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Numerous Fourth of July events are scheduled throughout the Eagle River Area, including parades, fireworks, markets, and "parties downtown."

Summer events underway throughout the area

Area chambers of commerce and organizations plan events as added attractions to the lakes and forests that already bring people to the North Woods. The activities scheduled range from craft fairs and antique shows to live music offerings. In addition to the events listed here, some weekly events are planned around the area as well, including waterski shows, live music, and more. For information on things happening in a specific town, visit the corresponding chamber of commerce website. The following is a list of events and activities from tourism officials and other sources. Detailed stories on some of the events can be found in this publication.

JULY 3, LAND O' LAKES FIREWORKS — At the Land O' Lakes Airport will be one of the best fireworks shows in the North Woods. The gates for

the show open at 5 p.m. and the show will begin at dusk. Contact 715-547-3432.

JULY 3, MAKERS MARKET ON MAIN STREET — Visitors are invited to shop for hand-crafted goods in the Create meadow near Main Street in downtown Sayner. The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Wednesday through Aug. 2. Call 715-499-4016.

JULY 3, MUSIC ON MAIN STREET — Amanda Anderson will perform from 6 to 8 p.m. in People's Park in downtown Boulder Junction. Music on Main Street is an ongoing event that will continue each Wednesday through the middle of August. Contact 715-385-2400 or visit boulderjct.org.

JULY 4, FOURTH OF JULY PARADES — Communities across the North Woods will host parades, picnics,

family activities and fireworks. Parades will be at 9 a.m. in Three Lakes, 11 a.m. in Eagle River, noon in Boulder Junction and Land O' Lakes, 1 p.m. in Conover and Manitowish Waters, 3 p.m. in Sayner and Phelps, and 4 p.m. in Minocqua. Boat parades will be at 3 p.m. in Manitowish Waters and 6 p.m. in Phelps. Most communities will have fireworks at dusk. Contact local chambers of commerce to confirm times and activities.

JULY 4, BOULDER JUNCTION INDEPENDENCE DAY — Starting at 8 a.m. Boulder Junction will host a fireworks show after events throughout the day. Visitors can end the night with fireworks at Boulder Junction Airport, with doors opening at 8 p.m. and the

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Tuesday night racing highlights weekly Eagle River events

Tuesday night is race night at the Eagle River Speedway. With a packed, weekly series list of different class events, there is no shortage of action to be seen. A fun-filled summer schedule is planned with regular racing every week.

Recent improvements have been made to the grandstands, and a skywalk has been added as well, to give fans more room to take in each week's festivities. The one-third-mile clay tri-oval track is located at 3961 Cloverland Dr., just west of Eagle River. Admission for regular Tuesday night racing is \$12 for adults 18 and older, \$10 for veterans and seniors 60-plus, and \$6 for youths ages 6-17. Children

aged five and younger are admitted free with a paid adult. Weekly series features that hit the one-third-mile clay tri-oval racetrack include the Zdroik Well Drilling Street Stocks, J & J Construction IMCA Stock Cars, Chef Rene's B Mods, Sweetwater Late Models, J.D. Archery 600 Micro Sprints and Dan's Service Center-Halsey Fabrication 300 Junior Sprints. The Pure Stock division will also compete during a handful of nights. Highlighting the track's schedule is a B Mod. The Eagle River Speedway provides exciting and affordable family fun for residents and guests all summer long and has been the host of the longest-

running weekly stock car races in Wisconsin since 1975. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday during the summer season, and the first green flag waves each week at 7:15 p.m. Race fans and drivers are encouraged to check the Eagle River Speedway's Facebook page for weekly event specials or schedule changes. Concessions are available with something for everyone as the Speedway also offers a sizable array of menu items and a full bar. The Eagle River Speedway will close out its racing season on Aug. 31.

For more information, call the Eagle River Speedway at (715) 479-5208 or email zdroikseagleriver-speedway@gmail.com.



Visitors of the Eagle River Speedway can enjoy improvements made to the grandstands and the newly-added skywalk.

ABOUT THE COVER



Fourth of July activities abound this week across the North Woods. In carrying on a deep-rooted tradition many small communities across the North will headline their town festivities with parades, carnivals, music, celebrations and of course, fireworks. Please enjoy the holiday with your family and friends, safely and responsibly. --STAFF PHOTO

Vacation Week is published by the Vilas County News-Review and The Three Lakes News, with 12 issues during June, July and August. This issue also can be viewed in digital format at vcnewsreview.com. For more information, contact the Vilas County News-Review in Eagle River at 715-479-4421.

Big Brother's Vinyl performs for Car Park series

Big Brother's Vinyl will perform a show on Saturday, July 6 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. as part of the Car Park Music series at the Snowflake Building in Land O' Lakes.

Gin, Chocolate and Bottle Rockets will take to the Snowflake Building at the regular scheduled time on Thursday, July 11.

There will be several other performances on select days through August as part of this ongoing music series hosted by Land O' Lakes Arts. The performances are open to the public and admission is free.

Seating will not be provided; visitors are encouraged to bring their own chairs or blankets. For more information, call 715-547-3950, or visit lolaartswi.com.

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Lehner-Stephan Jewelers provides full service jewelry experience for 44 years

The array of trinkets and jewelry inspired by local wildlife and native art will catch the eye of anyone entering the storefront of Lehner-Stephan Jewelers on Wall Street in downtown Eagle River. Owned and operated by Mike Stephan, the shop offers jewelry, repairs, ear piercing, decorative items, and even a year-round Christmas area.

In 1943, Lehner Jewelers in Eagle River was founded by Stephan's uncle, Al Lehner. Inspired by his uncle, Stephan grew up admiring the intricate work and satisfying rewards that watchmaking has to offer, explaining that he always enjoyed art — especially the creative side of things.

Stephan, who had come to Eagle River every summer since the 1950s, always enjoyed fishing the area lakes and the lifestyle offered by the North Woods. Driven by his admiration of his uncle, he went on to school to become a certified master jewelry designer and watchmaker. He attended college at UW-Oshkosh and then enrolled at Milwaukee Area Technical College in 1978.

In 1980, Stephan took over his uncle's business, renaming it Lehner-Stephan Jewelers to honor Lehner's 37 years in the business. Shortly after, Lehner died from cancer. With over 40 years of experience, Stephan crafts one-of-a-kind quality jewelry. He offers handcrafted watches and jewelry designs that showcase a simple



Lehner-Stephan Jewelers provides customers with a wide selection of unique, one-of-a-kind jewelry to choose from.

elegance that anyone can appreciate.

"Trends are always changing, but simple elegance has stood the test of time," Stephan said. "I try to show that elegance in my work."

The beauty of the North Woods influences Stephan's work, providing inspiration in the form of pine cones, acorns, deer and the multitude of wildlife. Stephan also takes his inspiration from modern-day styles and designs.

"The serene atmosphere of the North Woods offers endless possibilities for jewelry designs," he explained.

Recently, Stephan has added southwest art-inspired jewelry to his store. After the passing of his friend John LaBelle, the previous owner of Pink Coyote Southwest Art and Jewelry, he bought the

remaining merchandise from his store to continue his legacy of southwest jewelry.

Customers who want a piece refurbished can take their jewelry to Stephan. He can transform pieces of jewelry into unique art forms to suit his customers' needs and ideas. He works with a variety of materials ranging from metals and stones to rare elk teeth, and enjoys creating something new out of older jewelry pieces.

Stephan also works with high-end gemstones, saying, "Every piece of jewelry has an owner." To Stephan, having a high-quality piece is more than just having a piece of jewelry. He said he takes pride in selling quality products and gemstones. In addition to the high quality, he is always aware of the price point, ensuring he is get-

ting the best value for his customer, he explained.

Stephan's unique style is not the only extent of his craft. His vast portfolio ranges from natural shapes to elegant and modern designs. By combining his simple elegance with modernized style, Stephan said he is able to craft a rare composition for each of his customers.

"I'm always looking for ways to improve my technique by researching new and improved ways of designing," he said.

"Even after all these years, there are still projects that come in that are new and challenging to me — something I have not done before and get the opportunity to do. It's exciting," Stephan shared.

While doing watch repairs, Stephan works

To JEWELRY page 18

CornerStone Builders offers ideas how to construct a dream home

CornerStone Custom Builders Inc., a leader and innovator in Wisconsin's North Woods and Michigan's Upper Peninsula for 33 years, specializes in residential and light commercial construction.

The backbone of CornerStone's business is the building of single-family homes.

"We are uniquely equipped to build the home that matches your lifestyle. Our homes are custom-built with unlimited options available," said Kory Droes, project manager at the Eagle

River location.

"I would say nine out of 10 homes we build today are custom design build projects originating from our customer's vision. Our models are a great place to see the size and scope of a room or footprint, but we find our homeowners are designing their ideas and custom elements into most of the homes we have built in the past 10 years," stated David Cox, vice president of operations.

"Whether it is a weekend getaway cabin, legacy home, or permanent North Woods

residence, we have seen a lot of diversity in the homes we are building of late. Energy efficiencies, challenging footprints, versatility, size, and our customers' needs and wants are continually changing. Building is changing and we are adapting to our customers' changing needs."

Cornerstone's design team allows customers to build from their own home plans or sit down with one of their talented in-house designers and bring a sketch to reality. To assist customers in their design decisions,

they are invited to tour CornerStone's seven model homes to spark ideas and generate questions while starting their home building journey.

"Our model homes are located on three campuses in Minocqua, Rhinelander, and Eagle River. Our customers have found them to be a great resource to draw from during the planning stages of their new home," said Tyler Healy, project manager at the Minocqua location.

This past summer, the addition of the PebbleStone model at

the Minocqua campus was built to showcase a new floor plan and North Woods look. This new model will feature a new modern exterior appearance and an Epitome® fiberglass composite foundation.

"We have been approached multiple times in the past two years to design a smaller home that is built using the same materials, and designed to the same codes and standards as a conventional home," said Tony Jansen, project manager at the Minocqua location. "We have built several of these homes in the past few months and they have become extremely popular. I think people will find it to be a very warm and comfortable design that has numerous footprint options meeting our customers' desires."

When positioned on a lot, this new model presents an incredible opportunity for breathtaking views from the master bedroom, the great room, and the kitchen/porch area, whether facing the water or woods.

"We are extremely excited to showcase this new PebbleStone model with an open-layout floor plan and a variation of products that are being requested in many of our homes today," said Jenni Renkes, project coordinator and kitchen designer at CornerStone.

Epitome Quality Foundation Walls® provided the foundation for the model. Based and fabricated

on CornerStone's Eagle River campus, Epitome® foundation walls offer a fiberglass composite alternative to cast-in-place concrete foundations. The foundation walls feature numerous benefits to the homeowner.

"We feel this is a great opportunity for our customers to see and feel the advantages and benefits of the Epitome® foundation," said Eric Klein, project manager in Eagle River. Patrons are always welcome to tour the Epitome Quality Foundation Walls® fabrication plant in Eagle River.

FUTURE AND GROWTH

Controller Darren Rubo said CornerStone is continually striving to improve and reinvent itself as the premier leader in North Woods building.

"This year we have added several key individuals to make our customers' professional building experience seamless and as stress-free as possible. There are a lot of moving parts during the construction of a home, and we stand ready to assist and represent our customers through the entire process. We have been here for 33 plus years and we have visions and plans for the next 33 years!" Rubo said.

"Internally, CornerStone has not only invested in improving our service team, we have also retrofitted and improved our manufacturing plants, along with



Cornerstone has seven different model homes available to tour for inspiration when building a new home.

--Contributed Photo



Filled with bait, tackle, rods, reels, assorted cheeses and other delicacies, Scottie's Bait and Tackle is a premeir destination for any angler as well as anyone looking for something to satisfy their summer cravings.

Scottie's Bait and Tackle carries it all

Scottie's Bait and Tackle in Three Lakes is ready to share and support another summer season in the North Woods, with owner Scott Brandenburg leading the charge heading into the busy season.

In addition to Brandenburg's bait and tackle shop, as well as his Three Lakes Cheese Haus business, he is an avid community supporter of veterans, first responders, and the youth. All military personnel, nurses, doctors, police, fire, and first responders, along with students who attend Three Lakes or Sugar Camp schools, receive a 10% discount every day.

The tackle shop carries several kinds of live bait including leeches, worms, crawlers and baby crawlers, as well as seven kinds of minnows. Bait from the shop can be used to catch muskies, walleyes,

and many other kinds of fish found in North Woods lakes.

Scottie's also has an exclusive line of double blade, double hook muskie lures and will be featuring new plastics from Off The Chain, perfect for walleye, bass, and pan-fish set to arrive mid June.

The shop also has plenty of tackle including reels, lines, lures, bobbers, hooks and sinkers. A variety of fishing rods and children's fishing rods are available for purchase. Nets, life jackets, and children's swim toys are also sold.

Ice fishing supplies for the winter can also be bought at any time.

Brandenburg has been a fisherman for about 45 years, visiting the North Woods for more than 20 years, doing business in the North Woods for six years, and has lived in the North Woods for a little over

four.

Before owning Scottie's Bait and Tackle, Brandenburg was known as "the cheese guy." He continues to sell more than 40 different cheeses in his store and out of his truck, which can be found in Eagle River by Nelson's Ace Hardware on Saturdays and the St. Germain Flea Market on Mondays throughout the summer season.

The cheese curds are made fresh and can be bought the same day they are made. Customers can also buy maple syrup, meat jerky, and mushrooms. Types of cheese sold include cheddar, colby, and a horseradish cheese to "open up the sinuses," said Brandenburg.

Arriving sometime in June will be his best-selling seasonal

To **SCOTTIES** page 8

Fish boil in Three Lakes set July 6

The Three Lakes Historical Society and Museum recently announced the return of its popular fish boil for this Saturday, July 6, starting at 4:30 p.m.

Food will be served from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., with a homemade dessert included, and there is a one-plate limit per ticket.

There are a limited amount of tickets available which are \$20 per adult or \$15 for children aged 3 to 12, so anyone interested can pay for a ticket online or at the Museum Visitors Center. Visit threelakesmuseum.org for the link to buy tickets online. Tickets may be available the day of, with the ticket price increasing to \$30.

Live music will be played by Paul Christopher throughout the night as well.

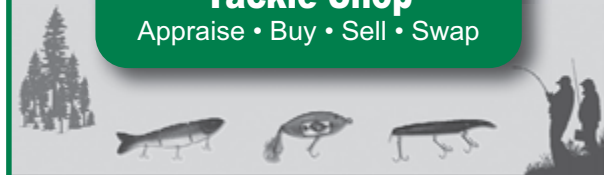
For more information about this event or other programs, call 715-546-2295 or email curator@threelakesmuseum.org.

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Chanticleer Inn supper club boasts historic setting, modern cuisine

The Chanticleer Inn in Eagle River offers a variety of services right on the Chain of Lakes for visitors and residents to take advantage of year round, from dining to boat rentals to a place to relax near the water.

With a recent exchange of owners, and after celebrating its 100th year in business three years ago, the Chanticleer Inn has been making changes around the grounds.

Jordan Banda, along

with four other families, co-own the inn. The owners, along with co-managers Jenni Raatz and Jill Mesun, said they are ecstatic to breathe new life into the inn.

One of the biggest news items is the reopening of its dining room to the public after a short hiatus from Covid. The dining- and bar area is staffed with enthusiastic employees, most of whom returned from last year, ready to greet patrons with a smile.

This year, the kitchen has been newly updated with top-of-the-line equipment, which is fully staffed and ready to serve their guests.

“The Chanticleer Inn has been and remains a consistent, excellent statement for the North Woods. People can have a fantastic meal and a fun evening,” said Raatz. “The food is great, and we have the most beautiful spot on the Chain.

“It’s awesome to see the enthusiasm and the



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willingness to learn in the younger workers,” she said. “Everyone here is like family and we work together as a team to provide excellent customer service.”

The Chanticleer Inn also provides quality lodging in the North Woods. It has eight free-standing villas and 17 hotel-style suites. The business is currently working towards updat-

ing and renovating many of the rooms.

There is free Wi-Fi available throughout the entire resort, and guests also have access to Dollar Lake, a privately-owned lake off the Chain.

According to Raatz, the Chanticleer Inn is family-oriented.

“We have activities for everyone,” she said. “There is a kid’s scavenger hunt with an ice

cream reward for the children. Another bonus is that we’re right off the snowmobile and ATV trails.”

With the Chanticleer Inn being located directly on the Chain, docking is available, as well as boat and jet ski rentals from Bubba’s Boats.

For updated hours, please call the restaurant at 715-479-4486.

SCOTTIES from page 7

cheese — Sweet Vidalia Onion Colby cheese. Brandenburg said he sold more than 1,000 pounds of that cheese last year alone.

Amish jams, Wichman Farm syrup, Dupont cheeses, Smith’s Mushrooms, and Mike’s Country Meats are all items Brandenburg car-

ries in an effort to support Wisconsin businesses and, more specifically, from the Marion area where Brandenburg is from.

Additionally, varieties of wild rice from Rice River Farms in Spooner will be available this year at Scotties as well.

Something potential customers might not know is that in addition to Scottie’s selling custom-made sheds and

cottages, also available are G-Force steel trailers which can be ordered and custom-made.

The shop is open Sundays through Tuesdays, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays and Thursdays 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information call 715-546-3776 or visit Scottie’s Bait and Tackle’s Facebook page.

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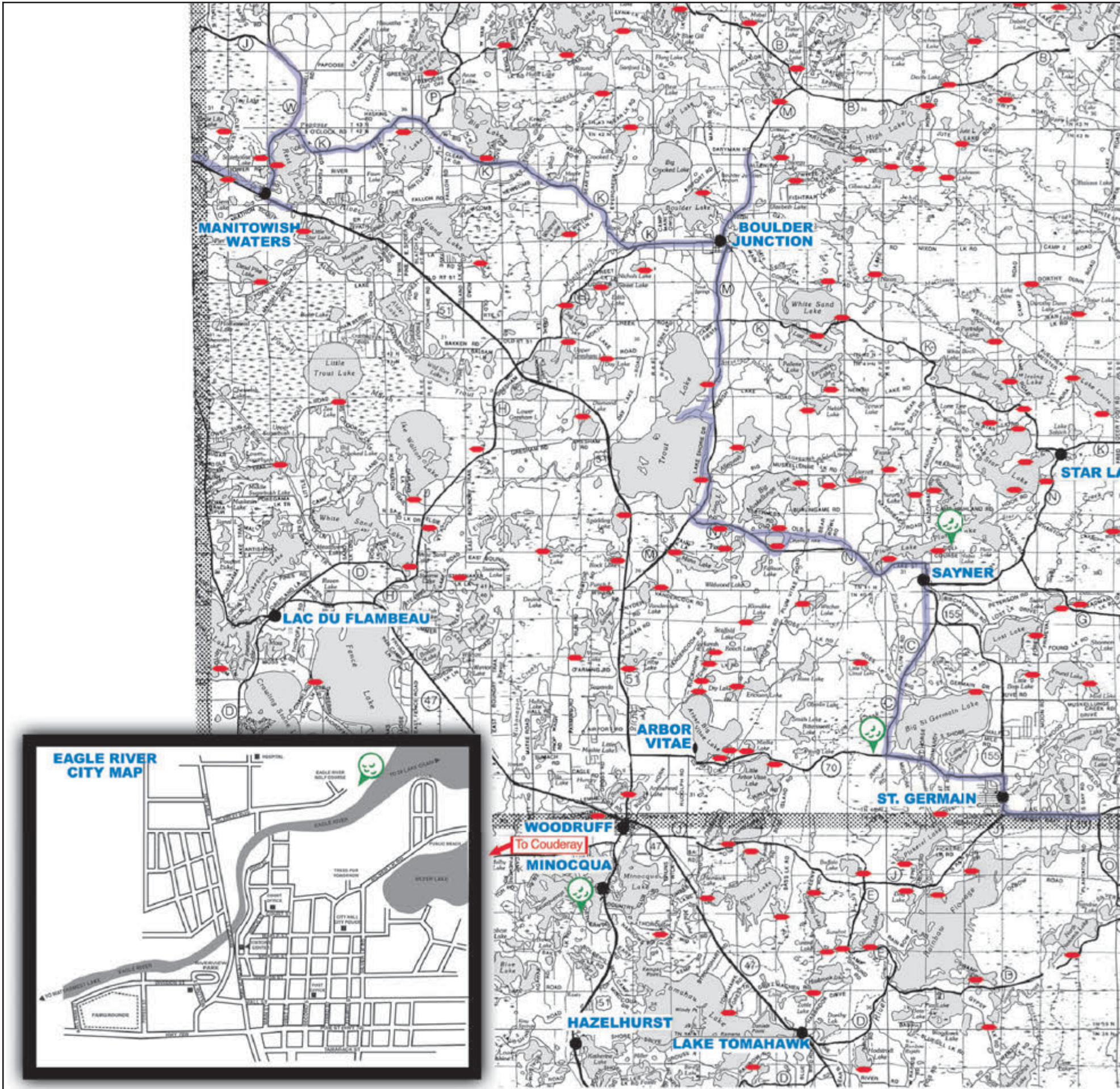
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WEEKDAY MASSES
(Confession & Adoration begins half hour prior to weekday Masses)
Mon.: 8:30 a.m. Thurs.: 8:30 a.m. Tues.: 4:30 p.m. Fri.: 8:30 a.m. Wed.: 8:30 a.m.

SUMMER WEEKDAY MASSES
Sun.: 9:15 a.m. Sat.: 6 p.m. Sun.: 7:30 a.m. Sat.: 4 p.m. Sun.: 10:30 a.m. Sat.: 4 p.m. Sun.: 11 a.m. Sun.: 8:30 a.m.

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This church directory will run each week in Vacation Week. If you would like information about having your church added to the list, please stop in at the News-Review or call (715) 479-4421.





Tall Pines Gallery adds thousands of new items this tourist season

Al's Tall Pines Gallery in Land O' Lakes is ready and excited for the 2024 tourist season.

Visitors can check out Tall Pines to buy and sell antique fishing tackle, or stop in and look around at all the antiques and learn the history behind them.

Owner Al Soczka bought Tall Pines in 1994 and opened in 1999, making this his 26th year of business.

People come into the gallery for a variety of reasons, but the most common types of customers are those who collect old fishing tackle and those interested in the history of fishing.

Thousands of antique lures, rods, reels and more, fill every wall and even part of the ceiling. Visitors will find lures of every shape, size, and color. In addition, there are antique fish decoys, bobbers, tackle boxes, muskie books, and more.

"Anyone can stop in anytime to buy, sell, or get an appraisal," said Al. He is always looking to buy antique fishing tackle and will tell you what an item is worth.

Everything in the shop is related to fishing, with the oldest merchandise dating back to the 1800s.

"Most people call it a museum, but say it's even better because you can actually buy the items!" said Al.

Al put together a display case showing everything prior to 1911 in order to honor his father, who was born that year.

"He bought me my first rod and reel, and I've been fishing and collecting ever since," stated Al.

Recently, two rental cabins were converted into shops, giving Tall Pines a total of three cabins and three shops. The two new shops are The Five, where everything is five dollars, and The Dime, where everything is ten dollars.

Al has added sixty more display cases to his shop in the past year, stating that the shop now has around 10,000 lures and hundreds of fish decoys.

Also new for this year, the Muskie Lure Swap Board is returning. Patrons can swap two of their non-fish-catching lures for one of Al's fish-catching lures.

A large number of lure brands are available for sale, including Heddon, Creek Chub, Shakespeare, South Bend and Pflueger, as well as many other smaller companies.

For people interested in fishing decoys, there are two displays, one filled with locally hand-carved decoys by more than 30 carvers from the Lac du Flambeau tribe and the other filled with decoys carved by about 40 individuals from various northern states.

Not only does Tall Pines have a large selection of antiques, they also have "lots of modern muskie lures, in really good condition, being sold at reasonable



Tall Pines Gallery offers guests a unique experience, being like a museum where you can buy, sell, and appraise artifacts.

prices," said Al.

Many of the items throughout the store have stories behind it, such as Allen's first pair of shoes. "I took my first pair of shoes and made them into a muskie lure," said Al. He has the lure displayed in a case alongside many other items with meaning to him.

The gallery includes a display of almost all fishing regulations in the

state of Wisconsin, from 2024 all the way back to the very first book in 1887.

Al has a shelf full of fishing books, including a muskie book he wrote himself.

"Anyone interested in getting into collecting, or has been, stop in!" said Al. A large selection of lure collecting guide books are for sale, helpful for those unsure where to start.

Though Al buys, sells, and trades rods, reels, lures, and out-of-print muskie books, his passion really lies in collecting, selling, and sharing his love for the history of lures.

Al welcomes those interested to visit the Annual Sporting Goods & Collectibles Garage Sale on Aug 2 & 3 at Tall Pines; 15+ vendors, five tents and two buildings filled with antique and

modern fishing and hunting items starting at 8 a.m.

Located at 5799 Highway 45 in Land O' Lakes, Tall Pines is open seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., until mid-October.

For more information, call (715) 547-3290, email alstallpines@frontier.com or visit tallpines-motel-oldlures.com



An array of fresh produce can be picked at Clearwater Farms, including rhubarb, strawberries, and honeyberries.
--Contributed Photo

Pick-your-own strawberries, and 100% grass-fed beef, at Clearwater Farms

Fresh strawberries are waiting to be picked at Clearwater Farms.

Clearwater Farms is one of the only pick-your-own strawberry farms in the area, with the closest strawberry farms being in Tomahawk, Merrill and Escanaba, and one of the few to allow children to pick.

"We encourage children to pick," said Steve Leach, who owns Clearwater Farms along with his wife, Jennie. "Many pick-your-own farms don't allow children to pick."

"Our goal behind the farm is to help people reconnect with agriculture, especially children," Jennie explained. "We think it's important for families to be aware of where their food comes from, and that it can be a great hands-on learning experience for kids."

Jennie said that she and Steve had tried to bring their children to farms for strawberry picking in the past, but have found that more often than not, farms don't allow children to pick.

"It's unfortunate that that's the case," she said. "It can also be easier for farms to manage in terms of pickers and work, when you have families and children coming out to do it. Plus, it's just really great to see families coming out to do this

kind of activity together."

Steve Leach got his start in farming as a child growing up on an Illinois grain farm. Now he and his family have their own piece of ground and are thrilled to provide family, friends and neighbors with healthy, fresh-from-the-farm goodness.

The farm was established in 2011 on the former site of Soder's horse farm, and has since grown to possess over 5 acres of strawberries in production, along with 250 honeyberry plants and 60+ head of beef cattle.

Honeyberries, a cold, hardy fruit that's described as looking like an oblong blueberry, is another staple of Clearwater Farms.

"They are originally from Siberia, so we felt like it would be perfect for Wisconsin," said Jennie.

She described the flavor as being tart, something that, she said, is something children have expressed a love for.

Along with ripe berries and fresh produce such as sweet corn and pumpkins, Clearwater Farms is also proud to provide 100% grass-fed, rotationally-grazed beef.

"We try to be environmentally mindful with how we care for the cows," said Jennie.

Every day, cows are rotated between pastures, so that they're able to have a source of fresh grass daily. The feeding pattern is also helpful with grass growth in pastures, Jennie explained.

The cattle of Clearwater Farms are a cross between the standard Hereford breed and the Galloway, a breed originally from Scotland and better suited for colder climates like seen in Wisconsin.

Other produce grown by Clearwater Farms are blueberries, raspberries, rhubarb, sugar snap peas, asparagus, sweet corn, and pumpkins, and the farm occasionally sets up shop at the Eagle River Farmers Market.

Pick-your-own strawberry season generally starts in late June and runs through mid-July.

Jennie said that updates as to when Clearwater Farms is open for picking can be found by calling the farm's Berry Hotline at 855-479-FARM or by visiting the Clearwater Farms Facebook page.

Clearwater Farms is located at 1824 Lighthouse Lodge Road, Eagle River.

More information about the farm and its products can be found at www.clearwaterfarmsthreelakes.com.

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—Anthony Sable, PGA Professional



Strong Timbers tradition continues into summer season for St. Germain staple

Timbers Bar & Grill in St. Germain is getting ready for the 2024 summer season and with it they are expanding their hours to now be open seven days a week.

The restaurant will hone down its menu each Tuesday with pizzas only, while still offering weekly specials such as tacos each Monday, wings every Wednesday, Chicago-style hot dogs Thursdays, and Friday fish and shrimp. That, to go along with their always popular burgers, sandwiches and wraps every other day of the week.

The bar reopened after their spring shutdown recently, and now serves every day, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Bar hours are until 11 p.m. or later and until 10 p.m. Sunday. Pizza, pretzels and snacks are also available until bar close.

Monday starts the weekly specials with hard and soft shell tacos loaded with all the toppings. Wednesday is for wings as Timbers fries some of the biggest wings around. Get 10 of them breaded and served with French fries and a choice of sauce for just \$10. Thursday the kitchen crew puts together made-to-order Chicago Dogs featuring an all-beef frank on a poppy seed bun. They are topped with sport peppers, onion, bright relish, tomato, celery salt and yellow mustard.

Friday is for fish fry as Timbers offers their three-piece breaded had-dock alongside French fries, coleslaw and rye

bread. A shrimp dinner is also available and served with a choice of seasoned lime rice or fries. A beer-battered shrimp basket is also available to go along with grilled shrimp skewers served with seasoned rice or fries.

Saturday is always a big day for their grilled steak sandwich that can be topped with cheese, onions and mushrooms.

The Timbers is one of the area's top spots for sports fans, and with a full menu served daily, new owners Bobbie and Phil Hams are excited to carry on the tradition of great food, good drinks and a friendly atmosphere.

"Like anyone who comes in here, we felt welcome when we first visited as customers, and immediately became regulars every time we came North," said Bobbie. "And that is something we hope never gets lost with Timbers. It's always been and always will be a friendly spot for people to meet, have a good time, a great burger or sandwich, and a few drinks."

Hams recently purchased the bar and grill after Bobbie retired from her job at West Rock in Adams where she worked for more than two decades. Phil continues to work as a local heavy equipment operator and driver for Pitlik & Wick. You can find him helping out in the kitchen or behind the bar at Timbers when he's not on the road.

Hams knows previous owners Jason and Sarah

Hegewald have set the bar high in terms of reputation. But that is what made the investment to her and her husband so intriguing.

"We're fully-vested in keeping this place what it has always been to so many people," said Bobbie. "And whether it's your first time or your 100th time in this building, we want it to be a positive experience."

The Timbers Bar & Grill is a nostalgic North Woods family-friendly establishment nestled among the towering pines in St. Germain. Originally built in the 1920s as the recreation hall and tap-room of Elbert's Resort, it still boasts the same original log character it did years ago.

"Stop in and introduce yourself," said Phil. "We're always ready to meet another friendly face."

Bobbie, who has spent the majority of her time getting accustomed to the kitchen routine at Timbers, said the restaurant is best known for grilling a mean burger, cooking an amazing Friday fish fry, making an old-fashioned that guests just can't pass up and top-notch hospitality.

"We take pride in our kitchen, food, drinks and service," she said.

Timbers is still a well-known Packers and Brewers bar, and if they aren't cheering on a Wisconsin team, fans can always find their favorite team on one of the seven flat-screen TVs.

"No matter what team



Whether you're cheering for the winning Green Bay Packers, or those Chicago Bears, you're always welcome at Timbers Bar & Grill in St. Germain.

you're cheering for, we promise not to discriminate," said Bobbie with a grin.

Customers can access The Timbers by lake as they are located on the West Bay of Little St. Germain Lake at Elbert's Resort. They are also located along the walking/bicycle path in St. Germain. ATV and UTV riders are now also able to get to the business with the opening of a new section of trail off the highline on the south side of highway 70. And the state-funded snowmobile trail runs right through their parking lot.

For more information about the business or to view a menu or daily specials, visit thetimbersbar.com or call 715-479-3059.

Bike trails span 52 miles around the area

Visitors and residents have an opportunity to enjoy the 52-mile bike trail, known as The Heart of Vilas County Bike Trail System. The trails connect Mercer to St. Germain and many sections have recently been freshly paved. There are various campgrounds and trail-side motels for bikers to stay at as well as many opportunities for hiking and swimming. Each part of the trail is funded by donations from the community in which it lies. Copies of the trail map can be picked up at local Chambers of Commerce. The "Map it Vilas County" app is another way for bikers to access the trails. It allows access to 61 different hiking, biking, paddling and skiing trails. Users can see their location on the map even without cell signal. For more information or an online copy of the map, visit biketheheart.org.



Plum Lake Golf Club offers a scenic and peaceful experience to all patrons.

Scenic, peaceful atmosphere awaits at Plum Lake Golf Club

With scenic views and a peaceful atmosphere, Plum Lake Golf Club in Sayner offers an experience the public is welcome to take part in.

Opened in 1912, just one year after the town of Plum Lake was established, this member-owned, nine-hole track offers its own distinct character with challenges for golfers of all abilities.

With 3,113 yards of golf and a par of 36, this “hidden gem” has been rated a 34.9 and has a slope of 119. The property is meticulously taken care of by General Manager Shawn Savel and his team, and has been ranked as one of the best nine-hole golf courses in the state.

“We have phenomenal greens — the best greens in Wisconsin,” said Plum Lake Teaching Pro Mason Gerlach.

Savel, who has been with the club for 15 years, takes pride in offering a one-of-a-kind experience to golfers and guests who come to the Plum Lake for the course’s private

feel and serene landscapes.

Hole four is a fan favorite. Located just past the bunkers and in front of the trees is a deep depression where the green is located. Because of its unique bowl shape, sometimes a bad shot can turn into the perfect one.

“The course is very undulating, with small greens, and it is challenging but fair,” Gerlach said.

Additionally, Plum Lake also has its own driving range and practice facility for all golfers to utilize. Savel noted that with the driving range and practice area being away from the club house, it offers a peaceful place to work on one’s game.

Lessons are available with Gerlach, and the pro-shop offers an array of apparel and accessories for golfers of all shapes and sizes from brands like Titleist, Footjoy and Under Armour. Club regriping services are also available.

In 1923, construction of the cur-

rent clubhouse began and this year it celebrates 100 years. Drinks and snacks are available for guests and beverage coolers are mounted right on the club’s golf carts for easy access during a relaxing round of golf.

Besides a few additions over the years, the course and clubhouse have remained the same, according to Savel.

After golfing, guests are invited to sit on the clubhouse porch and enjoy the views Plum Lake has to offer. The wraparound porch and wood-hewn chairs have been the subject of articles in Architectural Digest and Better Homes and Gardens.

Plum Lake Golf Club opened May 13 this year and will be open until mid-October. Tee-times are recommended and the course offers a twilight rate after 3 p.m.

For more information or to book a tee time, call 715-542-2598 or visit plumlakegolf.com

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Eagle River Golf Course ready for 101st season of operation

Famous for its playing conditions, the Eagle River Golf Course (ERGC), founded in 1923, is set to celebrate its 100th season with residents and visitors spending time in the North Woods this summer.

With a fun and challenging layout filled with beautiful landscapes and active wildlife, the course has something to offer for everyone. ERGC Golf Professional Anthony Sable said that the great thing about golf is, "You don't have to be good at it to have fun."

Sable, who was born in Antigo, is entering his fifth season at the ERGC. He is a PGA member with more than 20 years of experience as a golf professional and said he enjoys being a part of the ERGC staff, as well as giving lessons.

"I love the North Woods," said Sable. "My dad would bring me and

my siblings up here to fish as kids, and I always wanted to come back. I hope to retire here; maybe then I'll have some time to golf."

The course offers four different sets of tees for varying skill levels, allowing anyone with any level of experience the opportunity to be successful and have a great time.

Golfers get the chance to meander through the woods and over rolling hills and valleys before ending their rounds on a picturesque par three, which is rare, according to ERGC Superintendent Kyle Anderson of Delafield.

Originally built as a nine-hole track prior to the incorporation of Eagle River as a city in 1937, the course has stood the test of time.

In 1988, the layout was redesigned for 18 holes by architect Don Herfort of Minneapolis,

Minn., and features strategically bunkered greens, narrow forested fairways, and prevalent water hazards.

Recently, a beautification project took place at the golf course, adding new flowers to the scenery. "This is one of the most beautiful courses you will ever play — wooded, watered, carefully groomed, and totally in keeping with the unspoiled beauty of Wisconsin's North Woods," added Sable.

All guests at the ERGC are able to utilize its practice facility that includes a grass tee range, practice green, chipping area, and practice bunker.

Anderson and his crew take great pride in providing optimal playing conditions for guests, from the greens to the practice range.

He has been at Eagle River Golf Course for the last four years; however, he hails from a long career in the industry, previously working for more than 20 years at different golf courses around the country.

Sable has been very pleased with the progress of the ERGC since he took over as the course professional in 2020. He added that dedication from Anderson



Eagle River Golf Course has a fun and challenging layout filled with beautiful landscapes and active wildlife.

and his crew is second to none.

He added that the much-improved system is paying off with the utilization of a floating intake system, adding the course is sitting with "good financial footing" as well.

Visitors can also stop by the ERGC Pro Shop for all their golfing needs.

With a bevy of golf bags, gloves, tees and apparel featuring brands such as Adidas

and Footjoy, Sable said there's a look for everyone and the shop's knowledgeable staff will happily answer any question guests have.

He also provides club re-gripping services and offers a wide range of sizes and colors for interested golfers to choose from.

Before or after a round, guests are invited to take a load off at Turkey's Clubhouse operated on-site by Wild Turkey. Turkey's

Clubhouse offers a full menu including sandwiches, Detroit style pizza, wings, and more. Daily specials are featured as well, including an all you can eat fish fry.

Those interested in obtaining more information about the golf course, or to book a tee time, can visit eagleriver-golfcourse.com, golfnow.com, the ERGC Facebook Page, or call 715-479-8111.



Patrons of all experience levels have the opportunity to have a great time at Eagle River Golf Course.

Anderson performs at Music on Main Street

Amanda Anderson will be the performer to kick off the Independence Day holiday on Wednesday, July 3, from 6 to 8 p.m. on a stage at People's Park located in downtown Boulder Junction. They will play as part of an ongoing music series, Music on Main Street. Various artists will entertain throughout the summer on select Wednesdays through Aug. 14, with all performers taking the stage at 6 p.m. for each event. Seating is limited, attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on. Carry-ins are allowed and restrooms will be available. In the case of inclement weather, the event will be canceled. For more information, call 715-385-2400 or visit boulderjct.org.

Classic rooms, traditional dining and recreation at Gateway Lodge

Gateway Lodge in Land O' Lakes offers suites and studios, an indoor pool, hot tub and redwood sauna.

The historic lodge is both a peaceful sanctuary and a convenient gateway to the vast number of area recreational opportunities.

Trap shooting, golfing, waterfall chasing and skiing are all within reach.

Visitors can enjoy Gateway's comfortable atmosphere, reminiscent of a time gone by. The lobby features plenty of North Woods nostalgia, with its massive hand-built fireplace, handhewn log construction and impressive animal mounts.

During the summer, there is trap, 5-stand and sporting clays course on site. The gun club is open Wednesday evenings for trap shooting and again Friday through Sunday for trap shooting sporting clays, or 5-stand.

Constructed by Land O' Lakes craftsmen nearly a century ago on the boundary line that separates Wisconsin and Michigan, Gateway Lodge has hosted generations of vacationers from all over.

"When the lodge was originally constructed the guys who built it were paid 37 cents an hour," shared manager Lynn Forry.

The founder of Gateway Lodge, John King, also built a golf course, riding stables, employee housing, a ski hill and an airport all in close proximity to Gateway Lodge, according to Forry.

Hikers and mountain bikers can access more than 10 miles of the nearby Agonikak National Recreation Trail, which has been recently revitalized. As well as the Land O' Lakes pedestrian Bike Trail.

There is plenty of parking for boats and a fish cleaning station for

all of the fishermen.

An evening happy hour is available Tuesdays through Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m. when guests get \$1 off each drink.

The Gateway Lodge menu offers a variety of appetizers and entrées, from salads and sandwiches to steaks, fish, broasted chicken, pork chops and homemade soups.

The restaurant also features nightly specials, including a shrimp boil on Wednesdays, a fish fry on Fridays and prime rib on Saturdays.

A banquet facility at Gateway Lodge can accommodate up to 120 people for weddings, banquets, showers, anniversaries and birthdays. A buffet or personalized menu is available for these events.

For more information on Gateway Lodge, call 715-547-3321 or visit gateway-lodge.com



Gateway Lodge provides visitors with a scenic and atmospheric getaway with its classic-style suites. --Contributed Photo

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Makers Market returns for third year

The Leapin' Ladders Makers Market in Sayner is back for a third year, which includes a wide variety of handmade items every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The market is located in the meadow behind the Cre-ate Gift Shop and across from the Plum Lake Library.

Items from a variety of vendors include jewelry, fabric art, metal, woodworking, jams and jelly, baked goods and plenty of other handcrafted items.

Call 715-499-4016 for more information about the market.

JEWELRY

from page 5

with minuscule screws and gears. As visitors walk through the store, they can see him crafting jewelry or repairing watches.

"We pride ourselves in being a full-service jewelry store. We're here to service what we sell," he said. Stephan said that they can handle numerous repairs, including jewelry chains, pins, brooches, pendants, earrings, rings, eyeglasses, metal sculptures, teapots and more. Other work involves rebuilding prongs on rings, new posts on earrings, ring sizings, soldering cracked ring shanks, stone repairs, diamond setting and settings on colored gemstones and minerals.

Recently, Stephan purchased a new laser welder to help him repair even more types of items such as eyeglass frames and costume jewelry. He also can weld any type of metal, even steel pieces.

"If you would like it repaired and you're not sure if it can be repaired, just ask!" Stephan exclaimed. He also enjoys the challenging repair

pieces people bring in, saying, "If it could be made once, it can be made again."

Stephan does repairs on watches, including quartz, mechanical and pocket watches, providing availability of parts.

"We do a lot of battery replacements while also checking the watch movement and back gasket, cleaning debris away," Stephan said. He said his career as a certified master watchmaker has given him a fine eye and patience to craft and repair intricate pieces of art.

In addition to custom work, Lehner-Stephan Jewelers also offers a large selection of Citizen watches for men and women. Jewelry brands such as Officina Bernardi and Carla have yellow and white gold necklaces, anklets, earrings, bracelets, pendants and rings. Preciosa Czechoslovakian Crystal offers quality sterling silver jewelry. Stephan receives new designs each year from the various companies he stocks.

Stephan goes out on the road throughout the year to shop for inventory and pieces at different trade shows and stores

across the country. He said he believes in laying his eyes on pieces and said it affords him the opportunity to, "Only buy what I like and what I think my customers will like, and ensure its quality."

Along with a large variety of diamond sizes that range from small to large, the store also sells pearls and an assortment of colored stones such as rubies, emeralds, sapphires and more. If the store doesn't have the style a customer is searching for, shoppers can look through Stephan's catalogs to find their ideal piece.

"I have extensive access to more than 20 different diamond companies, numerous colored stone companies and a catalog of jewelry manufacturers to help ensure that the customer receives exactly what they wish for," said Stephan. "We sell beautifully crafted wedding bands and engagement rings with diamonds that are cut in the most elegant fashion," he said. The shop offers a range of prices to suit anyone's needs.

In addition to the array of jewelry and watches,

Lehner-Stephan Jewelers also sells clocks and other fine home décor items. "We have a large variety of decorative frogs, lizards and turtles throughout the store that are a huge hit," said Stephan.

They offer gifts for every occasion, according to Stephan. "We appreciate the patrons that contribute to the local businesses in the North Woods. With our customers' support, we can provide help to their needs and requests."

"I want my current and future patrons to know that when I work on something, my full attention is on that project. No matter how long it takes. Each piece deserves and gets the attention it needs, no matter the monetary value. I approach each piece as if it were my own, and how would I want it to look," said Stephan.

The store is located at 110 Wall St. in downtown Eagle River. Hours are Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 715-479-4520.

DREAM

from page 6

upgrading our vehicle fleet to provide support on our job sites."

Piggybacking on those thoughts of growth and expansion, Cox added that CornerStone was extremely fortunate this year to make an investment back into two of its North Woods communities and address the shortfall of housing.

"We broke ground this spring and built three duplexes at the Eagle Estates subdivision adjacent to the Eagle River hospital. We then constructed four more duplex buildings in St. Germain on Sunrise Lane near the post office. We are extremely happy to help provide more options and fill a void for housing throughout the North Woods. As our communities continually grow and advance, we here at

CornerStone are proud to show our continued investment as well," Cox concluded.

The welcome mat is always out for customers to visit any of CornerStone's unique model homes. Stop in or call ahead and arrange an appointment with a team member. Model homes are located in Eagle River at the intersection of highways 45, 17, 70 and 32, or by calling 715-479-0001; Minocqua, 3 miles

south of the bridge on Highway 51, 715-356-0001; and Rhinelander, at the intersection of highways 47 and K, 715-362-7888.

Every location is staffed with a project manager responsible for the construction process of your new home from start to finish. Customers also can visit cornerstonecustombuilders.com.

VACATION WEEK
EVENTS

from page 3

show starting around 10 p.m. Contact 715-385-2400 or visit boulderjct.org.

JULY 4, PLUM SKI-TERS WATER SKI SHOW — Plum Ski-TERS will host a special water ski show for the 4th of July on Plum Lake, with viewing at the State House Point Road Boat Landing. The show will start at 7 p.m. and there will still be time for the public to attend the Sayner fireworks after the show.

JULY 4, CHAIN SKIMMERS WATER SKI SHOW — The Chain Skimmers water ski show team will perform an Independence Day show at 7 p.m. on Lake Pleasant in Conover. Contact 708-205-9180.

JULY 4, FIREMAN'S PICNIC — The Plum Lake Volunteer Fire Department will host a chicken barbecue and corn roast at noon at the town park in Sayner. Call 715-891-0579.

JULY 4, 3BEAR 5K RUN — The Lando Center in Land O' Lakes welcomes 5K runners, walkers and bikers of all ages, with timing provided for serious runners. Call 715-547-6333.

JULY 4, PARTY IN THE STREET — From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in downtown Eagle River, there will be live music, a beer garden, food, children's activities and a parade at 11 a.m. Fireworks are scheduled at dusk at the end of the Eagle River Airport runway. Call 715-479-6400.

JULY 5, SNO-EAGLE BRAT AND BAKE SALE — Held at Trig's grocery store in downtown Eagle River, the Sno-Eagles Snowmobile Club will be hosting a brat and bake sale. Organizers encourage people to donate baked goods and stop by

for a brat. Contact 715-479-5185.

JULY 5, MIN-AQUA BATS WATERSKI SHOW — The Min-Aqua Bats Waterski Show Team will perform from 7 to 9 p.m. on the Minocqua Lake in downtown Minocqua. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. Visit minaquabats.org.

JULY 6, CHAIN SKIMMERS WATER SKI SHOW — The Chain Skimmers water ski show team will perform on Lake Pleasant at 7 p.m. in Conover. They will continue to perform throughout the rest of the summer. Contact 715-891-8573 or visit chainskimmers107.wixsite.com/.

JULY 6, SKIING SKEETERS WATERSKI SHOW — The Skiing Skeeters Waterski Show Team will perform from 7 to 8 p.m. at Rest Lake Park in Manitowish Waters. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. Visitors are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets for seating. For more information, visit the Facebook page.

JULY 6, FISH BOIL — The Three Lakes Historical Society and Museum while enjoying a delicious fish boil and live music by Paul Christopher. Food will be served from 4:30 until 7:30 p.m. (one plate per ticket) with a homemade dessert included. Cash bar with beer, wine, soda, and water available.

JULY 6, CAR PARK MUSIC — Big Brothers Vinyl will perform at the Snowflake in Land O' Lakes from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Visitors are advised to bring their own chairs. Admission to the event is free. Contact 715-547-3950.

JULY 7, PANCAKE BREAKFAST — Conover Fire and Rescue will hold its annual all-you-can-eat

pancake breakfast at the community center from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., along with door prizes and raffles. Contact 715-477-2036.

JULY 8, WILDLIFE PROGRAM — The Northwoods Children's Museum is hosting free education programming by the Northwoods Wildlife Center. Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Northwoods Children's Museum Wildlife Program is free to attend.

JULY 9, STOCK CAR RACES — The races will take place at the Eagle River Speedway at 7:15 p.m. with gates opening at 5:30 p.m. Concessions and seating are available at the track. Contact 715-479-5208 or visit eagleriverspeedway.com.

JULY 10, CONCERT CRAWL — Burton Tyler will perform at 19th Hole Sports Bar and Grill from 6:30 to 8 p.m., as part of an ongoing music series in St. Germain. Carry-ins are not allowed, as the event is to support local businesses. Visit st-germain.com for more information.

JULY 10, GUIDE ON THE SIDE — Todd Gessner will host a light tackle fishing seminar in Boulder Junction at Northern Highland Sports Shop at 4 p.m. Seminars are free to the public.

JULY 10, MAKERS MARKET — The Leapin' Ladders Makers Market starts its 3rd year in downtown Sayner from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Vendors offer a variety of quality handmade items from jewelry, fabric art, metal, woodworking, jams and jelly, bakery and so much more. The Market is located in the meadow behind the Cre'ate Gift Shop and across from the Plum Lake Library.

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