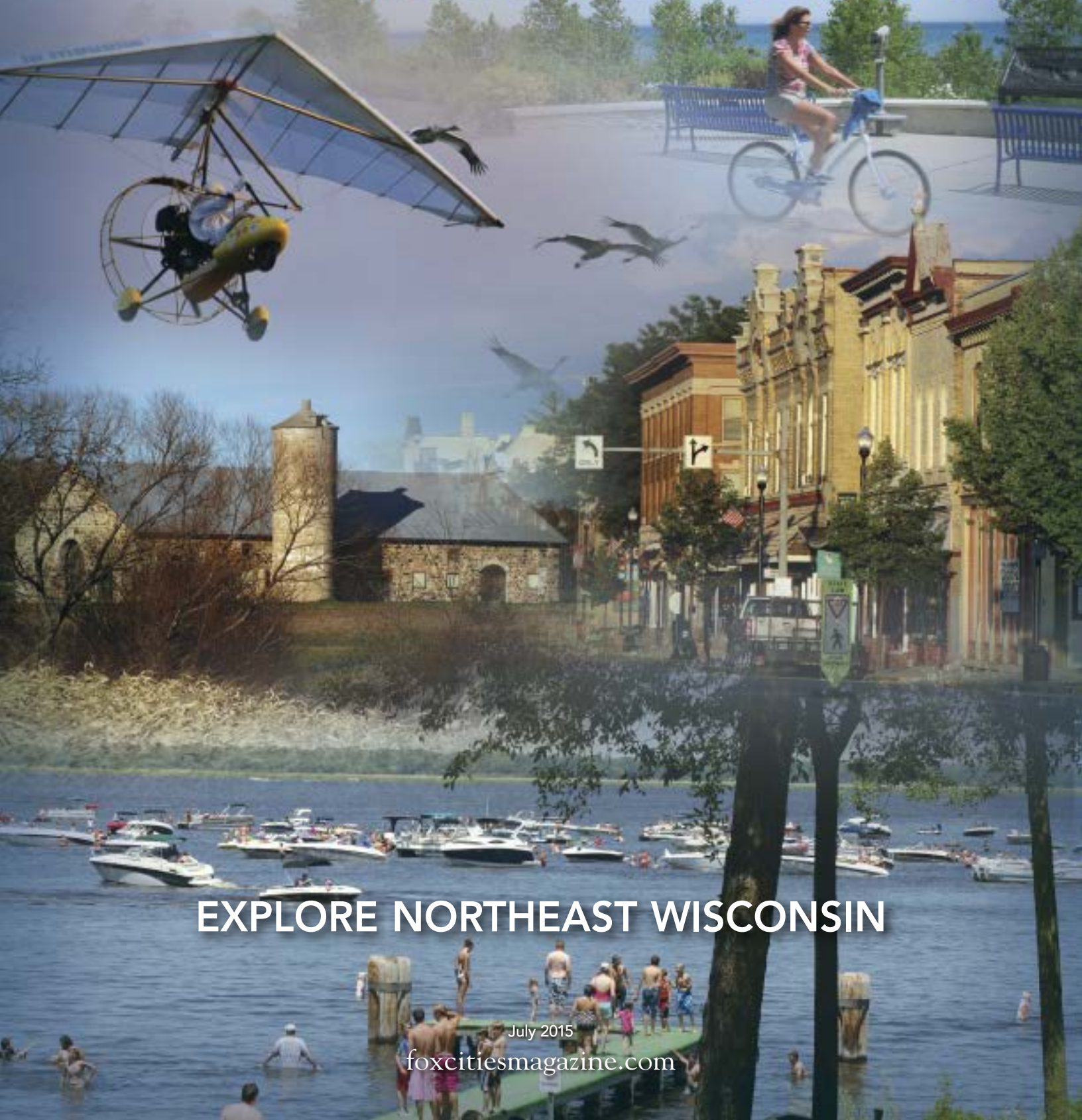


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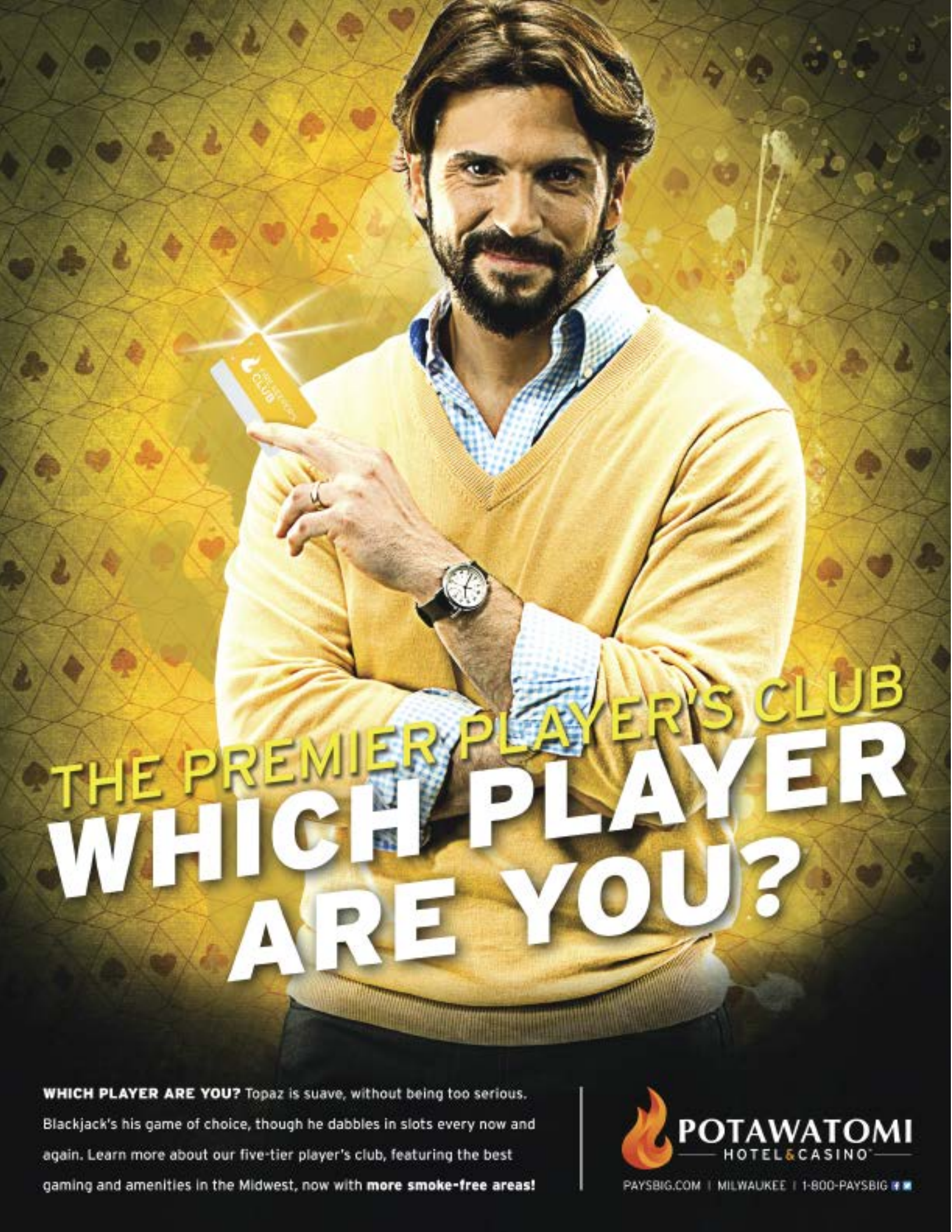
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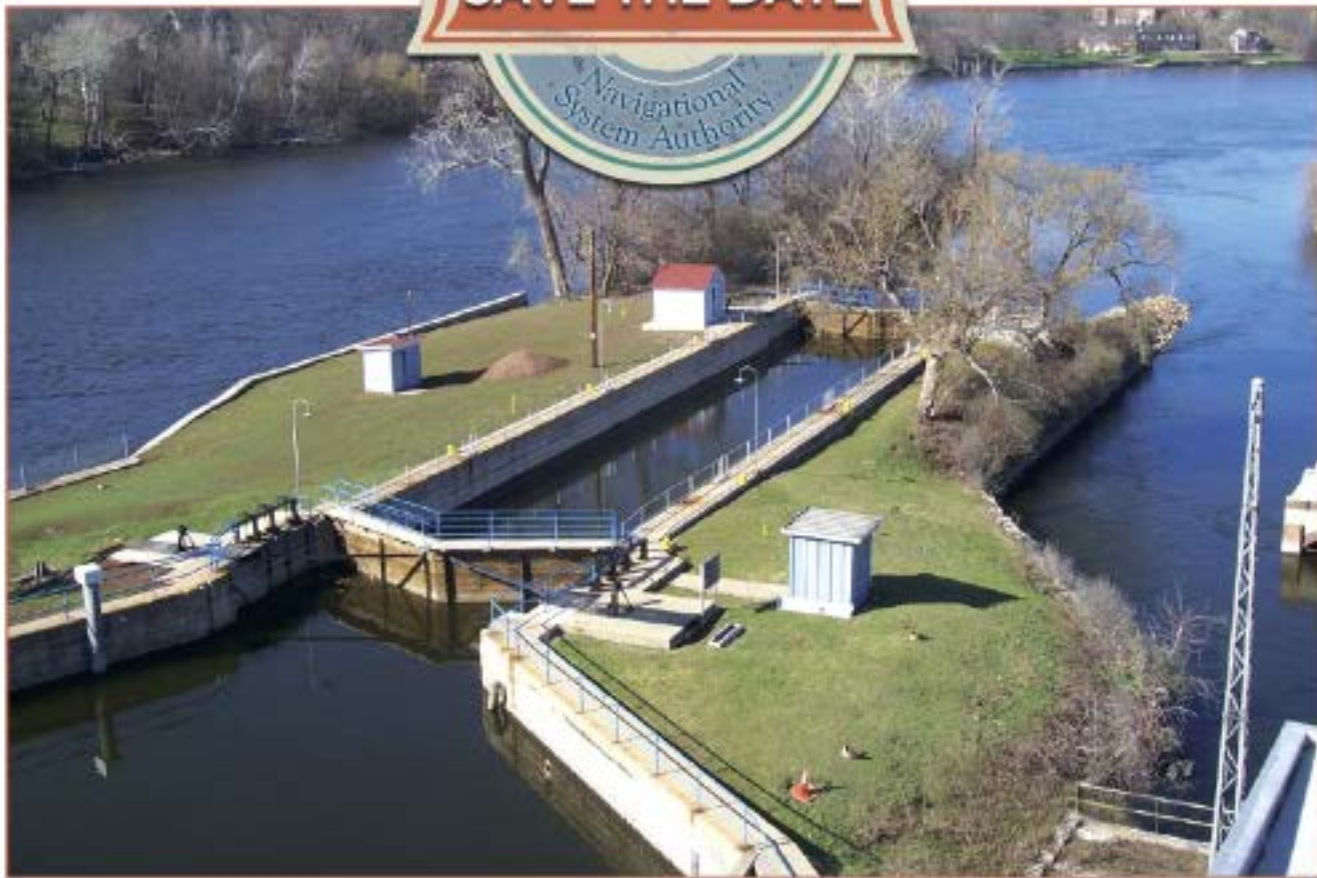
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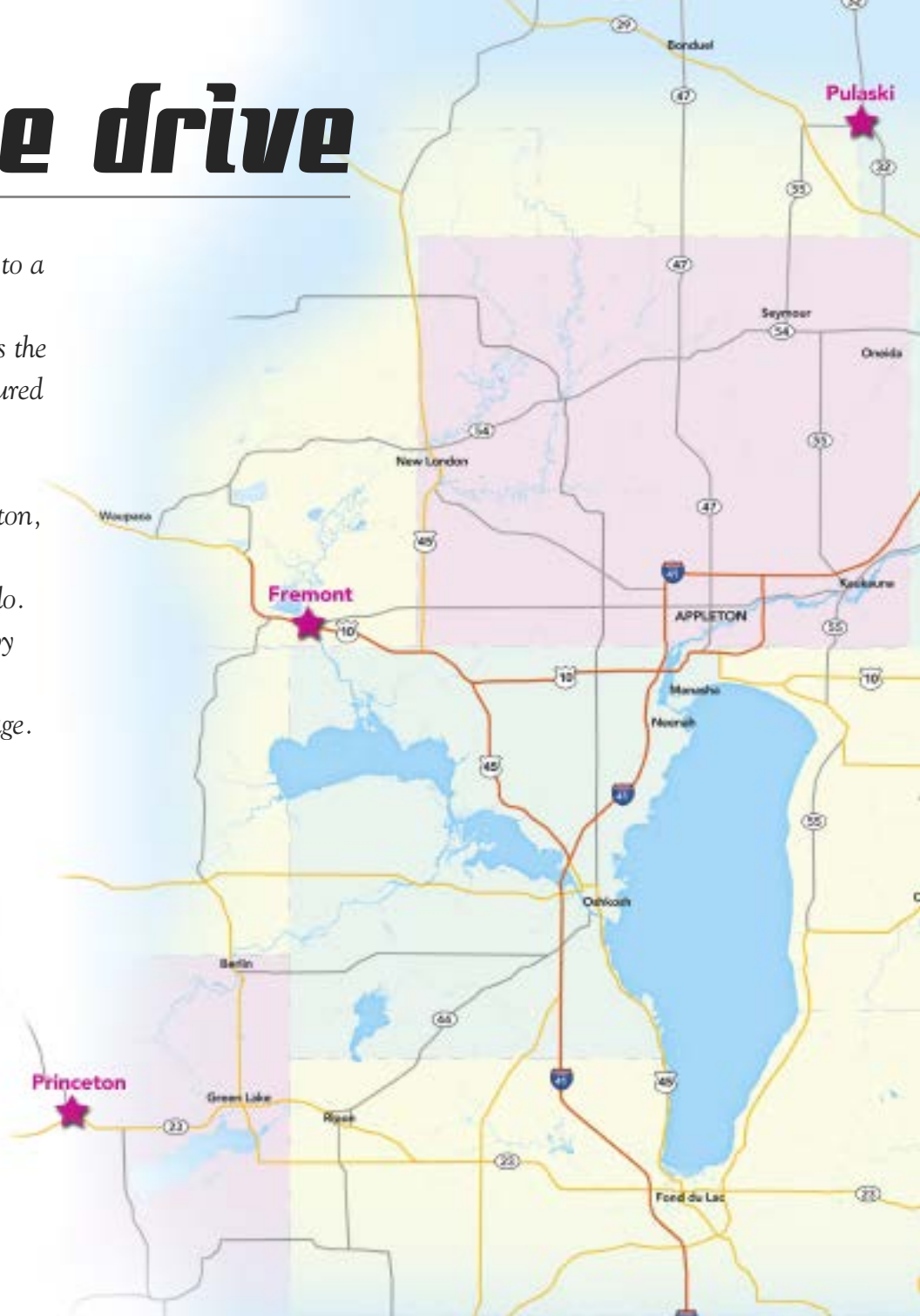
enjoy the drive

There's nothing like the thrill of going to a new community and discovering the untapped treasure that awaits! Now is the time to visit the five communities featured in this year's Worth the Drive Issue.

This year, FOX CITIES Magazine highlights Fremont, Plymouth, Princeton, Pulaski and Two Rivers. Each offers their own hidden gems and plenty to do. Let us know what you think of each by sharing your comments and snapshots from your travels on our Facebook page.

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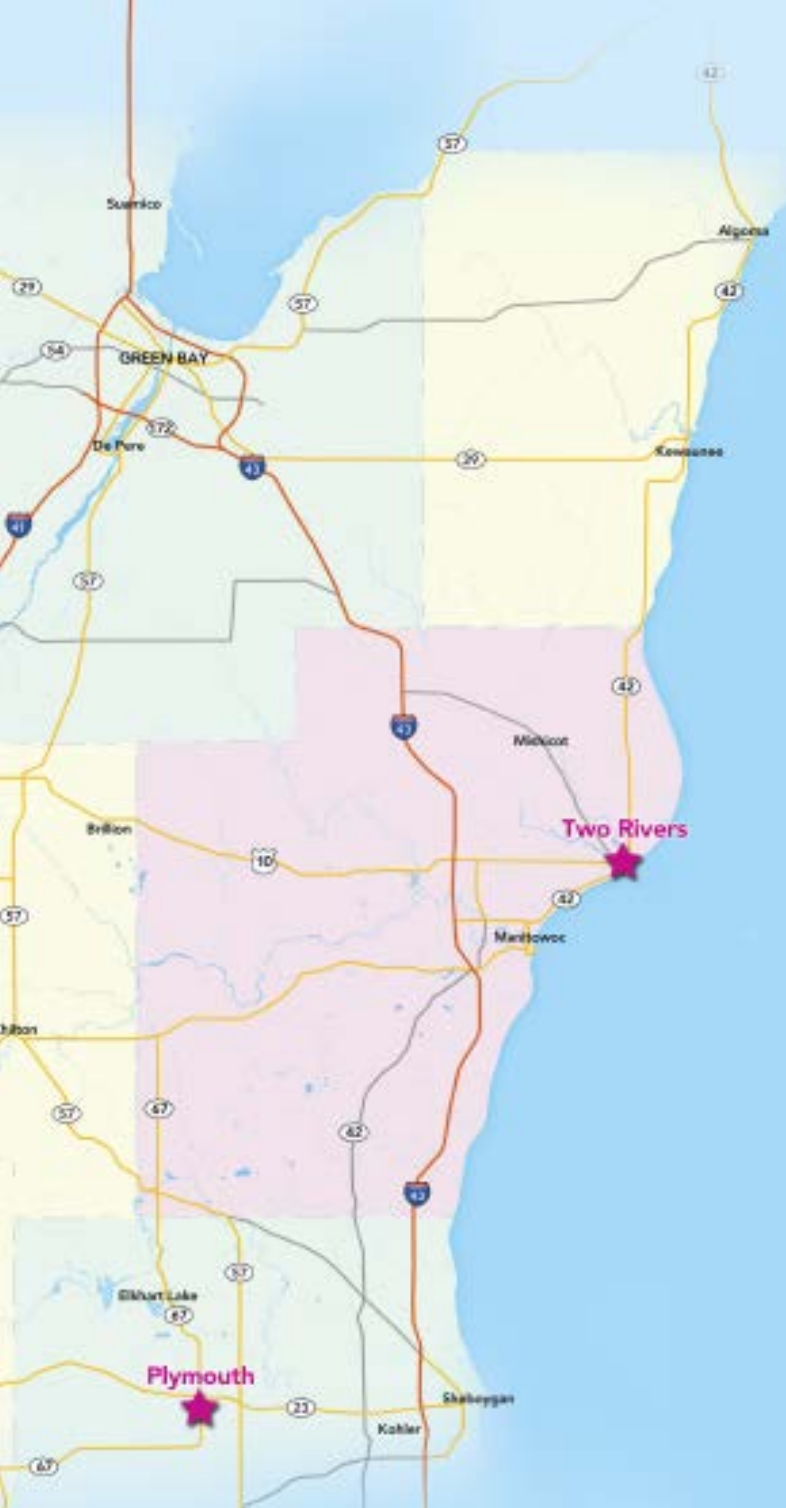
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Getting away may be closer than you think. “It’s a vacation in your backyard,” explains Troy Hojnacki, president of the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce. With no airline tickets to worry about and a destination that’s close to home, Fremont is an affordable option for the recreation enthusiast from fishing to boating to swimming, dining and entertainment. “The river system spawns off one-of-a-kind opportunities,” says Hojnacki referring to Fremont as a destination or launch point. “It’s literally like the super highway for boating.”

“It’s what we live and breath on,” adds Denny Fox, past president and Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce board of directors member, of the river system.

He describes Fremont as “a great hub for families.” “We’re 30 minutes from the Fox Cities, Waupaca and New London.” He urges visitors to come “visit, stay and play.”

Waterfront dining is a draw for those who are looking not only for a bite to eat, but also a venue to people watch, keep an eye on fishermen trying to reel in the big catch, spot boats and experience wildlife, shares Jim VanDerGeest, owner of Ted’s Grandview Supper Club and the Nauti Turtle bar and grill.

“Fremont is very unique in that there are so many establishments with access basically right on top of a major waterway,” explains Steve Van Lyssel, owner of the Bridge Bar & Restaurant. “Visitors dining can enjoy a freshly cooked meal while watching hundreds of people go back and forth on the river. The weekends provide plenty of entertainment with all of the boats that go by.”

Summer is the peak season for dining on the water.

“People on a nice day want to sit outside,” adds VanDerGeest. “It’s a shame that our season is so short.”

However, the remaining months of the year also see a fair amount of diners from outside the area who take in fishing, hunting and snowmobiling.

“I believe that Fremont is a hidden gem that most of the area is not fully aware of yet. We are a small village but welcome and prepare for thousands to come and appreciate the beauty the Wolf River offers,” Van Lyssel notes.

SWIMMIN’ AND FISHIN’

Partridge Lake Park, known as Fremont Beach locally, is a popular sandy beach to explore as temperatures rise. Gordon Pagel, vice president of the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce, considers this to be the best access point to the water, especially if you don’t have a boat. Across from the beach, is the rock wall known as the “Hook,” which features 2–3 feet of water and a sand shelf, says Pagel.

“On a warm Saturday afternoon, there could be 100 boaters anchored,” he adds.

As the summer progresses, more sandbars present themselves.

“Typically, they’re exposed as the water levels begin to drop,” Pagel notes, adding that you can go up to New London on the Wolf River from Fremont on a day trip. “A lot of people will head out there and take their grills and grill out there.”

Jenny’s Slough, accessible only by boat and situated above Gill’s Landing, is another spot to take a dip.

“The sloughs are kind of unique because even on a busy Saturday, they can be overlooked,” Pagel shares. “It’s kind of a way to get away from the hectic.” The sloughs are deep enough for swimming and generally have clear water. They were once considered the main river channels prior to the Wolf River naturally being rerouted over time. Most of the river is considered undeveloped flood plain, Pagel notes.

“When you go up in there, it’s totally wildlife,”

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he says. "There really is a total other side of the river. Weekends aren't always the best time to explore that." Kayaking during the week versus the weekend is an experience Pagel suggests, noting it's "very user-friendly and a more natural experience."

Water enthusiasts also are welcome to head down river and to the "weed bed" located on Lake Poygan. Watch for boats on the weekend on the lakeside of the reeds.

"It tends to be more of a party atmosphere, but if you're looking for more solitude that wouldn't be for you," Pagel says. The water offers waist-high, off-the-boat swimming at 3-5 feet deep with a sand bottom.

If you'd rather be fishing than splashing, Fremont also offers opportunities for casting a line to catch panfish like bluegills and crappies in the wood, where boaters literally pull up right next to down trees. Or, northern pike; small, large and white mouth bass; catfish, channel cats and walleyes also can be found in the area.

"Surprisingly, it's almost like the river is neglected a little bit during the summer for fishing," says Pagel, noting there is still opportunity that time of the year in the early mornings and late evenings especially, and picks up again in late August and early September depending on the water. "The fishing opportunities in the Fremont area are all year. It just depends on your target and what you're going after."



Pagel considers June to be the best offering. "It's the one month where there is a good mixture of fish in the river," he says.



WATER WAYS

No matter your interest on the water, safety should always be at the forefront of any activity.

"We really were formed to protect the navigational rights of boaters," says Judy Johnson, public relations for the Tri-County Powerboat Alliance. "We really emphasize safe boating." The Tri-County Powerboat Alliance, a nonprofit formed in 1992, is dedicated to the Wolf River from New London to Lake Winnebago and works in tandem with sheriff's and fire departments, along with the Department of Natural Resources, townships and villages to emphasize safe fun for all boating use. The group also provides navigational signage and aids, in addition to safe boater education, river clean-ups, and sponsors informational meetings and funds for dredging.

"The great thing about the Fremont area is that you can have any size watercraft on the water and have a great day," adds Johnson who has owned a variety herself, including kayaks, a pontoon and jet boats. "You can almost walk boat to boat on the water (in May). ... It's a very usable area for all boaters."

"It's a great buzz," she says. "I love when the frost comes off the water."

Continued on Page 12

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historic hideaway

Opened in 1895, The Historic Hotel Fremont, 218 Wolf River Drive, has been a place to stay right on the Wolf River since its first visitor, despite changing hands between 10-15 owners, says Darvon Konemon, current owner and operator. The hotel, which features two decks overlooking the river, began as a bunkhouse primarily for fishermen.

With 11 rooms and three shared bathrooms, along with no TVs or phones in the rooms, The Hotel Fremont offers simplicity.

"I think sometimes, people just kick back a little bit," Konemon says. "Most of the time, people just enjoy the relaxation part of it. ... One of the nicest things is when a grandfather, son and grandson come through."

SUMMER CELEBRATIONS

There are plenty of events planned for the summer in Fremont.

New this year is the Yellowstone Trail Festival Aug. 21-23. The first-time event will celebrate the 100th year of the Yellowstone Trail coming through the Fremont area. The trail was established in South Dakota and was considered "a good road from Plymouth Rock to Puget Sound" from 1912-30 for automobile travel.

The trail is marked in Fremont with special signage and the community continues to denote its presence with yellow rocks and flowers.

"A group of us thought it would be fun to celebrate the trail because it might have been something people have forgotten," explains Jennifer Hanneman-Moen, president of the Wolf River Optimist Club. The club is organizing the event with other groups in Fremont.

Planned festivities include a community fish fry on Friday; along with a vendor fair, military wall of honor, car show, guided horse-drawn buggy rides, helicopter rides, an afternoon parade, glow run, lit boat parade and more.

"We're trying to keep everything right on the original trail," adds Hanneman-Moen, noting that they're hoping to continue the family oriented event for the community.

The celebration will conclude on Sunday with a faith service and other activities, which are being planned. The festival is free with the exception of food and items available for purchase.

Visitors also can kick off their Fourth of July by

getting into the Yankee Doodle spirit with fireworks over the Wolf River held on the Sunday before the holiday itself. This year, June 28 will spark area festivities.

"We're always the first one in the valley with their show," shares Hojnacki.

For more information on Fremont, the community also is trying to grab travelers with a new text program. Mobile phone users can text "Fremont" to 71441 for notices on community events and offers.

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION

The Fremont Area Historical Society also will be celebrating the history of the Yellowstone Trail with a program on July 27 featuring "Fremont in the larger context of the world," says Trudi Hahn Pickett, display chairman. The historical society was organized in 1998 as part of Wisconsin's sesquicentennial. A 2001 fire lost many of the artifacts the society had acquired.

The Fremont Area Museum at the Beaver Dam School, opened in 2013, is housed within a saved schoolhouse from 1884. Following being a school, the building, located at N7403 Hwy. 110, became the Fremont Town Hall in 1958. The historical society is now working to preserve and restore the building back to what it once was down to the original wainscoting.

Next to the museum is the Pioneer Cemetery dating back to 1856 where the son of Ira and Margaret Sumner was the first person laid to rest. Ira, the first chairman of the town board, also



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donated the land for the schoolhouse.

"Everything we do, tries to tie back to the Fremont area," says Matthew Voigt, historical society president. "I think our Vietnam display is going to be very big this year. Every artifact will come from a service member or person who lives here."



"Civil War," "Town of Fremont," "Yellowstone Trail" and "Vietnam War" exhibits, along with the permanent collection are on view now through Labor Day weekend. The museum is open every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend and by appointment in September and November through the holiday season. The museum will close in October for preparation of its holiday display.

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Drifting along on the Wolf River can be done in many ways, but if you're looking for a place literally right on the water to rest your head, you might consider renting a houseboat from Anchor Point Marina, 9118 Marion Lane #A.

"It's a floating condo is what we like to call it because you have all the amenities of home," shares co-owner Allison Gleisner of the Grandeurs, which feature the ability to sleep 10 people, have two bathrooms and a galley-style kitchen. There is a two-night minimum.



Anchor Point also offers 24-foot, 2013 Crest Pontoons available for rent by the day, which seat 10 individuals. Boaters can dock or anchor out in New London, Fremont, Winneconne and Oshkosh either overnight or for the day.

"We start taking reservations Jan. 1," says Gleisner. "In the month of May, we are busy with all

the fishermen." Anchor Point's rental season runs May through September.


Gleisner notes that she sees not only fishermen, but also the recreational boater who want to hit sandbars and local establishments, and those seeking a getaway in a quiet, secluded area.

"Depending on what people are looking for, we have a whole host of options for them," Gleisner says. "There is no one on this entire lake/river system (from Winnebago to New London) that rents houseboats."

Continued on Page 14

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timeless tool

When Phil Lewin, owner of Lewin Furniture - Funeral Home Inc., moved into a building in downtown Fremont that dates back to 1918, he discovered a wooden work bench with two metal pegs used for clamping and a vice to hold pieces in place that is still used today for cutting window shades.

"I saw no need to get rid of it," says Lewin. "When people come in, they talk about it. A lot of people see it and inquire about it." Patrons are welcome to look at the piece at the business located at 207 Wolf River Drive.

The workbench has "been in the same location forever," Lewin shares.



"It's designed for furniture, so I can put something in it that's 6 feet long or a foot long," he adds. "It will be here as long as I'm here."

WILD ON WATER

The Webfooters Water Show Team, a not-for-profit amateur ski show team established in 1976, aims to entertain in Fremont during the summer months. For the group, it's a five-night a week commitment between practices and performances.



"We have absolutely free shows every Wednesday and Sunday," says Sam Benjamin, Webfooters president, who describes the experience as "Tommy Bartlett on steroids."

Performances take place at Plank Stadium, 314 Wolf River Drive, and concessions are available.

There are 30-40 people on the water at any given time of varying ages. Webfooters has roughly 100 members who either ski or operate the towboats and pick-up boats.

"You're going to see a lot of jumping, barefooting, pyramiding," notes Benjamin, who started at age 10. "It's about 60 minutes of entertainment." The action begins with the developmental show, featuring newcomers, at 6 p.m., followed by the full-blown stage show at 6:30 p.m.

This is Benjamin's 30th year with the team, which he now does with his daughter, Calla, 7, and son, Marcus, 5, along with his wife, Stefanie, who he met through Webfooters.

"Unlike other sports, this is a sport where you can have a whole family on the water at one time," Benjamin shares. "We always refer to Webfooters as our second family."

"I can personally guarantee that there is nothing else in the state that you can do for an hour and 45 minutes that's completely free (and entertaining)," Benjamin adds.



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BOOK IT

“We are a small community, but a very lively library,” explains Susan Frick, director of the Neuschafer Community Library. The library, located at 317 Wolf River Drive, is part of OWLS or Outagamie Waupaca Library System.

In addition to the “Every Hero Has a Story” summer reading program for children, programming also is offered for tweens, teens and adults, including book clubs, after school programs, author visits and lunch and learns covering a diverse range of topics.

“Libraries basically are becoming the centers of communities and we are instructing people,” notes Frick, who points out that technology and making learning fun has been a primary focus at the library. “We have changed to kind of be the heartbeat of Fremont.” Frick hopes to be able to expand in the future as the library is running out of room, she says, but adds that “the community is very involved in the library.”

An annual fundraiser, held on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, is the Christmas Shop at the Library featuring a basket sale — last year, 330 baskets were sold. Funds from the sale are put toward materials, not allocated in the library’s budget.

THROUGH THE SNOW

If snow is more your speed, Fremont also offers snowmobile trails.

“Our whole goal is to maintain the snowmobile trails for the Fremont area,” says Debi Bartel, treasurer of the Fremont Invaders. The club also offers training and certifications, organized fun rides, a holiday party and fundraisers like the annual Chicken BBQ & Corn Roast, which will be held Aug. 9.



The fundraiser features half a grilled chicken (breast, thigh and wing), served with potatoes and corn on the cob.

“It really turns into an all-day event. There are a lot of people who turn up for that event,” Bartel says. Money raised from the fundraiser goes back into trail maintenance, gas, classes, etc.

“There are beautiful trails and fun places to stop in our area,” Bartel adds.

When the river system freezes, it also can be a popular spot for snowmobiling. Hojnacki reminds riders to drive with caution, however, noting “rider beware, it is a river system.”



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce

p: 446-3838
w: travelfremont.com

Fremont Area Historical Society

p: 594-1474
w: facebook.com/pages/Fremont-Area-Historical-Society/236669753065915

Fremont Invaders

w: fremontinvaders.com

Neuschafer Community Library

p: 446-2474
w: fremontpl.org

Tri-County Powerboat Alliance

w: <http://tcpaweb.googlepages.com>

Webfooters

p: 389-1130
w: webfooters.org

Yellowstone Trail Festival/Wolf River Optimist Club

w: wolfriveroptimistclub.com

Yellowstone Trail

w: yellowstonetrailwi.com

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plymouth

By Amy Hanson

Situated along the Mullet River, Plymouth is known as the “Hub City” for its close proximity to Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac and Green Bay. It’s also known as a “Bird City” and “Tree City,” along with being home to Antoinette, a popular local large Holstein cow landmark erected in 1977, which observes the dairy industry. Whether its location, birds, trees, cheese, recreation, festivals or Road America that draws visitors to Plymouth, there’s plenty to explore in the area.

“We have a great community in Plymouth. The people in general make it a great place,” says Mary Hauser, executive director of the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce. “This is a perfect place to come stay and then do your day trips. ... To me, it’s exactly what you imagine a Midwest small town to be.”

“It’s kind of Norman Rockwellish,” describes Bill Immich, director of Public Works. “It’s very quaint, but we’re just really proud of our little town.”

The community also was featured in the premiere episode of PBS’ “Around the Corner with John McGivern,” which aired in January.

“You can fill a day with shopping, dining, the art center ... there’s always something to do,” Hauser adds. “We still have people saying they’re here because they saw us (on TV).”

CHEESE, PLEASE

Beginning in the 1920s through the late 1950s, Plymouth was the destination for the National Cheese Exchange and set the pricing of cheese for the United States. The exchange later moved to Green Bay and is now part of the Chicago



Mercantile Exchange. The industry started in Plymouth in the late 1800s, says Lee Gentine, chairperson for the Redevelopment Authority in Plymouth.

“After that went away, nobody carried the title that was here,” explains Randy Schwoerer, downtown business manager, of Plymouth being coined as “World Cheese Capital.” “The No. 1 state for producing cheese, is Wisconsin.”

The largest concentration of cheese production goes through Wisconsin, specifically Plymouth, Schwoerer adds. A trademark has now been acquired to redeem Plymouth as the Cheese Capital.

“When you’re driving through here and think ‘cheese,’ we want you to say, ‘Plymouth,’” he says. Sixty percent of the community’s population is supported by cheese and one of the five businesses — Sargento Foods Inc., Sartori Food Corporation, Masters Gallery Foods Inc., Great Lakes Cheese, and Dairy Farmers of America — that operate out of Plymouth, which also is the largest cold storage destination for cheese in the U.S.

“This enhances the reason to come here, because we will soon be opening a new cheese exchange location,” Schwoerer shares. The goal is to have the new home, located at 133 Mill St., open by June 2016. The building will house an educational facility, historical information and artifacts, the opportunity to learn how to make cheese, pairings, samplings and items for purchase from Plymouth and surrounding communities.

Ten to 11 billion pounds or 31-32 pounds of cheese are consumed each year in the U.S., says Gentine, whose father, Leonard A. Gentine, started Sargento. Over 1½ billion pounds, roughly 15 percent, of that amount comes from the five cheese converters in Plymouth.

“It’s an opportunity to differentiate ourselves from other communities that can’t make this claim,” Gentine adds. “But, more importantly, it can’t be duplicated. It’s a way for us to attract good talent.”

WALL WONDER

Strokes of color welcome visitors to historic downtown Plymouth.

In total, 21 vibrant murals were part of The Walldogs convergence in June 2011, which has preserved a piece of the area’s history with tributes to everything from the “History of Sargento” to

in tribute

Winding along the Mullet River from Eastern Avenue to near the Mullet River Dam, the Veterans Memorial Trail is a fitting reminder of those who have served our country. The trail begins with the entry plaza and memorial bell, and leads visitors through six flags representing each branch of service followed by 12 landmarks with flags, signifying the flag that was current with the war or conflict, beginning with the American Revolutionary War.

“It’s just so nice to sit down here when it’s nice,” says Peg Stahlman, Plymouth Historical Society co-founding member. Stahlman’s husband, Jim, a Cold War



veteran and co-founding member of the historical society, worked to create the memorial prior to his passing.

“Makes me very proud,” Stahlman shares. “He was all about the community. ... It’s a good feeling when you see people out here fishing. It’s a warm fuzzy.”

"Plymouth Bottling Works" to "Wadham's Gas Station" and more. Four additional murals also can be viewed in the downtown area.

Mural artist Debbie Karr, of Lands End ARI and a member of The Walldogs, brought the group to Plymouth after being asked to restore the "Cream of Wheat" ghost sign on the side of the Plymouth Historical Society, 420 E. Mill St., which was 33 feet high by 11 feet wide.

"After many months researching the sign's history and with the help of Jerry Thompson, it was learned to be 'Cream of Wheat Flour, The Flour The Best Cooks Use,'" says Karr. "The actual product information lead us back to Green Bay, Wis. and the Eberling family. Then Jerry asked me one day if I had heard of The Walldogs. I had not, but was immediately intrigued when he described what they did."

According to Karr, each year The Walldogs meet in a town, generally smaller than 10,000 people, to paint between 15-20 murals in four days in hopes of better capturing tourist dollars after major roads were rerouted. A week before Karr was to begin work on the restoration in 2009, The Walldogs were meeting just outside of Chicago and Karr decided to go. Two years later, the group of artists arrived in Plymouth. Despite not being able to paint a stroke with the group due to an injury, Karr, who is retiring from the group, still considers the experience to be a glowing opportunity.

"The Walldog event in Plymouth was an ultimate high for me since I was leading many artists from past events and many artists from around the world I've never met to converge on my hometown and create works of art never to be seen anywhere else," she shares.

One of the murals that Karr also contributed to in the area was the "Pfeifer Drugstore," 110 E. Mill St. on the side of the Salvation Army, which recalls the Charles Pfeifer Drugstore that dates to 1880 and was once located in the parking lot near the building. An actual window was incorporated into the mural, which includes aluminum panels and offers "hidden" features. Look closely when you visit the dimensional artwork.

ARTS FOR ALL

The Plymouth Arts Center is home to all types of art experiences. The center hosts six shows a year featuring artists who are selected by invitation or through submission.

"We look at all those proposals or work and decide if that artist is strong enough for a solo or group show," explains Donna Hahn, executive director. "We're always looking two years out because it takes the artist awhile to gather a body of work."

The center's visual arts team is comprised of volunteers and has operated that way since opening. The 20th annual juried show will be held this year and the center has been in business for 22 years.

"It's a process and it's developing very nicely," explains Hahn. "We have all these great artists in our community. It's a pleasure to work here."

The gallery is open six days a week and closed on Mondays. In addition to the gallery, the Great Hall at the Center also offers a space for theater and cabaret-style performances,



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Continued on Page 18



family fun

Sheboygan County Fair Park is home to "one of the three largest fairs in the state," says Janeen Cain, park manager of the nonprofit site, which is not county owned.

The five-day event always occurs around Labor Day weekend and brings in just under 100,000 visitors on average.

"We offer a lot of free entertainment for families," Cain adds. "One of the biggest draws to our fair is our exhibits and exhibitors. ... We try to keep it action-packed." A new agriculture tent is planned for this year to offer educational and entertainment experiences for kids ages 3 to 9. Other experiences include a student art exhibition, bull riding and tractor pull.

In addition to the fair, the park offers a number of events, like the upcoming Beer Blast featuring craft beers from all over the state, and dirt track racing as one of the premier tracks in the Midwest with banked edges and lanes that were widened last year, Cain notes. The concessions, including made-to-order steaks and homemade pizza, during racing also are a draw.

such as "Mill Street Live" which runs for eight Fridays this summer and the "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, the Musical" Oct. 23-25.

The Plymouth Arts Center also hosts the 12th Annual Cheese Capital Jazz Crawl for the Arts, Aug. 14.

"It's great! It's a big party. We created the event when the first PGA was in town and here we are 12 years later and the PGA is back," says Hahn referring to the 2015 PGA Championship at Whistling Straits Aug. 10-16 in nearby Kohler. The Jazz Crawl features 12 bands ranging in sound from swing to smooth to standards with Dixieland and blues mixed in. The center's biggest fundraiser also includes live and silent auctions. Other events like the 6th Annual Paint the Town, En Plein Air, when artists are invited to paint scenes from the community, and classes also are planned for the upcoming year.

'SILVER' SENTIMENTS

The Plymouth Historical Society is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

At the Plymouth Historical Society Museum, 420 E. Mill St., visitors will find collections ranging from various cheese artifacts, hand-carved marionettes, WWI artifacts from area soldiers and a Victorian-era hair wreath. The wreath was made from human hair of deceased ancestors into flowers that were created individually and then arranged together. The first floor gallery is open year-round Thursday through Sunday. Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The museum also has a Native American arrowhead display collected by William Bergin who found all the artifacts near the Sheboygan Marsh. Bergin would plow the fields and walk them in search of the artifacts, shares Peg Stahlman, co-founding member. Bergin's only condition regarding the collection when he died was that he wanted it to be self contained.

"Anyone who knows anything about Native American artifacts is surprised to find them here," Stahlman says.

The basement level of the museum features a "Kitchens Through The Years" display with a 1930 Hoosier cabinet from a farm outside of Plymouth, a Monarch stove circa 1924-28 and an early dry sink. Visitors also will discover replicated old store fronts such as Mrs. A Scheibe Millinery and the Charles Pfeifer Drugstore.

"The names that you see are businesses that were here," Stahlman says, adding that the hope is to create more storefronts as a way to display the society's artifacts. "It's nice to get people in and have them see what's in the museum."

In addition to the museum's many displays, the second-floor Stahlman Library, is a research area housing records, newspaper clippings and more, which is open by appointment.

The historical society also hosts a Cemetery Walk in mid-May featuring high school students in period dress depicting the lives of individuals buried in Union Cemetery. A self-guided Historic Plymouth Walking Tour, featuring old homes and buildings of the area, also was produced by the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Plymouth Historical Society. Maps of the tour are available at the museum or the visitors center.



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"You don't have to drive the ball far," says Chad Dowland, Evergreen Golf Course manager. "It's an easy walk, it's not very hilly. ... You're going to get your money's worth."

The 9-hole, short course and driving range, 1776 Eastern Ave., is a par 3 course owned by the city. Dowland says it's perfect for younger and elder golfers in particular. Fees vary. The course is open, weather permitting, April through October.

Opened in 1956, the course has seen recent improvements with greens and sand traps being manicured differently, along with new flags and cups added, Dowland notes.

"The staff members and myself had a vision," he says. "It's a lot of little things that add up."

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

You won't want to just stay indoors while visiting Plymouth, as there's also plenty to do outside.

H.M. Meyer Nature Park, 300 Daleview Drive, is one of many parks in the area. It features 25 acres, a playground area and 18-hole disc golf course, says Immich. Situated along the Mullet River, visitors will find trails for passive use. The wooded setting makes for a scenic setting along the river and a spot perfect for fishing.

If you'd rather make some ripples in the water in another way, head to the Plymouth Aquatic Center, 203 Suhrke Road, in City Park. The center includes a "zero-depth entry so you can walk into it like a beach," says Immich, noting it also includes a drop slide, playground area, concessions, umbrellas and chairs. Admission rates and hours vary. The season runs from the beginning of June through August generally and lifeguards are on duty.

"It's a really good family pool for middle school and under," Immich says.

Music also can be heard at City Park, one of the biggest parks in Plymouth, on Thursday nights when the Plymouth Municipal Band performs during the summer months, including a German Night, this year on July 23, with performances by guest bands and the high school band. German treats, like German chocolate cake, also are served. Approximately 3,000-5,000 people turn up for the event. The 18-acre park also includes a lighted softball

Continued on Page 20

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bookworm

Not only is the Plymouth Public Library, 130 Division St., celebrating 100 years this year, it also has the distinction of being connected to Andrew Carnegie. Built in 1915, the library was built with money donated by the Scottish-American businessman and philanthropist. The library is one of 1,689 built in the United States, out of 2,509 around the world that he helped to create.

"That should draw people to the area in and of itself," says Martha Rosche, library director, noting the interesting architecture of the building, which received an addition in

1989. The side of the building also includes a mural of what the library once looked like.

In addition to the library's summer programming, a host of centennial activities are planned. A traveling exhibit of 13 panels, measuring 3-feet-by-6-feet, from the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison depicting military mascots also will be on view through the end of July.

"We're going to have those on display to not only show what they are, but tie into our summer reading program," Rosche shares.

diamond, concession stand, restrooms, basketball court, volleyball court, playground equipment, picnic areas and a lighted winter sledding hill, known as Cardboard Hill.

When the weather turns, bundle up and head to Nutt Hill Ski Area, 750 W. Main St. adjacent to Roosevelt-Nutt Park. Weather permitting, the city-operated skiing and snowboarding destination has two runs, a rope tow and is lit at night. Nutt Hill's season runs generally mid-December to March when snow is available. There is a fee to use the runs. The spot also doubles for picnics in the summer.

"It's a good hill to learn how to ski," says Immich of the 7-acre facility.

Another wintertime activity is ice skating on Mullet River Mill Pond. A warming house, 647 E. Main St., also is open to the public when conditions allow.

BATTER UP

Baseball fans also can get their fix in Plymouth with the Plymouth Flames, Ban amateur local traveling community team that started in 1984, says Rick Meyer, head coach and president.

"You can get good baseball at this level," he says. "You can come watch

people you know and it's that local flavor."

Players range in age from high school seniors to collegiate-level players and older. The team will play 35 games this season in the Land O' Lakes Baseball League throughout the state. Home games are held at Carl Loebe Field, 630 Loebe Drive.

"Given what the cost is to go to a Major League (Baseball) game — this can be a cheap way for a family to still enjoy the game," Meyer adds. Games are free and concessions are available for purchase.

START YOUR ENGINES

For the car enthusiast, Plymouth also shares ties to Road America, N7390 Hwy. 67, an internationally known motorsports complex, situated on 640 acres in the wooded hills of Kettle Moraine State Forest.

The 4-mile road racing course is a site for motorcycle, sports car and NASCAR racing, along with driving schools and more than 425 events annually.

"Road America is one of the longest race tracks in the continental U.S.," says John Ewert, communications director, adding that the course follows the natural typography and has not been changed or excavated since 1955.

Celebrities including David Letterman, Tom Cruise, Patrick Dempsey and Tim Allen have been spotted at Road America.

One of the largest vintage racing events in the country, The HAWK with Brian Redman, is on track for July 16-19. The Historic CAN-AM race is a returning favorite and will celebrate not only CAN-AM's 49th

anniversary, but also Chevrolet's 60th anniversary of its revered V8 engine. A race car parade with roughly 400 vintage muscle cars from the track is planned.



FC



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Parks and Recreation

w: ciplywi.com/citizen-info/parks-and-recreation/

Plymouth Arts Center

p: 892-8409
w: plymoutharts.org

Plymouth Aquatic Center

p: 893-8351
w: plymouthgov.com/pac

Plymouth Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center

p: 893-0079
w: plymouthwisconsin.com

Plymouth Flames

w: lakesbaseball.com

Plymouth Historical Society

p: plymouthhistoricalsociety.com
w: 893-1876

Plymouth Public Library

p: 892-4416
w: facebook.com/pages/Plymouth-Public-Library/487449748052770?rf=116720921685871

Sheboygan County Fair Park

p: 893-5751
w: shebcofair.com

Veterans Memorial Trail

p: 892-6228

princeton

By Amy Hanson

Just west of Green Lake on the Fox River and near the Mekan River lies Princeton, a remote yet centrally located community. At one time the end of the railroad line, Princeton is home to old homes and family names dating back to the community's early days.

"You can go through the cemetery and some of the oldest stones that you see there, you can relate back to families today," says Mary Ernest, marketing co-chairman of The Greater Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce.

"I think it has a small-town feeling, but has a lot to offer," adds Jill Dietz, marketing co-chairman of The Greater Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce. "We attract so many people here. ... I like that we have a lot — there are a lot of diverse things."

Beth Pelland, administrative assistant for The Greater Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce, agrees with this notion.

"What really drew my family here and why we relocated is because people look you in the eye and say, 'hello,'" she shares. "We have the charms of country living, along with technology that's advancing. ... There's a treasure to be found by everyone who comes to visit Princeton."

Those in tune with nature will feel at home in Princeton as its designated as both a "Bird City" and "Tree City." There also are eight trails for hiking and biking in the area, which for the most part intersect, along with areas for cross country skiing, hunting and golfing in nearby communities.

"Princeton is in the center of six different golf courses right around us," says Ernest.



Visitors can view sturgeon spawning on the river, right off of Water Street, too. This typically occurs around April 15, but depends on the water temperature each year. When the event happens, it's posted on princetonwi.com.

"A trip on the tankful where you can come for the day or the weekend," says Mark Judas,



Above and bottom left photos courtesy of The Greater Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce

president of The Greater Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce, of Princeton. "We're hoping that people come here, like it and want to retire in this area."

BEYOND THE BOX

"We're a unique small town. There are no big-box stores here," explains Ernest, noting there is plenty of opportunity for antiquing. "We're locals doing it for fun."

In addition to boutique shops, the newly created Farm to Fork Farmer's Market, which runs this year on Wednesdays from 2-6 p.m. through Sept. 30 features locally grown produce, baked goods, eggs and plants.

Another shopping opportunity is the Famous Princeton Flea Market.

"If you like shopping for varied things, you'll find it fun because it is very eclectic," says Mike Jacobi, flea market manager. "It's way more stuff that you're not going to find anywhere else."

Shoppers will find vegetables, antiques, homemade furniture, metal items, clothing,

jewelry, flowers, food items, bakery, clothing, books and more at the flea market, which is held at Princeton City Park, located in the 400 block of Fulton Street, on Saturdays beginning at 6 a.m. until early afternoon through Oct. 17. There is no admission fee.

DOWNTOWN MOVEMENT

In addition to shopping, downtown business owners have banded together to offer some unique upcoming events to renovate and revitalize the area.

Fans of craft beer will enjoy the second year of

Continued on Page 22

secret garden

Tucked into the downtown lies a hidden gem, Megow Park. The land from the Megow Building was donated to the city once it was torn down and a green space, complete with two gazebos, cherry trees and flower gardens make it a pleasant surprise to passersby.

"It's a cute little park," describes Mark Judas, president of The Greater Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce. "It's a quaint little place where you can have a picnic."



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Brew Ha Ha on July 11. Last year's event had more than 100 Wisconsin craft brews and root beers available for tasting.

"It's a brew for everyone," says Dennis Galatowitsch, with The Shops of Water Street and Downtown Area Merchants. "Wisconsin people love their beer and craft beer is exploding in the industry."

Instead of taking years by the six-pack to taste, Galatowitsch notes that the event is a fun opportunity to taste a variety of brews. Some standouts to sample are Central Waters' Satin Solitude Imperial Stout and the Rush River Porter Brewing Company Lost Arrow Porter.

"It's really a social event where people are talking, and talking about the beer," Galatowitsch adds.

Later in the summer, the first-time Festa della Vespa Aug. 21-23 will connect Vespa owners and the community together. A Vespa Primavera scooter in blue, which you don't need a special license to drive and can legally be parked on a sidewalk, will be raffled off. The single-person commuter bike is being used as a fundraiser to put

toward downtown efforts. A number of activities, including rides, are being planned. Tickets are available now through The Shops of Water Street facebook page or downtown businesses.

The fun continues into the holiday season with Christmas in Princeton. The Lights on Water Street Parade is held the day after Thanksgiving and includes carols, tree lighting, cocoa, cookies and pictures with Santa. Auction events also are held. Saturday continues the festivities with a variety of craft fairs throughout town. The Friends of the Princeton Public Library also holds a Cookie Walk and silent auction this weekend to raise funds for programming held throughout the year at the library, 424 W. Water St.

Visitors who are in the area next year should watch for the 14th Annual Chicken Fling, an event which is always held the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend.

As it sounds, the Chicken Fling centers on flinging rubber chickens, along with food for purchase, a craft and rummage sale, car show, the Cluck-a-Roo 5K and more.

"The idea of it going away just makes it all too

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rollin' along

For those who like the pace of cycling, Princeton offers back country bike trails in and around the community, says Matt Greget, board member of The Greater Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce and Green Lake Area Chamber. "The gateway to get everywhere" has about 150 miles of biking opportunities in varying lengths and skill levels from beginner to intermediate. Some trails also are suitable for hiking.

"There are gorgeous back roads. Just scenic. That's probably one of our hidden gems that people should take advantage of," says Greget of places to pedal from Huckleberry's Trail, a mostly flat 15 miles of secluded scenery with some challenging hills, to the Oxbow Trail with hilly country roads on a short and sweet 8 miles.



sad," says Angela Zodrow, co-event organizer and founding member of The Shops of Water Street. "The feeling of that day is worth all the effort. ... We ordered the rubber chickens and figured out what to do with them."

HANDMADE HISTORY

What started as an opportunity in 1938 to sell crocheted socks, hats and mittens created by Martha Hiestand soon evolved from "Handmade by Hiestand" to Handcraft Co. When Martha's husband Ernest, a traveling salesman, took her wares on the road, she found herself crocheting more than she imagined. By 1940, the business moved from their home into the Buckhorn Building in Princeton. Employees were hired and a creative new

brand combining wool socks with leather soles — Muk Luks — came to be.

"We had basically a museum in a box," says Matt Trotter, the great-grandson of the Hiestands, of discovering items in the basement of his Princeton business, Teak & Soxy, three years ago.

After a building, 631 W. Water St., across from Trotter's business was acquired, downtown business owners joined together to create The Muk Luks Museum, which was opened a year ago. The museum is open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day

weekend on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment. Admission is a \$2 donation that goes back into operating the museum.

"We were like this would be a perfect place to pull everything together," Trotter adds.

The front of the museum displays the beginnings of how Muk Luks came to be and moves into photographs of well-known individuals like President Eisenhower and Audrey Hepburn wearing the brand and old video footage, along with a display that is "half art piece, half history all in one" of the sample designs that were created over time, says Trotter.

Continued on Page 24



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preserving princeton

The Princeton Historical Society offers two museums — the Stone House at 632. W. Water St. and the building next door at 630 W. Water St.

"The most interesting in our (collection) is our Stone House," says Marjorie Mlodzik, president of the historical society.

Complete with period wallpaper and furnishings circa the 1900s, the two-story building, was once a family home dating to the same era. Visitors can see a sitting room, kitchen complete with a model icebox and butter churn, bathroom with clawfoot bathtub and an upstairs bedroom with a circular rack of period dresses, and an attached children's room featuring toys of the time and a cradle.

The neighboring museum houses finds such as local business items like photography equipment from Megow studio, a pump organ and more.

Mlodzik shares that the society is working on creating a longer display of how history evolved in Princeton, along with recording ancestral data.

The museums are open the third Saturdays of June, July and August from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment. Admission is free, but free will offerings are appreciated.

"It's just a really fun way to grasp history for the town," he explains. "Everybody can relate to it. It's fun to see how people respond to it." The Muk Luks brand is still in existence today after the line was expanded by Reliable of Milwaukee, another family owned business, which purchased the brand in 1972.

Since opening the museum, individuals have brought in other artifacts and recalled their time with Muk Luks.

"That's my favorite part, when people who were involved in making it come in and tell their stories, they become the tour guides," Trotter shares.

SAVING CRANES

From early July to late September, visitors to Princeton have the unique opportunity to witness the preservation of the once nearly extinct whooping crane. While the population of birds is still relatively small, says Tom Schultz, volunteer for Operation Migration, the efforts to save it are being done with careful thought and a somewhat unorthodox method.

Around 2000, ultralight training was put into effect to establish a second migrating population of whooping cranes to fall back on after the first population dipped to only about 15 birds. The second population migrates from Wisconsin to Florida by flying south following the ultralight and then back on their own. It takes four to five years before a whooping crane becomes of breeding age. Initially, the Wisconsin breeding began in Necedah, but black flies began attacking nests and disturbed the cranes. A study was done and it was determined the fly didn't exist in Princeton. This summer will be the fifth year of the project in Princeton.

"You average less than one young per year," shares Schultz. "It's a long-term process to rebuild the population." Each crane lays two eggs, but due to predators and other factors, only one typically survives. In rare instances, a second nesting may occur in a year. All nesting for the eastern population, now numbering 100, happens in Wisconsin; some cranes still nest in Necedah and their eggs are rescued and raised, according to Schultz.

The cranes follow the ultralight, initially running up and down a runway, before going on a ¼-mile flight.

"I think it's all a matter of preserving as much genetic diversity as we can," Schultz says.

Princeton will celebrate the preservation of the whooping crane as it joins with Operation Migration Sept. 11-13 for the Whooping Crane Festival to raise awareness of conservation efforts. This is the second year the event will be held in Princeton; it was previously held in Berlin.

The festival will feature speakers, demonstrations, food and product



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vendors, art and craft vendors and a silent auction. The main community activity of the festival will be held Sept. 12 at Princeton Public School grounds kicking off with a pancake breakfast at 7 a.m.

"Last year's Whooping Crane Festival attracted guests from 27 different states and also from Canada," says Bielski. "Drawing people to the Princeton area gives us the opportunity to show off our beautiful town along the Fox River."

"It's a great way to get people to know about the birds and what they're doing to train them," she adds.

A complete list of speakers and activities is available online.

TAKE TO THE TRAILS

"Go in any direction you want to go and you'll put on the miles," says Jason Lese, president of the Princeton Sno-Barons. "We probably have some of the nicest maintained trails."

Princeton offers 34 miles of groomed snowmobile trails, including areas highlighting bridges, the river, woods, hills and wildlife.

The Sno-Barons have 50-60 members and welcome others to join. They meet October through February on the first Saturday of the month and go on rides if weather permits.

CAST A LINE

Anglers will find a favorite fishing hole to be at the Highway 23/73 Fox River Bridge near Hiestand Park with access to the Fox River. Boats also can be launched at the park on Mechanic Street, at the Princeton Locks on Lock Road or 3 miles east of Princeton on County Road T. Bluegill, perch, white bass, cisco, muskie, trout, catfish, small and large mouth bass, northern and walleye are the typical catch.

"There are so many (spots). You can go to the lake, like Big Green Lake — there's a lot of fishing in that area," shares Judas. Lake Puckaway also is a popular spot, along with streams and rivers.

Nearby hunting also is available at White River Marsh in Berlin, while the Fox River is a "great spot for canoeing and kayaking," says Judas.



"Next to Lake Geneva, Green Lake is the second busiest in the state," he adds.

PADDLE THE PAST

Take a step back in time by stepping into a 28-foot replica canoe of days gone by on a Fox of the River Voyageur Canoe LLC trip from mid-April to early November.

What started out as an opportunity for school field trips, has turned into a chance to teach all ages about the history of the waterways and area, says Jerry Disterhaft who partners with Glen Gorsuch to offer the trips. Both dress in 1700s period clothing as they tell stories throughout the typical 1- to 2-hour long trips. Paddlers learn the history of 17th century explorers, trapping and Native Americans who called the area home.

"So many people have overlooked what has happened in this area. They don't know unless they walk in these footsteps," explains Disterhaft of the "truly eye-opening experience."

In addition to hearing historical anecdotes, paddlers take in birds, wildlife and river habits during their exploration. Up to 16 adults can participate in a given trip, which mostly happens along the Fox River, however, Fox River Voyageur Canoe has offered trips to other destinations and longer distances.

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The Greater Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce

p: 295-3877
w: princetonwi.com

Operation Migration/ Whooping Crane Festival

w: operationmigration.org

Princeton Historical Society

p: 295-3469 or 295-4927

Princeton Public Library

p: 295-6777
w: princetonpublib.org

Princeton Sno-Barons

p: 294-3220
w: greenlakecountysnowmobiletrails.com/princetonnobarons

The Muk Luks Museum

p: 980-2572
w: theshopsofwaterstreet.com

The Shops of Water Street

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RC



“Heart” and “community” fall in step with Pulaski’s values, in addition to their polka. The Wisconsin village is one of 10 municipalities in the United States to bear the same name.

“The school is the driving force of the village,” says Rock Mannigel, Pulaski Area Historical Society board member, of the one-time home of the Chicago and North Western Railway. The school district is one of the largest in the state by area. In 1968, the population numbered around 1200 and “the majority of the residents were employees of the district.” The community is now 3600 residents strong and education is still a key component.

The Pulaski News, which comes out 26 times a year, also is the “oldest student-produced community newspaper in the nation,” their website states. The newspaper was originally privately owned and started during the Great Depression, as the Tri-Copa. It was restarted under its current name in 1942 by Frank Joswick, the first superintendent of the Pulaski Community School District.

Stories are written entirely by students in the Pulaski News course at Pulaski High School. Award-winning writers, such as Jaqui Banaszynski who won a Pulitzer Prize in Feature Writing, have come from its staff.

During the summer, visitors also are welcome to pull up a lawn chair or spread a blanket to listen to the concerts on Sunday night beginning at 7 p.m. at Dr. V.J. Shippy Park, East Pulaski Street.

DEEP ROOTS

The Pulaski Area Historical Society continues to recognize Casimer Pulaski Day, who the village was named after, each year in March when 4th-graders are invited to learn the roots of the community at the Pulaski Museum.

Pulaski, a freedom fighter of Europe and America, fought the Russians in his native Poland from 1770-72. He later fought with Gen. George Washington at Brandywine during the Revolutionary War from 1777-78. With congressional consent, Pulaski founded an independent cavalry corps, Pulaski Legion. For this reason, he became known as the Father of the American Cavalry. Gen. Pulaski died Oct. 11, 1779 after being mortally wounded while fighting with American and French forces against the British at Savannah, Ga.

John J. Hoff, an agent of the General Land Company of Milwaukee, Wis. was responsible for settling the area that is now Pulaski. Many of the early neighborhoods were settled by Polish families coming from Milwaukee and Chicago.

The Pulaski Museum, 129 W. Pulaski St., is run by the historical society and houses a collection of Polish artifacts, Pulaski High School annuals, a room of exclusively religious artifacts and another with military items, a Smith & Wesson 28 used in a Nov. 26, 1933 Pulaski State Bank robbery, local business memorabilia and more.

Summer hours for the museum are Tuesdays from 4-7 p.m. through August and by appointment; winter hours vary.

GRADE-A IMPACT

Youth also make up a dynamic cross section of this community through their recognizable impact. Three standout efforts, all contributed to by Pulaski High School students, are the Leo Club, Goody Triathlon and Red Raider Marching Band. Each has put Pulaski on the map in different ways.

The Leo Club, a young-adult version of the Lions Club, which stands for “leadership, experience and opportunity” is known as the largest Leo Club in the United States. Advisor and teacher Jennifer Heck says this year there were more than 147 active members, 86 of them logged enough hours to earn their Leo pin. Projects have included shoveling snow, visiting nursing homes, painting, cleaning and making fleece-tie blankets, in addition to volunteering at a number of community events like runs and Polka Days.

“We are proud of the work the Leos put in, so many of them do it because not only does it look good on their transcripts, but more-so because volunteering makes them feel great about helping others and allows them to launch a life of stewardship and giving to others,” says Heck who advises the club with teacher Lindsey Schartner. “We are proud to break down the stereotype that our youth are self absorbed and unable to think of others.”

Thinking of others is exactly what adapted physical education teacher Kare Goodness set his focus on when he created the Goody Triathlon. He was “struggling to get the kids to do things that they thought were different.” The triathlon has helped students see how setting small goals through training can lead to a larger goal, Goodness shares.

Students participate in either a 5K or 10K course, with the ability to shorten it more if needed, in swimming, running and biking. Word of mouth has grown the event to include not just Pulaski Community School District students, but seven school districts. Goodness invites visitors to cheer on participants or volunteer their time.



catch of the day

Once a year in Pulaski, it's all about smelt. The American Legion Smelt Fry to be exact. The popular event always takes place on the Wednesday after the second Monday in March, says Jim Van Lannen, vice commander of American Legion Post #337 in Pulaski.

"As somebody gets up, another person sits down," he says of the hall, which seats up to 100 at a time. "Lately, the draw is the smelt themselves." The fish, are getting harder to find, but the gathering, which has gone on for more than 30 years, continues to grow and attract attention in support of local veterans, Van Lannen adds. Scheduled

from 4-7 p.m., smelt lovers are warned not to wait to get their catch at the fry because a \$10 plate — including smelt, coleslaw, coffee or milk, and homemade dessert — usually runs out by 6 p.m.!



He describes the event as "kids of all abilities coming together for this one awesome cause."

"I don't know if I can describe it — I almost consider my students to be my own kids and I want to provide an opportunity for them," Goodness adds. "Even though they may have differences in certain areas of life, they can still accomplish great things."

Sixty-three students registered this year, the biggest yet, and each was matched with a peer mentor, many of whom were Pulaski High School students. The triathlon has come close to doubling in the amount of participants each year since its conception five years ago. The next triathlon is set for May 13, 2016.

"The staff and community support, that's the only way this can happen. If it's just me, I can't pull this off, I utilize our staff and community resources," Goodness shares of the planning process.

With an impressive résumé to boot, the Red Raider Marching Band also has reason to toot their horns. Having made appearances throughout recent years including not only hometown performances, but the National Independence Day Parade in Washington D.C.; Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York, N.Y.; Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif., the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, China and the New Year's day Parade in Rome, Italy the program, which D. Thomas Busch, director of bands, credits former director Don Siegrist with laying the foundation for is receiving praise. In one year, the band also performed at games for the Milwaukee Bucks, Milwaukee Brewers and the Green Bay Packers. Appearances couldn't happen though without the work of the Pulaski Music Boosters who help in raising funds to alternate between big and little



trips, explains Thomas.

"This program has done great things, there's no doubt," he shares, noting he feels lucky to be a part of it. "If you want to do this, opportunities like the Macy's Parade are out there. ... I'm really proud of the kids. There are some really fine band programs that we're competing with and against."

The band continues to mix things up with not only their formations, but their music. Queen will be added to their repertoire this year with favorites "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" and "Bohemian Rhapsody." Student section leaders are appointed to be mentors to peers and instruct new material during a weeklong drill session at the end of July.

"In the show, we put 'wow' moments. Every minute to two minutes we do something to grab your attention," says Thomas whether it's kicks, Latin steps, solos, call and response or other visuals. "Audiences hear 90 percent through their eyes. If you look good, you sound good."

POLKA PARTY

Pulaski still likes to "Roll out the Barrel" with its big family event, Pulaski Polka Days. Being held July 16-19, "the music is No. 1. People really enjoy the music," says chairman and organizer Harold Otto.

Eight community clubs join together to pull off the event that brings in visitors from Chicago, Baltimore, Michigan, Canada, Sweden, Poland, England and Australia. Funds raised during the event are divided based on hours contributed per club and go back into contributing to community projects, Otto explains.

The 37th year will include not only a variety

Continued on Page 28

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honoring the fallen

After a year and a half of work, the Pulaski Public Safety Memorial Park, 600 Glenbrook Drive, is nearing completion. What began as a tribute to former Pulaski Tri-County Volunteer Fire Department Chief



Frank Wichlacz, who died in the line of duty five years ago, has evolved into a memorial for all individuals in public safety — EMS, fire and police — to honor their service.

"They supported it big time — it's actually brought the agencies closer together," shares James Styczynski, Fire Department chief.

The outdoor portion of the memorial includes a four-sided granite pyramid with names from each of the sectors and benches for quiet contemplation. Inside the dedicated space within the fire department, is an area displaying the history of the station, including a 1933 REO Pumper restored by the Pulaski Tri-County Volunteer Fire Department.

It is hoped that a dedication will be held at the end of September or early October to coincide with Fire Prevention Week, shares Styczynski.

"It's all one nice area to visit and go through the history of public safety in Pulaski," he adds. There is no admission cost.

of Polka music performed by 24 bands — ranging from locals TNT to Michigan's Box On — but also a Polka Trot 5K, fireworks, dance contest, pancake breakfast, worship service, nearby arts & crafts sale, and new this year, free dance lessons will be offered.

"If anybody wants to learn the Polish Hop, this is their chance to do it," Otto says.

Admission to the event varies by day.

"Come on out and enjoy yourself and meet your friends and neighbors," Otto says. "We thank all the friends who have come out and supported us all these years."

POLISH PASTRY

"It represents our heritage, it represents our history, it represents our community," says Greg Smurawa, owner of Smurawa's Country Bakery with his wife, Jan. "The appeal of our paczki goes well beyond."

Five generations have been making the "comfort food that speaks to who we are," he adds.

Smurawa describes what differentiates his polish pastry from a doughnut

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as being made with more butter, the round pillow-like look, the characteristic white band around the outside and the amount of jam — not jelly — that the paczki is filled with. The recipe originates with his great-grandmother and introduced paczki to Pulaski when the business, 204 E. Pulaski St., opened 17 years ago. The Smurawas began selling them just for Paczki Day or Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday, but they are now available year round.

"People come from all over to get it, and that's pretty special," Smurawa says.

This year, 25 hundred dozen paczki were sold and shipped to areas including Seattle, Texas, Colorado, California and the Carolinas. In total, the old-fashioned bakery has 17 flavor options including cherry, chocolate, French crème, key lime and red velvet to pick from. They also offer other ethnic treats like Danish crispies and kolaches.

Paczki in Polish means "little package." "It's a 'little package' of goodness," Smurawa shares. "What we always say around here is paczki is important to us and we take it seriously."

Watch for the upcoming Polish Feast July 16-19 when even more Polish treats, like pierogies and other food, along with entertainment, are available in three tents near the bakery.

PLACE TO COMMUNE

In the Guinness World Records as the "largest rural church in the state," Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 124 East Pulaski St., towers over Pulaski.

The church has attracted attention, not only as a place of worship, but also for its architecture. In 1977, the value of its windows alone, made with imported Italian glass and now protected with bulletproof glass, were estimated at \$11,000 and have since risen in value.

"We're really proud of what our ancestors put into that building 125 years ago and they certainly didn't cut any corners," says Janet Maroszek, pastoral minister. "When our church was built, it was intended to be the cathedral for Green Bay."

Italian and Greco-Roman architecture is

apparent throughout the church. Fourteen stained glass windows, seven on the east side and seven on the west, tell the story of Jesus' life from the time Mary was pregnant to his death.

"The size and the detail of the architecture, and the beauty of the windows," is why Maroszek invites people to see Assumption B.V.M. for themselves. "Our church is definitely more of the traditional type."

The church, designated by Bishop David Ricken of the Diocese of Green Bay as a



"Pilgrimage Church," denotes it as a "prayerful place to just spend some quiet time with God," Maroszek says. Tour groups are welcome to contact the parish office to make arrangements. The church is open to all 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Assumption B.V.M. is served by Franciscan Friars and not Diocesan priests. The grounds also include a still functioning school, and friary where 13 priests and religious live. The printery is currently empty and not open, but it is hoped that something will be done with the space in the future, Maroszek adds.

READING REFUGE

The Pulaski Branch Library, 222 W. Pulaski St., is one of nine Brown County Libraries and has been at its currently location since 1989 after opening in 1968.

"It's a nice little branch and people enjoy visiting in the community," says Sue Lagerman, community and library program manager.

Continued on Page 30

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beautiful barn

Built in 1903 by architect Daniel Krause Jr. and mason Willhelm Mensenkamp, the Stone Barn, which sits in the middle of Chase Township, but has a Pulaski address, is a community icon made of glaciated field stone.



"It's an architectural marvel," says Christopher Jaworski, member of the Chase Park Committee. "I don't care where you're coming from, it's something to see."

In 1920, the Krause family sold the barn and property. Over the years, the barn changed hands 11 times until 1954 when the Frysh brothers

purchased it and kept it until their passing in the 2000s. In 2007, the town acquired the barn and the 10 acres around it, deeming it the Chase Stone Bark Park, 8246 County Road S, but it was in rough shape despite being put on the State and National Register of Historic Places in 2000 through the efforts of the Pulaski Area Historical Society. It took grants and a total of roughly \$500,000 to renovate the barn and put toward parking, a gate, landscaping and restroom facilities, which are still being built. It opened to the public last year and is available to rent for events. A museum is planned in the barn in the future, along with the opportunity for tours and field trips.

"The building, the way I look at it, is really of the earth," Jaworski adds, as he describes the early days of logging in the area and fires that occurred. "You can clearly see the burn marks on some of those support beams in the barn."

The staff also is willing to offer assistance with e-readers and other devices and offers free downloadable books and music.

Watch for character visits, like Paddington Bear on July 29, planned for the summer in addition to teen and adult programs, and the annual event, Frosty's Holiday, in early December, Lagerman notes.

OUT AND ABOUT

The Pulaski Community Park, East Pulaski Street, includes a fishing pond stocked with fish that is free for public fishing. It also has wintertime skating and sledding, a greenspace with soccer and football field, 8-hole disc golf course and two miles of walking trail that loops around to connect with the Mountain-Bay Trail, which stretches 83 miles throughout north-central Wisconsin. The trail received its name from the two geological features it connects — Rib Mountain in Marathon County and Green Bay in Brown County — and was built on the former Chicago and Northwestern right-of-way. Bikers, hikers and snowmobilers are welcome on the trail year round, but fees for use vary by county.

"It goes through a nice, natural wooded area. There are turkey and deer back there," says Tom Holewinski, crew leader for Public Works, of the trail system.

Veteran's Memorial Park is another recreational opportunity in Pulaski. The park has a playground with benches, baseball and softball diamonds, horseshoe pits, basketball court and shelter. There's also a dirt BMX-style Bike Course.

"There are little piles where they can jump and show off," Holewinski says.

Organizers also are in the process of putting together a trail that would accommodate fat-tire, mountain bike-style riding into the woods. They hope to have the trail complete by this fall.

For fans of America's pastime, baseball is a big recreational draw to Pulaski as well.

"The baseball program is really big here. They hold a lot of tournaments and draw people here," Holewinski says.

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PLAY BALL!

The Pulaski Reds is a family tradition dating back to 1976 when Doug McDermid, a pitcher who was drafted by The Giants in the early 1950s right out of Pulaski High School, started the team to give guys the chance to continue playing baseball following high school.

"The league has kind of evolved," explains Pat McDermid, Doug's son. "It's guys that don't make it to that next level."

Pat now coaches and manages the team following his father's passing from Parkinson's disease. The Reds, an amateur team in the Dairyland League, play their home games at Doug McDermid Field.



"You've got your dad's name on the field and it's an obligation to keep it going. It's a beautiful place to play baseball," Pat shares.

The team, which travels throughout the state, plays roughly twice a week and has 24 games and four tournaments on their

summer schedule, which runs through August. Admission to home games are \$2 per person and funds raised from tickets and concessions go back into the field and facilities, Pat says.

CHASING SNOW

For snowmobilers going through the Pulaski area, the Chase Sno-Chasers offer the opportunity to explore railroad-grade trail along Highway 32 and the Mountain Bay Trail. Club President Jame Weise calls the sport a good family activity, but stresses certification.

"Pulaski is a good corridor, you can go south to Brown County and west to Shawano County," explains Weise. "The Mountain Bay Trail is a highly trafficked area."

Three counties come together just north of Pulaski, which is the point to where all the trails are groomed.

In addition to rides, the Sno-Chasers also offer an annual gunless poultry shoot meat raffle fundraiser and vintage snowmobile show.

"They're welcome to any of our events. They're all open to the public," says Weise.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

American Legion Post #337

w: pulaskichamber.org/organizations

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church

p: 822-3279

w: abvm.org

Chase Sno-Chasers

w: chasesnochasers.com

Leo Club

w: pulaskileoclub.weebly.com

Goody Triathlon

e: klgoodness@pulaskischools.org

Mountain Bay Trail

w: mountain-baytrail.org
p: 448-4466

Pulaski Area Historical Society

p: 822-3997 or 822-2609
w: pulaskiwhistory.com

Pulaski Branch Library

p: 822-3220

w: browncountylibrary.org/pulaski

Pulaski High School Red Raider Marching Band

w: pulaskimusicboosters.com

Pulaski Polka Days

p: 822-3869

w: PolkaDays.com

Pulaski News

w: pulaskinews.org

Pulaski Reds

w: dairylandleague.com/pulaski.html

Pulaski Tri-County Volunteer Fire Department

p: 822-5392

Chase Stone Barn Park

w: townofchase.org/stonebarn.htm

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two rivers

By Amy Hanson

Situated on the shores of Lake Michigan, Two Rivers encourages visitors to “Coast For A While.” It’s the relationship between the community and water that differentiates the city from others, says City Manager Gregory Buckley, noting it began with industries and fishing.

“Now we recognize those waters as a huge quality of life amenity,” he adds.

“You can swim in Lake Michigan. When temperatures are hot elsewhere, it certainly is cooler here,” says Jason Ring, president of the Manitowoc Area Visitor & Convention Bureau, of the “Cool City” as it’s known by its residents.

Ring says the “charm” and “relaxed pace of life” make Two Rivers an ideal place to visit.

“They really seem to bend over backwards for the visitors,” he adds. “You can draw families with young kids to the beaches and the forest to the retired community. ... There’s an event every weekend primarily in the summer months.”

“We’re just a little bit off the beaten path,” adds Buckley. “It’s a great area, we’ve got a lot going for us, we just have to toot our horn a bit.”

Recently, the remaining piece of the former Hamilton Manufacturing complex, the iconic smokestack, was demolished leaving a clear view of the downtown.

“Where the downtown was kind of closed off to the (East) river, now it’s wide open to it,” says Ring. No set plans had been made as to the future of the site as of presstime, Buckley says. “That bridge that was hidden behind some big industrial buildings is now the centerpiece of downtown.”

The East Twin and West Twin rivers also are



the centerpiece of attracting fishermen on the hunt mostly for king salmon, one of the biggest fighting fish in freshwater, says Keith Heberlein, owner and boat captain of Willie Bee Charters. People from around the world, including Japan and Russia, come to experience charter fishing for coho salmon, rainbow trout and brown trout as well.

“The person who doesn’t fish or hasn’t fished the area, we supply everything for them,” Heberlein says. “It’s easy for someone to take a charter.”

The season begins with a slow start in May. A mix of fish appears in June and July, and the trophy fish are swimming by August into September, shares Heberlein.

“Two Rivers has the long history of charter fishing and community fishing,” says Heberlein. “It’s just something different you can’t do if you’re not in the area. You can’t fish salmon in the middle of Iowa, you have to come here to do it.”

SOARING HIGH

Carp Fest, an international catch-and-release tournament held in June, the Kiwanis Fish Derby in July, Ethnic Fest in September, Applefest in October, and Kites Over Lake Michigan are just some of the events attracting people to Two Rivers.

“When they started out, it was just a couple of kite flyers,” says Ring. “It really is a great crowd out there, it’s something to see.”

“Kites Over Lake Michigan has kind of become our signature event now,” Buckley echoes.

This year will be the 10th year of the event, which is held over Labor Day weekend.

“We started with an estimated attendance of 3,000 and then it grew to 5,000, and now we have about 30,000 for the two days,” says Chow Chong, event organizer. “It’s very gratifying to see that and a small community like Two Rivers has been able to do an event like this.”

Word of mouth and the support of the community, including volunteers, public safety and sponsors, have helped the event to grow. Acrobatic kite flying teams come from out of state to perform as well.

“Those are a major highlight for people coming to the festival,” Chong adds. Saturday

electrical experience

The Point Beach Energy Education Center, 6400 Nuclear Road, is a place where you can spend as much or as

little time as you’d like. The free experience often sees children grumbling when they come in and not wanting to leave when it’s time to go home, says Ruth Ann Meier, Energy Center coordinator.

“You don’t have to be tied into a certain amount of time,” she explains. “You can have a lot of fun while learning about a topic that isn’t all that easy to understand.”

Opened in 1969, the education center has

received more than 1 million visitors and includes 3,000 feet of display area covering the history and production of energy, ways to renew energy and a hands-on science area with brain teasers and puzzles. The center is open Tuesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and by appointments for groups and tours; tours are not available of the nuclear plant itself since 9/11.

On the last Sunday in January, the center also hosts a Model Train and Tractor Show that surpassed its previous attendance when 1,257 visitors enjoyed the free event this past year.

“There’s nothing like trains and tractors to bring out the kid in any age,” Meier says. Another event also is held around Earth Day that centers on family activities.



night on Neshotah Beach also is a popular point of the festival when, weather permitting, a lantern glow is held, along with a night fly and fireworks.

"If they have not seen the event, it is worth coming in," Chong says.

PARK IT

"We've made an investment to really building our beaches," Buckley shares. The value is paying in dividends with the announcement of the EVP Coolest Coast Pro Am Presented by Prevea Health.

"We're pretty excited about that," Buckley adds. "It really fits with our vision for the beach."

The EVP Professional Beach Volleyball Tour, including professional male and female players, along with amateur junior and adult teams, will be coming to Two Rivers July 15-17, 2016 and July 14-16, 2017 to play in both doubles and quad formats. More than 80 teams will compete on 20 courts at Neshotah Park Beach.

"(The beach) is very shallow so your toddlers can play. They can build their sand castles, play and splash," says Judy Goodchild, parks and recreation director.

In addition to the groomed beach, Neshotah Park, 600 Zlatnik St., is the "perfect place for gatherings and spending the day," shares Goodchild. Visitors will find open-air shelters, playground equipment and horseshoe pits available with pre-arrangement or on Wednesday nights.

Another serene spot for recreation is Washington Park, 2909 Adams St., where park goers can watch ducks, take advantage of trails, utilize a half basketball court or check out the playground equipment.



Next to Zander Park, 1406 Parkway Blvd., is an off-the-leash dog park for man's best friend to run free. "Dogs have to be on a leash in the rest of the parks," Goodchild notes.

If you'd prefer to take in a game, there's the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park, 1300 35th St., which shouldn't be confused with Vet's Park, the city's public boat launch and fish cleaning station. Or, if you're after another sport, disc golf enthusiasts can

throw a round at the nine-hole course, 2217 Polk St., and Thursday nights at 7 p.m. during the summer are lively at Central Park when the community is invited to pull up a lawn chair or blanket for the free concert series.

"Two Rivers is one of those little towns that you drive through and say, 'I want to go to back to,'" Goodchild adds.

TRAILING ALONG

"It's a quiet little jog through town for the Mariners Trail to the Rawley Point Trail," Ring notes.

The two trails are connected and more signage is planned to go up this summer to make both more visible. The Rawley Point Trail begins at Walsh Field and continues to Point Beach State Forest, says Goodchild. The crushed limestone trail runs 5.3 miles and accommodates walking and biking.

The Mariners Trail is 5.5 miles of paved trail that attracts thousands each year, starting at the Lighthouse Inn in Two Rivers to the Manitowoc-Two Rivers YMCA in neighboring Manitowoc.

"We want to reach out to the valley and remind them we're only an hour away," says Buckley. "Throw the bikes on the rack and head over to Two Rivers."

Outdoor enthusiasts also don't need to cross any major streets while using the trail, which is free and open to walking, cycling, running and inline skating. Dogs on a leash also are allowed on the trail. In addition to individual use, the trail also is utilized for various walks, events and the HFM Maritime Marathon.

Continued on Page 34

COAST FOR A WHILE

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architectural marvel

"I've always been a Frank Lloyd Wright enthusiast," shares Michael Ditmer. After going to school for architecture and visiting other homes designed by the famous American architect, Ditmer welcomed the chance to own the Bernard Schwartz House with his brother, Gary, in 2003.

"It had been on the market for a number of years. ... We wanted to make sure that the house was saved," Ditmer says. "We saw an opportunity to save this house and return it to its original glory."

He considers himself a steward of the home also known as Still Bend due to its location on the East Twin River where the river forms a wide marsh.

The home was commissioned by LIFE Magazine in 1938 when

eight architects were asked to design dream homes for four typical American families whose income ranged from \$2,000-\$10,000 annually. The home has beautiful, open architecture and one of the longest continually working heated floor systems. The design of the home is "usonian," a term Wright coined to fit architecture for the average American.

"We rent it out to give people the opportunity to live in a house that Frank Lloyd Wright built," says Ditmer. "Frank Lloyd Wright is Wisconsin's native son and this is a chance to see one of his masterpieces." Unlike other homes, visitors are welcome to sit on the furniture, don't have to wear booties to cover their shoes and are welcome to explore.



Since purchasing the home, Ditmer has been working on restoration projects based on Wright's original designs; some features were never added to the home previously. Wood has been restored inside, exterior siding has been removed, eight sets of French doors — down to the copper screens — are being recreated and a sunken court with a privacy fence and seating off the living room area are all

part of the plans, Ditmer says.

"Seventy-five years later, we'll be finishing off the house," he adds. "The intention is to continue restoring it the way Frank Lloyd Wright intended." Funds raised from rentals, tours and events are put back into the efforts.

In addition to regular periodic tours, special anniversary events are in the works for this year.

The trail includes picnic areas, rest stops, grills, parking, flower gardens, memorials and 35 blue benches to commemorate individuals, along with the Rob Schuette Memorial Bike Repair Station, a free-standing device with a bike pump and tools attached that is available for trail users, four sculptures and a Human Sundial. The Spirit of the Rivers, a bronze sculpture of a birch bark canoe and three human figures — a man portaging a birch bark canoe from Lake Michigan, a woman carrying their belongings and an elder showing the way — are being created by native artist R.T. "Skip" Wallen who was born in Manitowoc. Funds are being raised for the project that is proposed to find a home on the lakefront at the boundary between Manitowoc and Two Rivers on Mariners Trail near Forget-Me-Not-Creek.

"It's probably one of the nicest recreational trails where you have an unobstructed view of

Lake Michigan shoreline for 5½ miles," says John Brunner, president of the Friend of Mariners Trail. "We want to make sure that all ages can safely use the trail. ... We've developed it to the point where there's not a lot that we can add to it without detracting from the beauty of the area."

'POINT' OF INTEREST

In addition to the undeveloped 5.5 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and Rawley Point Trail, Point Beach State Forest has a variety to offer on its 3,000 acres. Visitors will step into a Northwoods feel with large pine and hemlock trees, and experience the beach, dunes, ridge and swale typography, migratory birds like warblers, RV (some sites with electricity) and tent camping, lighthouse viewing, changing leaves and 2.5 miles of horse trail that was added in 2012. Guy

Willman, Point Beach property manager, is hoping to add more horse trails with land acquisition.

"There were horse trails here years and years ago," Willman notes. The park was able to bring them back after hearing public input from horse owners and a revision to its master plan.

From the Fourth of July to mid-August, the park is at its busiest, but fills up the campgrounds until mid-October. In total, Point Beach sees 350,000 visitors — 60,000 campers — annually.

The park is open year round and also affords the opportunity to cross-country ski and go on candlelight skis and hikes when Mother Nature cooperates. Because Point Beach is a state park, you must have either a daily or annual parks and forest sticker, which are available for \$7 and \$25, respectively.

"If they haven't been here, it's a great place to visit," Willman says.

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NATURAL HABITAT

Tucked away in Two Rivers lies 1,300 acres of land known as Woodland Dunes Nature Center. Started in 1974, the center sees 3,000 students and another 2,500 adults and children each year, including from Canada, Europe and Argentina.

With more than 7 miles of trail and prairie, wooded and grassland areas, Woodland Dunes beckons nature enthusiasts from youth and beyond to visit from dawn until dusk for free. The property includes a nature center, boardwalk to the marsh, Little Wings outdoor play area, butterfly gardens, Nature Shop, indoor kids area, new indoor bird viewing area and a two-story tower with osprey viewing platform. A web cam streams video of the ospreys to the Woodland Dunes' website. Adventure backpacks, bug guides and cameras also are available for use at the preserve.

"Here people come and the wildlife come to you," explains Executive Director Jim Knickelbine of the hundreds of species of animals and plants at the preserve. "We're almost a wilderness in an urban area."

Programming and educational opportunities also are available throughout the year for varying fees. A popular event is Owl Fest. Held each October, the annual gathering centers on banding Saw-whet Owls.

"A lot of people do come from the area and they remember us from school programs," says Corissa Frank, marketing and development coordinator. "It's really a beautiful area that has a lot of different habitats."

Knickelbine encourages visitors "to really connect with nature and feel like you're away from civilization," noting that places like Woodland Dunes are as important for people as they are for wildlife.

"(There's) an amazing richness of wildlife out here and I think that's what people enjoy," he adds. "It gives people a break from all of the frenzy of daily life and being bombarded by all the electronic things."

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Three museums fall under the purview of the Two Rivers Historical Society — the Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum, Farm Museum and Historic Washington House.

The Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum, 1816 10th St., isn't your ordinary museum. While you may not know the name Hamilton Manufacturing Company, you certainly have seen its work. As the largest wood type producer in the country when virtually all materials were printed on a letterpress, Hamilton type was responsible for recording historical events in newspaper headlines. The museum, which began at the company's former location, has now been at its new home for a year and has 1.5 million pieces — the world's largest collection — of wood type, most of which is Hamilton, along with other products they produced such as their furniture and dryers.

"You're always trying to demonstrate what has been done in the craft," says Museum Director Jim Moran. "The fact that it's a working museum is a really big subject matter for us." Prints and new type, being made by volunteers who also are former Hamilton employees, are still being made today. In addition to being open for public view for a small fee, the museum hosts rotating exhibits, workshops and classes, educational opportunities for

Continued on Page 36



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students and aims to recreate works of days past through what Moran calls “forensic printing” or putting pieces together and trying to determine how posters, for example, were initially designed.

“Even though the type is 100 years old, it is showing up in the museum,” Moran shares. “The fact that we can’t keep up with the demand in the 21st century is interesting. ... We’re lucky because whether you’re using your laptop or one of our presses, you’re still bound by the 26 letters of the alphabet.”

The Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum is open now through October, Tuesdays through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. Winter hours vary.

The former Form-rite Manufacturing building, 1701 12th St., was acquired by the historical society in 2005 for the Historical Farm Museum and opened to the public in 2006. It began with the carving collection of Richard Hazaert. Visitors will see tractors, people, figurines, buildings, birds and more. Hazaert, who is now in his 80s, developed his talent later in life and has never sold any of his work, according to Director Doug Wolf.

“You’re not going to find a collection like this anywhere,” says Wolf. “He wanted to put it on display where people could appreciate it.”

Also on view at the museum are two intricate mechanical displays featuring hand carvings from William Slegger and Roger VanderSande, old wash equipment, and bedroom and living room furniture.

There also is another whole area featuring old farm equipment, tractors, a workshop and hand tools. All the items in the museum were donated except for one piece, Wolf shares.

The Farm Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday from Memorial Day weekend until weather permits; it is also open by appointment. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

Built in 1850, the Historic Washington House, which recently received 46 new windows, includes an ice cream parlor and a variety of collectibles and artifacts, there’s even an upstairs ballroom with a stage for performances. Visitors

will find old toys, a collection of 40 Lester Bentley paintings, a Beer Room with White Cap and Bobbie Ale bottles, a newspaper log dryer, cigarette machine, Nesco roasters and more at the 1622 Jefferson St. location. There also are items chronicling The Schmitt Brothers, a barbershop quartet with connections to Two Rivers. The ballroom ceiling features eight side murals, along with one above the stage, that the historical society thinks may date to the early 1900s, possibly done by an individual who stayed at the then boarding house.

“We serve all different kinds of sundaes



because this is the home of the ice cream sundaes,” says historical society volunteer Carol Schwantes of Two Rivers. The city also is the hometown of actress Lydia Clarke who was married to actor Charlton Heston. The Washington House includes the Heston Room with Clarke’s still life photography and other mementos. According to Schwantes, Clarke continues to send a Christmas card for the holidays and pays her dues to be a member of the historical society.

The Washington House is open for summer hours from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Beginning Memorial Day weekend through summer. Winter hours are October to April from noon to 4 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

HOOKED ON HISTORY

Recognized by the National Register of Historic Places, the Rogers Street Fishing Village, 2102 Jackson St., aims to preserve the French and maritime history of Two Rivers through extensive genealogical records and artifacts.

“They come from all over the world here. There isn’t a country we haven’t had here with the exception of China,” says Greg Goodchild, executive director.

Among the artifacts in the village’s collection are that of area shipwrecks. One of the most well-known is that of the Rouse Simmons, otherwise known as the Christmas Tree Ship, a three-masted schooner that sunk in 1912 near Two Rivers in a violent storm while carrying Christmas trees en route to Chicago. All on board perished. The museum shares the story of how it sank, rescue efforts and pictures. It is said that some of the trees, discovered with the wreck, are still in perfect condition, Goodchild shares.

Also on the grounds of the village are an old French fishing home from the late 1800s, a working lighthouse, the Buddy-O fish tug, the Le Clair Fish Shed, the Ice Shed, a Kahlenberg engine and a building housing more artifacts including an 1830 Ojibawa birch bark canoe, artifacts from eight sunken ships including the Vernon, Francis Hinton, Sebastopol and Rouse Simmons, Coast Guard memorabilia, a collection of arrowheads and Native

American pottery, and more. In the late 1980s, international and federal law changed so items can no longer be removed from shipwrecks, Goodchild explains.

“There’s so much that was done here and that history is being lost,” he adds. “We’re bringing it back and that’s our goal, and we’re bringing it back in a big way.”

The village also is now in the beginning stages of building row boats. The first will be raffled off at Rogers Street Days in August this year. More projects also are in the works with the acquisition of more land, Goodchild says.

“We’re the first stop on the way to Door County. The future is bright,” he adds.

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The museum is open now through mid-October, seven days a week, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. There is a small fee for admission.

BEYOND BOOKS

The Lester Public Library, 1001 Adams St., invites children and adults to enjoy their programming, including the "Be a Hero Carnival" with inflatables on Aug. 19 from 1-3 p.m. The carnival is tied to their summer reading program where kids can earn tickets, but they also will be available for purchase.

"In essence, it's a celebration of reading," says Jeff Dawson, director. "We offer a lot of great programs. ... Every day, there's literally something going on for everyone."

Visitors looking for a place to check email, print documents or utilize WiFi access also can find that at the library or around the city with the Cool City Hot Spots.

In addition to regular programming, the library also hosts a student art show including pieces from Two Rivers Public School District students in grades K-12 in May, along with paintings from artist Lester Bentley that are displayed year round.

Another time to stop in is during National Library Week in April when a drawing for prizes like Kindles and iPads are held to generate interest in reading. Previous winners have come from Seattle, Wash. and Waupaca.

HOMERUN

Reactivated in 2002, the Two Rivers Polar Bears are part of the Shoreland Baseball League, consisting of 10 semi-pro, amateur teams.

"A lot of the talent is college-level kids that are trying to get better for their college seasons," shares Chris Cisler, team president and manager.

Admission to home games are free and Walsh Field features the best stadium seating in the league, he adds. The Polar Bears' season runs through August. Concessions, including hot dogs, peanuts, candy and beer, are available.

"The baseball that we put out on the field is very good. That's what I've committed myself to," Cisler notes. "With the local talent, you get the local draw. You give the community an opportunity to show pride in their team."



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Carp Fest

w: facebook.com/pages/Two-Rivers-Carp-Fest/160778627304110

City of Two Rivers

p: 793-5523
w: two-rivers.org

Farm Museum

p: 553-4001
w: two-rivers.org/attractions.php#farm-museum

Friends of Mariners Trail

w: marinertrail.net

Hamilton Wood Type Museum

p: 794-6272
w: woodtype.org

Historic Washington House

p: 793-2490
w: two-rivers.org/attractions.php#wash

Kites Over Lake Michigan

w: uniqueflyingobjects.com/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=116

Lester Public Library

p: 793-8888
w: lesterlibrary.org

Manitowoc Area Visitor & Convention Bureau

p: (800) 627-4896
w: manitowoc.info

Parks and Recreation

p: 320-9895
w: two-rivers.org/parks-and-rec/parks.php

Point Beach Energy Education Center

p: (800) 880-8463
w: nexteraenergyresources.com/what/nuclear_point_beach_center.shtml

Point Beach State Forest

w: dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/pointbeach/

Polar Bears

w: eteamz.com/trpolarbears/

Rogers Street Fishing Village

p: 793-5905
w: rogersstreet.com

Spirit of the Rivers

w: spiritoftherivers.org

Woodland Dunes Nature Center

p: 793-4007
w: woodlanddunes.org

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716 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton. 882-4044.

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Cronies Cafe & Espresso Bar

220 S. Main St., Waupaca. (715) 256-2530.

Greasy spoon meets gourmet at Cronies! Come in and experience how we're "bringing something different to Waupaca" with familiar favorites including omelettes, stuffed French toast with your choice of berries, mouthwatering burgers, fresh salads, tempting wraps and sandwiches, and soups to warm you up like Wisconsin Beer Cheese Soup. We also mix things up with our Korean Rice Bowl, Bibimbap Burrito and Ahi Tuna Tacos. M-Sa, 7am-3pm; Su, 9am-1pm. Visit croniescafewaupaca.com.

Da House Resto & Bar

1750 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton. 364-9525.

Come enjoy our new concept for dining and fun! Located near Fox Cities Stadium, home of the Timber Rattlers, our dining room offers breakfast 7am to 11am, lunch 11am to 4pm, and dinner 4pm to 10pm, with a fine dining experience at casual dining prices! Or, try our sports bar, open at 11am, with 12 beers on tap, 10 HD TVs for sports viewing and a bar menu available until midnight! facebook.com/dahouseresto.

GingeRootz Asian Grille

2920 N. Ballard Road, Appleton. 738-9688.

Discover how the finest ingredients come together to create a new world of flavor. Stop in for lunch or dinner in our contemporary dining area, or relax with a drink in the Zen Lounge. Enjoy dining and drinks in our cozy outdoor space. Special event on the horizon? From business meetings to birthdays, our banquet room will spice up any party. We also cater parties for all occasions. Open daily 11am-9:30pm; bar open 11am-close; Happy Hour, M-Th, 4-7pm. Complimentary appetizers with drinks. gingerootz.com.

Parma

3775 W. College Ave., Appleton. 733-3330.

Farm to table Italian cuisine meets gastropub at this Italian kitchen and tap house. Parma serves delicious artisan pizzas, handmade pastas and Italian entrees. In the mood for a specialty craft beer? Our sports bar features 60 craft beers on tap, a special gastropub menu and five 60-inch TVs. Whether you're looking for a meal that provides a fresh culinary experience or simply want an amazing beer that pairs perfectly with a simple, yet refined dish, Parma has it covered! Enjoy a great meal in one of our two inviting dining spaces. Hours: M-Su, 11am-midnight.

Sai Ram Indian Cuisine

253 W. Northland Ave., Appleton. 733-3003.

One of the finest authentic Indian restaurants in the Midwest and winner of seven FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards for Best Indian Food. We offer a menu of options from vegan and vegetarian, to chicken, lamb, seafood and beef. All dishes are prepared fresh to suit your taste. Not a curry fan? No problem! Try our famous tandoori or biryani dishes in our newly remodeled, candlelit dining room. Lunch: M-Sa, 11am-2pm. Dinner: M-Th, 4:30-9pm; F & Sa, 4:30-9:30pm. SaiRamCuisine.com.

SAP

708 N. Casaloma Drive, Appleton. 257-2194.

SAP offers breakfast and lunch classics any time of the day! We use locally sourced eggs from organic-fed chickens in all of our dishes, and our pork is from a farm down the road. Stop in for a coffee or espresso drink and a from-scratch pastry or dessert from our bakery case. Our deli case is full of artisan Wisconsin cheeses and meats, organic rotisserie chickens and house-made favorites. No time to sit down? Order to go! On warmer days, we'll open the garage doors on our four-seasons patio. Winner of six 2014 FOX CITIES Magazine Golden Fork Awards, including Best New Restaurant. Open M-Su, 7am-8pm. sapbrunch.com.

Seth's Coffee

106 E. Main St., Little Chute. 687-6551.

Two-time winner of FOX CITIES Magazine's Golden Fork Award for Best Cup of Coffee, Seth and his crew brew by the cup, treating coffee as a craft rather than a commodity. In addition to coffee, Seth's is now serving craft beer and wine alongside

panini-grilled sandwiches and tapas. Visitors will find a Wisconsin cheese plate, hummus plate, soups, made-from-scratch baked goods, tea and, of course, coffee and espresso! M-Th, 6:30am-9pm; F, 6:30am-10pm; Sa, 7am-10pm; Su 8:30am-6pm. sethscoffee.com.

Stone Cellar Brewpub

1004 S. Olde Oneida St., Appleton. 731-3322.

Located in the Between the Locks, a 156-year-old historic brewery building. Stone Cellar Brewpub features the Fox Cities' best handcrafted, national award-winning beers made on premise. The restaurant features an extensive menu including steaks, seafood, pasta, burgers, award-winning pizza, creative appetizers and traditional pub favorites. In addition, enjoy our selection of gourmet sodas made in the brewery. We even have Appleton's oldest beer garden! Come enjoy the unique atmosphere, experience excellent food and great service. Brewpub fare with a flair! stonecellarbrewpub.com.

Vince Lombardi's Steakhouse

333 W. College Ave., Appleton. 733-8000.

Located inside the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel. Honored with the NFL's Most Valuable Property (MVP) Award in 2009. Extraordinary steaks, superb wines and legendary service. Enjoy world-class dining set among Coach Lombardi's personal memorabilia and classic photos. Experience a commitment to excellence in food, beverages and service that is commensurate with the standards of our namesake. The award-winning restaurant features extraordinary USDA prime cuts of beef and a wine list that Wine Spectator Magazine has named "one of the most outstanding in the world." vincelombardisteakhouse.com.

Zuppas - Market, Café & Catering

1540 S. Commercial St., Neenah. 720-5045.

Our top-flight chef team led by Chef Peter Kuenzi, urban cafeteria setting and penchant for local ingredients, ensure that your food is creative, fresh and ready fast. For breakfast, lunch and dinner, Zuppas Café offers chef-prepared soups, sandwiches, salads and more. Enjoy handcrafted pastries and desserts with coffee or take home a variety of fresh prepared salads and entrees from our deli. Our Green Room is perfect for your personal or business gathering. M-F, 8am-8pm; Sa, 11am-3pm; closed Su. Visit zuppas.com for daily specials.

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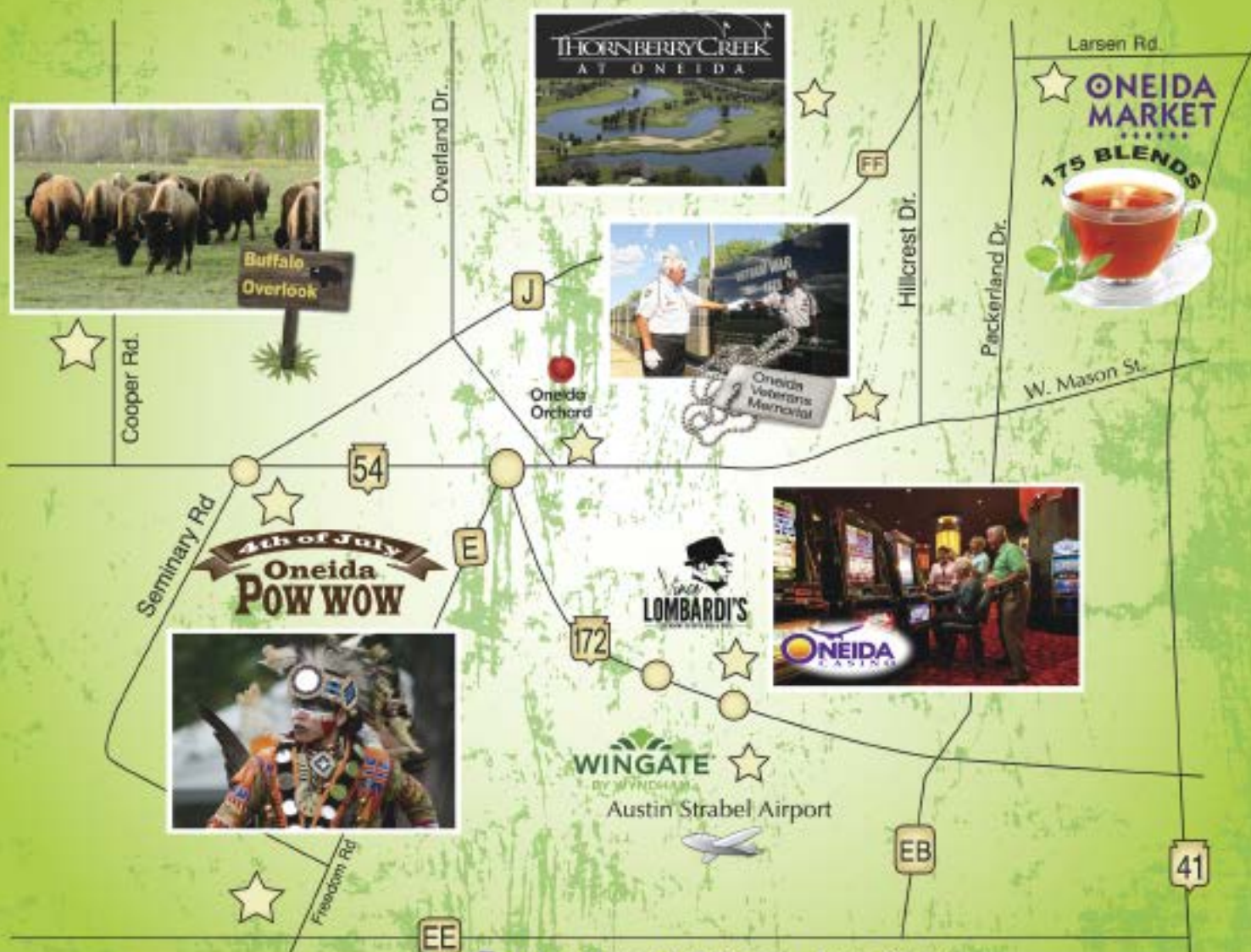
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