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CAPTAIN DAVID DUWE

Watch Your Bobber!

Fixed floats vs slip bobbers

Since I was old enough to hold a fishing pole, a simple bobber and hook has been part of my fishing arsenal. The two basic bobbers are fixed or slip bobber. The biggest benefit of bobber fishing is the ability to control the depth of the bait. This lets you suspend the bait directly over the fish holding to a particular structure. With a few people in the boat, it also allows you to cover a lot more water spreading the bobbers around the boat. Bobbers can be used to catch panfish to muskies and everything in between.

The slip bobber set up is a slip bobber knot, a bead and the bobber which is a float with a small straw through it. The slip bobber knot is on a small piece of straw. You slide the straw up the line then remove the straw leaving the knot on the line, then pull the knot tight. Of course, under the bobber there is a sinker and hook. Size depends on what you are fishing for. The benefit of a slip bobber is you can fish deep water easily. I prefer slip bobbers when fishing for anything over four feet of water.

Slip bobbers are great all year long, however, I use them more in May or June when the majority of the fish are in shallow weedbeds. The two species I target most are crappies and northern pike. The northern pike are in shallow weedy bays in six to 10 feet

of water. The bobber controls the depth of the bait, keeping the minnow out of the weeds and in the strike zone.

When crappie fishing in the early summer months, I find the fish are usually on the weed line in six to 12 feet of water. The slip bobber aids you for distance and accuracy in casting. Pre-set the float one to two feet above the emerging weeds. When fishing deeper water, once the bobber lands, leave the bail open to allow the bait to fall in the desired location. When fishing slip bobbers, one needs to reel all the slack line before setting the hook. A longer pole is a great idea when fishing bobbers since it helps in getting the slack line back onto the reel.

When you are fishing shallow water or where there are strong currents, the fixed float really shines. Being attached to the line allows the bait to maintain a constant depth. To attach a fixed float to the line is simple. Most common fixed float bobbers are built with a push button on the top of the bobber which exposes a hook clip that attaches to your line. My favorite use of fixed bobbers is for spawning bluegills. This occurs late May through early June, although it is weather dependent. The best locations are hard sand bottoms associated with weeds. Work the

Clint of Dave Duwe's Guide Service with a nice slip-bobber pike.



back of bays or shallow sand points and a water depth of two to four feet. The fixed bobber lets you keep the bait in the strike zone of the spawning bluegills. I cast out and slowly retrieve the bait through the sand pockets in emerging weed beds. I will pause the retrieve often on the way back to the boat.

Remember to watch your bobber, you just may get a bite! For guide trips, Dave Duwe fishes the lakes of Walworth County, in Southeastern Wisconsin. Call or text 262-728-8063 to check availability. 📞

Explore Wisconsin

SPOTLIGHT | HAYWARD

Hayward Lakes Area is a Hiker's Dream

I was a hard-core trail runner for over 40 years. Now, in my 60s, I'm less hard-core about it. Three major differences are: 1) I no longer time myself; 2) I stop whenever I want to look at something; and 3) I bring snacks. Plainly, I'm transitioning from runner to hiker, and that's not only OK in our area, it's a dream. Here's a brief look at some of the wonders I've been speeding by for the past 40 years.

Two miles east of Hayward on Highway 77 there's a little gem called Hatchery Creek County Park. It features a cold, sparkling creek, a pavilion, toilets, drinking water, three miles of hiking/skiing trails in the park, 10 miles of singletrack for biking or hiking, and access to the 30-mile long Birkie Trail. It's

gorgeous any time of year.

Two miles west of Hayward on County Hill Road is the little-known Town of Hayward Recreational Forest. It offers four miles of trails for hiking or skiing, plus another three miles of singletrack for snowshoeing or hiking. There's a pavilion, a bathroom, a sledding hill, and two parking lots (one is right next to the sledding hill - great place for grandparents to sit and keep the vehicle warm and the cocoa hot).

A long-time favorite of mine has been the Rock Lake Ski Area, maintained by the United States Forest Service. This large area is nine miles east of Cable on County Road M; it contains about 15 miles of hiking/skiing

trails (classic skiing only), plus another 15 or so miles of CAMBA (Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association, www.cambatrails.org) singletrack. The Rock Lake area is beautiful, with a mix of hardwoods, conifers, and meadows, sprinkled over rolling terrain of glacial kettles and eskers, dotted by several cold, spring-fed lakes.

You can't get more convenient than the ingenious trails of the Hayward Area Memorial Hospital grounds on the north side of Hayward. I call them ingenious because there are four miles of snowshoe trails, eight miles of hiking/skiing trails, and six miles of singletrack biking trails, all laid out within

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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**PHIL SCHWEIK**

Walleyes Under Wood

The angler's one, two, three punch

Many anglers move to deeper water in search of quarry in late spring and early summer. Since rivers and lakes are getting warmer, they assume that fish are transitioning to deeper water in search of a cooler habitat and feeding grounds. That is not, however, necessarily the case.

In early summer, the majority of fish are post-spawn. There may be a few panfish roaming about that have not, but for the most part, fish are done spawning and have moved off to post-spawn locations. So where is that? Predator fish, such as walleyes, pike and musky, tend to move towards water as shallow as one to three feet as they recuperate from the rigors of spawning. Pike and musky will follow behind the walleye, one of their primary food sources.

Finding shallow water fish is relatively easy. Just look for wood. Fish use downed timber and underwater brush for use as staging

locations to hunt unsuspecting prey as it swims by. I have a few effective techniques to target these areas using electronics and looking for shoreline structure.

As I travel along the shoreline with my boat, I watch for downed wood and timber that extends out into the water. Such structure is a possible fish holding location. My electronic locator will be set to side-imaging and I will pay close attention to what the bottom looks like. Fishy-looking structure and actual fish are what I am seeking. I will make several passes through the area, the first usually with a Rapala or some small stick bait that I can quickly work above the structure while looking for aggressive fish. The second run is with a lead head jig and minnow targeting very specific locations in and near structure as I try to pluck out fish that are not quite as aggressive. During the third run, I toss in slip bobbers with minnows or a piece of crawler right next to or on top of the

structure to entice really lethargic fish.

This one, two, three punch has worked for me for years. If you are looking for late spring and early summer fishing spots, this is a constructive way to find them and catch big fish.

Phil Schweik | Hooksetters Guide Service | Phone 715-693-5843 | Web: www.hooksetters.biz

Jayden Reed with
a dandy central
Wisconsin walleye.



HAYWARD, FROM PAGE 2

about one square mile, and no matter where you are in the trails, you feel like you're in the middle of the woods. My favorite parts are walking through the holy pine plantation, hiking the Christmas-ornament-decorated snowshoe trail, and enjoying the bench on the Lakeview Loop. You'll fall in love with the Hospital Trails!

I was told to keep this under 500 words, so I can't describe all of the one thousand miles of hiking, skiing, biking, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, and ATV trails in our area. If you want to know more, just call me at the Hayward Information Center, 715-634-4801. See you out on the trails!

Article by Matt Ostrander



Hiking Hayward will either put you to sleep or keep you wide awake and smiling with wonder, depending on your perspective.

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SPOTLIGHT | ALGOMA

CAPTAIN LEE HAASCH

Spring Fishing Arrives in Algoma

As Captain Trevor unhooked the last line and shoved the boat away from the dock, I powered us away and pointed the bow towards the harbor entrance. After Mother Nature threw us a curve-ball in 2022 with a cold, windy spring and below average water temperatures, 2023 started out with above average temperatures that helped to keep spring water temperatures on Lake Michigan above normal. The result has been some of the best brown trout fishing in the shallows of the Lake Michigan shoreline and awesome steelhead fishing in the tributary streams. The snow run-off has provided ideal conditions through the month of April.

2022 started to see water temperatures rise into the 40s about Memorial Day, initiating our move to leave the shoreline of Algoma and venture out to deeper water to hunt for the surface temperature breaks starting to set up off shore. Armed with some favorite

spoons on planner boards and a couple of my best rigs, it didn't take long before Trevor shouted "Fish on!", released the rod from its holder, and jumped across the deck to hand-off the new battle to the customer. Minutes later Trevor slid the net under a sleek, torpedo shaped steelhead. The ensuing action came fast. These fish have had a long winter and were hungry!

What does our early 2023 spring mean for this summer anglers? Above average temperatures had us experiencing some great spring fishing, and that is good news for anglers traveling to the lakeshore. I expect to see brown trout dominating the catch in May, with a good number of lake trout backing them up to give anglers some excellent shallow water angling opportunities. Steelhead should be making their return trip to Lake Michigan from the tributaries in late May, providing anglers with some



Captain Trevor shows off a trophy brown trout captured on a spring trip.

tail-dancing acrobatics as they feed heavily in June. Also expect to see the king salmon cruising shoreward from the depths in mid-to late-May to give us a fantastic king and steelhead bites.

The winter months had open water anglers chomping at the bit to launch their boats and start trolling already in March. I expect to see great fishing to stretch throughout the entire summer. This looks to be one of those magical summers where the early start brings sustained king salmon action right through the dog days of August and into fall. With the benefits of increased stocking and growing numbers of available baitfish, look for battles with large and feisty kings.

This scenario doesn't happen often, but 2023 is setting up to be one of those special fishing seasons.

If you want BIG fish, check out Algoma. For charter information or fishing reports visit www.FishAlgoma.com or call 1-888-966-3474.

Captain Lee Haasch is a charter captain out of Algoma. He has over 50 years of Great Lakes fishing experience and has been instructing anglers for over 30 years with educational seminars and in outdoor publications.



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SPOTLIGHT | SPOONER



Family Fun for Everyone in Spooner

The temperatures are rising and summer will be here before we know it! Known for its exquisite waters and endless opportunities for exciting outdoor recreation, Spooner is the perfect place to plan your next family getaway in the Wisconsin Northwoods.

Located just north of Spooner is Wisconsin's Moving National Park, the Namekagon River, which should be on your must see list. This treasured waterway is part of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway and is known for its pristine waters. Plan a weekend trip canoeing and kayaking where you can pull your boat ashore and set up camp at one of the primitive campsites. With multiple public landings maintained by the National Park Service, getting on and off the river is a breeze. Don't forget to bring along your rod and reel. The Namekagon River is renowned for its world class brown trout, walleye, smallmouth bass, northern pike, muskellunge, lake sturgeon and panfish.

With 11 city parks, Spooner is always fun for little ones and adults alike. Spooner City Park covers approximately 20 acres and offers a pavilion, playground, ball fields and a paved multi-loop trail system connecting the elementary, middle and high schools. Hiking trails here are easily accessible, pet friendly and feature frisbee golf and exercise stations. Recently added by the local group Rails on Trails, Spooner City Park offers a thrilling winding single-track mountain biking system with miles of paved and unpaved surfaces. Be ready for some steep climbs and quick descents that send riders zooming through the forest. Not to worry though, riders have multiple places to transfer onto the paved hiking trails for an easier ride.

After a day of making cherished lifelong memories with the family and enjoying the crisp fresh air, head downtown and enjoy one of Spooner's many tasty restaurants, unique retail shops, art galleries and so much more. You will have so much fun that you will be planning your next trip back before you even leave! Plan your trip today at www.spoonerchamber.org.



Lauren E. Hartwig is Executive Director of the Spooner Area Chamber of Commerce.



Washburn County will keep you happy on land or water.
Photo Credit Washburn County Tourism Association

BILL THORNLEY

Spooner Owl Release

Better late than sorry for injured raptor

Winged Freedom Raptor Hospital in Spooner recently welcomed a new customer in distress, a young male barred owl. "He had a wing fracture," said Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, or DMV, Kim Ammann. "Surgery was needed."

Dr. Ammann performed the surgery, saving and repairing the wing.

Leap forward to a bright morning in March, near where the owl was found. A group of vehicles pulled up and parked. The barred owl was ready to go back home. "The owl has healed up well," said Dr. Ammann, who cradled the wide-eyed bird. "We think he was hit by a car. We get a lot of owl/car and eagle/car collisions."

It is not uncommon for drivers to see raptors along the road, feeding on a road-killed deer or rabbit. Unfortunately, the startled birds often fly into the vehicles, suffering broken wings, damaged eyes, or worse. "If you see a road-killed animal, there is a good chance that there is a raptor near it," said Dr. Ammann. "Please, slow down and give them a 'brake.' A lot of times they can't get up into the air fast enough."

Healing a bird like the young owl takes time. And sometimes it takes more time than anticipated. Dr. Ammann walked the barred owl out into a clearing for the release. The bird clicked his beak, one of his defense methods, and seemed ready to soar high and disappear into the tall pines in the area. Excited members of the group took their places, some with cameras to record the event. The beautiful bird spread his wings as if to take off. "Here we go," said one man. And then, take-off!

Well, kind of a take-off. The bird did fly, but not very far. Instead of heading for the woods, he landed a short distance away. He took off from there, and landed in a small pine tree about four feet off the ground. Although he is healed, said Dr. Ammann, he is not quite strong enough yet. And with all of the late winter snow still on the ground, hunting might be a problem.



The male barred owl looks around curiously as he gets ready to fly. He did fly, but not far. Although he could have been released, it was thought he might need more time to get stronger. He will be released in the near future. Photo by Bill Thornley.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21



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SPOTLIGHT | MARINETTE



Fish City is the Place for Angling Pros and Weekend Warriors

New York is known as “The City that Never Sleeps,” Chicago is “The Windy City,” Green Bay, “Title Town,” and Marinette, “Fish City!” Known for the superior fishing on the Menominee River and in the Bay of Green Bay, Marinette has taken to its title like a fish to water! Right now, the pre-walleye and salmon run is ON! Anglers are hooking-up to MONSTER brown trout and walleye. Ranked in Fishing magazine as a top-10 place to fish, Marinette offers anglers of all ages something to get excited about.

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TOM LUBA

Small Blessings

Little waters, big rewards

When you grow up in a rather lake-less area, just seeing numerous bodies of water can get your heart pumping. Mine certainly did when I moved to Wisconsin years ago.

Looking for largemouth bass on larger lakes with shallows, depth, drop offs and a wide variety of cover provide a lot of choices. For me, as the fishing activity on bigger waters increased, all those smaller lakes kept jumping to the front of my mind, reminding me that they were there. So I started looking.

I started with Wisconsin DNR fisheries biologists, who were very helpful in terms of species and populations on a number of those little lakes. I began my research on bass in those waters.

Within a short time, I found two smaller flowage-type waters, created from damming small rivers into shallow, weedy, clear water fisheries that looked almost identical. On one, there were bass, including some of decent size.

But, comparing it to the other, I was shocked. There were far more bass there, in all sizes.

Most notable, smaller acreage lakes don't have the traffic of larger waters. More than likely, people living on them built there for solitude, and to avoid crowds, especially on busy holidays.

Smaller flowages and spring-fed lakes can offer very good fishing. On flowages, fertilizer runoff can contribute to weed growth, which may put some anglers off. The bass can hold on shallow cover, but they can also bury in the deep weeds if they don't want to be found. Bright, clear days push the bass to seek shade. Cloudy weather brings them out.

Docks, laydowns, riprap, stumps and other cover hold shallow fish on a regular basis in both flowages and clearer water lakes. Anywhere weeds grow, from the shallows to deep, where light penetration stops, can be productive. Finding cover near deeper water can be a potential goldmine. It allows the fish

the opportunity to move up and down in the water column quicker.

I rely on some different baits based on lake type. Bass hunt by sight first. On weedy flowages, I prefer a jig and pig in spring; there will be shallow weeds developing. An inline jig, where the eye comes out the front of the jighead rather than the top, is excellent. Weeds hang primarily on the line where the hook meets the eye. The inline makes that bait come through the water pretty weed-free.

A Senko stick worm works for the same reason. Texas-rig it on a 3/0 Gamakatsu round bend hook and it's a formidable weapon. It's also a great throwback bait to a fish that hit your main bait but missed getting hooked.

On overcast days, use spinnerbaits, or a chatter-bait bladed jig for weed edges. Also try a SPRO surface frog on quieter days and a Texas-rigged four-inch tube on a heavier weight to flip or punch into thicker weed pockets.

In clearer water, a Texas-rigged worm

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back the Pack



or tube works on weedlines. Senkos skip nicely under docks. Try a Rat-L-Trap lipless crankbait over mid-depth weeds, and a PopR surface bait, with a feather or flashy Mylar on the tail hook to draw attention around visible cover.

The rewards on small lakes can be big. But remember, if you catch that wall-hanger, take pictures, then get length and girth measurements for a graphite mount. Catch and release is a good practice. The best way to catch a six-pound largemouth next year is to let this year's five-pounder go. 🐟

 Explore Wisconsin

SPOTLIGHT | ELKHORN



Pick Us, No Matter the Time of Year

Warm weather means that gardens are blooming and farmers' markets are coming! Be sure to visit downtown Elkhorn for the Saturday on the Square fresh market kicking off May 27 and running through September 2. Saturdays on the Square is open from 9 am - 1 pm where you can enjoy a variety of vendors from local artisans to area farmers with their fresh picked produce and hand cut flowers. Local honey, baked goods and beautiful handmade pottery can all be found downtown Elkhorn at Saturdays on the Square.

Locals and day trippers alike love to celebrate the spring and summer season at The Apple Barn Orchard and Winery. Visit the 40 acre farm and stroll the orchard, pick through the strawberry patch and don't forget to swing through the wine room for daily tastings. The gift shop is stocked with seasonal gifts, quaint merchandise and tasty cheeses.

Stop by the neighbors, Duesterbeck's Brewing Company (located one mile down the road) and visit the newly built barn brewery where you can check out live music and enjoy a variety of freshly brewed flights and taps.

Elkhorn is waiting for you to explore its outdoor amenities this spring and summer. Fishing, hiking, mountain biking and a quick round of nine await. Check out Alpine Valley Resort and Evergreen Golf Club for all your golfing needs.

Whether you choose to navigate on four wheels or two, there's always great shopping and eating to celebrate in Elkhorn. No matter the time of year, there is something unique and fun to enjoy with friends and family. Come see for yourself! #53121FORFUN 🍷





SPOTLIGHT | PLATTEVILLE



Get “M”oving to Grant County’s Largest Community!

As Grant County’s largest community, boasting a population of approximately 12,000 people, Platteville has an abundance of reasons to visit again and again. Located on the eastern edge of the county, the community is known for creating the World’s Largest ‘M’ in 1936, hosting the Disney Corporation’s first-time Mickey’s Hometown Parade in 1998, and welcoming the Chicago Bears football pre-season training camp during the summers of 1984-2001. But there’s more!

Explore our Mining Heritage

The home of the state’s first mining school is now an engineering educational hub known as the University of Wisconsin - Platteville. The college’s mining roots also led to the creation of the World’s Largest ‘M,’ which stands for ‘mining,’ on a mound approximately five miles from the campus. The ‘M’ is a public recreation area with 290 stairs (and three viewing platforms) to the top, where you have a spectacular view of the tri-state area and an opportunity to hike through the woods for a closer look at the mound’s

geology. At UW - Platteville’s Homecoming each fall, the ‘M’ is lit and a spectacular fireworks display is cast overhead.

Platteville’s mining heritage is best showcased by descending into the Bevans Mine as part of a tour through The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums. There you will see the conditions miners faced as they sought and extracted lead and zinc in Southwest Wisconsin. Across town, a historic home - the Mitchell-Rountree Stone Cottage - has been carefully preserved to showcase a founding family’s way of life. Both museums are open for tours from May through October each year.

Get Active in the Great Outdoors

Platteville has taken pride in providing a variety of outdoor recreation options. The Platteville Community Arboretum’s David Canny Rountree Branch Trail is three miles of paved and lit non-motorized recreation trail open to the public year-round. The trail follows the Rountree Branch, a very scenic Class I trout stream, and features

artwork, gardens, outdoor gym, bike repair stations and educational kiosks. Fat tire bike trails as well as cross country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobile trails are all available in the community. It connects to the paved seven-mile Mound View State Trail to Belmont.

Platteville features 15 parks, including the Skate Park and Swiss Valley Dog Park, as well as two disc golf courses. Recent additions to these parks are an inclusive playground at Smith Park and pickleball courts at Legion Park. The Platteville Family Aquatic Center is a popular attraction in summer, with a 150-foot water slide at the zero-depth entry public pool.

The Platteville community features ATV routes throughout the city, which connect to both Grant and Lafayette County routes. If you’d rather keep your feet firmly on the ground, check out our 18-hole golf course. 🏌️

To learn more, visit www.platteville.com or call the Platteville Regional Chamber and Wisconsin Welcome Center at 608-348-8888.

The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums

The World's Largest 'M'

Mound View State Trail

Platteville

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As you ride the trail, you'll see why we're known as the **Dairyland State**. Visit **Hook's Cheese in Mineral Point** for award-winning cheeses and their oh-so-good squeaky curds! Enjoy our local taverns for drinks and burgers, and stay in historic hotels right along the trail for a **weekend getaway**.

mineral point
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Visit www.mineralpoint.com for questions.



SPOTLIGHT | SHEBOYGAN FALLS



Your Next Wisconsin Road Trip!

Located on the picturesque falls of the Sheboygan River, Sheboygan Falls has two historic districts, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Celebrating 35 years as one of the first Wisconsin Main Street communities, Sheboygan Falls is dedicated to the preservation of our historic structures. Over 50 have been restored to their original architectural beauty. Take the self-guided walking tour of the historic districts. In 1995 Sheboygan Falls won The Great American Main Street Award, an annual award given to five communities nationwide.

Sheboygan Falls is thriving with new business and excellent employment opportunities. The school system is committed to student achievement and new

residents are sure to find a new or vintage home to fit their needs.

Whether you prefer a quiet walk along the river or showing off your antique car, we've got you covered. Visit Sheboygan Falls for our free summer concert series on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings in June, July and August. Food trucks, many local restaurants and live music, what else can you ask for on a beautiful summer night?

Our famous Ducktona 500 Family Festival Antique Car and Boat Show is held the first Sunday in July. This is a great family event, offering something for everyone. Lots of fun, food, cars, and live music to enjoy. In the afternoon, you can cheer on your duck as it races down the Sheboygan River. Be sure to get your ticket early, as the ducks sell out fast.

In mid-October we celebrate ladies and help fight against breast (or any) cancer. Our annual Ladies Nite Out is a night of pampering, food, drink, and treats for all the ladies. Don't forget the raffles. All proceeds go to the Sheboygan County Cancer Care Fund. To date we've donated over \$12,000. Be sure to preorder your tote bag full of goodies, they sell out quickly.

Come back the first Saturday in December for our Main Street Memories Christmas festivities and parade. Lots of sales for your Christmas shopping and many free activities for the kids. Get dinner from one of our great restaurants and stay for the holiday parade followed by the Community Christmas Tree lighting.

With the restored historic backdrop,

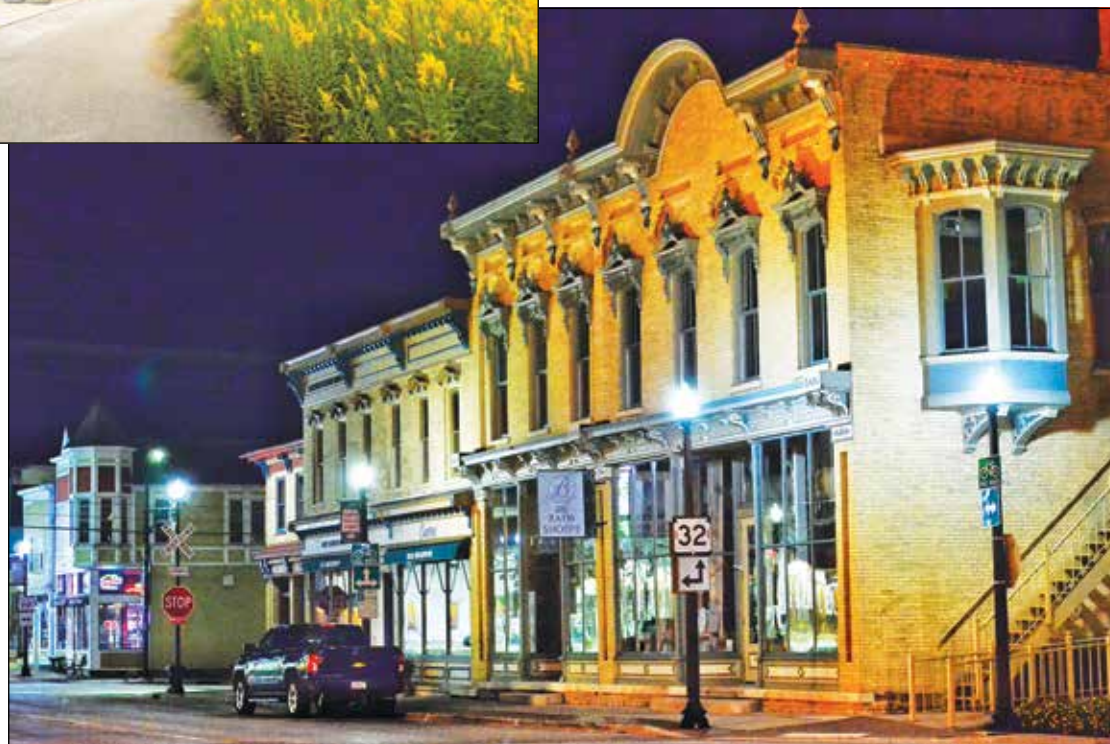
the unique dining experiences, and niche shops, Sheboygan Falls should be your next Wisconsin road trip! 🍷

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Experience the timeless charm of
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Main Street Event Dates 2023	Event	Date
	Ducktona Family Festival	July 2
	Summer Concert Series	June 14 & 28 July 12 & 26 August 9 (Community Safety Day) & 23
	Ladies Nite Out	October 19
	Main Street Memories	December 2

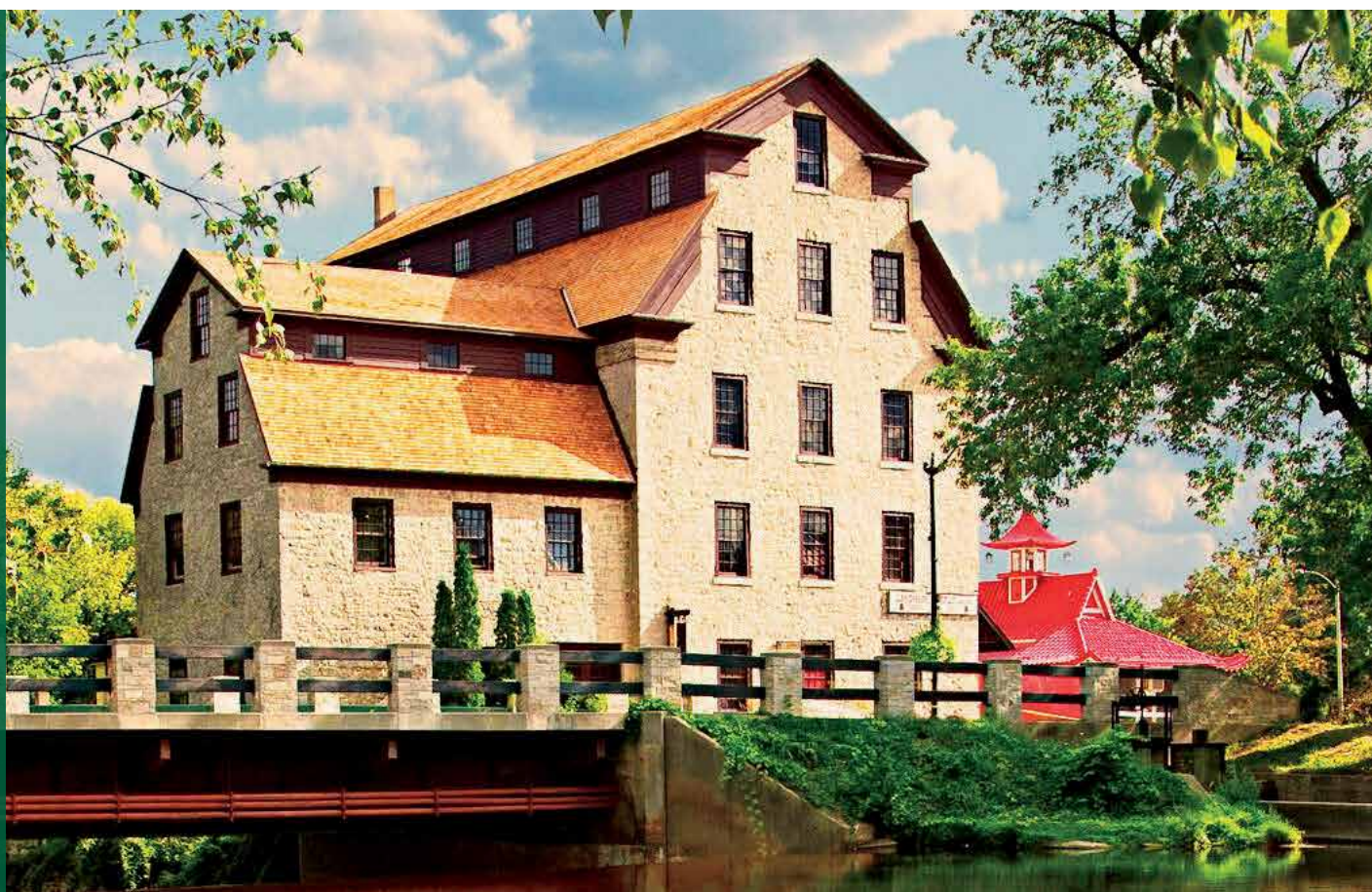


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Ozaukee

Smallest County, Biggest Treasures

Just north of Milwaukee, Ozaukee County is home to some of Wisconsin's most beautiful cities and four-season treasures. Our natural areas and 30-mile paved Interurban Trail offer great outdoor fun, from biking, hiking, walking and birding to snow shoeing and skiing. Our friendly towns are a perfect place to spend the day or a getaway with friends and family!



For more information about events in Ozaukee County, visit ozaukeetourism.com
• interurbantrail.com • 800-403-9898

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SPOTLIGHT | OZAUKEE COUNTY



Small County is Big on Character, Beauty and the Great Outdoors

Ozaukee County may be one of the smallest counties in Wisconsin, but it's big on character, beauty, outdoor activities and attractions. Located just north of Milwaukee, Ozaukee County boasts stunning views of Lake Michigan, unspoiled shoreline, beaches, rural farmland and a mix of quaint communities. The Ozaukee Interurban Trail is a 30-mile paved family-friendly bike trail that runs the length of the county. Visitors can easily bike from one community to the next, with conveniently located stops along the route.

Centrally located Port Washington is reminiscent of an east coast seaside village, a harbor town that offers a beautiful breakwater out to one of the city's two lighthouses. The marina offers many recreational opportunities, including boating, fishing, sunset charters and scuba diving (dozens of shipwrecks are protected off the Wisconsin coastline).

For boaters and kayakers, Lake Michigan offers a flat sandy shoreline off the northern end of the county, and rocky, more challenging waters to the south. Less experienced paddlers may prefer sticking to Ozaukee's more intimate winding creeks and rivers. Local organization Treasures of Oz offers information on kayak and canoe trips on their website, with maps and photos to assist with navigation, water levels and flow.

A trip to Ozaukee County isn't complete without a visit to some of our walkable downtowns. Port Washington, Cedarburg and Grafton are on the historic registry, and boast popular restaurants, pubs, wineries and breweries, as well as shops, galleries, museums and historical sites. Cedarburg's downtown historic district draws people from all over - its main street teems with boutique shops and restaurants, and the city is anchored by two lovingly restored mills which house some of the city's most popular attractions.

Grafton, sometimes referred to as "the birthplace of blues," offers a self-guided walking tour that takes visitors past significant spots where some of the country's most influential blues voices once gathered to record their music. Paramount Records and these artists helped shape blues, jazz and rock as we know it today.



From Mequon to rural Belgium (home of beautiful Harrington Beach State Park), Ozaukee County offers something for everyone. To plan a visit or to book a stay in one of our many hotels, B&Bs or historic inns, visit ozaukeetourism.com. For an interactive map of the Interurban bike trail, visit interurbantrail.com. Discover the magic of Oz! 



SPOTLIGHT | CEDARBURG




A Must-Visit for the Southeast Wisconsin Explorer

Cedarburg is a charming town located 20 miles north of Milwaukee, settled in the 1840s on tranquil Cedar Creek. This small community is a must-visit for anyone exploring southeastern Wisconsin. The city is famous for its diverse shopping experience, ranging from clothing boutiques to galleries, confectioneries, and gift shops. The historic downtown district, which is just a 15-minute walk from one end to the other, is a treasure trove of restored and preserved buildings from the 19th and early 20th centuries. The Cedarburg Visitor Center and History Museum, located across the street from the Hilgen-Schroeder Grist Mill, offers a glimpse of Cedarburg's past. Here you can learn about Cedarburg's history and grab a visitor guide. After strolling down Washington Avenue, you can indulge in delicious food at any of the numerous restaurants, including those at the Cedar Creek Settlement, a restored woolen mill, housing shops, artist studios, and the Cedar Creek Winery.

Cedarburg has plenty of outdoor activities during the warmer months. Cedar Creek Park offers trails along the water for walking and biking, a playground for kids and an open-air stage that hosts Summer Sounds, a free concert series on Friday nights from June through August. The Ozaukee Interurban trail, which runs right through downtown Cedarburg across an old railway bridge, provides 30 miles of scenic hiking and biking.

Cedarburg is well known for its many festivals and events. One of the most popular is Strawberry Festival, held the fourth full weekend in June each year. Celebrate strawberry season with a variety of foods, drinks, live entertainment, and crafts. There is a family-friendly beer garden hosted by the Cedarburg Art Museum on Thursdays; the Ozaukee Night Market takes place behind the Cedarburg Cultural Center the first Thursday of the month between May and August; and Maxwell Street Days, a huge flea market filled with antiques and collectables is held on four Sundays throughout the year at Fireman's Park. Paint Cedarburg, a plein air painting festival and Wisconsin's largest gathering of artists, takes place in early June. The public is invited to watch as the artists create their works of art outside, rain or shine.

Whether you are visiting for shopping, history, festivals, or the outdoors, there is something for everyone to experience in Cedarburg. For information on events and attractions, visit our website at Cedarburg.org and follow us on social media at @ExperienceCedarburg. 



DICK HENSKE

Grouse in the Northern Forest

A veteran hunter contemplates population decline

The Northern Highland American Legion State Forest, a beautiful scenic area encompassing 236,000 acres across Vilas, Oneida and Iron counties, has been my home and Wisconsin hunting grounds for 50 years. This recreation wonder has gone through some massive changes since it was logged off that affect the wildlife and ecology of the area.

The area has wonderful recreational snowmobile, hiking, and cross-country ski trails that also give great accessibility to hunt. But, grouse numbers in the area are not as abundant as they were years ago. The reason is not the grouse cycle that happens every seven or eight years with population increases and declines. It appears other factors are at play. Maturing forests, limited logging and new logging practices may be the issues.

Personally, the number of daily flushes

has dropped significantly. I hunt with two experienced English Setters and try to get out daily in late September and October. The decline is a mystery to me. I hunt proven tracts of broom sized Aspen. I know where the best habitat is, and yet the birds are declining.

I know what initiated the decline in Woodcock numbers a few years ago. We had a massive die-off of spring migrators that came into heavy snows and expired. We still get some great days in October from northern migrators but few local birds. Let's hope it improves over time.

Some hunters blame the turkeys for eating the eggs in grouse nests. It appears other predators could have an impact, but they have always been here. My hunts in Ontario which opens September 15 are super for Ruffed Grouse and Spruce Grouse; why not here?

October includes a transition period for grouse called "crazy flight", when young birds disperse from the home brood to prevent interbreeding and hopefully strengthening the genetic strain. Let's hope this helps replenish birds throughout this northern forest area.

Hunting grouse is challenging and fun. It takes experience to shoot this bird with a violent flush and uncanny ability to twist through cover with wings banging on the Popple trees as it escapes the gunner. I need to keep the gun at "part arms" with a finger near the safety if I expect to get a shot off.

Dogs are a must for me. They point, flush and find dead or wounded birds. Unlike many areas of Wisconsin, 90 percent of "up north" land is open to the public. Come and enjoy! Let's hope the grouse rebounds and deer will return once we learn to manage the wolves. 🐾



Dick Henske knows northern Wisconsin grouse. In better days of upland game hunting, English Setter Maggie flushed and recovered this bird in the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest.



SPOTLIGHT | HURLEY

Light Up the North

We are anxiously awaiting our annual Hurley Memorial Day ATV/UTV Rally! Save the dates: May 25 - 28, 2023. An ATV/UTV parade will take place on Friday night on Silver Street. Decorate your machine and join the fun! Line-up will be in the Carey Mine Field around 4 pm, with music, food, and drinks. Our poker run will go all weekend with various restaurants and bars on the list. This year's theme is "Light Up the North." Register online. Shirts, koozies,

and bandanas will be available. Our new 2023 ATV Trail Map will be available in May. Iron County has the largest ATV Trail System in Wisconsin. Plan a weekend away the Hurley way!

After participating in the Memorial Weekend Rally, why not stay in town or plan your next trip for some more outdoor adventures? Iron County is home to many stunning waterfalls and hiking trails. Fishing one of the hundreds of lakes is sure to satisfy

any enthusiast. If relaxing in a tranquil cabin on the lake is more your style, we have that too! There is always another experience waiting for you!

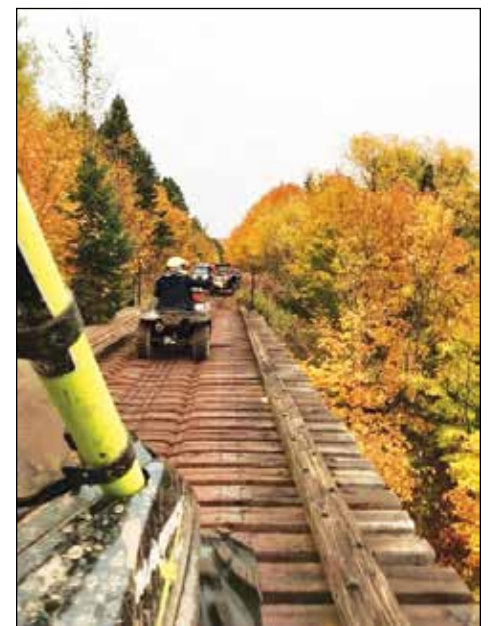
If you have questions or need more information, contact us at hurley@hurleywi.com or 715-561-4334. 🐾



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SPOTLIGHT | OCONTO COUNTY



Something for Everyone who Appreciates a Great Trail Ride

Riding ATVs and UTVs in Oconto County is an experience like no other. The trails are varied and offer plenty of challenging terrain to explore. The scenery is stunning, with lush forests, rolling hills, and sparkling lakes. The trails are well-maintained, so you can have a safe and enjoyable ride. You can also find several campgrounds and resorts in the area and make a weekend or week out of your ATV or UTV excursion.

For those interested in a more leisurely ride, Oconto County offers plenty of scenic roads to explore. There are well-marked trails that take you through some of the county's most beautiful areas. You can also enjoy wildlife viewing as you travel, as the area is home to a variety of species, including birds, deer, and even black bears. No matter what type of riding you prefer, Oconto County has something for everyone. 🐾



OCONTO COUNTY

Adventure Awaits



Explore the trails of Oconto County on your UTV! With hundreds of miles of scenic trails, Oconto County is the perfect destination for UTV enthusiasts. Enjoy the beautiful views and fresh air as you ride through the forests and open fields. Come experience the thrill of UTVing in Oconto County!

Order a free visitor guide and map today at www.OcontoCounty.org



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Explore Wisconsin

SPOTLIGHT | PRAIRIE DU CHIEN

Welcome Center Opens, Marquette & Jolliet Celebration Coming

The Prairie du Chien Travel Wisconsin Welcome Center officially opens for the season on Monday, May 1, and will be open seven days a week. Visitors traveling to Prairie du Chien are invited to stop in for all your tourism needs. The newly remodeled Welcome Center has statewide, regional, and local tourism information and is located at 211 South Main Street in Prairie du Chien. If you are planning a trip to our area, contact the Travel Center at 608-326-2241 and request our 64-page travel guide. For more information, visit our website at www.prairieduchien.org.

350th Expedition Celebration of Marquette & Jolliet – June 16-18

Join the Prairie du Chien community from June 16 - 18 as we celebrate the deep and continuing regional history represented by the 350th Anniversary of the Expedition of Marquette and Jolliet down the Wisconsin River to the Mississippi River. The celebration will include the annual Prairie Villa Rendezvous & Flea Market, Canoe Races, Expedition Canoe Rides, Axe Throwing, Beard Contest, Medallion Hunt, Native American Dancers, displays and educational performances. 🍷

For more information, contact Prairie du Chien Main Street @ Expedition350.com. Article by Robert Moses, Prairie du Chien Area Chamber of Commerce President/CEO.



Cambria Friesland Events

June 13-August 26 Tuesday Night Band Concerts & Pie Socials, Friesland (7:30 pm)
June 14 Community Night in Tarrant Park, Cambria (6:00-9:00 pm)
June 17 Friesland Fireman's Chicken BBQ (4:30-7:00 pm)
July 4th Celebration and Fireworks - Friesland Village Square
July 14 Community Night - Tarrant Park, Cambria (6:00-9:00pm)
August 4-6 Park Days Softball Tournament, parade and festivities (Tarrant Park, Cambria)
August 12 50th Alsum Farms & Produce Celebration and Tator Trot 5K Run (Friesland)
August 16 Community Night-Tarrant Park, Cambria (6:00-9:00 pm)
August 26 19th Annual Dump Poker Run-Cambria

Cambria-Friesland Area CHAMBER of COMMERCE
Working Together.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & DETAILS VISIT
WWW.CFACHAMBER.COM
CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK
[CFACHAMBER](https://www.facebook.com/CFACHAMBER)




Explore Wisconsin

SPOTLIGHT | CAMBRIA AND FRIESLAND

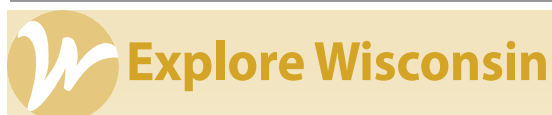
Columbia County's Hidden Gem

The neighboring communities of Cambria and Friesland are surrounded by lush woodlands and marsh areas that house an array of wildlife in their natural habitat. These peaceful, natural landscapes provide great hunting and hiking grounds for residents and visitors. Cambria's Tarrant Lake provides a great atmosphere for summer and winter activities such as fishing, snowmobiling, and ice skating. Friesland's over 100-year tradition of band concerts during the summer months offers the chance to relax and enjoy live music in the evening while enjoying a home-made slice of pie and some friendly conversation.

Other local celebrations held within the community every year include a family-centered Fourth of July celebration in Friesland with a stunning fireworks show, a Park Days event in Cambria in early August featuring softball tournaments, a parade, festivities in Tarrant Park, and a large charity event in late August hosted by the Dump Bar in downtown Cambria.

We welcome all to come visit the Cambria Friesland area and enjoy this hidden gem in the Northeast corner of Columbia County. Come to experience the natural beauty and fun community events and stay for all this quiet, friendly community can offer you. 🍷





SPOTLIGHT | CHIPPEWA COUNTY

An Abundance of Natural Beauty and Pure Fun

Chippewa County contains an abundance of natural beauty, which means there is a lot of land and water to explore in many different ways. Whether on water by boat, kayak, and canoe, or on land by foot, two wheels, four wheels or on horseback, you can explore all the nooks and crannies.

Cast a line, dip your paddle, or go with the flow in one of Chippewa County's 449 lakes. We have small one-acre, off-the-path lakes that can offer solitude and serenity. We also have large lakes like Lake Wissota with 6,300 acres of space to play. Chippewa County provides 81 miles of trout-fishing opportunities in 24 classified trout streams. Seventy-seven miles of these streams are Class 1 trout water.

If you prefer the views from two wheels, we have miles of bike trails that guide you through beautiful terrain. Head to Hickory Ridge Recreation Area for over 20 miles of off-road mountain biking trail that winds you through a scenic hardwood forest and past many scenic pothole lakes. Rated as one of the top mountain biking trails in the state, it won't disappoint. If you are looking for a smoother ride, check out the Old Abe State Trail, a paved 19.5 mile abandoned railroad grade connecting two state parks in Chippewa Falls and Cornell. The trail also connects to Lake Hallie and the Chippewa River State Trail, giving you 76 miles of trails to enjoy.

Hit the trails with your ATV or UTV and travel over 400 miles of trails. The Chippewa

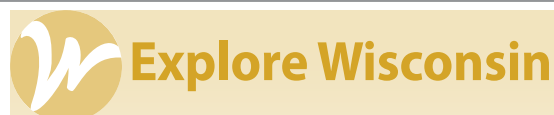
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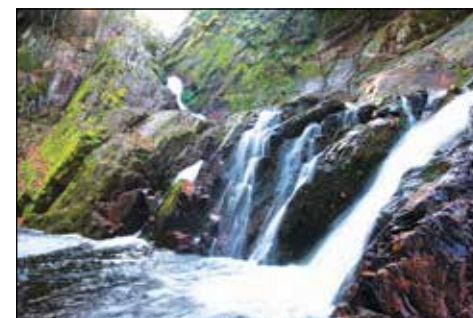
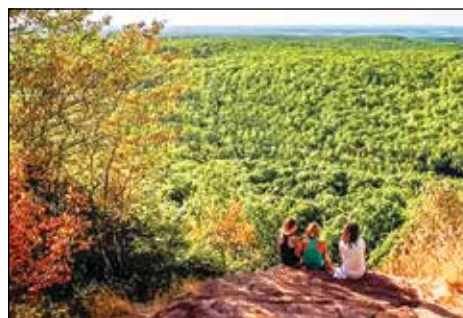
SPOTLIGHT | ASHLAND COUNTY

Early Birding at its Best

Like through beautiful northern hardwood forests to the lush, scenic cascades of Morgan Falls. Watch for black-throated blue, black-throated green, mourning, and other warblers, as well as vireos, thrushes, flycatchers, and other forest species.

If time allows, continue farther on the trail toward St. Peter's Dome, yielding a four-mile round trip hike. Expect a diverse plant community that includes such wildflowers as spring beauty, wild ginger, bloodroot, Dutchman's Breeches, and more. 📸

For additional information, visit www.birdandnaturefest.com or www.visitashland.com.



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SPOTLIGHT | SPARTA



What are You Waiting for?

Sparta is the perfect place to spend a vacation participating in local events, shopping, biking, kayaking, concerts, markets, festivals and more. Sparta has small town charm in combination with beautiful nature and community spirit.

The Rails to Trails Celebration and Bike Expo Saturday, May 6, is one of the community's premier events. Bring your bike for a memorable ride through historic train tunnels and continue on to the Sparta Depot where the Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Bike Expo featuring food, BMX Division Stunt Team, unique bikes and all things bicycling. Book a shuttle at www.bikesparta.com.

Enjoy an outdoor concert at the Evans - Bosshard Park band shell. Be sure to bring your lawn chair or blanket. Concessions or food trucks will be at each performance. This event is free and open to the public. Check out the Chamber of Commerce Facebook page for featured bands and performance dates.

Join us for Butterfest, June 8 - 11, with A & P Carnival, music, food, an arts and craft fair, and axe throwing. Check the chamber's Facebook page for pre-sale tickets and the Sparta Butterfest Facebook page for more event information.

Don't miss the FUEL group and Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce Pedal, Paddle, Fish Days. The event will kick off Friday, June 23, with a cardboard box boat race at the Sparta Family Aquatic Center. Saturday, June 24, will feature the Third Annual Kayak Rendezvous from Angelo Dam to Amundson Park and an after-party. Sunday's highlight, June 25, will include a bicycle tour around the city and a stop at Deke Slayton Memorial Space and Bicycle Museum.

Fish throughout the summer along the La Crosse River in Sparta for a chance to catch a tagged trout. Catch one and you will earn a chance to win a prize at the end of the summer.

More Sparta summer events can be found at www.bikesparta.com. What are you waiting for? Plan your summer trip to Sparta today! 🚲



DENNY MURAWSKA

Mystery Snails *Tasty Asian appetizers*

The shallow, sandy lake I swam in as a boy is always a stop when I am in the Minong area of Wisconsin. Its clear, unstained water was the perfect way to cool off on hot summer days. Now as an older fellow, I still pause on the shore and have a beer in remembrance of those hallowed days of youth. The last time I did this, I picked up a few shells that I do not remember seeing back in the late sixties. It turns out, they were not there back

then. As often happens, they were introduced in the late 1800s to California as a food source. They adapted and became invasive throughout the United States. In Wisconsin, they were first observed in 2004 in some waterways, and by 2017 were swarming all over our state.

My shell turned out to be a Chinese Mystery Snail. They get quite large, up to almost three inches, and that makes them a choice find for foragers like me. They got the "mystery" portion of their name because embryo snails develop inside eggs, and the fully-formed young are released from under the mother's shell. Suddenly, they are just there. Like many invasive species, they tend to out-compete native snails, and are easily transported from waterway to waterway.

A tough trap door known as an operculum gives them protection from some predators and helps identify them. They prefer calm water, even ditches, and scour sandy and silty bottoms for their meals of algae. If you happen upon empty shells deposited by dead snails along the shoreline, you may want to investigate the waters for live adults. At times, wading will work. Snorkel and fins provide better access to the haunts of this mollusk as well.

Let's assume you harvest a number of snails. It is a good idea to put them in clean water for a few days or more. This tends to clean out any muddy taste, much like removing the dark vein in a shrimp. Like any wild game, cooking is necessary. Tenderizing with a meat mallet and Adolph's tenderizer is not a bad idea. A butter and garlic saute topped off with parsley is a great first choice for sampling these escargots.

Bon Appetit! 🍷

Denny Murawski is the owner and operator of Angler's Art Fish Taxidermy, www.aa-taxidermy.com and author of The Elk Pool.





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CHARLES P. ALBRECHT, CIMA®, CRC®

Five Habits of 401(k) Millionaires

Although a million dollars may seem like a daunting figure, especially if you haven't been diligent about saving, there's good news: You don't have to make \$1 million to save \$1 million.

Many individuals who are saving for retirement aim to have at least \$1 million in their retirement accounts when they exit the workforce. But retirement savings aren't a one-size-fits-all matter. Instead, the amount you'll need depends on a variety of factors, including your lifestyle, specific financial obligations, future plans and health needs. Below, we explore five basic principles that will enable you to successfully prepare for retirement, including how to apply them to your financial plan.

Start Early

A powerful tool when it comes to saving for retirement, compound interest refers to the interest you gain on a loan or deposit. And the best way to take advantage of compounding is by saving and investing early on. In fact, a recent study showed that the average 401(k) millionaire started saving early and remained invested for at least 30 years. Compounding in positive markets – even at a modest rate of return – can allow you to increase an initial investment over a period of time.

Maximize Your Contributions

In 2023, employees can contribute a maximum of \$22,500 to their 401(k) accounts, not counting any potential employer match. If you're age 50 or older, you're eligible for an additional \$7,500 in catch-up contributions, raising your employee contribution limit to \$30,000. Depending on your income, maxing out your contributions may be more challenging earlier in your career. However, studies have found that the average 401(k) millionaire contributed a minimum of 10% to 15% of their income year after year.

Make the Most of Your Employer's Match

Many employers offer to match their employees' 401(k) contributions up to a certain percent and failing to meet this match is like leaving "free money" on the table. Even if you're not in a position to max out your 401(k) contributions, you should consider contributing the minimum amount necessary to earn your employer's match. According to one study, 28 percent of contributions in the average account of 401(k) millionaires came

from their employers. Each year, employer contributions increased the average 401(k) millionaire's savings by almost \$4,600.

Choose the Right Asset Allocation

A 2000 study by economists Roger Ibbotson and Paul Kaplan found that asset allocation accounted for more than 90% of the variation in a portfolio's return over time. If you're a long-term investor, you know that asset allocation has been one of the most important determinants of your investment earnings over time. Investing in growth-oriented investments can help significantly boost your retirement savings through the years. While this strategy may not be appropriate for everyone, research has shown that the average 401(k) millionaire invested roughly 75% of their portfolio in growth-oriented investments such as equity mutual funds.

Avoid Cashing Out Early

As most 401(k) millionaires know, staying the course and maximizing your earnings are crucial in helping meet your long-term retirement goals. You should resist the urge to cash out early even if you change jobs. Instead, consider rolling your current 401(k) balance into your new employer's 401(k) plan or another option. Early withdrawals come with tax consequences and other penalties. It's also best to avoid abandoning your investment strategy in turbulent market conditions. Many investors who cashed out in a market downturn missed part or all of the subsequent recovery.

NEXT STEPS:

- Assess your progress.
- Revisit your investment strategy.
- Make necessary adjustments. 🔄

Sources: cnbc.com; fidelity.com; Ibbotson, Roger G. and Kaplan, Paul D., Does Asset Allocation Policy Explain 40, 90, 100 Percent of Performance? Financial Analysts Journal, Jan/Feb 2000, Vol. 56, No. 1. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=279096>. Investing involves risk, and investors may incur a profit or a loss. Past performance may not be indicative of future results. Withdrawals from tax-deferred accounts may be subject to income taxes, and prior to age 59 1/2 a 10% federal penalty tax may apply. Diversification and asset allocation do not ensure a profit or protect against a loss. Holding investments for the long term does not ensure a profitable outcome. The foregoing is not a recommendation to buy or sell any individual security or any combination of securities.

THORNLEY, FROM PAGE 6

"No, he'd starve," she said, gathering him up once again. He will be given more time, allowed to get stronger, and released at a later date. Mother Nature, it seems, does not go by human schedules, even when the effort is noble and very, very good-hearted.

And thanks to the dedicated volunteers of Winged Freedom Raptor Hospital, the little barred owl will some night soon unleash his musical and haunting call once again into the night.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Winged Freedom Raptor Hospital volunteers strive to rescue, rehabilitate and release wild raptors back into the outdoors. They work hard to alleviate the suffering of the injured birds. If you find a raptor that you think needs help, please call 715-781-2595, or 715-205-4266.

Winged Freedom Raptor Hospital operates entirely on donations. The entire team is volunteers, including the veterinarian. They accept any raptor in need of care, treating a wide variety of ailments including fractures, poisonings, and car collision trauma. They also raise orphans and help them learn to hunt and gain survival skills.

"Our owls get mice," said a volunteer at the release site in this story. "They get three. Each one costs \$1. It adds up."

Donations of fish, venison and other carcasses are gratefully accepted. Please call 715-781-2595 to make arrangements for the hospital to accept the donations. To donate: Winged Freedom Raptor Hospital, PO Box 493, Spooner, WI 54801. 🐾



DVM Kim Ammann holds a barred owl, ready for release in the Spooner area. She operated on the bird, repairing a broken wing believed to have been from a collision with a vehicle. Photo by Bill Thornley.

On The Cover

Two paddlers portage along Sawmill Lake near the Sawmill Park Campground in Washburn County. For more information on the Birchwood Canoe Routes or Sawmill Lake Campground connect with WashburnCounty.org.



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TOM CARPENTER

The Avian Outdoor Show

A detailed view of birdwatching

Bird watching is especially fun when you examine the whole bird, break it down part-by-part and study its pieces. Start at the top and work your way down. Take notes and make sketches or take pictures to enhance the experience.

Head

Break the head down into its critical parts. Does the bird have a crest, top knot, or crown of a different color? The eyes and surrounding markings are important. How are any stripes or bars placed - above, through or below the eyes? Is there a ring around the eye? An "eyebrow"? Study the beak. Is it short and stout, long and slender, pointed or blunt? Note the beak's color. Define whether the upper beak and lower beak (mandible) are the same color or different.

Neck

Is there a chin or throat patch? What color? Is it solid, streaked, or mottled? Study the back of the bird's head and neck, known as the nape. Any colors or markings to note?

Breast

Get a good look at the bird's breast - the chest (immediately below the throat) down to the belly and underparts. What colors? Is this area spotted? Mottled? Streaked? Barred? Solid? These are all key identification marks.

Wings

Observe the tops of the wings. What color? Are they barred (markings across the wing), striped (markings along the wing) or solid? Maybe the primaries (outermost wing feathers) and secondaries (inner wing feathers) sport a different color than the rest of the wing.

When the bird flies, watch. Are the wings pointed, rounded, long, short, slender, blunt, straight or curved? Observe wing undersides and note any shading or coloration.

Remember details about the bird's tail and coverts (feathers that cover the base of the tail) or rump patch. What shape is the tail - pointed, blunt, rounded, forked, fanned or squared? Long or short? Does it have bars

across it or stripes along it? Are the outer tail feathers colored differently than the inner ones? How does the bird hold its tail when perching, walking and flying?

Legs

Don't forget the bird's legs. What color? Feathered or bare? Are spurs or other features visible? Are feet webbed or toed?

Size

You can't run up with a tape measure to pinpoint body length, wingspan, beak size and other relevant dimensions. But you can make comparisons to birds you do know - sparrow, robin, redtail hawk, etc. Most field guides will give some reference to relative size.

Behavior

Observe a bird's habits and actions. Flight patterns are a natural place to start, as are walking habits. Consider feeding clues. What is the bird eating?

Sound and Song

Listening to a bird's call and song provides valuable clues. Does it cackle, cluck, gobble, trill, rattle, scream, sing, lit, croak, croon, hoot, chip or buzz? Are the sounds soft or loud? Harsh or pleasant?



Count the number of notes in a bird call or song, and get a feel for the rhythm used. Many good online sources feature wild bird calls and songs.

Final Notes

Use quality binoculars of eight- to 10-power. Invest in name-brand equipment that gathers light and won't exhaust your eyes. Decent binoculars last forever.

A good field guide is essential. Peterson Field Guides are great because detailed paintings emphasize parts of the bird that call out key identification factors.

It's rewarding to figure out what kind of bird you saw. Maybe it's a new-to-you warbler, a stunning indigo bunting, a secretive fox sparrow, or a stunning scarlet tanager. Making a solid identification on a new bird is rewarding, no matter what activity has lured you out to Wisconsin's great outdoors. 🐦

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A Bird... or Three...in the Hand

From the field to the oven at Wern Valley

Laborers Local 113 member Pete Burrie and On Wisconsin Outdoors Publisher Dick Ellis had a bang-up time at Wern Valley in March hunting pheasants.

During the 4th Annual Southeastern Building Trades Ice Fishing Derby on Silver Lake in Kenosha County February 18, Burrie had won a raffle donated by OWO to hunt birds. It was the first time the long range rifle target shooter and his Golden Retriever Charlie had hunted pheasants. Both did a great job working the field and with the scattergun and headed for home with several birds and a few misses.

For the record, this reporter did not carry a gun. Pete also did the early work necessary to prepare the birds for table fare before handing the baton off to his wife Melissa. The end result, he said, was a fabulous meal of pheasant pot pie. Thanks for great conversation Pete. 🐦

Connect with Local #113 at www.liuna113.org.

Pete Burrie and Charlie during a successful Wern Valley pheasant hunt.



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Keep the family active indoors with a game of zombie dodgeball at Ironworks Golf Lab located downtown. Other games on the state-of-the-art simulators include golf, baseball, football, soccer, hunting, and more! While there, enjoy pizza and drinks.

Craving an adrenaline rush? Stop by the racetrack to watch car and motorcycle racing. For a truly serene experience, float down the river on a tube with friends, kayak or paddle to enjoy beautiful scenery, or hike or bike the peaceful trails.

Step back in time with a tour of Beckman Mill, an authentically restored 1868 grist mill. The great outdoor activities offered at the nature centers are endless and as the weather warms up, the line-up of festivals, outdoor concerts, and activities continue to grow. If that's not enough, a family mud run, Old Settlers Days, Movie on the Big Lawn, and the state's second-largest Farmers' Market punctuate the calendar. Start making new family traditions at visitbeloit.com/family.



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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Memorial Day Fun Racing	2 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	3 Ladies Night Fun-Racing	4 Slicks and Drag Radials Fun-Racing	5 Fun Racing & Bikes	6 JUNIORS BRACKETS Fun Racing	7 BRACKET RACING FUN RACING
8 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	9 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	10 Ladies Night Fun-Racing	11 Slicks and Drag Radials Fun-Racing	12 Early Start Fun Racing & Bikes	13 NSCB	14 MAY 14 MOTHER'S DAY CLOSED
15 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	16 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	17 Ladies Night Fun-Racing	18 Slicks and Drag Radials Fun-Racing	19 Fun Racing & Bikes Snow-Mo	20 JUNIORS BRACKETS Fun Racing	21 BRACKET RACING FUN RACING
22 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	23 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	24 Ladies Night Fun-Racing	25 Slicks and Drag Radials Fun-Racing	26 Early Start Fun Racing	27 MEMORIAL WEEKEND CLASSICS	28 MAY 28 MOTHER'S DAY CLOSED
29 Memorial Day Fun Racing	30 CLOSED on Tuesday	31 Ladies Night Fun-Racing				

June

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	2 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	3 SICK WEEK GLD STOP Ladies Night Fun-Racing	4 Slicks and Drag Radials Fun-Racing	5 Fun Racing & Bikes Snow-Mo	6 JUNIORS BRACKETS Fun Racing	7 BRACKET RACING FUN RACING
8 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	9 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	10 SICK WEEK GLD STOP Ladies Night Fun-Racing	11 Slicks and Drag Radials Fun-Racing	12 Early Start Fun Racing & Bikes	13 QD	14 QD
15 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	16 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	17 Ladies Night Fun-Racing	18 Slicks and Drag Radials Fun-Racing	19 Early Start Fun Racing & Bikes	20 NSCB	21 MAY 21 MOTHER'S DAY CLOSED
22 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	23 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	24 Ladies Night Fun-Racing	25 Slicks and Drag Radials Fun-Racing	26 Early Start Fun Racing & Bikes	27 JUNIORS BRACKETS Fun Racing	28 BRACKET RACING FUN RACING
29 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	30 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	31 Ladies Night Fun-Racing	1 Slicks and Drag Radials Fun-Racing	2 Fun Racing & Bikes	3 JUNIORS BRACKETS Fun Racing	4 BRACKET RACING FUN RACING

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DAN MOERICKE

An Up Nort' Report Northwoods Golf Trail

You can't just fish all of the time. Sounds crazy, I know, but my wife has actually made that assertion on multiple occasions. The same thing goes for hunting once fall rolls around. Apparently, you can't just hunt all of the time either.

Assuming there is even a grain of truth in those theories, I'm thankful that there is golf. When I retired and moved to the Northwoods four years ago, I was pleasantly surprised at the number of golf courses within an hour drive from my new home. My wife and I have held an annual pass at the Eagle River Golf Course every year since. Nice course and only 10 miles from my house.

Admittedly, the golf season up here is a month or two shorter than it is in central or southern Wisconsin. As I write this, I'm looking forward to watching the Masters next week



CONTINUED ON PAGE 37

Ski trails are open almost as long as the golf course in the Northwoods.



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BRAD BEGLINGER

Under the Hood *Buick junk drawer*

Hi all, I have been absent for a few issues, we are in the process of leaving the Asylum called Madison and getting back to our roots in Waukesha County.

Like most people every time we relocate we say "We are not going to have a Junk drawer in this house". We have a Junk drawer.....

After removing the Buick's dashboard and clearing the inner firewall I had similar thoughts. This is going to be an uncluttered, pristine space. (See Pic 1) Then you realize there is a lot of 'stuff' needed to make this thing go down the road.

It started with a Steering column, then.....

Fuse Box and wiring harness
Clutch pedal, brake pedal and linkage
Cowl vent linkage
Vacuum to electric wiper motor
Heater box with defrost ducting
Switch panel and wiring
Emergency brake handle and linkage

Radio speaker
Instrument panel and wiring
Suddenly you have a 'Buick Junk Drawer' (See Pic 2)
Then, instead of closing the drawer, you put the dashboard on and everything looks pristine and uncluttered.....on the outside just like a junk drawer. (See Pic-3) 🖱️



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DAVE FIDLIN

Door County's Newport State Park

Dark skies and wilderness worth the visit

As a tourist-friendly getaway, Door County is commonly noted for its quaint cafes and lodging establishments. But the peninsula also has garnered attention far and wide for its bountiful natural environment that has not been subjected to the degree of development seen elsewhere.

This is especially true within Newport State Park in Ellison Bay. The 2,373-acre site has achieved two notable distinctions: an official "dark sky" certification from the International Dark-Sky Association and a "designated wilderness area" certification from the Wilderness Society.

Newport is accessible via State Trunk Highway 42, directly off the Lake Michigan shoreline. Operated under the auspices of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, it is open year round, meaning visitors can enjoy the pristine habitat through all four seasons.

The park, which spans 11 miles, includes forests, meadows and wetlands - in addition to breathtaking glimpses into Lake Michigan.

Since Newport is situated in such an undeveloped area, unblemished from minimal human impact, the site has achieved a dark sky designation. On a clear night, stargazing is one of the many activities visitors can enjoy at the park.

Newport is the only park in Wisconsin to achieve this

recognition from the IDSA, and it is one of only a select few in the entire Midwest.

The U.S.-based Wilderness Society awards designated wilderness areas to land that receives the highest level of land protection. Because of the certification, Newport is a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Linked to Congress' Wilderness Act of 1964, Newport is among 235 million acres of land across the country to receive permanent protection as a site for natural preservation.

Newport's history as an official state park goes back to the 1940s, when state officials eyed the area as an ideal spot. In the ensuing decade, other agencies and organizations - including the National Park Service and Wisconsin Conservation Department - joined in on planning as well.

In 1964, the natural habitat officially opened to the public as Europe Bay State Park. Six years later, its name again was changed to Newport State Park as further expansion that led to today's 11-mile footprint coalesced.

Visitors can enjoy a variety of recreational activities within the park site. Campers who plan ahead might be able to pitch a tent on one of the 16 designated shoreline spots directly along Lake Michigan.

Other activities include hiking through upward of 30 miles



Newport State Park is located in Ellison Bay within Door County. The 2,373-acre site offers spectacular views throughout all seasons.

worth of trails intertwined throughout the area, as well as backpacking and mountain biking. In the cold-weathered months, such activities as skiing and snowshoeing are options.

Much like Door County itself, Newport is a state park that is a true enclave, whose true beauty must be experienced in person to be fully appreciated. 🍂

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TOM MUELLER

A Sure-Fire Cure

Fixing the gun-shy retriever

Everyone knows that there is a right way and a wrong way to do things, including training your hunting dog to be comfortable around gunfire. Too many of us know or have personal experience with a gun shy dog. Most retriever training books will have methods for conditioning a dog to gunfire that are effective. Joining a retriever training club like the Fox Valley Retriever Club and working with an experienced member will also achieve the intended results. Either way, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Gun-shyness is not easy to cure, but is easy to prevent. One method involves having the dog retrieve and adding the sound of gunfire. It requires two people and the dog being capable of doing retrieves of 80 to 100 yards. A .22 caliber starter pistol is used to make the sound of gunfire. One person handles the dog and fires the starter pistol, initially only when the dog is far from the discharge, while the other throws the dummies.

With the dog sitting at heel by the handler's side, the thrower tosses a dummy for the dog to retrieve. The dog is sent. When it gets within 20 yards of the thrower, a second dummy is thrown and the handler fires the starter pistol. As long as the dog shows little or no reaction to the gunfire, the process is repeated. Over the next several days, the starter pistol is fired when the dog is 30 yards away from the thrower, but a bit closer to the handler, then 40 yards, then 50



Stan Bullock and Holly ready for the flush and gunfire at an upland hunt test.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30



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DICK ELLIS

Last Chance Hunt

Gobbler, hunter duel is all day challenge

Two hours into a “last chance” spring turkey hunt, the gobbler answered the hen call from a deep wooded hollow in the rolling farm country of Grant County. Maybe, with a lot of patience and a little luck this Tom, already a survivor of the first five of Wisconsin’s six split seasons would now be without female companionship and vulnerable. Then again, with declining success rates correlating with each split season as the heavily hunted birds become streetwise to hunter calling and decoys, maybe not.

I had taken the long ride from Waukesha County to Wisconsin’s southwest in driving rain for a final crack at success. Thunderstorms gave way to a billion stars just 20 miles east of Fennimore. The agony of a blown opportunity in April was about to give way to the ecstasy of the most memorable hunt of a lifetime; more challenging and rewarding than any hunt of any kind in an outdoor reporter’s life in the field.

Sitting, moving and calling from the field edges with the diaphragm call from first light into the first two hours of a new day brought no response from any gobblers. From deep in the hollow as I beckoned from a long thin wooded finger connecting woodlots and surrounded by rolling fields of greens and browns, Tom finally answered.

Our conversation would continue virtually non-stop throughout the day. When we did occasionally cease our banter, it was only as we jockeyed for position. I don’t know if he ultimately gobbled 200 or 300 times, but his verbal enthusiasm had no match. When the noon whistle of Fennimore sounded, I had hunted one Tom for five hours. I had not yet seen him.

An hour later and one-half mile from his introductory gobble, my eyes finally were fixed on a still white spot at 150 yards in a tall grass field. “That’s him,” I thought, and



Win or lose the calling game, discussion with a wary, persistent gobbler can be an exhilarating part of the late season turkey hunt. **Photo by Dick Ellis.**

watched the head shake and turn red as he gobbled in answer to my now familiar sweet talk. He assumed the full strut position, but remained “hung-up” and in no hurry to jeopardize his own safety for another feather in the harem hat.

Still stalemated an hour later, he exited the field demanding that this “hen” follow. I countered by moving 200 yards just inside the woodline bordering the field to take a stand where I had watched him strut. I would not call. If I “knew” Tom at all from this chess

game, he would panic in the silence and return to the field and my new ambush.

I settled in against a tree, relieved again at completing a move without being busted. This new, low visibility lair was no different than the haunt of a big buck that has learned to survive. If Tom did return, I would have a very short distance in the rolling field to locate and kill him. Behind me, the forest where he had disappeared was a thick mass of thorns and undergrowth. I rested my gun toward the field and silently waited.

At 15 minutes, a bit panicked myself, I risked a whispered “hello” on the mouth call. I had guessed wrong. The gobble was shattering from the vegetation behind me, less than 40 yards. I spun around the tree on elbow and shoulder, came again to the shooter’s position and waited. A tense 10 minutes later, I manipulated the mouth call to extend a near non-audible greeting. His return solo told me he was in my lap, and like nothing I had ever experienced. Still, I could not find Tom.

The minutes passed. Tom’s bobbing red head appeared through a wall of thorns. When the shotgun barrel slowly found that place, the bird had disappeared to another. When the bright red target reappeared in the jungle, it required a seemingly time-eternal swing of four feet to place the bead of the barrel where it had to be for a quick kill. Finally, at 10 yards, a full choke load of number-5 shot finished it.

I was physically, and even mentally, spent. Like each of my rare duels with trophy deer, true satisfaction mingled with remorse. For the first time in years a Tom would not be on a roost as the sun slipped in the west. It had been eight hours from first gobble; the longest hunt. I had a long walk out under a burning sun with a very large bird on my back.

On the butcher’s scale in Fennimore, the gobbler weighed in at 26 pounds. The beard would stretch the tape to 11 inches. I’ve been disappointed as a hunter with the late season 6 turkey permit. The foliage will be full, the bugs swarming, the birds often gun shy, and your friends fishing. As for Mr. Gobbler though, he’s lonely and looking. And you most likely will find yourself on the field without competition.

Tom is waiting. Take it to the bank. And just maybe, you’re walking right into a late season memory maker. 🍷

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CHIPPEWA COUNTY, FROM PAGE 17
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changes in terrain and landscape and can be accessed by two trailheads offering parking, toilet facilities, fire pits and tie lines.

After all of this fun, refuel at an area restaurant, brewery, winery, distillery, or ice cream shop. Many of these locations are

conveniently located by the water or near the trails.

Whatever the reason and season, we welcome you to visit! 🍷

National Deer Association

Wisconsin resident earns NDA elite steward recognition

The National Deer Association (NDA) is proud to announce Brian Ruesch of Wisconsin as the first Deer Steward 3 recipient of 2023. Level 3 is the most prestigious accreditation in our Deer Steward program and is achievable only through an individual's long term service to the NDA, the wild deer resource and conservation.

"With his Deer Steward 3 distinction, Brian joins a select group of some of the most dedicated and knowledgeable deer enthusiasts in the country," said Ben Westfall, NDA's Conservation Coordinator. "We are thrilled to honor Brian for his ongoing dedication to wildlife management and conservation."

Brian Ruesch graduated Deer Steward Level 1 in 2014 and Level 2 in 2018, helping pave the way to his Level 3 designation. He is also a member of the Brothers-Hamilton Society, NDA's highest recognition of financial donors.

Brian was one of the earliest members of the organization and has been heavily involved in volunteer work since the early days of the Quality Deer Management Association and has continued to dedicate his time to the National Deer Association. In 1994, Brian founded the Central Wisconsin Branch, the very first in the state of Wisconsin and one of the first in the nation to hold a banquet with its proceeds directly going to national deer

and deer hunting related issues and has served as the Branch president ever since.

In addition to his volunteer work with the organization, Mr. Ruesch has extensively managed his own property for deer by implementing numerous forest stand improvement projects, food plots, invasive plant control, tree plantings, and much more. Brian has provided access to his property for numerous habitat and food plot seminars, assisted Wisconsin DNR biologists with data collection, and oversees the Central Wisconsin Branch's Conservation Seed sales. Mr. Ruesch is an agent for Whitetail Properties Real Estate. 🦌

For more information on the Deer Steward program, contact Ben Westfall at ben@deerassociation.com. Formally launched on November 10, 2020, the National Deer Association is a non-profit deer conservation group that leads efforts to ensure the future of wild deer, wildlife habitat and hunting. Formed by combining the strengths of two long-serving, successful organizations, the National Deer Association has a combined 38 years of action that has changed deer management for the betterment of hunting and protected North America's most vital and admired game species for future generations. Visit DeerAssociation.com or follow @deerassociation on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and TikTok.



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MUELLER, FROM PAGE 27

yards and so on. Eventually it's fired right after the dog leaves the handler's side. From that point the thrower then fires the starter pistol after he throws the dummy.

Conditioning a retriever to gunfire can also be done alone, but the dog has to be reliable on coming to you when called. With a couple of dummies and a starter pistol, take your dog for a run in a field. Let it range anywhere from 80 to a 100 yards out ahead of you. When it is that far away, call it to you, throw a dummy, and immediately fire the starter pistol. As the dog approaches where the first dummy

fell, toss the second dummy. After the dog picks up a dummy and delivers it, you or your dog can pick up the other dummy, and then repeat. Over the next several days or weeks, continue to play that game, except toss the dummies and fire the starter pistol when the dog gets a little closer to you. Bit by bit, let the dog get closer when you fire the starter pistol. Using either method with the dog focused on the retrieve, it soon becomes oblivious to the sound of the gunfire. 🐾

Tom shares his skills teaching others how to train their retrievers at the Fox Valley Retriever Club. For more information contact Tom at winddancer.rtrvrs@hotmail.com or Facebook.



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Jacob Brothers Score Double Trouble for Wisconsin Gobblers

Oconomowoc hunter Jeff Jacob took this 26 pound Waukesha County gobbler weighing in at 26 pounds with an 11-inch beard period 1. Not to be outdone, Jeff's brother and Polk County resident John Jacob shot this Tom while hunting Sauk County period 2 near Spring Green. The bird had a 9.5 inch beard, 1-inch spurs and weighed 23 pounds.



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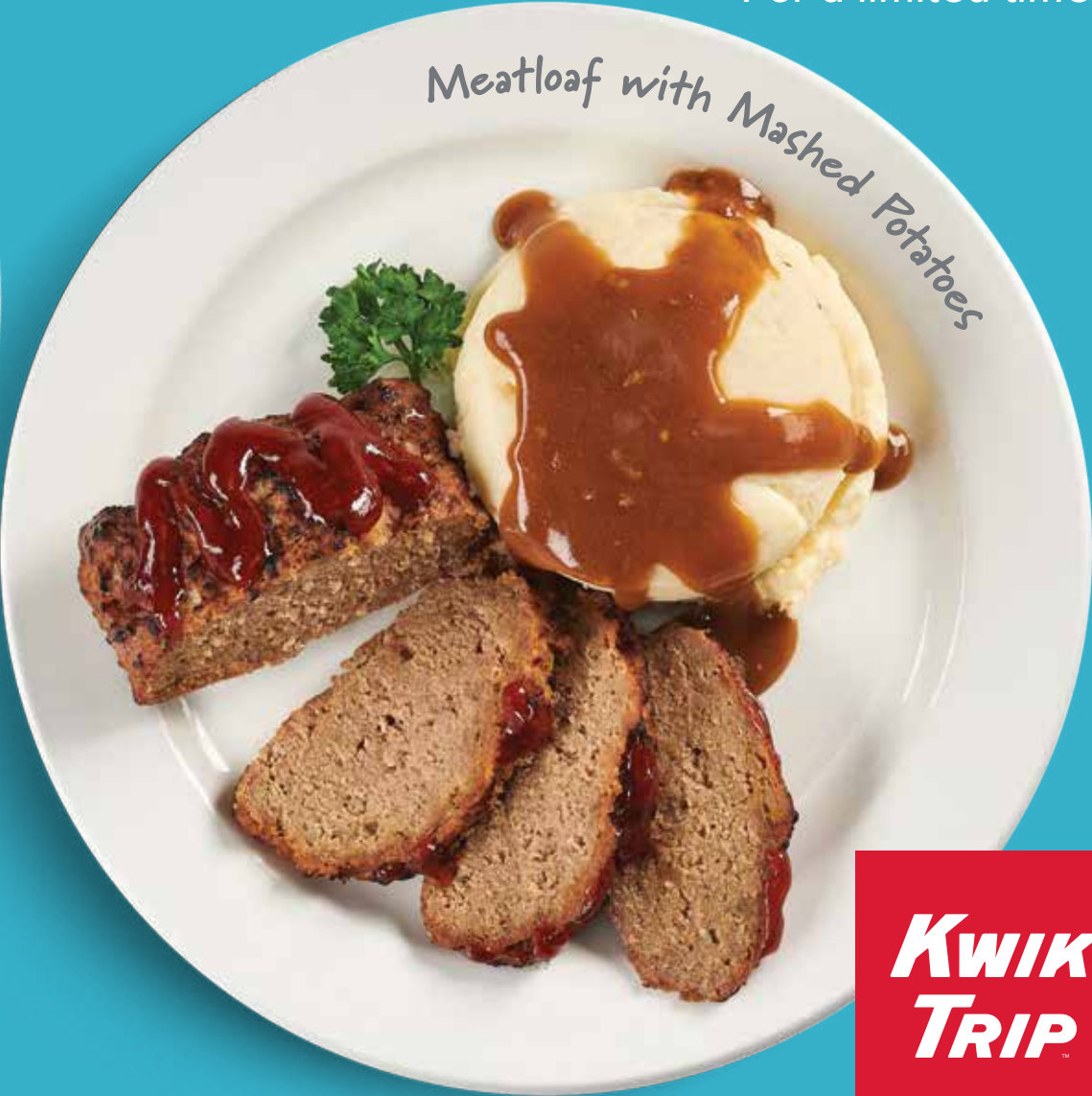
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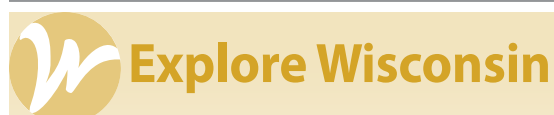
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SPOTLIGHT | FERRYVILLE



Explore These Canoe Portage Routes

Right now in Ferryville, spring is blossoming and birds are everywhere. But that's not all! Check out some of this season's highlights.

Fishing News

The fish are biting and bait shops, like Ferryville Cheese/Gas Station and Cheapo Depot, have the tackle, food and beverages you need and when you need them.

World Spring International Bird Migration Day and Hike - May 13

This annual event in Sugar Creek Bluff will be attended by expert birders available to help you appreciate the many species of birds that travel the Mississippi River's magnificent flyway. Make your reservations now at <https://www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org>. The hike starts at 7 am on Sugar Creek Bluff located on North Buck Creek Road in Ferryville.

Rummage Along the River 70-Mile Garage Sale - May 19 & 20

Things are going to be crazy! You'll have clear sailing through Stoddard and Genoa. De Soto, Ferryville, Lynxville, Mt. Sterling and Seneca are a piece of cake. Easy travel. No road construction, no detours and lots of great shopping. As usual, there will be a huge variety of items for sale at reasonable prices, including boats, hunting and fishing gear, collectables and antiques, toys, clothing, kitchenware, furniture, Amish quilts, crafts and more. You'll find everything needed to make your college kid's new apartment a home.

There will be sales at local parks in Stoddard, Genoa, De Soto and Ferryville. Big sale at the Ferryville Community Center and De Soto Community Center, too. Food will be available in each participating community.

Take our advice and book a place to stay asap. Our "Welcome Mat" is out, and we hope to see you soon! 🍷



Ferryville Tourism Council and Mississippi Valley Conservancy group on Spring Migration Day Hike at Sugar Creek Bluff, Ferryville. Join us May 13, 2023, for this enjoyable and relaxing hike.



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May 20

Ferryville Farmers Market

Every Saturday thru October 28th
Sugar Creek Park, Hwy 35.

June 14

Chautauqua Summer Series.

6:30 pm. Ferryville Village Hall.

July 12

Chautauqua Summer Series.

6:30 pm. Ferryville Village Hall.

July 22

River Bluff Daze.

Ferryville Village Hall and Sugar Creek Park



SPOTLIGHT | WASHBURN COUNTY



Canoe Portage Routes to Explore

Looking for a secluded Northwoods getaway to spend some time on the water? If so, you'll want to check out the Birchwood Canoe Routes located in the Sawmill Lake Primitive Area in Washburn County. The hidden glacial lakes offer two canoe portage routes to really immerse yourself in nature. Known as the "mini boundary waters" to many who explore the area, Loyhead and Sawmill portage routes wind through dense northern forest land and through some of the most secluded lakes in the area.

The Sawmill Lake Route is accessible from the Sawmill Park Campground and accesses nine separate lakes with most portages less than 100 yards, making it a great spot for beginning paddlers. The lakes along this route are relatively deep, up to 40 feet.

The Loyhead Canoe Portage Route is located just one mile north of the campground and offers access to seven separate lakes. The portages are slightly longer on this route, but most of them are still less than 200 yards and totally worth the trek!

If you're looking for a remote camping experience, the Sawmill Park Campground offers 25 primitive campsites and is reservable from May through September, although you can camp there any time of year on a first come, first serve basis. Amenities include a hand pump for water, pit toilets, fishing pier, pavilion, and a small beach. Camping permits are also available (for a tent or lesser facility) if you would rather "rough it" somewhere along one of the lakes.

For more information on the Birchwood Canoe Routes, Sawmill Lake Campground, and all of the great outdoor experiences in Washburn County, visit [WashburnCounty.org](https://www.washburncounty.org). 🍷

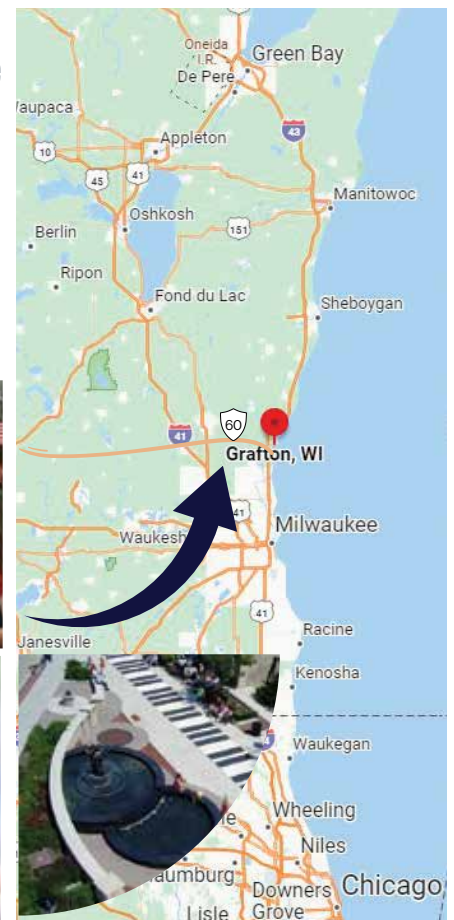
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JOHN ELLIS

Walleyes in Wisconsin's Ceded Territory

Part Two



For the last thirty-seven years, Chippewa tribal spearing has severely damaged the walleye population in Wisconsin's Ceded Territory. * On Wisconsin Outdoors wrote an extensive article on the subject in our March/April issue. That article titled, "Walleyes in Wisconsin's Ceded Territory; The real reason for their population decline", can be viewed in an archived issue at onwisconsinoutdoors.com. It exposed the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and Chippewa Tribal Leaders, as those responsible for the removal of a calculated 13,418,237 "keeper walleyes" (fish weighing between 1 ¾ and 2 pounds) from Ceded Territory lakes since 1985. The removal of the fish averaged 40,538 walleyes per lake.

While the DNR is now trying to blame "climate change" for the serious decline of walleye numbers in the Ceded Territory, the real reason for the disappearance of the fish has been DNR, and Chippewa Tribal Leader, abuse of the resource. Their nearly 40-year history of mismanagement has proven that you cannot continuously remove walleyes from lakes as they try to reproduce, or they will disappear, and that's exactly what happened.

But there is more to the story. While only Chippewa tribal members (about 1% of the Wisconsin population)** have participated in spearing Ceded Territory walleyes, all residents of Wisconsin have been helping to subsidize their destruction by paying the tribes to re-stock them. Further, the re-stocking is an exercise in futility because there is no substitute for the lost natural reproduction of the speared fish. You cannot replace adult spawning walleyes, with fingerlings (fish 2 to 4 inches long), and expect anything but a decline in the walleye population. The small fish are little more than bait for predators, and the overwhelming majority will not live the 4 to 5 years required for them to reproduce.

On April 11, On Wisconsin Outdoors submitted an open records request for the amounts paid by the DNR, to the tribes, for walleye re-stocking between 2013 and 2022. We followed up on the request twice, on April 20 and April 25, but as of this writing have not received the information. The amounts below were found on the DNR website, but only show the amounts paid by Wisconsin for 3 years, between 2020 and 2022.

- 2020 \$104,519.10 to the Sokaogon Mole Lake Tribal Fish Hatchery.
- 2021 \$96,910.80 to the Sokaogon Mole Lake Tribal Fish Hatchery.
- 2022 \$126,049.00 to the Sokaogon Mole Lake Tribal Fish Hatchery.
- Total: \$327,478.90

*The Ceded Territory is approximately the northern third of Wisconsin where Chippewa Tribal Leaders and the Wisconsin DNR have joint responsibility over walleye management.

**The 2020 United States Census. 📊

DICK ELLIS

In Defense of America

Eyes on the olive branch, arrows at the ready

The Great Seal of the United States, used to guarantee the authenticity of American documents, symbolically reflects the beliefs and values that the Founding Fathers attached to the new nation and wished to pass on to their descendants.

On the front, or obverse side, the seal displays the coat of arms of the United States. Prominent is the eagle, America's symbol of strength and power clutching the banner inscribed with the term E Pluribus Unum; from many, one. In its talons, the eagle holds both the olive branch, and 13 arrows prepared to defend liberty. Always, the eagle is turned to the olive branch, signifying a preference for peace.

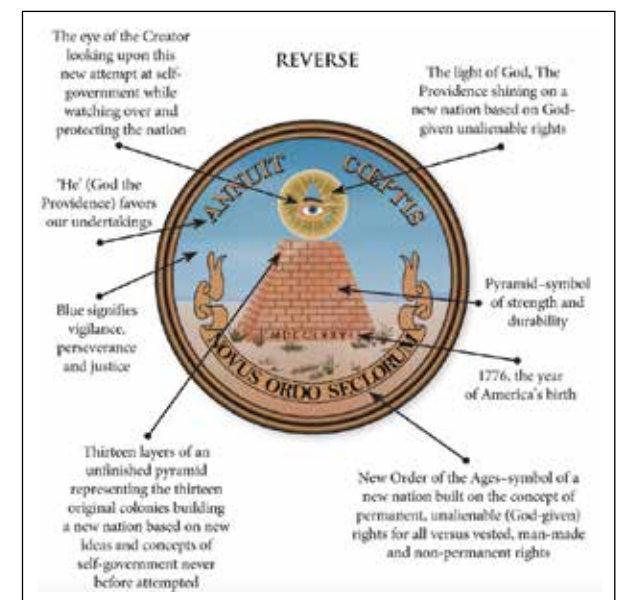
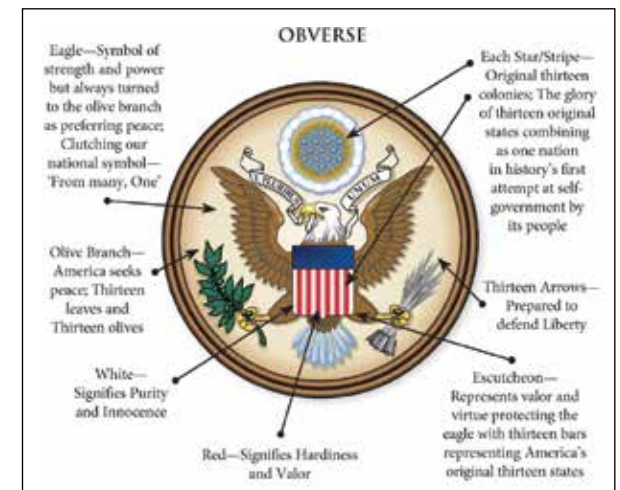
On the reverse or spiritual side, the Eye of Providence alludes to the many interpositions (coming between) of God in favor of the American cause. Novus Ordo Sedorum, or New Order of the Ages, symbolizes a new nation built on the belief of permanent, unalienable (God-given) rights. The government, the founders were telling us, works for the people.

It is extremely significant that the responsibility of the design of the Great Seal was first given in 1776 to Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin and John Adams, according to the American Heritage Foundation where this information was gathered, the primary author and contributors of the writing of the Declaration of American Independence. The Continental Congress adopted the Seal on June 20, 1782; six years after design began.

The Seal was first used officially on September 16, 1782 to guarantee the authenticity of a document that granted full power to General George Washington to negotiate and sign with the British an agreement for the exchange, subsistence and better treatment of prisoners of war. Thomas Jefferson was the first Secretary of State to have custody of the Great Seal.

The Founding Fathers believed their own freedom and more importantly freedoms to be passed down to generations following were worth dying for. 25,000 patriots lost their lives in America's war for independence. Now another Memorial Day is here, allowing us to officially "honor and mourn" more than one million military men and women who have died since in the service of their country.

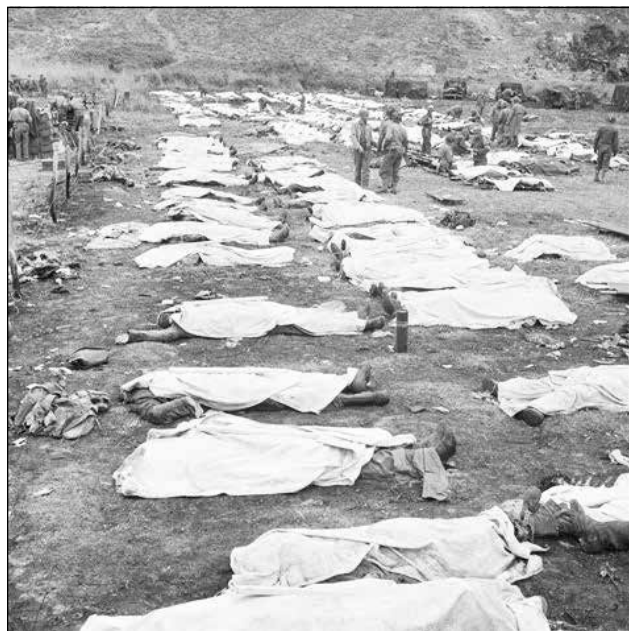
Historically, America's enemies have been easily recognized. Because they were, Americans were most often united in the defense of their homeland and all that it stands for. Also recognized was that there will never again be a country like this that we were born into. Common people who wanted to live as much as you do traded their lives to ensure those generations yet to be born would have the same God-given rights and opportunities handed to them. That idea was more precious than their lives. It was a necessary trade if that was the cost to preserve this republic.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 35

Normandy American military cemetery

ELLIS, FROM PAGE 34



Americans killed on D-Day await a final resting place

Now the most dangerous enemy to ever face the American people is here. Recognize it. While others were willing to trade it all for us, this enemy is eager to take it all for them. They come from both sides of the political aisle, they're entrenched in government, in the entertainment industry and the education system. The complicit media though is your greatest enemy. Primary to their arsenal is the lie. Instead of protecting you with a steadfast commitment to truth as is their obligation, they protect the liars who thrive in darkness. And



"...how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can plunder his house." Matthew 12:29
they are liars themselves.

False witness is defined as a person who deliberately gives false testimony; a person who has lied or who lies repeatedly.

Slander is defined as the action or crime of making a false spoken statement damaging to a person's reputation. Libel is defined as a published false statement that is damaging to a person's reputation; a written defamation. This predominantly defines American media. And erasing American history, censorship, and the orchestrated and ongoing lie is pivotal to their tactics in destroying our nation.

As our country struggles now to survive, know that you are not alone; a primary goal of propaganda is isolation. You are surrounded by Americans who are sickened like you at the very thought of losing America. Count these publishers among you. Our commitment is to deliver to you only the truth gained through thousands of hours of watching closely those corrupt individuals, officials and organizations who would destroy us.

The pen is mightier than the sword.

What will you do? Start by knowing that the Founding Fathers gave you the right to speak the truth as you see it. Do not be intimidated. Remember that lies perish in the light.

And remember too....your eyes are on the olive branch.

1st Amendment:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

"It is impossible to rightly govern a nation without God and the Bible" -George Washington

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other." John Adams. 



MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBER AND HONOR



Presents Firearms Info from Ron Stresing

RON STRESING

A Swing and a Miss

Breaking out of midsummer shooting slumps

It seems like it happens to everyone now and then, and often towards the middle or end of a summer clay target league. You drop a few targets on a round of trapshooting, or have a few bad stations shooting sporties. If you are having a good year, and your average has climbed by a few birds, this can be very frustrating! You are using the same shotgun, chokes, and often the same ammunition. But this time when you swing and slap the trigger, the bird sails off unbroken. I've had this happen to me, and I talked to a few other experienced shooters to see how they cope with the inevitable slumps you can run into. Below are a few tips to help.

Checking the Basics

Did you change your recoil pad, choke tubes or ammunition? Lower cost shot shells use softer shot that can affect your patterns. A different shot charge or velocity change can make a big difference in patterns or performance. Are you wearing bulkier clothing? Consistency in body mechanics is key. If shooting sporting clays, practice a smooth gun mount. You want to move, mount your shotgun, swing and shoot all in one fluid motion.

Relax, it's Only a Hobby

No one wants to let down their team, but a few bad rounds are unlikely to knock you out of the running. Once you master a certain skill level, a lot of the clay shooting sports is

a mental game. I used to tell myself once I put on my shooting vest, glasses and hearing protectors, my entire focus was on the game. Leave all the chores like mowing the lawn or washing the car for later. If you are shooting better in practice rounds than the ones you shoot for score, you need to relax. You missed an inanimate clay disk. It wasn't a mature gobbler, rooster pheasant or wall hanger canvasback.

I mentioned the mental aspect to an AA level trap shooter and one of the best sporting clays shooters I know. He agreed wholeheartedly about the mental aspect. "That target you missed is gone, so let it go." Move on to the next one or next station. He

mentioned the need to be consistent with your swing and sight picture. For example, if I need to see a little daylight between my shotgun bead and the lower edge of the target, I will inevitably "top the bird" and shoot right over it if I don't. Pay attention to the longer leads needed for some targets and adjust accordingly. Sporting clays courses often change the layout during the league. Take your time to analyze the changes in target flight, and adjust to them. High winds can affect the flight of trap targets. It's not possible to shoot all your scores with a gentle head wind, but if you do encounter a day with favorable conditions, see if you can shoot a few rounds ahead. Finally, just enjoy the time spent in competition. 🎯

BOB SPIERINGS

Bob's Bear Bait

Bear baiting has started in Wisconsin, and if you haven't already done so, it's time to begin planning your strategy. In anticipation of the new season, we compiled answers to some of the most commonly asked questions we get this time of the year.

Where should I place my bait?

As noted in a previous article, brushy, secluded areas near natural food sources, such as oak trees, clover, and even corn fields, will entice bigger bears. Another option is setting up near common travel areas, such as logging roads, deer trails, and streams. The more convenient for the bears, the better.

How many bait sites should I have?

Determining how many sites you should prepare is all based on the size of your property and the amount of access you have to other properties. Obviously more is better, but not necessarily when it comes to bait sites. Best practice is one bait site per mile radius. Bears can travel well over five miles in one day and hit up multiple bait sites in 24 hours. You don't need three-plus sites to choose from on the same property. You can't be on all three

at once. Chances are, you'll be sitting at the one bears don't hit that night. Make it easy on the bears and you - give them one really good option. For instance, if you have 80 acres, instead of placing three bait sites, place one in the most ideal location in relation to bear habitat and stand placement.

Where should I place my stand?

Think ahead. Where are you going to place your stand? What direction is the wind most likely going to blow opening day? What direction are the bears most likely going to enter the site? What direction will you be walking in to place the bait? What direction are you going to be walking in to hunt? If you're driving an ATV in, where are you going to park it? Answer all these before you ever place the bait. Some might be assumptions to start, but if you start baiting early enough in the season, making minor changes early won't be a big deal. What you don't want to do is make changes just days prior to the opener. Bears don't like change. It makes them wary, and if they think something is up, they will go nocturnal.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 37

MOERICKE, FROM PAGE 24

while there is still 20 inches of snow on our course here. Practice-putting on a mat in the basement is starting to get old. Hopefully, we'll be out actually hitting balls by early May.

Here's a list of golf courses in the Vilas/Oneida County area, all in the 715 area code:

19th Hole 3-Par Course, 9 holes,
St. Germain 542-4042

Bass Lake Golf Course, 18 holes,
Deerbrook 623-6196

Big Stone Golf Course, 9 holes,
Three Lakes 546-2100

Eagle River Golf Course, 18 holes,
Eagle River 479-8111

Edgewater Golf Course, 9 holes,
Tomahawk 453-3320

Gateway Lodge Golf Course, 9 holes,
Land O' Lakes 547-3929

Inshalla Country Club, 18 holes,
Tomahawk 453-3130

Northwood Golf Course, 18 holes,
Rhinelander 282-6565

Pinewood Country Club, 18 holes,
Harshaw 282-5500

Plum Lake Golf Club, 9 holes,
Sayner 542-2598

St. Germain Golf Club, 18 holes,
St. Germain 542-2614

Timber Ridge Golf Club, 18 holes,
Minocqua
356-9502

Trout Lake Golf Club, 18 holes,
Woodruff
385-3198

So, if you're headed to the Northwoods with your boat this summer, make sure to throw in your golf clubs. You know, you can't fish all of the time. Just sayin' 🐟

BOB'S BEAR BAIT, FROM PAGE 36

Stop in and visit one of multiple Bob's Bear Bait locations for more great tips. We've been in the bear bait business for 13 years and our staff has years of bear hunting experience. Bob carries the largest variety of bait in Wisconsin, including scents, bulk bait, fruit toppings, dry bait, and more. Once the season hits, bait sells out fast. Don't wait long!

See our advertisement in On Wisconsin Outdoors for contact information and news about our latest products and sale events. Just ask for Bob to reach him direct.

As always, happy baiting! 🐻



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STUART WILKE

The Walther Pistolen 38

A part of a great historical tragedy

Every firearm has a story. Some are more gratifying than others, like those related to memorable times in the field or on the range. Some involve a little digging, like researching when a particular piece was built and where it was originally shipped. Others commemorate notable achievements, such as a graduation, or are reminders of now gone, but forever cherished friends and relatives.

Unfortunately, there are also firearms whose stories are inextricably associated with some of humanities' greatest tragedies. Guns are, of course, inanimate objects. Their owners determine how and for what they will be used. In the case of the gun featured in this article, we know its purpose and its link to history's most horrific event - World War II.

From its serial number, we know that this Nazi Pistolen 38 was manufactured in February of 1943 to subjugate and exterminate those not of Aryan descent. P38s were generally issued to Waffen SS and Wehrmacht NCOs, machine gun, artillery,

and panzer crews. This was a pivotal time for would-be world conqueror and German dictator Adolph Hitler and his minions. Having underestimated the Soviets' will and ability to resist the soldiers of the "master race," Hitler overextended his forces on the Russian front. By early 1943, his hubris resulted in the surrender of Nazi-held Stalingrad and the loss of the Sixth Army with its irreplaceable 300,000 Axis troops. The war's tide had turned. In less than three years, the Soviets had captured Berlin and Germany surrendered in May 1945.

The events leading to the war's end would be soaked in blood. Nazi atrocities would only escalate as the Final Solution continued unabated. Jews, Roma, political prisoners, Slavs and Russian POWs would be the Nazis' prime targets for annihilation.

But not every "enemy" of the Reich was immediately sent to death. Others would succumb to starvation, maltreatment and overwork. Among these were those toiling

away and terribly abused in the armament factories of the occupied territories. Among the largest of these was Spreewerk in Czechoslovakia. Like Mauser and Walther, Spreewerk produced P38 pistols, among other weapons. Compared to those made by Walther and Mauser, Spreewerk P38s are notable for their rough machining and thin blue finishes. Unlike Mauser and Walther, Spreewerk P38s were built by forced laborers, fed only enough to barely keep them alive and subject to death for minor infractions. Perhaps even their brutish overseers were bright enough to understand that exhausted and starved laborers were incapable of finely machined and finished products. This P38 was made by Mauser and its slide at Spreewerk.

Spreewerk laborers would ultimately be avenged. The P38 featured in this article was issued for use on the Russian front where it was ultimately taken from a German soldier who had died or surrendered after fighting for an unholy cause. The Soviet Union



A P38. A grim historical reminder.

lost over 25 million soldiers and civilians during the Great Patriotic War, many of those losses due to a lack of armaments at the beginning of the Nazi invasion. Russia would not be caught unprepared for the next war. Captured German arms by the millions were disassembled, the good parts kept, and from them "new" guns assembled and put in storage - just in case. When the Iron Curtain fell, many Nazi firearms, like this one, were removed from storage and sold in the United States.

Hopefully, the slave laborers who were forced into this gun's manufacturer lived to see the war's end and their tormentors vanquished. 🕒

Contact Stuart Wilke at stuart@onwisconsinoutdoors.com



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LEOVARDO AGUILAR

In Praise of the June Bug

Masterfully engineered, these beetles display Midwestern charm and ingenuity

British scientist J.B.S Haldane once told a group of churchgoers that the most important thing he'd learned over the years was "God is incredibly fond of beetles." Does he mean a particular brand of imported vehicles? Not exactly. Mr. Haldane is referring to the fact that there are over 350,000 distinct species of beetle, making up nearly a quarter of all known animal species. With a sleek design and chestnut colored shell, one local party crasher is full of its own surprises: the June Bug. Also known as the May Beetle, this bug should be appreciated for the technological secrets it holds instead of being cast as a six-legged horror icon. Leave that mess for the mosquitoes.

When being visited by a creepy crawlly, it's easy to dish out one of the three S's as a response. Swat. Smoosh. Or scream. But the June Bug is a humble emissary of the bug world, offering valuable information to anyone who will listen. How is that exactly? People today are looking to the natural world for modern solutions to old problems more than ever. This idea is called "biomimicry," figuring out how other plants and animals do the things we wish we could.

Upon closer inspection of a June Bug, you'll notice their exoskeleton is covered in golf ball like dimples to make flying easier. This allows air to better pass over the bug's body and decrease drag. As of now, there's no word on how earlier models performed. Equipped with long legs

ending in T-shaped feet, these bugs cling to a variety of materials better than any Velcro on the market. They can stick to tree bark, window mesh, and, unfortunately, our clothes, a bit too well.

Stashed under the rear hood is where the June Bug's real showstopper hides. Powered by a V8 engine equivalent, if not better, are four folding wings that bring this heavy bodied insect to the sky. With multiple hinges, its wings are folded, unfolded, and folded again before being expertly tucked away under the hard exterior. They won't win any awards for their flying, but those durable wings would put any origami piece to shame.

Finally, June bugs are well mannered. They don't bite, sting, spit tobacco or scream like other bugs. I swear, the last one who bumped into me offered the classic midwestern "Ope, sorry!" before taking off again.

This is a brief overview of the June Bug's features, but it sends home the idea that there's more to be found in an odd creature than a satisfying crunch under a boot. So next time you find one of these fumbling creatures splayed out under your porch light, show it some love. They come in peace and stick around no longer than our short summers do. 🍷



A calendar worthy close up of a dew-covered, and fairly hairy, June bug. Robert Guimont/ @robertguimont (Instagram).



This June Bug is flexing for the crowd. Notice how the wings extend beyond the length of the body, and must be folded to inside its shell. Earl Orf/ www.earlorfphotos.com.


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