
The New



Complimentary Community Magazine

Summer 2021

Hodag 4-Wheelers ATV/UTV Club
Historical Pioneer Park
Summer Beach Guide
Oneida County Fair
Hodag Water Show

The New



Welcome to the Summer issue of The New North!

Life is changing quickly for us here in the Northwoods. Covid numbers are way down, temperatures are climbing, and businesses are opening up once again. And, of course, a big thank you to all of our sponsors. You make this community magazine possible.

In this issue, we feature The Hodag 4-Wheelers ATV-UTV Club, the 50th Anniversary of the Hodag Water Shows, a listing of the public beaches in the Northwoods and a history of the Oneida County Fair, plus many other stories for you to enjoy. Be sure to check out the "Northwoods Happenings" page to see the fun that was had during the Hodag Heritage Days held in Pioneer Park.

Look for our next issue, out in the Fall after Labor Day.

Forever grateful,

Jaclene Tetzlaff

Publisher

The New North Magazine

**If you are interested in
advertising,
please call or email me
715-525-1596**



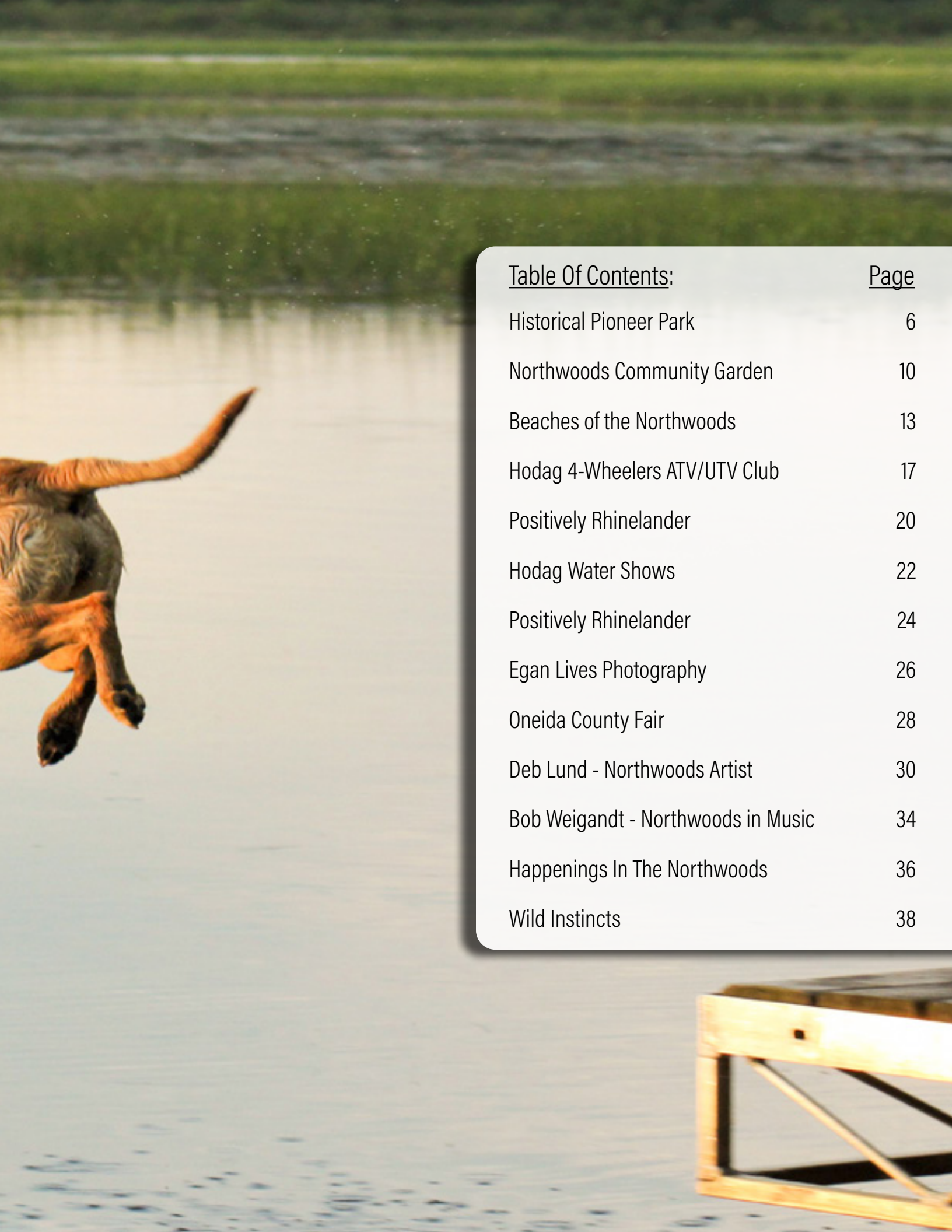


Table Of Contents:

Page

Historical Pioneer Park	6
Northwoods Community Garden	10
Beaches of the Northwoods	13
Hodag 4-Wheelers ATV/UTV Club	17
Positively Rhinelander	20
Hodag Water Shows	22
Positively Rhinelander	24
Egan Lives Photography	26
Oneida County Fair	28
Deb Lund - Northwoods Artist	30
Bob Weigandt - Northwoods in Music	34
Happenings In The Northwoods	36
Wild Instincts	38

CONTRIBUTORS



JACLENE TETZLAFF
Editor
Publisher
Sales

TOM BARNETT
Designer & Illustrator



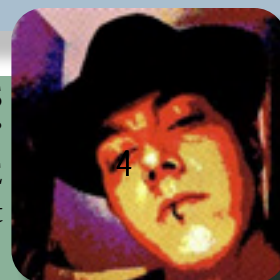
DAN HAGEN
Feature Writer



ANDREW EGAN
Lead Designer
Photographer



ROSS
“WOODSY”
WALLACE
Poet



JANET JAMISON
Positively Rhinelander



KERRY BLOEDORN
Feature Writer & Historian





Summer Cocktail Recipe

Empress Gin Lavender Lemonade

Ingredients:

- 2 oz Empress 1908 Gin
- 1 oz Lavender Honey Syrup
- 2 oz Fresh Lemonade
- Lavender Sprig

Fill a glass of your choice with ice. Shake lemonade and syrup on ice and strain into glass. Layer Empress 1908 Gin on top. The gin is purple in color and will slowly descend into the glass for a beautiful effect. Perfect for serving Summer guests. Garnish with a lavender sprig as seen here, or a lemon wedge. Empress 1908 Gin can be found at Stein's Liquors.



Stop in today for a huge selection of liquors, wines, beers, microbrews, and premium cigars!

STEIN'S LIQUORS
715-369-1248



Over 30 Years of
personalized service

Everyday low pricing.
Quality products.
Knowledgeable staff.

1011 LINCOLN STREET
RHINELANDER, WI

HISTORICAL PIONEER PARK

By Kerry Bloedorn



Pioneer Park has seen many changes over the decades since it was developed into a city park, and has been a popular destination for Rhinelander residents and visitors to the area for many years. Like much of Rhinelander history, the stories behind Pioneer Park are intertwined with many of the most prominent aspects of Rhinelander's earliest moments, and tells a story of not just a park, but the founding of the city itself.

In the 1870's when young Anderson Brown from Stevens Point made his way up the mighty Wisconsin River to cruise a potential purchase of pine lands near the area known as Pelican Rapids, the future site of Rhinelander, he saw a forty mile by nine mile tract of

White Pine trees growing along the banks of the Wisconsin and Pelican Rivers. According to earliest government surveys of this area, completed in the late 1850's, the average size pine was fifty inches in diameter, with many larger specimens growing six feet wide and one hundred feet tall. Towering pines as far as the eye could see, many of which had been growing for over five-hundred years, on land untouched for thousands of years and had yet to meet the ax of an expanding America. The pine trees seen today at Pioneer Park are the genetic vestiges of that once ancient old growth forest.

The City of Rhinelander was first platted in 1882 by the Milwaukee, Lakeshore and Western Railroad. The Railroad was enticed to build a spur to the new logging boom town by the Brown family, and they named the city after the President of the railroad company, Frederick W. Rhinelander. Mr. Rhinelander sent the head of the company's land department, John Otis Thayer, with a crew of surveyors, to lay out the city's first roads; one he named after his boss, "Frederick St.", one after his boss's wife, "Davenport St." her maiden name, one after himself, "Thayer St.", along with streets named after other prominent individuals involved in the founding



Super Premium Ice Cream and Organic Espresso
715-362-3994
2100 Lincoln Street, Rhinelander



Pioneer Park as it appeared prior to 1900



of the new city, not least of which were names like, "Anderson St.", and "Brown St.", Anderson being the "father of Rhinelander" and the rest of the influential Brown family that was integral in Rhinelander's beginnings.

When the Milwaukee, Lakeshore and Western Railroad spur was built from Monico Junction to the new city, there was a young man on the railroad crew named James M. Keenan. Born in New York City, James came to Wisconsin with his family as a young boy and the adventures of working on a frontier railroad brought him to the new north country. After the railroad was built, he found he liked the place at the end of the line so much that he decided to stay. Rhinelander was growing quickly and was a bustling lumber boom town in those days. The scream of the sawblade, the sound of the train whistle, and commotion of the downtown dirt streets could be heard at all hours of the day and night. In 1891, seeing the rapid growth of the city, Keenan made a homestead of a large property that was then on the south side of the city. His land covered an area from what is now Park St. on the north end, all the way south to the Pelican River, and from where Brunner St. is today on the west side, all the way to the Pelican River again to the east. This acreage was still covered with many fine white and red pine trees, a gorgeous property, and James had the foresight to see this would make a wonderful addition to the growing city. Mr. Keenan lived with his family in a house on the north side of his property that

became the lot at 626 Randall Ave. Slowly but surely, lots were sold off to make way for residential and business development to include a new neighborhood, "Keenan's Addition", as well as properties that would be filled by St. Mary's hospital, the Rhinelander Brewing Company, the Rhinelander Boat Company, and the Rhinelander Refrigerator Company, among others. As streets were laid and houses built, the tall pine trees came down one by one. As James Keenan's property was developed, a large stand of pines south of Kemp Street to Ocala St. And from Keenan St. east to the Pelican River, became known as "Keenan's Park", and a trail along the Pelican River was a popular walking place for early Rhinelander residents going all the way back to the founding of the city. As the residential area expanded east from Keenan St. it stopped at Oneida Ave. A few of the old pines of the original property can still be seen scattered throughout that side of the neighborhood including at the old Hospital, and along Oneida Ave. The grove east of Oneida Ave. was spared almost completely except for a lot carved out of it at the end of Kemp Street which was used as an early baseball field. In August of 1900, Buffalo Bill brought his Wild West Show to Rhinelander, and set up on the ball field at Keenan's Park. His entourage included a large contingent of horses, cowboys, and of course the famous sure shot, Annie Oakley.

There was discussion in the city about building the Oneida County Normal School at the ball field site, but it wasn't to be as the first courthouse was moved east across Baird Ave. in 1907 to make way for a new courthouse, and the old courthouse became the County Normal, or Teachers Training School, alleviating the need to use the Keenan's Park location.

During the city's first formal anniversary celebration of 50 years in 1932, the small road that ran through the last pine grove standing east of Oneida Ave. was named after one of the areas earliest pioneers, Martin Lynch, and the park was named Pioneer Park in honor of Rhinelander's early settlers, thus becoming Rhinelander's



Entrance to Pioneer Park at intersection of Oneida Ave and Ocala St

Historical Pioneer Park - Continued

first official city park.

In the years following, Pioneer Park would be home to a number of activities including a stint hosting tent style Chautauqua's that brought some of the most well known gospel speakers of the era to Rhinelander.

In the 1920's, Rhinelander had a ski jump on the west side of the Pelican River on the backside of the "hogsback", the hill that WJFW is on today. After it's use as a ski jump it was deconstructed and rebuilt at Pioneer Park and used as a children's sledding hill for a time. Pioneer Park has always been a hotspot for cold weather activities and was the site of the city's first hockey rink. In the 1940's and 50's Rhinelander had a semi-professional hockey team, the Hornets, who's games at Pioneer Park were well attended with spectators standing on the snow banks overlooking the wooden boards of the rink. The Hornets would win the state championship in 1950. Rhinelander's High school hockey team played at the Pioneer Park rink for many years as well. The adjacent ball field, in almost the same spot it's been for more than one hundred years, was also flooded into a large ice rink for pleasure skaters and was the most popular rink in town for many decades. A brick warming house that amassed many

childhood memories of young Rhinelander residents was located on the northeast side of the field. This building had a dramatic demise in recent years when a high-speed chase ended with a crash at the back of the building, prompting its removal. The location of the hockey rink continues to be flooded in the winter months, and is still a popular skating area. The rinks old lights and indentation in the ground still mark the spot of Rhinelander's earliest hockey days, and it is in this space the Hodag Farmers Market is held every summer on Saturday mornings.

Pioneer Park has always featured playground equipment, starting with a classic set of monkey bars, see-saws, swings, and a tall metal slide, the kind you could cook an egg on a hot summer day. The playground has been updated many times over the years; today it is a very popular destination for families with children and is very busy throughout the summer months. Pioneer Park has also been a popular picnic spot with tables nestled among the tall pines of the park and several pavilions for gatherings and parties. At one time the park featured several stone fire places, the foundations of which can still be seen along Oneida Ave.

An article about Pioneer Parks history wouldn't be complete without mentioning the locally famous "Muni" or "Muny" League men's fastpitch softball games that were held there in the 1960's and 70's. Every business and tavern within 10 miles of Rhinelander sponsored a team which competed regularly throughout the summer. These games drew huge crowds to Pioneer Park with every available space parked with cars. Many Rhinelander residents have fond memories of these games and if they couldn't be there in person, they were listening in to the radio broadcasts by Paul Ebert or Todd McEldowney with color commentary by Johnny Wadd on WOBT. At one point in the 1960's, the state DOT wanted to reroute Hwy 8 and 47 right through Pioneer Park which would've spelled the end of the park. But a Pioneer Park advocacy group founded by concerned citizens waged a hard-fought campaign to dissuade the DOT and stop the planned roadway from coming to fruition. In the end, the Wisconsin DOT decided to go a different route, saving Pioneer Park from destruction.

Pioneer Park has many large pine trees growing in it, but they are a fraction of what was originally on the site. Many longtime residents remember the park having many more trees than there is today. The Park has been in recovery for almost 45 years after a terrible storm. On a sad day in history at Pioneer Park, a violent widespread wind event known as a derecho or straight line windstorm swept into the area on July 4th, 1977. This storm knocked down more than 100 large

SUMMER HOURS 7 DAYS A WEEKS
Monday - Thursday & Saturday 9am-5pm
Friday 9am-7pm
Sunday 9am-2pm

FALL/WINTER HOURS
Friday & Saturday 10am-5pm
By appointment Sunday-Thursday

THE HODAG STORE
WE GOT T-SHIRTS, SIGNS,
BUMPER STICKERS AND MORE.
COME ON DOWN TO
THE HODAG STORE!

Like us on
Instagram Facebook

2 T-Shirts for \$25 with this ad!

www.thehodagstore.com
hodagstore@gmail.com | 715-550-5412
538 Lincoln St., Rhinelander, WI

pine trees at Pioneer Park, devastating the once cathedral like grove. Many recall that ill-fated day with sadness knowing it would take a generation to bring the park back to its glory days as a virgin pine stand. The Rhinelander Parks Department pays special attention to all the trees at the park today and strives to protect young undergrowth so that Pioneer Park is always a park of trees. Many know Pioneer Park as the site of Rhinelander's famous Logging Museum. Founded in 1932 and built next to the Rhinelander paper mill, it was moved to Pioneer Park in the mid-fifties to make way for a yeast plant. The original Logging Museum building was found to be too rotten to move, but fortunately trees were being cut to widen then Hwy 17 through Shepard Park, and the logs were brought to Pioneer Park and built into the existing Logging Museum. The Logging Museum was the first of many museum's added to the site that became Pioneer Park Historical Complex, which includes; Reds Sawmill Museum, with a sawmill used by Red Marquardt and family and is an example of many of the sawmills that once operated along the banks of Boom Lake. A Rural One-Room Schoolhouse Museum in an authentic One-Room Schoolhouse that once stood in several town of Pine Lake locations and was moved from the town of Crescent in the mid 1970's to become a museum depicting the school days of pre-1950 rural America. Pioneer Park Historical Complex is also home to one of the best Civilian Conservation Corps Museums in the country, with a complete collection of documents, photographs, artifacts, tools, and equipment all housed in a replica CCC camp building. The Complex includes the Rhinelander Antique Fire Equipment Museum showcasing Rhinelander's first fire-wagon, and two of its earliest fire trucks. This building also houses a Belles of St. Mary's exhibit, which was a storied girls drum and bugle corps in Rhinelander. On site is Dukes Outboard Motor and Boat Museum which features dozens of the earliest antique outboard boat motors on display anywhere in the country, as well as a few Rhinelander Boats, racing boats, and freighter canoes once used by Rhinelander native and Arctic biologist James Larsen. The Logging Museum is the oldest museum of its kind in the country and displays a complete collection of late 1800's logging tools and equipment including the authentic replica logging camp bunkhouse and cook shack, complete with blacksmith shop. The Logging Museum also has an exhibit dedicated to the famous Hodag, and many of the oldest depictions of the Great Pine Beast can be found there. Many pieces of early logging equipment are on display in outdoor exhibits including a bateau used on river drives, a Phoenix steam powered log hauler, which is one of less than a

hundred ever made and one of the few on display in the world. And of course, the ever popular Rhinelander Railroad Museum in the former Soo freight depot that was moved to the Complex in the 90's from down in "the Hollow" near the old Soo Yard. This building highlights Rhinelander's railroad history and has a narrow gauge locomotive and passenger car parked out front that was used by The Thunder Lake Lumber Company to haul logs into Rhinelander sawmills. The basement of the depot features a wonderful model railroad display, a favorite of Museum visitors, built and maintained by the Rhinelander Railroad Association which uses the depot as its clubhouse. All together Pioneer Park Historical Complex is a gem of the city of Rhinelander, a must-see tourist destination, and one of the best small town museum complex's in the nation. Once a year since 2009, Pioneer Park hosts the Oneida County Fair and is transformed into a quaint country style fair among the picturesque pines of the park. This year's fair is scheduled for July 29th through August 1st.

Pioneer Park has been home to a tennis court in the past but interest in a new sport, Pickleball, has supplanted the sport of tennis at Pioneer Park, which features a new court designed especially for Pickleball which has been very popular since it opened in 2020.

Pioneer Park has seen many events, has had millions of visitors in its history and continues to be a premier Rhinelander Park. The park is a part of community's very soul and connected to many important times in Rhinelander history. A walk through Pioneer Park is a proverbial walk through history. It's safe to say Pioneer Park will offer a great space with enough fun, history, and nature to go around for people of all ages, for many years to come!



"Muni" League softball game from 1970's



NORTHWOODS COMMUNITY GARDEN

By Dan Hagen

One can be easily inspired while exploring the Northwoods of Wisconsin. That's exactly what happened when Mike Haasl, Pete Zambon, and Tabitha Bennish went cross-country skiing near Rhinelander.

"Mike Haasl is the brain child," said Bennish.

Haasl founded a local Homesteading Club in 2017. It's a group that meets monthly to share resources and ideas for living sustainably. He mentioned the idea of a community garden to Zambon and Bennish and found willing ears.

"Pete and I sell at the Rhinelander Farmer's Market," said Bennish.

"We love to share our knowledge of eating healthy and being sustainable. So, this is just another extension of that."

The seed was planted. Now they had to make it grow.

The three founders asked around the community to gauge interest. It was popular enough to warrant the first meeting in April 2020.

Of course, the coronavirus pandemic was starting to take off in the United States, so the seedling of a group opted for a new technology

called Zoom. The conceptual conversation of the garden was fruitful, but inevitable snags cropped up. Location and money were the big ones.

"It's been a wild ride," said Zambon. "We've had a lot of moments where we weren't sure what was going to happen."

It's hard to have a garden without a plot of land. But the budding group found a willing partner in Nicolet College.

"Mike Haasl teaches classes in Nicolet's Outdoor Adventure Program," said Terry Rutlin, Public Information Officer for Nicolet College.

"One day he and I were talking and he tossed out this idea," Haasl asked, "What do you think about having a community garden out in the field?"

Rutlin brought the idea to leadership at Nicolet College.

"The Board of Trustees thought it was a great idea so that was our green light," said Rutlin.

One hurdle down. Many more to go.

A tough realization for Zambon was the amount of money needed to make the Garden a success. Money doesn't grow on trees, or out

of the ground for that matter. Fences, equipment, compost, and other essentials add up.

The founders used the website seed-money.org to fundraise last November. Their goal was \$3,000 in a month. They met the goal just a few days in. By the end of the month NCG raised \$9,000.

"There's no other choice than to persevere," said Zambon. "And as long as you trust in that, everything comes through. And it's been proven time and again."

In October of 2020 gardeners broke ground. Fast forward to April of 2021, the plots were ready to be planted.

"Today we are expanding our rabbit fencing and installing our pollinator diamonds," said Zambon on a volunteer



METRO SCREENPRINTING & EMBROIDERY
FOUNDED IN 1994

The area's premier custom screenprinting and embroidery company and the founder of "Hodag Wear".

Originally a mass producer of embellished dart, pool stick, and carrying cases, the company transformed to create custom screenprinting and embroidery for businesses, sports leagues, schools and special events.

The "Hodag Wear" retail store offers an array of shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, pants, hats and other specialized items in sizes ranging from infant to adult.



WE PROUDLY SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY AND HODAG TEAMS!

510 LINCOLN STREET, RHINELANDER, WI 54501 715-365-3195

day this April. "There will be spaces in between each plot that will have flowering plants that will attract bees and butterflies. It's great for pollinating your melons or cucumbers."

The Northwoods Community Garden has 48 10x20 plots. In just the first year of gardening, all but two of the plots are claimed. Each plot costs \$40.

"The party is on," said Zambon. "We've already got RSVPs. And if it's not shoulder-to-shoulder we're just going to have more room to dance."

And Zambon says anyone can dance at NCG. There are elevated gardening beds for people with mobility issues. People can forego the \$40 if necessary. Experience isn't needed either.

"Some people here have been gardening for longer than I've been alive," said Bennish. "Some of our friends out here have decades of experience gardening. They're mentoring the other people that are first-time gardeners."



The Northwoods Community Garden matches up novices with experts in its mentoring program. They also post monthly instructional videos.

If the idea of the Northwoods Community Garden was the seed, it's already bearing fruit. The trio of Haasl, Bennish, and Zambon couldn't be more excited.

Let's say you don't have any room in your backyard or you don't have a backyard," said Zambon. "Now you can have a place where you can have a garden in the Rhinelander area. I'm feeling really positive about providing a space for anybody who wants access to gardening in this community."

To learn more about NCG, go to northwoodscommunitygarden.com. Here you will find ways to support the garden and information about renting a plot.



An all Season Destination

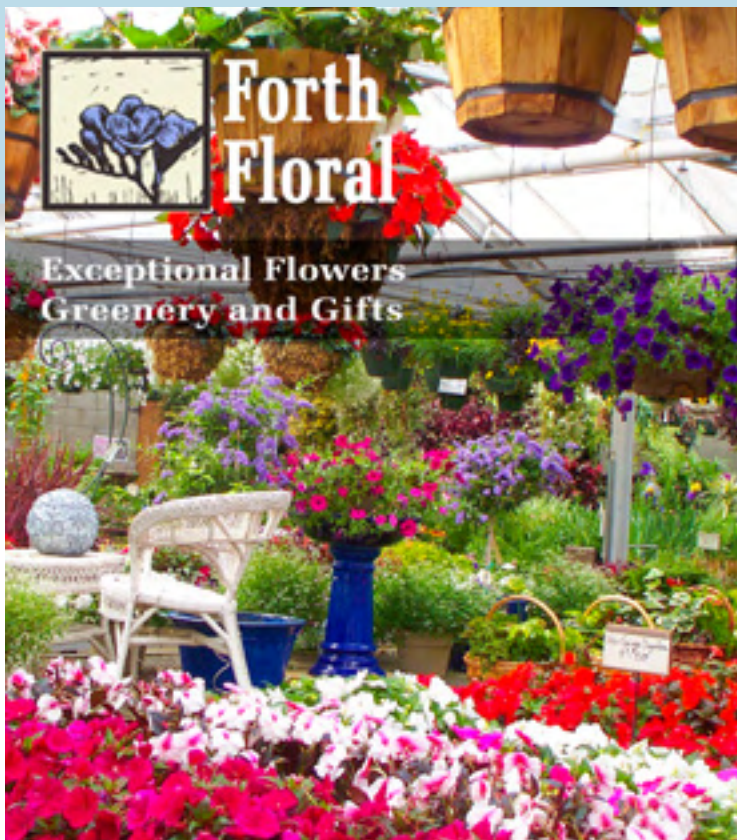
- 1000 Acres •
- Cottages & Lodge Rooms •
- Vacation Homes •
- Indoor Pool & Sauna •
- Award-Winning Restaurant •
- Weddings •
- Gatherings & Meetings •
- Seasonal Gift Shop •



HOLIDAY ACRES RESORT

Rhinelander, WI 54501
www.holidayacres.com
Tel: 715.369.1500





Forth Floral
 Exceptional Flowers
 Greenery and Gifts

410 N. Brown Street, Rhinelander, WI.
 715-362-7600
 Fourth Generation Family-Owned
 FORTHFLORAL.COM

**FULL COFFEE BAR
 BOUTIQUE CLOTHING
 GIFTS AND CANDLES**



BRIARHOUSECOFFEE.COM
 634 S. KEENAN ST, RHINELANDER
 715-369-2498



Medical and Surgical Support **Active Wellness Care**

Full Service Veterinary Clinic and Hospital
1117 S Oneida Ave, Rhinelander WI
 frenchshomesteadvetcare.com

For Appointments Call 715-365-7387

Hours:
Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
Saturday and Sunday Closed



BEACHES OF THE NORTHWOODS

By Dan Hagen

Different lakes hold different memories for me. At Torpy Park at Lake Minocqua I remember building sandcastles and playing tennis at the nearby beaches. At Eagle Lake Park near Eagle River I remember an ill-fated date that still makes me cringe. At Buck Lake Beach south of Rhinelander I remember a pleasant picnic with some friends. And what's so nice about the Northwoods is that there are always more lakes to make memories. That's why I've compiled a list of nearby lakes with public beaches.

The pictures will speak for themselves on the next page, but I do want to shout out a few things. Buck Lake Beach is inside Almon County Park, which has picnic areas, a disc golf course, and lovely hiking trails. There are two, Upland and Wetland, and the latter is often, well, wet and partially flooded. Hanson Lake has a 2.1 mile hiking loop that goes around the entire lake. On the northern shore is a rope swing into the water (but you didn't hear that from me).

So go out and make some new memories! Remember sunscreen, cool beverages, and a frisbee or football. Bring friends, family, and maybe even a date. Though I think I'll be sticking to the first two options.

Buck Lake, Almon Natural Area



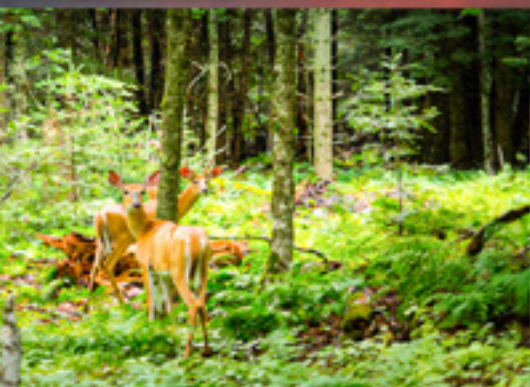
- Hanson Lake Beach, Rhinelander
- Townline Lake Park and Beach
- Black Lake Beach, Two Sisters Lake, Newbold
- Torpy Park Beach, Minocqua
- Maple Lake Beach, Three Lakes
- Eagle Lake Park on Eagle Lake
- Sugar Camp Lake Beach, Sugar Camp
- Sand Lake Beach, Harshaw
- Clear Lake Swimming Beach, Woodruff
- White Sand Lake Beach or Crystal Lake Beach, Near Boulder Junction
- Big Arbor Vitae Lake Beach, Arbor Vitae
- Buffalo Lake Beach, Woodruff
- Lake Venus Beach, Monico
- Katherine Lake Swim Area, Hazelhurst



Hodag Park Beach, Boom Lake, Rhinelander

OUTDOOR FUN FOR ALL SEASONS

SPORTING EQUIPMENT | QUALITY SEASONAL WEAR | ADVENTURE GEAR



MEL'S! TRADING POST

DOWNTOWN RHINELANDER, WISCONSIN
105 S. BROWN STREET, RHINELANDER
715-362-5800 | 1-800-236-MELS

POETRY OF THE NORTH

PATTERNS

Crystalline prismatic emphatic,
about the new days.
The new dawn is coming in,
its a new phase.
Grab ahold of the old ways,
Now that the cold is gone....
Get you some sun rays!
No more greys,
blue skies are coming in.
Northwoods goods (You know it is)
Oh take a glance for a minute and,
You'll never change your mind.
one hike for a mile or two,
no limits to what you'll find.
the grand design stopped here for...
just a small piece of your time.
Enigmatic, erratic, sporadic,
though the seasons seem.
it all comes in a dream.
Waiting for summer,
we burst at the seams.

Poem by:
Ross "Woodsy" Wallace

GARDEN

Morning dew sparkling along cultivated
rows
Where my carrots and green beans grow
Rabbits prowl
Background music from the rapids flow.
Asparagus tall and feathery goes to seed
Chocked with exotic weeds.
Raspberry thorns grab my knees
Jams and jellies please.
All I need are little maids in a row
Doing the work that calls me so
Why can't they wield a hoe?
Come hither smile on pansy faces
Day lilies sway in breezy grace
Below a trellis of ripening grapes.
Contentment surrounds me as I survey this
place
My home, my cocoon, my sanctuary where
I am safe.

Poem by:
Barb Schmelling



COFFEE, BREAKFAST & LUNCH
69 N. BROWN ST., RHINELANDER, WI (715)420-1727

FLY Rhinelander to Chicago and onward

NEW Flights Launch in July



UNITED



Book today at united.com
Operated by SkyWest Airlines



Precision POWERSPORTS

UTV ATV SNOWMOBILE MOTORCYCLE REPAIR AND SERVICE

The Northwoods Area Independent Powersports Repair Facility



We offer general maintenance, tires, plows, ATV/UTV track systems, OEM and aftermarket parts and accessories.
We also specialize in full engine and drivetrain rebuilds and performance modifications, so you can get the most out of your toys!

COME AND SEE US AROUND BACK OF THE QUALITY COLLISION CENTER FOR ALL YOUR POWERSPORT AND ATV/UTV NEEDS!

1500 Chippewa Drive
Rhinelander, WI
715-420-0671

ppowersports@yahoo.com

HODAG 4-WHEELERS ATV-UTV CLUB



What fun!
Before the trails officially opened, I got a special ride on the Enterprise Trail by club President, Paul Hagen, with John Knudsen, Trail Coordinator, leading the way. We enjoyed a beautiful day and stopped at the campground and ATV picnic shelter as shown on the map. Learn more about this fun group by checking out their website @hodag4wheelersatvutv.com

Thanks,
Jac

Along with most outdoor activities, ATV/UTV riding has increased, and sales of ATV/UTVs have been record setting in recent years. Riding in the Northwoods is always beautiful whether Spring, Summer or Fall. In the Rhinelander area, enthusiasts can enjoy the Oneida County ATV/UTV Trail System which is administered by the Oneida County Forestry, Land and Recreation Department. Within this system is the Enterprise Trail with approximately twelve miles of the trail maintained by the Hodag 4-Wheelers ATV/UTV Club. This means grading the trail, removing fallen trees after storms, putting in culverts, placing breaker rock to avoid flooding, putting up trail signs, and maintaining the shelter. This work is done by club volunteers who use their own tractors, saws, and other equipment. For big projects, the club must hire out contractors with larger equipment. Some of the funding to maintain the trail comes from the DNR. However, this funding is not enough to cover all expenses. That's where the club's membership and associate sponsorship comes into play. Yearly dues and other donations must be enough to cover the extra dollars needed to buy signs and maintain the trail.

Along with maintaining the trail, the club encourages fun and safe riding. The club meets monthly to organize rides and fund raising. One of the biggest fund raisers is the Woodpecker Ride on the second Saturday in October. The ride starts in the morning and the day ends with dinner, door prizes and raffles at the Woodpecker Bar & Grill.

The club also participates in local festivities such as the YMCA Not So Scary Trail, parades, and other area events. A favorite of the club are the rides given to seniors -- a day spent riding through the forest, sharing lunch around the fire ring and reminiscing about the good old days.

Several members of the club participate in the Trail Ambassador Program created by the Wisconsin ATV/UTV Association. As certified ambassadors they make sure the trails are safe to ride. They observe other riders

to make sure they are riding responsibly, have proper tags, and that license plates are current. They also look for youth safety to make sure helmets are properly worn for those who are required to wear them. As volunteers, their main purpose is to educate others and to make sure the ride can be safely enjoyed by all. They cannot give tickets to those not obeying the laws, but instead they contact the Sheriff's department or DNR. But wouldn't you rather have a nice conversation with a fellow rider than get a ticket?

Along the trail system, are brown signs with a location number. If anyone needs medical assistance, they can call 911 and give the nearest location number. Local fire departments have been educated on the signs and locations, so they will know how to find the needed party.



Recently, one of the most asked question from the public is, "How do I get to Rhinelander from the outskirts of town?" Maps are depicted on the following pages. One map shows Rhinelander with the major highways and roads to the Enterprise Trail, and the other shows the Enterprise Trail itself, which has two loops. Maps can be obtained at several local businesses in Rhinelander and surrounding areas.

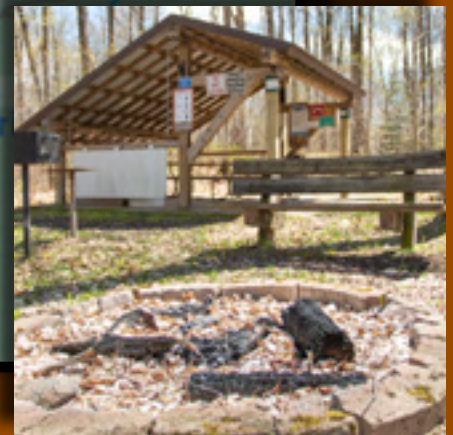
Within the Oneida County Forest and as part of The Enterprise ATV/UTV trail system, the Enterprise campground is located approximately 11 miles south of Rhinelander on Shingle Mill Road. There are 11 campsites with grills, fire rings, and picnic tables, which are available on a first-come-first-served basis. Fees are \$15/night per site and payable by self-registration.

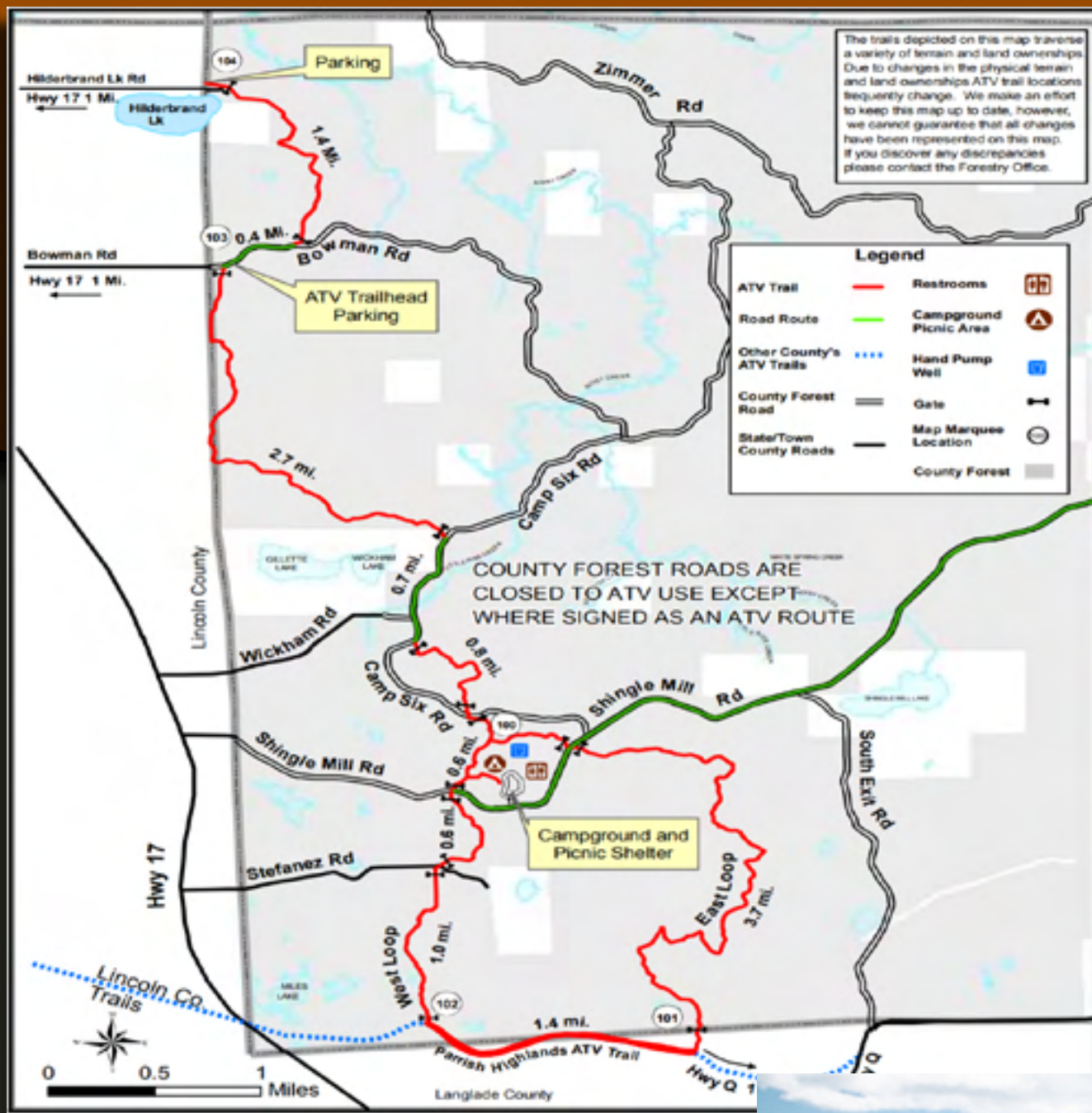
If you want to join the club or become an Associate Sponsor, complete the form on the club's web site at hodag4wheelersatvutv.com.





HODAG 4-WHEELERS ATV-UTV CLUB





JOIN US!

For more information visit
www.hodag4wheelersatvutv.com





Chef inspired - Customer Desired



**NOW WITH EXPANDED SEATING
AND COMMUNITY ROOM!**

Downtown Rhinelander

715-369-8988

cheftomsdeli.com

TEN POINT BAR & GRILL



Outstanding Daily Specials

Homemade Pizza

Friday Fish Fry. Featuring Walleye and Cod
U.S. Caught and Chemical Free

Bloody Mary Bar on Saturday and Sunday
Pavillion for Private Events

715-282-5302

3983 Harshaw Rd. Harshaw, WI

R&B

SEAMLESS
ALUMINUM GUTTERS



QUALITY and SERVICE

FULLY INSURED

FREE ESTIMATES

**Serving All The
Northwoods**

715-490-4430

3955 Hwy 47 N

Rhinelander, WI 54501

rbgutterman14@gmail.com



**Over 40 Years of Well Drilling and
Quality Pump Service**

**Serving All of Northern Wisconsin and
the UP**

Call Us For A Free Quote

715-362-5841

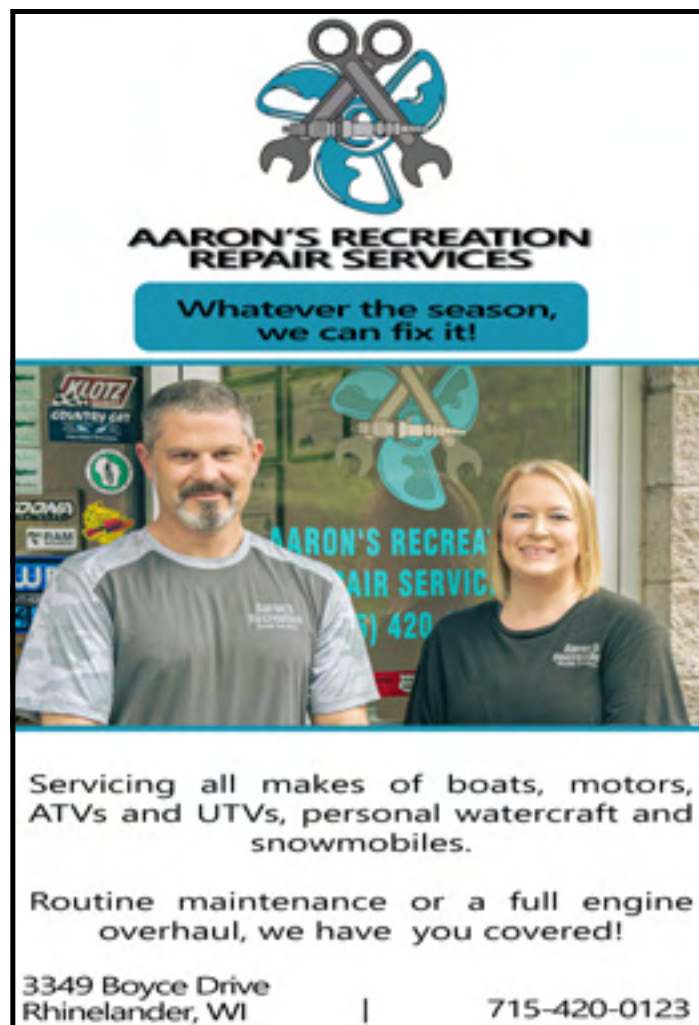
rhdlrwell@charter.net



Danner's
Shoe Store

Specializing in quality men's work boots
Customized fit, personalized service

Third Generation Family Owned
32 W. Davenport Street, Rhinelander 715-362-3704



**AARON'S RECREATION
REPAIR SERVICES**

Whatever the season,
we can fix it!

Servicing all makes of boats, motors,
ATVs and UTVs, personal watercraft and
snowmobiles.

Routine maintenance or a full engine
overhaul, we have you covered!

3349 Boyce Drive
Rhinelander, WI | 715-420-0123



Flyin Finn
PUB & RESORT

Best Friday Fish Fry Around
715-369-3647

 Find Us on Facebook

Live Music on the Patio
Every Weekend in Summer

Get Ready for the Annual Finnigan's
on Saturday August 14th

Carry Out Available **Full Menu at theflyinfinn.com**



HODAG WATER SHOWS

By Jaclene Tetzlaff

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Frosty Smith is a great name for a Northwoods guy with a story to tell. And Frosty's story is a good one. He is the Founder of the Hodag Water Ski Show in Rhinelander. Along with Jim Montgomery of Duke's Outboard, and Al Godman, they recruited several others to join in and create the first show on July 4, 1971. Knudsen, Spencer, Grill, Reeves, Osberg, Miazga, Loving, and Brusoe were among the names mentioned.

The first year, the troupe performed at various resorts in the area. The show rotated to places such as Holiday Acres, Pine Valley Lodge on Moen's Lake, and Shorewood Vista. The very first boat used was a Hydrodyne owned by Al Godman, who later sold the boat to the club. Today, the original Hydrodyne rests in a garage at Holiday Acres. "In our first year, we borrowed everything we could – ropes, skis, vests. We got pickup boats donated, and motors from Duke's Outboard. We also got donations from local businesses such as Mel's, Debyles, and Campbells for swimsuits. We got a free water ski jump from Lac Du Flambeau. We disassembled it and hauled it to Rhinelander." The group re-built it in Boom Lake, which then became the show's permanent home. We convinced the city to install power for lights.

"None of us knew what we were doing," says Frosty. But the group's love of water skiing propelled them onward. "In 1972, our second year, we competed in our first ski show tournament and placed third." Not bad, considering that the competition was from all over the

state. Being competitive folk, they worked very hard the following year and in 1973, won first place in the statewide championship. The group also achieved the first record for a 13-man pyramid, which at the time was the largest. Frosty was also one of the guys at the bottom of the 3-layer pyramid. "I could feel it then, and I blame some of my aches and pains now on carrying all those girls around."

They also worked hard at fundraising within the community. In 1973, the club was able to purchase a trailer to haul the equipment. In 1974, more lights were added to the show arena. The performance then started at 8pm "under the lights." However, this created a challenge out on the water beyond the beams. "We had to be well-rehearsed to do everything correctly out on the dark water.

Al Godman was one of the first Delta Wing Kite fliers for the show. But once he let go of the 3,000 feet of rope, it took quite an effort to haul it in. "The guys on the pickup boat had to figure out where to put all that rope," says Frosty.

Another problem the performance faced was the rough water that the show created for the skiers. In order to buy some time and let the waves calm down a bit, the clown act was created. Bruce Grill was one of the first clowns. He started off with a big bang from a shotgun behind the bleachers. "Of course you couldn't do that today," laughs Frosty. "One time, one of the clown skiers was laughing so hard, he stopped right at the edge of the jump, climbed up to the edge and jumped off!"

"We had some great announcers, too, like John Estabrook, Matt Dettman, and Scott Hansen. We were all very close, and were



like one big family," Frosty reminisces. "I also remember a woman who came to every performance. She would sit on the edge of the bleachers and laugh as we goofed off."

Greg Danner, an avid skier who participated in several seasons of the show says, "Growing up in northern Wisconsin and being a part of the Hodag Water Ski Show was very rewarding, and a whole lot of fun as well as hard work. We had great leaders and a lot of support from local sponsors that allowed us to put on great shows. We had people lined up along the shoreline and out in boats to watch us perform. As a team, we were National Show Champions, we created the world's largest pyramid, and many individuals competed in events such as ski jumping, barefooting, kite flying, and slalom skiing."

The current Hodag Water Ski Show organizers explained that the show could not perform during the 2020 season due to Covid. But they are working to get the 2021 season up and running. They said it is hard to get guys to participate. They have enough girls, but they need more guys in order to create the pyramids, etc. So, hey all you athletic young guys: Give water skiing a try this Summer. You just might meet some nice girls, too.



Photos: Greg Danner



Photo by Brad Thompson



Photo by Bev Engstrom

POSITIVELY Created and Managed by Janet Jamison RHINELANDER



Photo by Trish Fisher



Photo by Laurie Lemke



Photo by Kevin Janz



Photo by: Janet Jamison



Photo by: Tracie Shoone



Photo by: Dan Dumas



Photo by: Janet Jamison

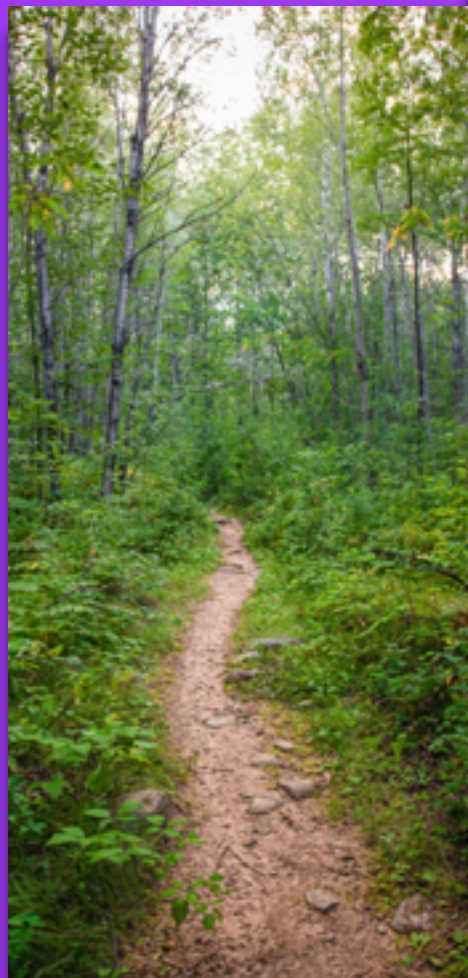
**PIONEER PARK
HISTORICAL COMPLEX**

(715) 369-5004 ~ MARTIN LYNCH DRIVE, RHINELANDER 

SEVEN MUSEUMS IN ONE!
 Logging, Red's Sawmill, One-Room Schoolhouse, CCC Museum, Antique Fire Equipment, Vintage Outboard Motors & Boats, Railroad & Model Rail Display, Hodag Exhibit & More!

**OPEN MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND THROUGH
LABOR DAY WEEKEND**
 (Closed Mondays)
 Tuesday-Saturday: 10am-5pm
 Sundays: 12noon-4pm

FREE ADMISSION DONATIONS APPRECIATED!



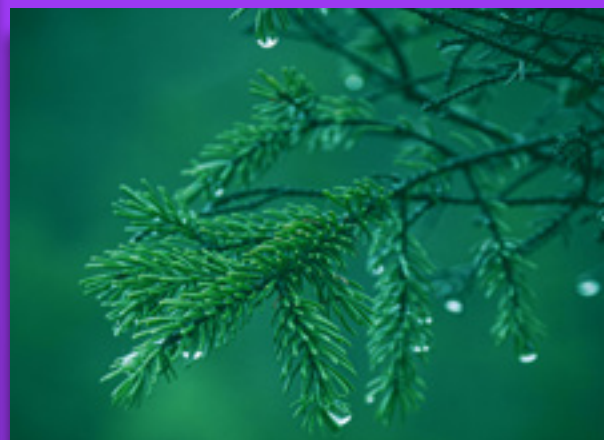
 EGAN LIVES PRODUCTIONS

PHOTOGRAPHY AND DIGITAL MEDIA

- PHOTOGRAPHY
- VIDEOGRAPHY
- DRONE SERVICES
- SOCIAL MEDIA
- DESIGN

EGANLIVES.COM 715-360-2812

 [FACEBOOK.COM/EGANLIVES](https://www.facebook.com/EGANLIVES)
 [INSTAGRAM.COM/EGAN_LIVES](https://www.instagram.com/EGAN_LIVES)



SHIMKUS

AUTO BODY INC

FREE ESTIMATES 715-362-6483



THIS SHOP IS EQUIPPED WITH
KJ
LA
MIA
SY

40 YEARS FAMILY OWNED

Expert Automotive Refinishing
ASE Certified Technicians

715-362-6483

1855 W. Davenport Street,
Rhineland

COUNTRY TIRES



Rhineland, WI

"Best Place In Town To Take A Leak"



New and used tires, all makes and models.
#1 Kenda Tire dealer!

3000 Germond Rd
Rhineland, WI

715-362-4950

BUTTERBURGERS & FROZEN CUSTARD

Say hello TO NEW CRAVINGS



Crowned with a lightly buttered toasted bun

Fresh, never frozen beef seared after you order

Fresh Frozen Custard even thicker & creamier than ice cream

Cheese Curds. Golden bites of real Wisconsin cheddar

VISIT YOUR LOCAL CULVER'S RESTAURANT:

Culver's of Rhineland, WI - W Kemp St
620 W Kemp St
Rhineland, WI 54501
(715) 369-1800



\$1 OFF

ANY Regular Value Basket

620 W Kemp Street

Reproduction of this coupon is not accepted.

Good on purchase of regular menu items. All Regular Value Baskets include designated sandwich, regular Drink, Curds and Cheddar, and medium soft drink. Please see restrictions. Not valid with other offers. Coupon not valid with Special or Small Value Baskets. Value \$1.00 per 1. Limit one coupon per person per visit. Not valid at participating Culver's restaurants.



© 2021 Culver's Franchising System, LLC. 001

THE ONEIDA COUNTY FAIR

By Kerry Bloedorn



Imagine the smell of fair food, laughter of children, horse hooves hitting a dirt racetrack and the buzz of local farmers showing off their prized crops. Looking around the Rhinelander Industrial Complex on Coon Street in Rhinelander today, you might not know that it was once filled with the sights and sounds of Oneida County's first fair.

In 1891, when Oneida County was still young, the county board appointed a committee to find a fairgrounds. Four years of searching and a \$500 allocation from the county, big money at the time, the fair found a home in the county seat of Rhinelander. Coon Street in Rhinelander is named after Fred Coon, early Oneida County pioneer, businessman and president of the Oneida County Agricultural Society. It was this site, before the street was named after him, that was chosen by Mr. Coon and others, such as Agricultural Society Secretary Arthur Taylor, to be the location of Oneida County's first fair.

The inaugural fair was held at the new grounds in 1896. Folks from every town in Oneida County participated by setting up booths where farmers could display the products of their hard labor. A half mile horse racing track was built and its events

were a highlight at the grounds. It was also at this first Oneida County Fair that Gene Shepard put the ferocious pine beast, the Hodag, on display. Many spectators came away from the fair with optimism about the agricultural future of the county, and also believing in Hodags.

By 1903, the Oneida County Fairgrounds was well-known throughout the region for its horse racing track. Racers came from all over the Midwest to compete with their pacers, even Gene Shepard of Hodag fame raced his horse "Get-a-Way". He claimed it to be the fastest horse ever to set hoof on the Oneida County Fairgrounds. But Mr. Shepard was not known for moderation and it is said that this prized racehorse died in the street on its way back to the Shepard residence after a hard-won race at the track. Mr. Shepard was found late at night, laying in the rain, crying over his horse, or so the story goes.

In the 1920s, with a large stipend from the county government, the grounds saw many improvements including the building of a new exhibition hall, updates to the track, two new horse barns and the addition of a covered grandstand, which sat 3,200 people comfortably. The exhibition building is the only building left standing at the former site. It is a reminder of the earliest days of the Oneida County Fair.

Originally the fair was held in September so farmers could show off their crops during harvest time. The fair dates were moved to August during the 1930s. The fair continued to highlight the agricultural production of the county. For years, Oneida County grown potatoes were on the premium list, along with exhibits of vegetables, fruits, flowers, canned goods and clothing from all over county. Another building held displays from the rural schools across Oneida County. Showcasing the county's forestry resources was also a high priority and an added focus on providing quality entertainment with a slogan "Something Doing Every Minute!"

The fair was held at the Coon Street grounds from 1896 to 1968 and for many of those years was known as "The Hodag Fair". Aside from the fair, the grounds was also home to Oneida County's first airport. A small dirt strip and a few small hangers saw Oneida County's earliest air traffic. Before the building of the





high school on the hill, and the bowl, what is now Sarocka Park, the Rhinelander High School football games were played on a sandy field in front of the grandstand at the fairgrounds. In 1960, the grounds hosted a huge crowd for a three-day Lake States Logging Congress. After the final 1968 fair, the grounds would host its last events in March of 1968 and 69, the famous snowmobile race, The Hodag Marathon, which in its 4th and 5th year, started at the old fairgrounds, went to Three Lakes using old rail grades and primitive trails, which were the start of many of the popular snowmobile trails used today, and ended in Eagle River, the current Snowmobile Capital of the World. Today the industrial complex is home to UPS, the National Guard Armory, and the City Shops.

From 1968 to 1992, Oneida County was without a proper fair, although a similar event was held in Lake Tomahawk for a few years. The fair was eventually reprised at the current site of the Hodag Country Music Festival in Pine Lake. In 2009, after several years of declining attendance, the fair moved to its current location at Pioneer Park in Rhinelander where the fair could begin anew and build itself back up.

Each year since, Pioneer Park is turned into a quaint, old-fashioned fair among the picturesque pines of the park. 4-H exhibits, entertainment, good food, contests, games and carnival rides are a large part of the fun. 2020 marked an interesting time for the country, and the county fair was no different. During the Covid pandemic, the fair was held in a virtual format. With many in-person gatherings cancelled, the fair committee did its best to provide the county with fun contests, county wide scavenger hunts, and sponsored a popular series of Oneida County history videos viewed on its website and social media platforms. The virtual fair was well received and helped keep the fair at the forefront of people's minds through a challenging year.

This year, 2021, the fair is once again scheduled to be held at Pioneer Park in Rhinelander. The fair is excited to have a new carnival hired this year along with a great lineup of food vendors, contests, and exhibits including the popular Kidbucks live kids Game Show, and petting zoo featuring an assortment of animals.

This year's entertainment lineup is a must see. Friday, July 30th, a double whammy with Appleton based jam-rock band Feed the Dog, and Madison based band WURK headlining with their high energy brand of Funk-Rock-Fusion music. Saturday, July 31st will see Northwood's favorite Tuck Pence performing, and later a Billy Joel and Elton John Tribute group, "Piano Man", is scheduled to headline. Last but not least, Sunday August 1st will see the popular host of Wisconsin's Tent Show Radio, New York Times bestselling author, humorist, and singer songwriter Michael Perry doing a show at 2pm. Did I mention it's all FREE! Don't miss the 2021 Oneida County Fair, held July 29th – August 1st, where history comes alive. I'll see you at the fair!

Northwoods
AUTO TECHS LLC

5 E. Monico Street,
Rhinelander, WI
715-365-2972

Treat your vehicle with the seal of excellence!

AAA
Approved Auto Repair

2020
GOLD
CERTIFIED
NATIONAL AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE EXCELLENCE

BLUE SEAL OF EXCELLENCE
ASE
RECOGNIZED BUSINESS

DEB LUND NORTHWOODS ARTIST

By Jaclene Tetzlaff and Tom Barnett

"Art pulls from a different part of your brain," says Deb Lund, Northwoods Artist. "If you push yourself, you're gone. I can be so into it, I won't even hear you."

We met up with Deb Lund, well-known and prolific artist, at her home in Rhinelander. Her workspace is in a lovely well-lit corner looking out onto the lake. Her table is surrounded by all colors and types of paint tubes imaginable and she has a couple of "works-in-progress" going at all time. "I have to use them all up before I'm gone," Deb jokes.

Her favorite medium is watercolor. "I love how watercolor looks. It can be the most difficult, because you don't know what it's going to do, but at the same time, it can be forgiving-if you can be loose about it." Before Covid, Deb taught 3 several-week classes per year. "I teach the technical things that happen with watercolor – dropping in color, shading, adding details."

Before she was a full-time artist, Deb was a nurse in Chicago. Deb's parents had a farm in Antigo, and she spent 13 years coming up in the Summer. Deb retired from nursing





after 35 years. She took a sabbatical, then took up art. "I probably started selling my art too early," she says modestly. But one of her greatest accomplishments to-date was selling some of her pieces for hundreds of dollars. "It was very exciting."

Her work is exhibited at The Three Lakes Center for the Arts, the hallways of the Minocqua Town Hall, and various shows and coffeehouses in the area. While Deb has painted all subject matter imaginable, her favorite is doing portraits of little kids. Clients have told her, "Wow, you really captured the personality of my child!"

Deb is the president of the Lakeland Art League, a non-profit organization started by a group of women artists. Membership is \$45 to join, and you can then participate in several workshops, meet with guest artists, participate in studio visits, and more.

We hope to see lots more of Deb's works at shows and exhibits throughout the Northwoods, and you can also see her work online at [Facebook.com/Art by Deb Lund](https://www.facebook.com/ArtbyDebLund).



TODD JOHNSON



Real Estate Broker
CELL: 715-490-0194
johnsont@firstweber.com



FIRSTWEBER
— REALTORS® —
a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate



Unique Creations

We Paint Kitchen Cabinets!

Booking now for Fall, Winter, & 2022

We serve an extended area. Contact us for a quote!

Call for an appointment
715-369-7286
1471 Eagle St, Rhinelander



BOB WEIGANDT NORTHWOODS IN MUSIC

FORESTS, LAKES, AND MUSIC

By Kerry Bloedorn

The Northwoods of Wisconsin is full of excellent musicians both past and present. Hidden amongst the tall pines and lakes of the area you will find a number of people using the environs and culture of the Northwoods as a muse for the creation of music. This creativity is enjoyed and manifests itself in the most special of ways, in ways that only Northwoods residents truly understand. It's a big part of the reason those musicians choose to live here, and venture out into the wide world to share it with others. One of those local musicians is Bob Weigandt. If you've been out to see any live music in the Rhinelander area in the past decade, odds are good you've seen the tall and dark curly haired Bob on stage (some will recall his days in dreds). Bob has performed with just about every popular musician and group that's graced a Northwood's stage in the last ten or more years. Bob tends to let others on stage use the microphones, but he speaks through other means, through his instrument, primarily, the Mandolin. So I considered myself lucky when I got Bob to open up about his life, his musicianship, and his love of the Northwoods of Wisconsin.

Bob is a Rhinelander native and since a young age he had a propensity toward music. He has early memories of instinctively using his toys to mimic the sounds he heard on WXPB's rock programs in the fashion of an air guitar. Later, a friend of his father had given him and his brother Jake an acoustic guitar, which at first sat around the house until Jake got the itch to learn and asked his folks for guitar lessons. Bob tagged along for these lessons and it was in these early moments the seeds of a musician were planted. Bob recalled showing up at a lesson a bit early and hearing the teacher shredding an electric guitar to some heavy rock riffs. Something about the sounds he heard clicked in his brain and he knew from that moment that being a musician was something he wanted to do. Bob learned how to play guitar and in those early years was drawn to punk rock music where he played with groups in the Rhinelander area.

After high school Bob found himself living in Duluth, Minnesota, which at the time, and still, has a great music

scene. Bob would go out to live music joints and see bands regularly as he continued playing with one of his early bands, Ghosts of Swinetown, formed in Rhinelander. At that time in Duluth, a 4-piece string band called Trampled by Turtles was becoming very popular. It was at these shows Bob witnessed acoustic string instruments being played with the intensity and passion of the punk rock music he grew up on and it struck him in a very profound and influential way, it changed the way he perceived acoustic instruments and lead him to reexamine his younger years with that acoustic guitar at home. Living in Duluth, Bob had a roommate with a mandolin in which Bob had taken an interest. He discovered that guitar players could be found anywhere, but mandolin players were few and far between, and was encouraged to pick up the mandolin full time. Not only could he put his guitar knowledge to work, he developed a versatility on the mandolin that allowed him to sit in with any number of groups. It gave him a niche that was lesser filled in the world of Midwest music. Over the years, Bob honed his craft to become one of the best mandolin players the Northwood's has ever produced.

Bob spent a few years playing with The Ditchrunners, a heavy hitting band that performed all over Wisconsin and beyond as he continued to improve his mandolin skills and better learn the music business. Bob would go on to form a 4 piece string band of his own, Dig Deep, which has seen regional success in the Midwest live music circuit. On top of all this, Bob has organized a winter music festival called Mountain Top Music Festival held in March at Indian Head ski resort in Wakefield, MI which has also been a huge success. Mountain Tops winter slot was cancelled the last two years due to the pandemic but was reprised in June 2021 for a hillside event that by all accounts went very well.

Bob explains this last year has been a challenging one, as it has been for people across the globe, but few industries were hit harder than the live music business. As musicians, their main goal is to create music, and bring people together, and it seemed that Covid was tailor made to hit the music industry in the worst possible way. As we all self-quarantined, trying our best to navigate a global pandemic, musicians were left stranded in its wake. But Bob explains he was thrilled in the ways his peers and musician friends handled the pandemic in



stride. Yes, it was difficult, but it also allowed musicians an opportunity to do what they do best, be creative, and find new ways of getting their music to listening ears. Bob, and many of his friends didn't skip a beat as they moved their live performances to online platforms, and in a way, it leveled the field for all live performers. They were all in the same boat, making it work. If there was anything we all needed while stuck at home, it was ways to entertain ourselves. It was musicians that stepped up and provided us with the soothing balm we all desperately sought, connection.

As we move toward a new normal, Bob believes a years' worth of global pandemic has given us all a new found appreciation for music, how important it is to us, and an appreciation for live music especially, and I wholly agree. A new emphasis has been placed on outdoor music venues as many places have decided to incorporate outdoor seating areas for patrons and in turn, that provides more entertainment spaces for music groups,

spaces Bob, his band, and fellow musicians intend on taking advantage of in the coming year.

Through Bob's music career, he hasn't lost sight of the things that are important to him, to remember to stay connected to his roots, which is why he spends his spare time basking in the beauty of the Northwood's forests and casting a line on one of its many glacial lakes, as he is known to be an expert fisherman aside from a premier mandolin picker. Bob says he has no plans to quit any time soon. He quotes his good friend and fellow Northwoods musician Scott Kirby saying, "A successful musician is one that continues," and by that standard, Bob Weigandt has found success. The Northwoods is lucky to have so many talented musicians around, and we are lucky to have Bob Weigandt playing music for us, in any form that comes, and bringing great live entertainment to the area.

Domino's
 DOMINO'S PIZZA
 623 LINCOLN ST.
 RHINELANDER, WI
 715-362-2525
 DELIVERY OR CARRYOUT
 LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED BY DAN AND NICOLE CAHEE

Reincarnation Resale and Decor
 Northern Wisconsin's Favorite Vintage/Liquidation Thrift Store
 Open Thursday through Saturday 10am - 4pm
 1853 North Stevens St. Rhineland, WI
 Between Napa and Hodag Lanes
 715-401-4733
 Reincarnationresaleonline

WILD INSTINCTS

A Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in the Northwoods.

By Sharon Larson

Wild Instincts is a non-profit organization that provides quality, ethical, professional wildlife rehabilitation to all Wisconsin native wildlife species. Their goal is to release the wild animals in their care back into the wild.

Started in 2011 by long time wildlife rehabbers Mark Naniot and his wife Sharon Larson, Wild Instincts admits over 1200 wild animals in need comprising over 100 different species each year. As the only wildlife center in WI licensed to treat all species allowed by law, including threatened and endangered, their patients can and have come from anywhere in WI. In 2020, admissions came from 43 counties.

Professional wildlife rehabilitators each with over 25 in wildlife rehabilitation, Naniot and Larson have been responsible for over 18,500 animals on their permits since 1997.

Naniot got his start in wildlife rehabilitation in Green Bay at a very-young age. A neighbor boy was supposed to walk him home from kindergarten but forgot. When Naniot tried to do it alone, he got lost and knocked on the door of a house to ask for help. A nice lady answered the door and invited him to see her birds while they waited for his mom. She was a wildlife rehabilitator who lived just a block away. Edie Johnston became his mentor from that moment until she passed away when he was 14. He learned to care for birds, squirrels, bunnies and an occasional raccoon. After she passed away, he carried her work on until he was 18 and old enough to start volunteering at Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary.

Larson had been a kennel person for a veterinary clinic owned Dr. Rory Foster when he began the first wildlife hospital in the Northwoods just as she was heading to school to study wildlife biology. Wildlife rehabilitation is the perfect blend of her love of wildlife biology and veterinary medical care. She volunteered at Foster's center so often, even while attending UW-Stevens Point, they made her honorary staff.



The couple met in 1996 through a personal ad in the paper. Within weeks they were engaged to be married and Mark relocated to Rhineland. Their passion for wildlife, and each other, created Wild Instincts.

They've seen many changes in their decades in wildlife rehabilitation field, some of which they helped bring about. Spear-heading making wildlife rehabilitation a profession instead of a hobby, sitting on committees that helped formed testing and regulations in Wisconsin, instructing for International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council teaching future rehabbers are just a few of their contributions.

Wildlife rehab is difficult and not for everyone. It's not just cuddling baby animals and certainly not for the faint of heart. "It's kind of the wildlife equivalent of a NICU," said Larson. "You need to be willing to have your heart broken on an almost daily basis; some days multiple times. There is suffering and death, but there is also great joy. You must also be resilient enough to find a way to rejoice and do it over and over".

Instead of knowing things about just one species, you must have extensive knowledge about many different species. In 2020, Wild Instincts admitted 123 different species.

That means knowing the dietary requirements, fat/protein of formula compositions, breeding seasons, life stages, and habitat requirements for everything from deer mice to black bears or hummingbirds to eagles. The medical aspect of triage, fluid management, wound treatment, disease management, lead poisoning care, etc. are also part of a wildlife rehabbers knowledge base.

As part of the medical side, Wild Instincts has their own blood lead analyzer in their lab. This enables immediate testing of any eagle, loon, or swan for lead poisoning, even if they aren't exhibiting typical symptoms. Within three minutes the results are known and treatment, if necessary, can begin right away.

In April 2021, through the generosity of donors they were able to add their own portable x-ray machine. This allows better diagnosis and treatment of fractures without having to add stress to the animal or to try to transport the animal to the vet.

Wild Instincts works with the local veterinarians at Northern Paws Animal Hospital and Animal Health Care Center for complicated



medical issues and surgeries. "We are so fortunate to have a wonderful and generous veterinary community supporting our efforts," says Naniot. "To learn enough to be fairly good at wildlife rehab takes about 5 years" says Naniot. "There's a lot to know and some species we don't see every year. It makes it difficult to gain experience."

Naniot is known for his experience with certain species. His knowledge with river otter care gained worldwide attention in 2016 when the BBC featured Wild Instincts in an episode of their TV series Natural World called "Supercharged Otters". It was picked up by PBS Nature in the US. "Charlie and the Curious Otters".

Wild Instincts has an extremely small staff, just Naniot, Larson and Rehab Assistant Kaitlin Wikoff. Until COVID-19, a handful of volunteers helped with resident care. Naniot is still an unpaid volunteer, even though he works more than 70 hours/week in the Baby Season. Wild Instincts relies on interns during the busy Baby Season. Each spring, summer and fall, students wanting to immerse themselves in everything rehab apply to Wild Instincts for an internship. Wild Instincts provides housing and small food stipend in exchange for hard work and long days for those who think they may have the passion to work in wildlife rehab. Every year about a dozen eager faces join the Wild Instincts Team to learn what wildlife rehab is.

Many years, not all interns succeed in completing their internship, but those that do are changed forever, whether they continue in wildlife rehab or not.

Rehab Assistant Wikoff did continue. She got her start at Wild Instincts as an intern. She liked it so well she came back as an intern supervisor. Now she's been on staff for two years. Originally from Oregon, she graduated from the University of Montana.

"Many people seem to think that working with wildlife is just getting to pet and play with it, but that couldn't be further from the truth. Wildlife needs to be kept wild and be able to provide for themselves when released back into nature. We work hard to make sure that each animal gets the proper care, and it's always rewarding to see all the long hours pay off when that animal gets released". Wikoff pointed out.

"There is no better job in the world as we have a chance to set right what has somehow gone wrong," Naniot added. "Many of our cases are human caused and since humans broke it humans should be the ones to fix it"

About 90% of the wildlife admitted to wildlife rehabilitation centers is due to human-related activities. These can be activities as simple as mowing or as complicated as oil spills. Even something as innocently helping an animal that doesn't need help.

Each spring white-tailed deer fawns are "kidnapped" from their moms by well-meaning people. Fawns are left alone for long periods of time by their moms. This helps keep predators from knowing where they are. Fawns are born with little scent and great camouflage. Their defense is to lie perfectly still and pretend to be invisible. This combination makes it easy for well-meaning people discovering a fawn to think the tiny, adorable creature is abandoned. It likely is not and should be left alone.

If you see a wild animal you think may need help, call a wildlife rehabilitator first. They will be able to talk you through the situation. Each situation is unique. The animal may not need help and will do

best if it can stay with its mom. Wild Instincts answers the phone 24/7 for wildlife emergencies.

Wild Instincts believes education is a huge part of rehab. They present education programs to schools, camps and civic groups on wildlife and being a good steward. Their long-term dream is to build a nature center in addition to their top-notch wildlife hospital. Wild Instincts, like all Wisconsin wildlife rehabilitation facilities, receives no government funds. They rely solely on public donations, memberships and volunteers. COVID affected many of the scheduled fundraisers for 2020 and even 2021.

COVID-19 and its affects on fundraisers are still being felt. This year is another uncertain year for funding. Wild Instincts does have its annual ScaVenture fundraiser scheduled for July 16-18, 2021. It's like a scavenger hunt played on your smartphone so anyone can participate from anywhere in the world.

While wildlife rehabbers may have an idea, they never know what species or how many will be admitted every year. It makes budgeting difficult. For example, to raise an infant black bear to release costs about \$3000 per cub. In 2020, Wild Instincts released a record 20 bears!

"We are continually humbled by the generosity of our supports. We cannot do any of what we do without them. Thank you for helping us help them," said Naniot.

Here's how you can help make the Wild Instincts Team's job easier:

Learn to be a good neighbor: If you feed birds, keep feeders clean. Take down to prevent nuisance encounters.

Pick up fishing line, even if it's not yours.

Crush your recycling so animals don't get heads stuck

No fireworks. Be respectful on the water. Watch for ducklings. Slow

down, watch for turtles. Don't kidnap deer. Keep you dog under control.

Use window clings on large windows. Keep your cats indoors.



If you'd like to help Wild Instincts help wildlife in need, see www.wildinstinctsrehab.com for links to their fundraisers, social media pages and more information.

HAPPENINGS IN THE NORTHWOODS

The 1st Annual Hodag Heritage Days

The Rhinelander Chamber of Commerce joined up with some fun-loving Hodags to bring the first Hodag Heritage Days to the community. Contests, activities, a Hodag-hunting video, and a special appearance by the Hodag himself was part of the festivities at Pioneer Park on May 21.



Tarsie Goes and Son



Mayor Chris Fredrickson



Bobbie Keso-Mode

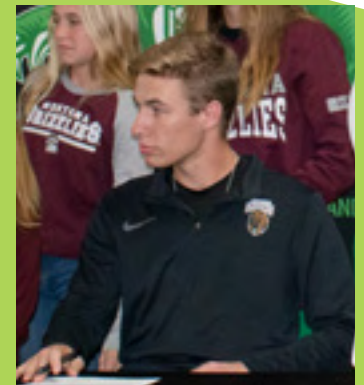


Paul Hagen



Superintendent of Schools
Eric Burke

Four hard-working Rhinelander High School students held a news conference on Friday, May 21 to officially sign their scholarship offers from various colleges. Left to right are: Alison DeNamur, Isaac Bixby, Billy Berwig, Quinn Lamers.





City Administrator
Zach Vruwink and The Hodag



Holly Kurilla and Judy Gotz



Jenna and Bill Devault
and Boys



Joey Cronick, Dan Hagen, Devin Biggs



Kerry Bloedorn, Ben Brunell, Andrew Egan



The Hodag Hunters

Crafts, Cars, Burgers and Bikes...OH MY!

Downtown Rhinelander was abuzz Saturday June 12th for The Art Fair,
Car Show and Bikes and Burgers



Chef Tom





www.letsminocqua.com

Love Where You Live!



PINE POINT REALTY

**1226 Lincoln Street
Rhineland, WI 54501**

PINE POINT
REALTY

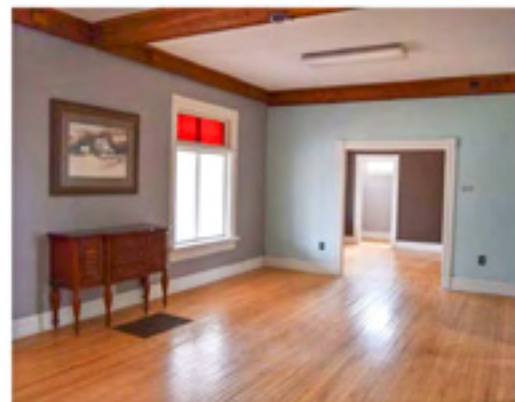
715.365.6000

www.pinepointrealty.com

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED



**Tattle Tales Bar: Become your own boss with this well established Northwoods bar. This property offers a 30 ft bar with 12 stools, a 21' x 31' dining hall, and a 45' x 34' banquet hall with a separate bar and restrooms. 2 bed, 1 bath apartment attached. \$349,900
MLS#189007**



Lincoln Street Commercial with Living Quarters! \$119,900 MLS#177612



DIEL INSURANCE GROUP

715-362-2444
dielinsurance.com

LOCAL | PROFESSIONAL | RELIABLE



Your Backyard Oasis is a TAP Away

You've created a vision for your home; let us guide you through the financing. TAP Lending from Nicolet Bank combines Technology And People to dramatically shorten the time between application and mortgage approval. Apply online from home with guidance from a local expert at Nicoletbank.com.



Amy Vanney
Branch Manager

Rhineland
NMLS ID# 1659565
715.362.2651
avanney@nicoletbank.com

Nicolet
NATIONAL BANK
Real People. Real Conversations.

Nicoletbank.com | 800.369.0226

Member FDIC | Equal Housing Lender | NMLS ID# 411009