake Recreation Area (Price County); and Two Lakes Recreation Area (Bayfield County).

The South Branch Oconto Barrier-Free Fishing Trail in Oconto County is one of the few trails of its kind. The quarter-mile trail parallels the South Branch of the Oconto River, a quality trout stream in the forest's Lakewood-Laona Ranger District. The trail provides access to 11 fishing sites, ranging from flat spots along the shoreline to decks that allow anglers to be out over the stream.

County parks

Although not nearly as popular as state parks, several county parks include areas ideal for shore fishing.

Those parks include Bay Shore County Park (Brown County), Big Eau Pleine Park (Marathon County), Clam Dam Park (Burnett County), Gordon Dam County Park (Douglas County), Jersey Valley Park (Vernon County), Nugget Lake County Park (Pierce County) and Pony Creek County Park (Waushara County);

Community parks

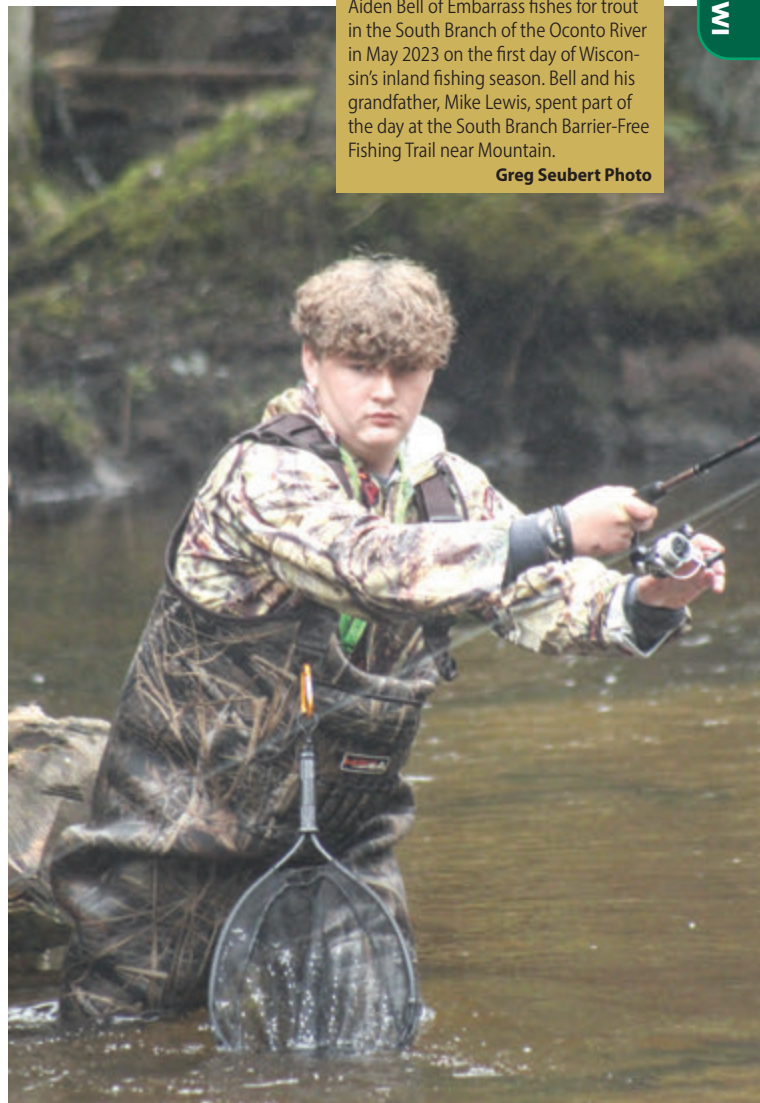
Lakes, rivers and streams are found in several communities throughout Wisconsin.

Some of the more angler-friendly parks include Beaver Dam's

Waterworks Park; Fond du Lac's Lakeside Park; Fox Lake's Clausen Park; La Crosse's Petibone Park; Marshfield's Hamus Nature Preserve and Recreation Area; Medford's Riverside Park; Park Falls' Hines Park; Rhinelander's Hodag Park; Stevens Point's Bukolt Park; and Sturgeon Bay's Bay View and Sunset parks.

Aiden Bell of Embarrass fishes for trout in the South Branch of the Oconto River in May 2023 on the first day of Wisconsin's inland fishing season. Bell and his grandfather, Mike Lewis, spent part of the day at the South Branch Barrier-Free Fishing Trail near Mountain.

Greg Seubert Photo





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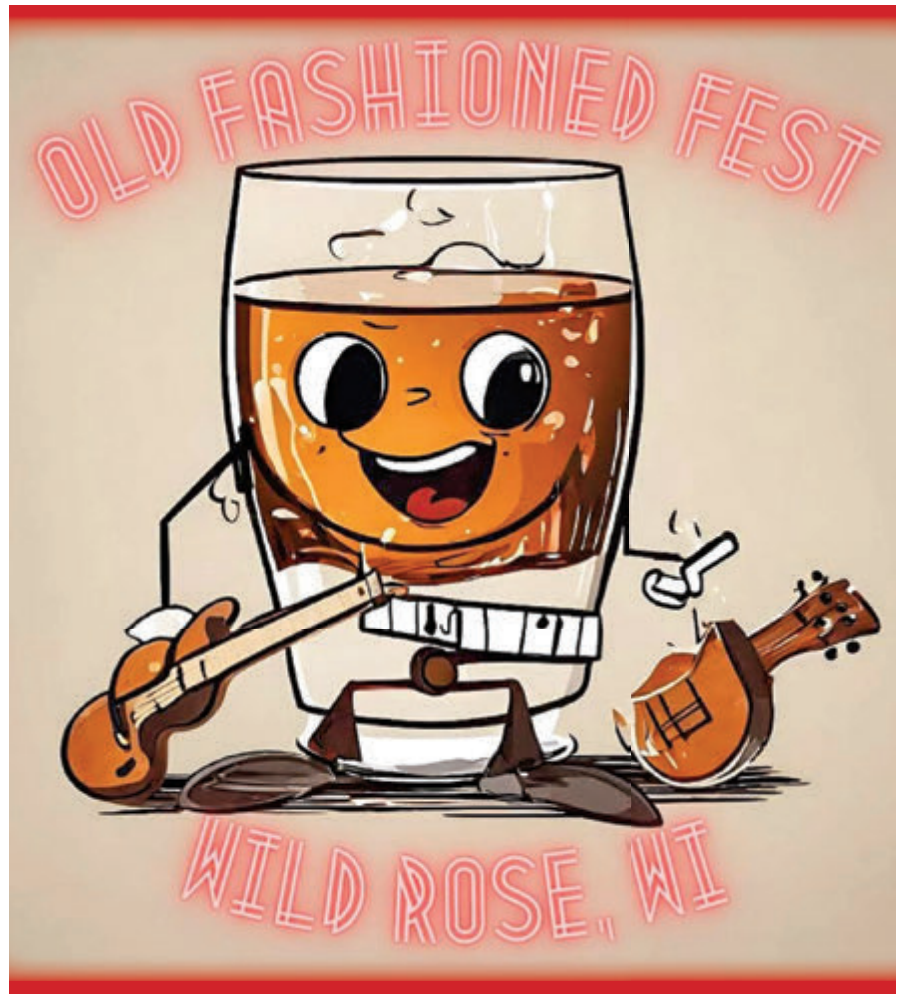


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Wild Rose to be put on the map with World Record Old Fashioned

By Hayley Sroka



Wild Rose will be entering the record book for the World's Largest Brandy Old Fashioned when they shatter the record by making 500 gallons of Brandy Old Fashioned at Old Fashioned Fest in downtown Wild Rose Saturday, June 1.

Old Fashioned Fest is a family friendly, community based event celebrating the Official Cocktail of Wisconsin. With a vendor fair, chicken barbecue and live music all day and night, the opportunity to enjoy the start of summer and support the community is endless. For a \$5 entry fee (kids 12 and under enter free) you can enjoy three great bands: The

Charlie Justmann Band (Waupaca), Local Heroes (Wausau), and Smoke Road (Green Bay). With over 30 vendors at the vendor fair, there will be a little something for everyone.

The chicken barbecue and Charlie Justmann Band will kick off the festivities at 11 a.m. with The World's Largest Old Fashioned being served around that time as well. The Wild Rose Booster Club will be hosting some 50/50 raffles throughout the morning. At 3:30 p.m., the American Legion Post 370 will be pulling their raffle ticket winners for their summer fundraiser. Local Heroes Band will follow at 4 p.m. and play until 7 p.m. Smoke Road will take over and keep the night going from 8-11 p.m. A food and beer tent will be available all night.

Off-site parking will be available with a shuttle bus to take people back and forth. Parking locations will be at the south end of town; with a choice between the Wild Rose Lions Club and the Roseville field where the Wild Rose Car Show is held. The Tavern League of Wisconsin's Safe Ride program will be available for attendees to utilize as well.

Old Fashioned Fest seeks to benefit many organizations, including but not limited to: American Legion Post 370, Wild Rose Fire Department, Village of Wild Rose, Wild Rose Booster Club, Waushara County Holiday Project, Wild Rose Public Library, Guardians of the Children and many more.

For more information, reach out to oldfashionedfestwi@gmail.com or check their Facebook page "Wild Rose Old Fashioned Fest." 🍷

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New center shows food-farm connection

By Gene Kemmeter and Mike Warren

A place for connecting with food and those who grow it. That's the mission statement of the new Food + Farm Exploration Center, located just off I-39 in Plover in central Portage County, just 35 miles east of the exact center of Wisconsin.

The one-of-a-kind center blends hands-on education with unforgettable family experiences, lots of fun, and – in some cases – great wholesome food. The center has also quickly become a tremendous resource for teachers and schools and an agri-tourism hotspot.

It will be a unique way to learn about careers in agriculture. Regardless of age or background, everyone will find immersive, multi-sensory activities and exhibits that will give them a new perspective on food and production agriculture.

“This is not a museum. We don't want to be a museum. We have to keep up with technology,” said Dick Pavelski, a founding member and president of the Farming for the Future Foundation Board which governs the center. “This shows a modern farm and how sophisticated it is. People don't realize that.”

Pavelski said the concept for the center began about four years ago, as members of the area began to realize there was a large disconnect with what happens on farms, where food comes from and how it gets to the grocery store.

“The idea was basically driven by social media comments that you don't need farmers any more, you can just go to the grocery store and get your food,” he said. “Then those comments were repeated on the floor of Congress, and we knew we needed to do something.”

Pavelski said the initial discussions started on a smaller project, “but then support grew, so we went to a larger project. We realized the support was substantial and put a team together for ideas.”

His daughter-in-law drew up an architectural design model, but the ideas for the center grew as area farmers and others became involved.

Steve Worzella of Worzella Farms in Plover donated 24 acres worth \$1.75 million, plus gave the Future of Farming Foundation the right of first refusal to an adjacent 14 acres.

“Some farmers said we should have done it earlier,” Pavelski said, about creating the foundation and building the center. He said financial institutions were also willing to donate to the project, along with machinery and equipment vendors and various suppliers.

The Worzellas are multi-generational potato and vegetable growers. “We're thrilled to build the exploration center on some of the same land they've farmed for generations,” Pavelski says. “The twenty-four-acre site will be used to tell the story of production agriculture for generations to come.”

The \$41 million facility opened Dec. 2, 2023.

As agriculture looks to the next generation of video gamers, the Food + Farm Exploration Center even features several pinball machines, “Supply and Demand” and “Weather Wars,” both designed specifically for the center.

Visitors can also “drive” farm equipment through the use of simulators while planting or harvesting various crops, such as beans, peas, corn and potatoes. The drivers select the type of crop to plant or harvest, and even the music they want to listen to inside the cab of the vehicle while the work is being done. As an on-board GPS system guides the equipment around the field, “operators” learn the technology allows for farmers to efficiently use more of the land for crop production than was used previously without Global Positioning System technology. A California company filmed the simulations, using 16 to 18 cameras on the equipment to give the driver the impression they're actually operating the machinery.

As for the real thing, large implement manufacturers are working with the center to provide new pieces of equipment for a minimum of five years, changing them out every few weeks or months. The Farm Tech Shed on the south side of the main building houses that equipment.

The center also has a large amount of space available to the public on the second floor for meetings, corporate and other events, and more, including weddings.



The World's Largest Potato Masher, at the new Food + Farm Exploration Center. At nearly 39 feet tall, it serves as an eye-catching attraction that welcomes visitors to the site and represents the exploration that happens inside and outside the new center. **Submitted photo**



Julia Krueger, a junior at Lincoln High School in Wisconsin Rapids, tries her hand at "planting" crops in one of two simulators, during a March 19 visit to the Food + Farm Exploration center as part of a class trip organized by her ag teacher, Brenna Murry. **Mike Warren photo**

The center has a program to sponsor bus trips for visitors, and scholarships are available to offset the cost for students, the center's target audience.

"We want people involved with video games," said Tamas Houlihan, executive director of the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association and a member of the center's Board of Directors. "We have

well-paid jobs. Technology is the way that modern farms are operated. We use GPS positioning to align the rows in coordinates. Technology has improved ag, [and] we need people to operate the equipment."

The Food + Farm Exploration Center is open Tuesdays through Sundays, along with its Colorful Plate Café and store. Admission prices

» CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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>> FOOD + FARM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

are \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors (age 60 and older) \$8 for youth (ages 12-17), \$6 for children (ages 3-11), free for infants/toddlers (under age 3); and \$6 for active military and veterans with military ID. Tickets are based on tour times, and can be purchased online.

The center is divided into several areas, Seedlings Children's Gallery, Ad Lab Marketspace, AG STEM Gallery, Kitchen Lab, Farm Tech Shed and Farm Demonstration Fields.

The Children's Gallery features a play-style kitchen, a food truck experience, a grocery store, seedlings processing and play machinery.

The Ag Lab is designed to cultivate creativity and innovation with an agricultural focus, using high-tech tools to promote problem-solving skills.

The AG STEM Gallery explores the intersection of farming and food through irrigation, a soil cube interactive sandbox, pests and pollinators, interactive harvest table, tractor simulators, optical sorter, potato storage, processing operations, frozen and canned foods, and transportation.

There's also the Kitchen Lab and the Farm Tech Shed, plus Farm Demonstration Fields — four one-acre plots that are planted each spring according to a crop rotation plan and irrigated. There is also a display of solar power in use. And, at nearly 39 feet tall, the World's Largest Potato Masher greets visitors and passers-by from every direction.

The center has a listing of various events scheduled, including cooking classes, which are regularly sold out.

The center is located at 3400 Innovation Drive, Plover, south of Lake Pacawa, between Hoover Avenue and Interstate 39. More information is available at the center's website, explorefoodandfarm.org. 🍷

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Mead for the country

By B.C. Kowalski

A late summer sun sets on wide-ranging fields. The fresh country air carries the scents of verdant farmlands. Lambs roam nearby, behind metal fencing, staring at me as if waiting for their photograph to be taken. A pair of wine glasses sit on tables made of over-turned wire rolls.

It's a beautiful evening at Half Moon Hill Farm and Winery, located about 15 miles northwest of Wausau near Hamburg. Gerrid and Sadie Franke not only sell their wares at the Wausau Farmers Market; they also provide a mead experience on their farm.

Half Moon Hill launched its tasting room in 2017 to sample their homemade wine, mead and hard cider. Now they have a mead hall where they host mead events including live music. The Franks worked on the project over COVID, and used a lot of reclaimed materials – including flooring from an old school gymnasium.

Gerrid happily talks about the meads and ciders — they started with dry versions, just the way he and Sadie like them. Now there are semi-sweet varieties, too. They'll pour you samples of their blackberry, blueberry or plain meads, and their various ciders as well.



Half Moon Hill launched its tasting room in 2017 to sample their homemade wine, mead and hard cider.

B.C. Kowalski photo

Those meads are now sold in individual bottles and make a great replacement to, say, a beer. Meads such as “Found my Thrill” (blueberry) and “Summer Dream” (raspberry) can be found.

Half Moon Hill is the latest of farms finding ways to open their doors to the public, turning them into an experience for the public.

Stoney Acres Farm in Athens created their Friday night pizza events more than a decade ago. Hundreds of people show up every weekend, and as others noticed, the idea of turning farm homesteads into a destination started to take off. They since added a brewery on site, adding to the experience. Whitefeather Organic in Custer started its own pizza night for a time; Lonely Oak Farm in Milladore has a popular Sunday brunch; and Rock Ridge Orchard started its own pizza night a few years ago.

These operations serve a couple of different purposes for the farms. First, they’re a great way to expand public awareness. There are plenty of different growers at area markets, but a customer has a deeper connection to a farm where they’ve spent a wonderful evening. These public events also provide an important source of additional revenue — it takes the concept of a home-based business to a whole new level. At one point half of Stoney Acres’ annual revenue now comes from its pizza nights, for example.

The timing is perfect for the Frankes, whose farm experience comes at a time when people in Central Wisconsin are becoming familiar with the concept of driving out to the farm for a delightful evening.

Half Moon Hill is located at 132851 Highway A in Hamburg near Little Chicago. Stoney Acres is located at 245728 Baldwin Creek Road in Athens and Rock Ridge Orchard is located at 128752 Highway 153 in Edgar. All three are on Facebook, for the latest events and open hours this summer. 🍷

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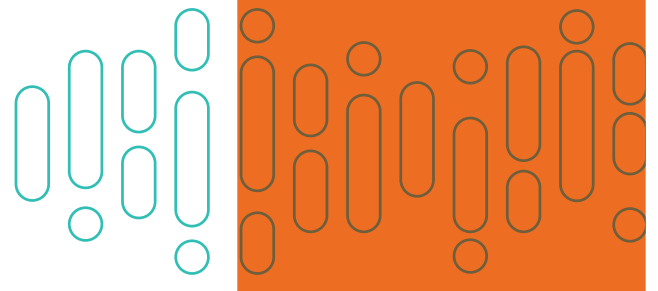
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Central Wisconsin Events Calendar

MAY

- 4-5 Heart of Wisconsin Gem & Mineral Show:** Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center, Rothschild. heartofwisconsinrocks.com
- 11 Portage County Cultural Festival:** Stevens Point Area High School. portagecountyculturalfestival.org
- 18 Armed Forces Day Event:** Wausau. eaa640.com
- 25 Rib Mountain Adventure Challenge:** Wausau. ironbull.org
- 31-1 Dairyfest:** Marshfield. marshfieldchamber.com
- 31-1 SunDrop Dayz:** East Elizabeth Street, Shawano
- 31-2 Abby Fest:** Abbotsford. abbycolbylama.com
- 31-2 Thorp Dairy Days:** Thorp

JUNE

- 1 Old Fashioned Fest:** Downtown Wild Rose
- 4-9 Parade of Homes:** Wausau Area Builders Association. \$10. wausuareabuilders.com
- 6-8 Brittney Saylor Bluegrass at the Lake Memorial Music Festival:** South Wood County Park, Wisconsin Rapids. bluegrassatthelake.com
- 7-9 Wittenberg Community Days:** Washington Park, Wittenberg
- 7-9 Wisconsin River Pro Rodeo:** Merrill Festival Grounds, Merrill. wrpr.org
- 8-9 Pioneer Festival:** Historic Point Basse, Nekoosa. historicpointbasse.com
- 14-16 Withee Days:** Withee Fairgrounds & Ballpark.
- 15 Solstice Summit:** Granite Peak Ski Area, Wausau. ironbull.org
- 20-23 Cranberry Blossom Festival:** Wisconsin Rapids. blossomfest.com
- 22 33rd Annual Energy Fair:** Custer. theenergyfair.org

- 23 Shawano County Brunch on the Farm:** Synergy Family Dairy, Pulaski. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- 27-29 Northern Roundup Vintage Weekend:** Deerbrook. northernroundup.com

JULY

- 4-6 Riverfront Rendezvous:** Pfiffner Pioneer Park, Stevens Point. stevenspoint.com/RR
- 4-6 Midwestern Rodeo:** Manawa. manawarodeo.org
- 11-13 Iola Car Show:** Iola. iolaoldcarshow.com
- 11-14 Neillsville Heritage Days:** Schuster Park, Neillsville
- 12-13 Taste N Glow Balloon Festival:** Wausau
- 12-14 Owen Junior Fair:** Mill Pond Park, Owen
- 13 ShawanoFest:** Downtown Shawano. shawanodowntown.com
- 18-21 Portage County Fair:** Amherst Fairgrounds. amherstfair.com
- 18-21 Wisconsin State Water Ski Show Championships:** Lake Wazeecha, Wisconsin Rapids. waterski.org
- 19-21 Colby Cheese Days:** Colby. abbycolbychamber.com
- 25-27 Hub City Days:** Downtown Marshfield. mainstreetmarshfield.com
- 25-28 Taylor County Fair:** Medford. witaylorcountyfair.com
- 26-27 Celebrate Plover:** Lake Pacawa, Plover. celebrateplover.com
- 26-28 National Antique Tractor Pull & Threshere:** Manawa
- 28 Stanley Lions Watermelon Festival:** Chapman Park
- 30-4 Wisconsin Valley Fair:** Marathon Park. wisconsinvalleyfair.com

AUGUST

- 2-4 Scandinavia Corn Roast Weekend:** Scandinavia
- 7-11 Clark County Fair:** Neillsville. clarkcountywi.gov
- 9-11 Abbotsford First City Days:** Red Arrow Park, Abbotsford

- 9-11 Rib Lake Ice Age Days:** McComb Ave, Rib Lake. riblakewisconsin.com
- 10 Augustfest:** Wautoma. augustfest.org
- 16-17 Big Bull Falls Blues Fest:** Isle of Fern Parks, Wausau. wausauevents.org
- 17 24th Annual Ride to Remember:** The Highground, Neillsville
- 24 Rockabilly Car Show & Pinup Contest:** Rivers Edge Campground, Stevens Point. bullheadsbargrill.com
- 20-25 Central Wisconsin State Fair:** Marshfield. centralwisconsinstatefair.com
- 22-25 Loyal Corn Fest:** Various locations in Loyal
- 23-25 Edgar Steam Show:** Edgar. edgarsteamshow.com
- 29-1 Jackpine Jamboree:** Birnamwood. jackpinejamboree.com

FARMERS MARKETS

- Abbotsford:** Tuesdays, 1:30 pm-5:30 pm, May-October. 1011 E Spruce St, Abbotsford
- Marshfield:** Every other Tuesday 8 am-1 pm, June-October. Pick 'n Save Parking Lot, Marshfield
- Mosinee:** Mondays 11 am-4 pm. June-October. River Park, Mosinee
- Neillsville:** Saturdays, 8 am-noon. May-October. Sniteman's Town Square, Neillsville
- Owen:** Saturdays 9 am-noon. June-September. County Rd. X
- Stevens Point:** Daily (Saturdays most popular), 6:30 am-5 pm. May-October. Mathias Mitchell Public Square
- Stratford:** Wednesdays 4 pm-7pm. June-September. 402 S Weber Ave
- Wausau:** Wednesdays & Saturdays. 7 am until items sold out. May-October. 200 River Drive
- Wausau:** Thursdays 10 am-4 pm. June-September. 2727 Plaza Drive
- Wisconsin Rapids:** Thursdays & Saturdays 8 am-2 pm. June-October. Downtown Wisconsin Rapids




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EST. 1935 SUPPER CLUB

In 1935, a new business ventured its way in to the small town of Plover, WI. Boasting its lunch specials consisting of homemade sandwiches and oven - baked chicken, it attracted many hungry tourists who also had the opportunity to spend the evening at the business camping facilities offered at no expense. A gas and oil service station were included for those who may have been on their way to a more distant location. Marion Nall started this unique combination of services set among stately oaks offering a quiet country setting. The original building not only housed a bar and a restaurant, but also served as a home to the operators. It didn't take long for this wayside to become an identifiable



spot for travelers heading through Plover and Stevens Point. Near the end of the war, the tourist season seemed to grow along with the restaurant, whose service was becoming more extensive, hence the term “supper club”.



Post war booming the 40's and 50's came rather quickly. It was in those years changes were made to the wayside restaurant which helped identify the present Sky Club. In 1950 an innovative self-service, all - you - can - eat salad bar, believed to be the first ever was introduced. It became an identifying benchmark of the Sky Club. Around this time, the slogan, “Heavenly Food Served by Angels” was introduced, and is said to have been started by Tom Leach, a part - time owner/customer in the early 1940's. The restaurant's history of owners, in order is: George Armstrong '35 Marion Nall '40 Louie Jacobs, John Rocco, Louie and Evelyn Schnittger '50 and finally, in 1961, John Freund. Freund, from Neenah purchased the restaurant and operated it until 1965, but died suddenly. It was then his sons, Doug and Terrol who purchased the restaurant and took over where their father left off. In May of 1966, another son Dennis, fresh out of the Air Force,

joined his brothers in the business. Age was their only asset, but in no time, the business was on its way to success. In 1969, Doug decided to pursue other interests, and left the Sky Club. In late November, the restaurant dealt with a severe setback from a fire forcing the business to close until June, 1970. Dennis and Terry responded to the challenge and rebuilt the restaurant again. With the help of loyal customers, dedicated employees, and a few years' time, an additional dining room was added in 1979. In order to do this, the owner's home located next to the business was moved. Additions were added in 1981 and in 1994. With tremendous pride, the Freund's are able to look back at the history of their business. Dennis Freund retired in the summer of 1999 and Terry Freund retired to his other restaurant “Headwaters” in Boulder Junction Wisconsin in the summer of 2007, passing the tradition down to his two son's Patrick and Eric. The Freund's continue the tradition of the Sky Club and want to thank our past and present patrons and employees, for helping us make the first years successful...

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A celebration of culture and community

Mulva Cultural Center open to the public

By Janelle Fisher

The \$100 million Mulva Cultural Center in De Pere opened its doors in late 2023. The center was designed to provide something for everyone.

After two years of construction and \$100 million, the Mulva Cultural Center officially opened its doors at 221 S. Broadway in De Pere late in 2023 and now offers the public a variety of traveling exhibits, film showings, workshops and more.

“Over two years ago, when we first had the plans, the first description I heard of the center that really stuck with everyone all along was ‘world-class,’” Marv Wall, President of the Mulva Cultural Center said. “We wanted to have a world-class facility, world-class content, world-class food. Everything needs to be world-class... I’m very happy to say

that [we’re] open to the public who will be able to see that vision. We’re very blessed and excited to have reached this milestone.”

While some activities, such as the exhibits and film showings, require timed-entry tickets, the building itself is free to enter and contains several spaces open for public use.

“People don’t have to buy admission tickets to come into the building or to come and sit and enjoy the opportunities that this provides... There’s something here for everyone,” said Thomas Shefchik, executive

director of community relations. “And as the facility opens even more, we’ll have many more opportunities for people to enjoy the spaces and the offerings within it... I think the most exciting part of it is that we’ll be doing things a year from now that we haven’t even thought of today. There’s a wide range of activities that we can plan and the team is really excited and energized to build all of that out. And we’re going to be offering world-class experiences for people in our classrooms, the exhibition hall and the auditorium — the sky’s the limit, so to speak, of what we’re able to provide and bring into the community.”

Housed within the Mulva Cultural Center is a state-of-the-art auditorium, featuring 200 seats, the highest quality Dolby sound system available and a large Samsung screen (the third of its kind to be installed nationwide). There will be regular, ticketed film screenings in the auditorium, with the possibility of other events utilizing the space as time goes on.



The Mulva Cultural Center gift shop allows visitors to take home a piece of their experience.



A state-of-the-art auditorium is housed in the cultural center. The 200-seat facility has a large Samsung screen and high quality Dolby sound system to host film screenings and other events.



The exhibition hall at the Mulva Cultural Center in De Pere will feature a variety of traveling exhibits. **Janelle Fisher photos**

“This is a very flexible space,” Shefchik said. “It’s set up for every type of performance mode except, probably, any large stage productions with scenery and things such as that. We hope to have a speaker series in place... Panel discussions would be a great opportunity. A main focus of the last couple of months was just getting the building completed and having a timeline to move in. In the next weeks and months, you’ll see a lot more of the program being built out and how we utilize the space.”

The second floor of the Mulva Cultural Center is home to an

exhibition space, which is anticipated to host an average of three exhibitions each year.

Now through May 12, visitors can take a walk on the wild side and explore Dino Safari: A Walk Thru Adventure. Following Dino Safari will be The Bricktionary: The Ultimate LEGO A-Z, on display June 6 through Sept. 2 and featuring some of the largest LEGO creations ever built.

More information about the Mulva Cultural Center, its exhibits and tickets can be found at mulvacenter.org.



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The Bond Pickle Company, pictured in an historical postcard.
Blue Sky Postcard Company image

Heritage Hill exhibit tells story of American Dream

By Kris Leonhardt

This summer Heritage Hill State Historical Park will open its first new building in nearly a decade. It will serve as an educational tool highlighting the area's migrant workers in the 20th century.

"The beauty of this structure is not necessarily that it's big, it's not necessarily that it's got this crazy historical impact or power; but, one of the cool things that we haven't had as great of an opportunity to do here at the park in many years is tell stories of other ethnicities that have come to the park," Heritage Hill Director of Development Madeleine Buchholz-Kneeland said. "And with the unique labor history tied to the migrant cabin, it takes our story forward more into the 1940s-1950s.

"It's a unique way to be able to bring our story closer to the present. And then beyond that, Heritage Hill in the past has really focused the majority of its stories on European immigrants that came to this area.

"We have folks that have really diverse backgrounds. The Hispanic American population in Green Bay is the fastest-growing minority in the area. And to be able to have folks be able to come here and see their

stories represented here is really, really unique and really important to have that be represented here."

"Green Bay was really a catalyst for labor history in the U.S., which I didn't know literally until finding out about this migrant cabin that a lot of, you know, union and certainly workers rights — migrant workers rights — came to a head," added Senior Marketing Specialist Elizabeth Jolly-Haslitt.

Labor migration

During the 20th century, laborers from the country's southern states would come north during the slow southern growing season.

The migrant worker population began as single males leaving their homes to obtain income to support or help support their families. After World War II, though, entire families began migrating for work, prompting the need for living quarters.

Recently four UW-Green Bay interns — Kayla Erickson, Jacob



David Haack installs the original flooring. The house was disassembled and transported to Heritage Hill in 18 pieces, including 12 wall sections, four roof sections and two floor sections, where it is being reassembled and prepared for an early May opening.

Submitted photo

Stuczynski, Jon O'Malley and Kim Krueger — studied the history of the migrant cabin with assistance from the UW-Green Bay Archives and Area Research Center. Their research found that in the 1960s there were over 300 migrant labor camps in Wisconsin.

"Many companies had more than one camp to house these migrant workers who were primarily engaged in the harvesting of cherries and cucumbers," the group stated.

Bond Pickle Company

"Bond Pickle Company purchased cucumbers from local farms and manufactured them into pickles using the labor of migrant workers," Buchholz-Kneeland said. "Although mechanization was coming to agricultural fields, machinery was not able to be used for cucumber harvesting because cucumbers could be harvested multiple times per growing season. Because machines usually destroy crops, local famers relied on migrant labor for cucumber harvesting."

Buchholz-Kneeland explained how Bond Pickle Co. created "Bond Village," a group of cabins close to the farms so migrant workers were able to have shelter, facilities and easy access to work sites.

"These camps were not comfortable or safe locations to live in, with little access to simple amenities such as mattresses or fans for scorching summer weather," Buchholz-Kneeland said. "They were as basic as the famer or producer could make them because people would only live in the camps for a few months of the year.

"I think an important thing, too, is that the majority of the folks that were represented here are these migrants. They were American citizens. They were Hispanic Americans that are maybe third generation but they were traveling around the country. They would cycle through Texas, Minnesota, through Nebraska... doing seasonal work and living in structures like these. And when you go in there, and you realize, holy bananas, they put 12 people in here — more than that; it's like a 16 by 20-foot structure," Buchholz-Kneeland said.

House No. 8

In 2017, Heritage Hill State Historical Park received the donation of one of these migrant homes which once served as living quarters for the Bond Pickle Factory in Oconto.

The home donated to Heritage Hill — house No. 8 — stood in Bond Village for four decades in a group of single-story, three-season wood structures and served as home for migrant workers during the July to September cucumber harvesting season.

Most of the homes were removed from the village site in the early 1980s. House No. 8 had been placed on a farm in southern Oconto County and used as a storage shed.

"One of the families that lived in this camp — in this cabin — basically said, 'I want to save this,' and went to Heritage Hill and said, 'You know, we think this is really important. Would you guys be able to acquire this building and tell our story.'" Buchholz-Kneeland said.

"It's unique because the family actually stayed on her after," Jolly-Haslitt added. "So, the gentleman was a migrant child that came with his family as a migrant worker. And then he ended up staying here and going on to pursue higher education and excel in the 'American Dream.'"

His children also went on to build successful careers.

The house was disassembled and transported to Heritage Hill in 18 pieces, including 12 wall sections, four roof sections and two floor sections, where it is being reassembled and prepared for an early may opening.

"It's a really cool story... of what we think is the true American Dream," Buchholz-Kneeland said. "You come here and you live on something so small and you build your way into a real success story and give back to the community that raised you, too.

"They have this story, they were able to make something of themselves and come here and say, 'save this please and be able to tell our story for future generations.'"

For more information, visit heritagehillgb.org.



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East Central Wisconsin Events Calendar

MAY

- 10-12 **May Festival:** New London
 17 **Spring Cruise Car Show:** Clintonville
 27 **Memorial Day Service:** Clintonville
 31-1 **SunDrop Dayz:** East Elizabeth Street, Shawano

JUNE

- 1 **Mobfest:** Bear Creek
 2 **Art on the Island:** Lakeside Park, Fond du Lac
 8 **Rhubarb Fest:** Thern Farm, New London
 8 **BrillionFest:** 9 a.m.-midnight. Calumet Street, Brillion
 8 **Roofing of the Goats Parade and Festival:** Sister Bay
 15 **Strawberry Fest:** Downtown Waupaca. visitwaupacachainolakes.com
 16 **Wautoma Father's Day Car Show:** 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Washara County Fairgrounds
 22 **33rd Annual Energy Fair:** Custer. theenergyfair.org
 28-30 **Fremont River Days:** Downtown Fremont. fremontriverdeck.com

JULY

- 4-6 **Midwestern Rodeo:** Manawa. manawarodeo.org
 11-13 **Iola Car Show:** Iola. iolaoldcarshow.com
 12-14 **Belgian Days:** Brussels Town Park, Brussels
 13 **ShawanoFest:** Downtown Shawano. shawanodowntown.com
 15 **Strawberry Fest:** Waupaca
 17-21 **Fond du Lake County Fair:** Fairgrounds, Fond du Lac
 18-21 **Pulaski Polka Days:** Community Park, Pulaski. pulaskipolkadays.com
 18-21 **Portage County Fair:** Amherst Fairgrounds. amherstfair.com
 26-27 **Tastes and Tunes:** Throughout Iola/Scandinavia. ischamber.com
 28 **Shawano Art Fair:** Mielke Arts Center, Shawano

AUGUST

- 2-4 **Scandinavia Corn Roast Weekend:** Scandinavia
 9-11 **Shanty Days Celebration of the Lake:** Algoma
 9-11 **Shawano Folk Music Festival:** Mielke Arts Center, Shawano
 10 **Rock N Corn Festival:** New London. rockncornfestival.com
 17 **Arts on the Square:** Waupaca
 17 **Fly-In and Car Show:** Shawano Airport
 28-2 **Shawano County Fair:** Fairgrounds, Shawano
 31 **Bonduel Amish Quilt and Consignment Auction:** 8:30 a.m., Shawano

FARMERS MARKETS

Shawano: Saturday, 8 am-noon. Franklin Park from June-October.

Clintonville: Thursdays, 3 pm-6:30 pm. Community Center parking lot from June-October.

Waupaca: Saturday, 9 am-1 pm. 102 E. Fulton St. Mid-May to end of October.





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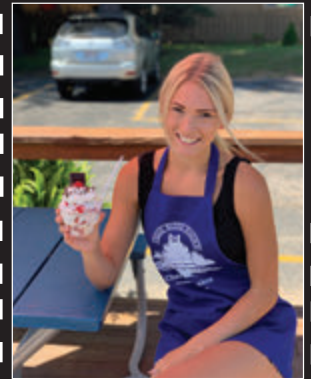
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‘Right in our own backyard’

Horicon Marsh celebrated as globally significant wetland

By Clarice Case

Birders look up through the trees on a walking tour during the Horicon Marsh Bird Festival.

Photo Credit: Jeff Bahls

“It’s not just ducks and geese,” said Jeff Bahls, Horicon Marsh Bird Club president, who has been attending the Marsh’s annual Bird Festival, held in mid-May, for more than 25 years.

The 27th annual event took place this year over Mothers Day weekend. It’s the time of year, Bahls said, during spring migration that provides the best opportunity to see the most diversity in species.

Some species seen during spring migration are warblers, particularly the wood warbler, an dwater birds like rails, bitterns, egrets and herons.

The Horicon Marsh is recognized as a State Wildlife Area and a National Wildlife Refuge, as well as Wetland of International Importance and a Global Important Bird Area.

The total number of species that has been sighted over the years is 304.

“How special this place is right in our own backyard,” Bahls said.

The Horicon Marsh Bird Club invites birders and outdoor enthusiasts to mark their calendars to experience this special place next year, during the oldest bird festival in the state.

“This weekend-long event provides family-friendly activities and educational experiences designed to showcase Horicon Marsh’s role as an important habitat for birds and wildlife,” reads the club’s website.

Highlights of the festival generally include primitive camping; bus, walking, biking and paddling tours; various presentations and boat tours. Event locations are not only the Horicon Marsh Education and Visitor Center, but also the Marsh Haven Nature Center and U.S. Fish and Wildlife properties.

Watch the website, horiconmarshbirdclub.com for events that take place throughout the year. For more information, call 920-210-9054. 🍷



A close-up photo of a Baltimore Oriole.

Photo Credit: Jeff Bahls

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Kewaskum/Southern Wisconsin Events Calendar

MAY

- 4-5 **Wiscopex Postage Stamp Show:** Radisson Inn and Conference Center, Fond du Lac
- 10-13 **Horicon Marsh Bird Festival:** Horicon
- 17-18 **Ice Show:** Beaver Dam
- 31-1 **SunDrop Dayz:** East Elizabeth Street, Shawano

JUNE

- 2 **Art on the Island:** Lakeside Park, Fond du Lac
- 7-9 **Wisconsin Arts & Peony Festival:** Beaver Dam
- 15 **Taste of Wisconsin:** Beaver Dam
- 28-30 **Celebrate Waupun:** Waupun

JULY

- 17-21 **Fond du Lac County Fair:** Fond du Lac

AUGUST

- 14-18 **Dodge County Fair:** Beaver Dam

FARMERS MARKETS

Beaver Dam: Saturday 8 am-noon & Tuesday 4 pm-6:30 pm. May-October. Corner of Spring Street and Henry Street.

Campbellsport: Sunday, 9 am-1 pm. June-October. Dundee Farmers & Crafters Market, N3019 Hwy 67.

Horicon: Wednesdays, 4 pm-8 pm. June-September. Kiwanis Park.

Kewaskum: Thursdays, 9 am-2 pm. May-September. American Legion, Kewaskum.



Road trip safety tips

Road trips are great ways to get away from home and see the country. Such excursions enable travelers to get up close and personal with various attractions and afford them a chance to travel at their own pace.

No matter where the road may take you, safety should always be a priority. The home and travel safety resource Safewise reports that car accidents are the No. 1 cause of death in America among people between the ages of one and 54.

When planning your next road trip, these tips can ensure everyone stays safe.



Plan where to get gas

Even the most fuel-efficient vehicle will need to be filled up during long road trips. To ensure you're not running on "E" with no fuel station on the horizon, plan in advance where you will take breaks to get gas. Try not to run under one-quarter tank of gas, and coordinate gas stops with opportunities to recharge and visit restrooms.

Stock the car

Breakdowns happen, even with well-maintained vehicles. Stock an emergency roadside kit and keep it in the car at all times. Kits should include:

- mobile phone and charger
- flashlight
- first aid kit
- jumper cables
- jack and tire-changing tools
- flares
- water and nonperishable foods
- paper maps
- emergency blankets, towels and changes of clothes

Keep the number of a roadside service, and phone numbers for emergency contacts in the glove compartment just in case cell phone service is spotty.

Take frequent breaks

Driving while tired is just as dangerous as driving while intoxicated. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, after being awake for 18 hours, the human body functions like someone with a blood alcohol content of 0.05 percent. After being awake for 24 hours, it's equal to 0.10 percent, or the equivalent of a 160 pound man drinking five beers in an hour.

Don't wait to feel tired to pull over. Make frequent stops or switch drivers to give everyone breaks.

Keep weather in mind

Let the season and the forecast dictate your route. Ensure windshield wipers are working and blades are effective. Consult weather forecasts to determine if thunderstorms will be in the area or if it will be especially windy. Never drive through flooded roadways.

Road trips are an exciting way to travel. Safety should be part of the planning process. 🗺️

Visitor Information

Abbotsford

(715) 223-8509
abbycolbychamber.com

Antigo

(715) 623-4134
antigochamber.com

Beaver Dam

(920) 887-8879
beaverdamchamber.com

Belguim Area

(262) 483-1200
belguimareachamber.org

Boulder Junction

(715) 385-2400
boulderjct.org

Campbellsport Area

Campbellsportchamber.org

Clintonville

(715) 823-4606
clintonvillewichamber.com

Colby

(715) 223-8509
abbycolbychamber.com

De Pere

(920) 334-6500
deperechamber.org
definitelydepere.org

Eagle River Area

(715) 479-3450
eagleriver.org

Fond du Lac

(920) 921-9500
envisiongreaterfld.com fdl.com

Forest County

(715) 478-3450
visitforestcounty.com

Green Bay Area

(920) 593-3400
greenbay.com greatergbc.org

Horicon

(920) 485-3200
horiconchamber.com

Hurley

(715) 561-4334
hurleywi.com

Iola/Scandinavia

(715) 445-4722
ischamber.com

Kewaskum

(262) 626-3336
kewaskum.org

Kewaunee

(920) 388-4822
kewaunee.org

Land O'Lakes

(715) 547-3432
golandolakeswi.com

Lomira

lomirachamberofcommerce.com

Loyal

loyalwi.com

Manawa

(920) 596-2495
manawachamber.org

Manitowish Waters

(715) 543-8488
manitowishwaters.org

Marshfield

(715) 384-3554
marshfieldchamber.com
visitmarshfield.com
mainstreetmarshfield.com

Mayville

(920) 387-5776
mayvillechamber.com

Medford Area

(715) 748-4729
medford-chamber.org

Mercer

(715) 476-2389
mercerc.com

Merrill

(715) 536-9474
merrillchamber.org

Minocqua

(715) 356-5266
minocqua.org

Mosinee

(715) 693-4330
mosineechamber.org

Neillsville

(715) 743-6444
neillsville.org

New London

(920) 982-5822
newlondonchamber.com

Oneida County Tourism

(800) 236-3006
oneidacountywi.com

Pelican Lake Area

(715) 487-5222
pelicanlakewi.org

Phelps

(715) 545-3800
phelpswi.org

Plymouth

(920) 893-0079
plymouthwisconsin.com

Presque Isle

(715) 686-2910
presqueisle.com

Rhineland Area

(715) 365-7464
rhinelandchamber.com

St. Germain Chamber

(715) 477-2205
st-germain.com

Sayner-Star Lake

(715) 542-3789
sayner-starlake.org

Seymour

Seymour Business League
sblwi.com

Shawano

(715) 524-2139
shawanocountry.com

Stevens Point

(715) 344-2556
stevenspointarea.com

Sturgeon Bay

(920) 743-6246
sturgeonbay.net

Theresa

(920) 488-5421
chamber of commerce

Three Lakes

(715) 546-3346
threelakes.com

Tomahawk

(800) 569-2160
gototomahawk.com
tomahawkmainstreet.org

Vilas County

(715) 479-3649
vilaswi.com

Wabeno

(715) 473-4333
townofwabeno.org

Waupaca

(715) 258-7343
waupacamemories.com

Wausau Area

(715) 845-6231
visitwausau.com

Wausara County

(920) 787-3488
wausharachamber.com

Wisconsin Rapids

(715) 423-1830
wisconsinrapidschamber.com
visitwisrapids.com

Wittenberg

(715) 881-2111
wittenbergchamber.com

Advertiser Index

NORTHERN WI

AmericInn.....	14
Augie's Collectibles.....	17
CT's Deli.....	8
Cerny's Greenhouse.....	18
Cornerstone Custom Builders.....	48
Everest Custom Homes, Inc.....	47
Food Truck-A-Palooza.....	19
Hayward Area Chamber Of Commerce.....	18
Let's Minocqua Visitors Bureau & Chamber Of Commerce.....	12
Louisiana-Pacific Corporation.....	23
Mel's Trading Post.....	23
Menominee Casino Resort.....	2
Mercer Area Chamber Of Commerce.....	11
Merrill Chamber Of Commerce.....	17
Merrill Enrichment Center.....	9
Merrill Historical Society.....	18
Merrill Parks & Recreation Department.....	22
Northwoods Community Realty.....	19
Oulu Glass Gallery/Studio.....	19
Palmquist Farm.....	5
Rhineland Chamber Of Commerce.....	15
Rondele Ranch.....	19
Sawmill Brewing Co, Inc.....	23
Sideways Wine & Craft Beer.....	22
St. Germain Chamber Ofcommerce.....	13
Stormy Kromer.....	18
Strikers Bowling Bar.....	21
Timbers Of The Northwoods.....	13
Wayne & Theresa's Silverado.....	17
Westside Market.....	9

CENTRAL WI

2 ½ Cups Cupcakery & Bakeshop.....	31
Heartland Equestrian Center.....	34
Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wittenberg.....	33
Hosta Stop Gardens.....	34
Incredible Bank.....	31
Lee Ayers Jewelers.....	27
Sky Club Supper Club.....	35
Slugger's Sports Bar.....	25
Silver Lake Lanes.....	28
The Highground Veterans Park.....	28
Tri-County Thresherman's Show.....	24
Wenzel's Farm & Sausage.....	29

EAST CENTRAL WI

Bridge Bar.....	39
Clear Water Harbor.....	41
Port Washington Tourism.....	37





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