

# The New



Complimentary Community Magazine

Fall/Holiday 2021

Happy Holidays  
The Holmboe Trail  
Biking Trails and Maps  
Rotary Club of Rhinelander  
Fall Musky Fishing



# The New



Welcome to the fourth quarter publication of our first year. And what a year it has been! The New North Magazine started as a dream of an idea. Would the area embrace a new magazine? Would retailers advertise? Would people participate?

The answers turned out to be YES!... And we are grateful. This last issue of the year celebrates all the great things of the fall and holiday seasons here in the area.

Dan Hagen takes us on a Bike and Hike Tour of the Northwoods' Fall Colorama. Kerry Bloedorn reviews some of the holiday traditions and stomping grounds that make the season bright. Dan and Kerry team up to tell the history of The Holmboe Trail, a significant pathway along the Pelican River that holds stories from before the town was formed. Features also include local artist Em Oradei, musician David Walters, and cookie maker, Dustin Chronister.

There is so much going on in the great Northwoods, you need to pay attention every week. Our Northwoods Happenings page reviews just some of the fun things that occurred during the summer. And, if you are involved in an event, please feel free to contact me and we will try to include it in the next issue.

Lastly, check out my article on The Rhinelander Rotary, one of the oldest service organizations in town. I am honored to be a part of this group of civic leaders, and want to tell you about what they do, how they benefit the community, and how you can be involved as well.

Happy northwoods holidays!

Jaclene Tetzlaff

Publisher

The New North Magazine

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## Homemade Eggnog

We have all had a cup or two of eggnog around the holidays, but have you ever wondered if it would taste better if you made it yourself? Well, the answer is yes. Here is a recipe that is easy to make and tastes loads better than the eggnog that comes out of a carton.

### Ingredients

6 egg yolks	½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
½ cup sugar	¼ teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup heavy whipping cream	Pinch of salt
2 cups milk	Ground cinnamon for topping

Whisk the egg yolks and sugar together in a medium bowl until creamy. I used an electric mixer.

In a saucepan, combine cream, milk, nutmeg and salt. Stir often with a spoon until mixture reaches a simmer.

Now, add the hot milk to the egg mixture, one ladle at a time, so the eggs can temper. While adding, whisk until all of the milk is added. Then, add everything back into the saucepan and whisk until the mixture is slightly thickened. Now stir in the vanilla. Pour into a pitcher, cover and place into refrigerator. It will thicken more as it cools. Store up to one week.

When serving, pour a shot of Rum, Bourbon or Brandy, then the eggnog. Use fresh whipped cream and a sprinkle of cinnamon or nutmeg on top. Delicious!

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# THE HOLMBOE TRAIL

By Kerry Bloedorn and Dan Hagen

Did you know there's a time machine in the heart of Rhinelander? A step inside the Holmboe Nature Preserve is a step into the past. "To have intact old growth is exceptionally rare," said Ted Anchor. "There's less than 1% of it left." Anchor is the executive director of the Northwoods Land Trust, an organization that promotes conservation in the area, and Holmboe is their crown jewel.

Officially called the Holmboe Conifer Forest State Natural Area, Holmboe boasts an old growth forest composed of Hemlock and Yellow Birch with large specimens of scattered White and Red Pines which cover a large glacial esker that snakes along the





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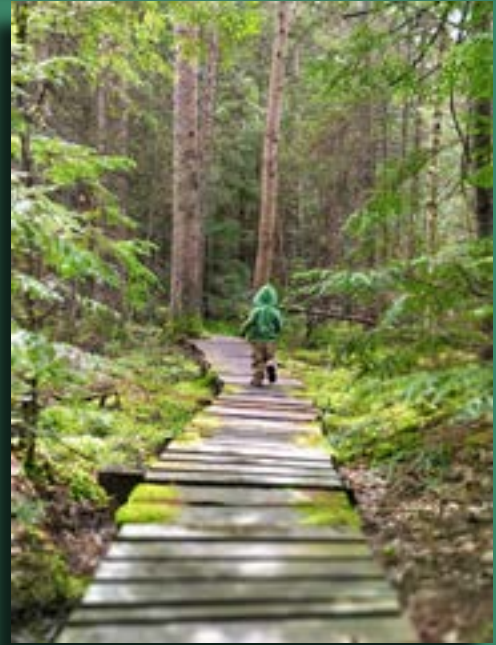




banks of the Pelican River and through the Holmboe property. It also features wetland areas that fill the low lying places of the preserve, watered by natural springs that bubble from the property. Some of the hemlocks are more than 150 years old! The hilly Holmboe landscape is evidence of the last glacier that receded from the area about 10,000 years ago.

As the last glacier retreated from the area, the land that would become the Holmboe preserve was birthed. After being covered by a mile thick sheet of grinding ice, life sprang up in its place. Sediment the glacier had picked up during its slow march south would be dropped as it melted, creating the steep hills we see at Holmboe today. For thousands of years, the area was unaffected by humans, allowing the development of a unique ecosystem, teeming with life. When Rhinelander began to be settled with an influx of immigrants to the area in the mid to late 1800's, 99% of all the old growth forest in Wisconsin was logged, leaving little intact. The Holmboe property was mostly spared from this era of deforestation, possibly due to the steep terrain and wetlands throughout, leaving but a remnant of land reminiscent of the ancient forest that at one time covered much of Northern Wisconsin. For this reason, the Holmboe preserve is extremely rare among forests of today.

The site is not only full of natural history, but the history of



**Possible Hobo Hole**



## The Holmboe Trail - Continued



mankind itself. Given Holmboe's proximity to the confluence of the Pelican and Wisconsin Rivers, this area is one of the oldest inhabited sites in Rhinelander. Native American people traversed through what is now Rhinelander on what became known as the Superior, or Ontanagon Trail. This ancient foot path was well worn and used for generations. The high ground overlooking the confluence was used by early people and the springs located in the preserve were known by those traveling along the trail and so the immediate area around the confluence became a recurring summer camping ground to the early inhabitants of Northern Wisconsin. It's purported that the Holmboe preserve could contain Native American burials. Rhinelander's first modern settler, John Curran would build his river station and home just below what is now the Holmboe preserve in the 1860's.

In the 1930's hobos, and other transient people built a shanty town or "Jungle" on what is now the Holmboe property. Being just outside the city limits but within walking distance of the rail lines, it was advantageous to those itinerant visitors to Rhinelander. Depressions left in the ground overlooking the Pelican River are evidence of the time they spent there. Stories of Roma people squatting on the land are also told among area residents. Undoubtedly, all these people took advantage of the springs seeping out of the ground there.

The land was owned by few people in its modern age, the last

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being Frithjof Holmboe, the properties namesake, who owned a photography studio in Rhinelander. The Holmboe family knew the importance of this unique area and used it for the study of nature and walks for their pets, some of whom are buried on the property. Frithjof and his son, Thorvald, would donate the property to The Nature Conservancy in 1965 with the stipulation it be protected as a nature preserve, setting up its future as a State Natural Area.

Today, a trail runs through the property giving nature seekers access to the site. Primitive yet unobtrusive boardwalks traverse the wetland areas for ease of passage. Hemlocks need a very specific climate to germinate. Its seeds need cool, and damp conditions, hence the reason they have thrived in the area having been spared by early logging. The thick conifer canopy juxtaposed with areas of maples allow just enough light to outline the dark groves that envelop visitors in the forest. The preserve is home to as many as 30 different bird species which nest in its 32 acres. Birds such as the least flycatcher, wood peewee, hermit thrush, winter wren, and ruffed grouse have been spotted. Three different kinds of woodpeckers; pileated, downy, and hairy, are common. Plus sapsuckers, chickadees, nuthatches and more. The undisturbed shoreline on

the Pelican River is important to mammals, birds, and amphibians alike. Great Horned and Barred Owls have been spotted sweeping along the riverine corridor. The low wetland areas of the preserve are home to salamanders, frogs, insects and a variety of fungi. Thick mats of emerald green sphagnum moss cover swaths of low areas between the steep slopes of the property, giving the impression fairies must surlily live there amongst the abundance of wildlife. In a word, the preserve is, magical.

All who visit Holmboe come away knowing this is a special place. Locals consider it a hidden gem. Visitors to Rhinelander need not go far from the city to find this well-preserved area that harkens back to a time before modern man's impact on the Northwoods. A literal step back in time. Holmboe can be enjoyed in all seasons, whether it's in a pair of hiking boots, or in a pair of snowshoes, and in every season a new light is shed on its value. As the popularity of the preserve continues to increase, it becomes all the more important for us to protect and respect this fragile ecosystem when we visit, so that it may be available for future generations to learn from and enjoy.

**“PRESERVED WILDERNESS HAS NO MONETARY VALUE. HOW DO YOU PUT VALUE ON THE SUN SHINING ON PINES, EVOKING THEIR SPECIAL FRAGRANCE? WHAT IS THE WORTH OF A POND FULL OF FROGS IN FULL CHORUS? HOW DO YOU ESTIMATE THE INCOME FROM A CALM LAKE REFLECTING A SUNSET WITH ONLY A LOON BREAKING THE PERFECT UPSIDE-DOWN PICTURE? CAN YOU SELL A FAMILY OF YOUNG WEASELS, TUMBLING WITH EACH OTHER IN PLAY AMONG THE ROCKS? HAVE YOU EVER TRIED TO PUT A CARPET OF ANEMONE, AND VIOLETS INTO YOUR BANK ACCOUNT? THESE THINGS HAVE INFINITE VALUE, AND THEREFORE, NO MONETARY VALUE.... A WALK IN THE WOODS, OR MEDITATION BY A LAKE CAN LEAD TO LOVE, COMPASSION, PEACE, AND CREATIVITY.”**  
**- DR. LOIS ALMON**





# DUSTIN CHRONISTER

By Kerry Bloedorn



## “MR. COOKIE”

Downtown Rhinelander has seen its ups and downs over the decades. Businesses come and go, societal changes force downtown America to adjust and adapt. With the availability of historic buildings in downtown Rhinelander that are in need of a new lease on life, and people moving into the area to enjoy the Northwood's way of life, there are many business opportunities to be had. Downtown Rhinelander is certainly on an upswing, and a big part of that upswing are the entrepreneurs and businesses that make Rhinelander a wonderful place to visit and shop.

One of those thriving businesses is CT's Deli on Brown St. One of CT's co-owners, Dustin Chronister is a multifaceted man that's been able to follow his dreams and carve out a life and business in Rhinelander. Not only does he co-own the deli, a premier downtown eatery where he is often found behind the counter making delicious food, he also owns Butcher Shop Bake Company where Dustin acts as sort of a mad-cookie-scientist, concocting any number of cookies with flavors that constantly keep people on their toes; Oatmeal, Butterscotch, Bacon is one of my favorites. Dubbed by many locals as “the cookie man”, Dustin is simultaneously business co-owner, chef extraordinaire, baker, and valued member of the Rhinelander community. Most anybody that lives in Rhinelander, and many that visit, have enjoyed an excellent meal or

amazing cookie that started in the hands of Mr. Chronister.


Dustin was born in the Hartford, Wisconsin area and moved to Rhinelander when he was about 10 years old. Aspirations of being a professional football player changed into health and fitness guru where he spent time working at GNC. As a personal trainer, he helped others live healthier lives. Part of his work involved making healthy foods for a healthy diet. On this journey Dustin fell in love with cooking and it was then he discovered he not only had talent for it, but loved doing it! Through all of this, Dustin discovered and developed a core value of “service to people”.

Dustin's love of cooking and baking transfers into making people's lives better, and for him, the hard work and long hours he puts into his trade makes it all worth it. Dustin takes great pride in his craft and he has worked hard to grow into a person that is confident in himself. He attests “thinking big, and going big”, working with a great team, and learning from experts in his field, as keys to his success. But most of all he says, “believe in yourself.” So why cookies you ask?

“Everybody loves a cookie.” Dustin says. And he's right. Dustin plans to stick around Rhinelander for the foreseeable future and many of us are glad to know there will be tasty food and delicious cookies to go around for years to come!








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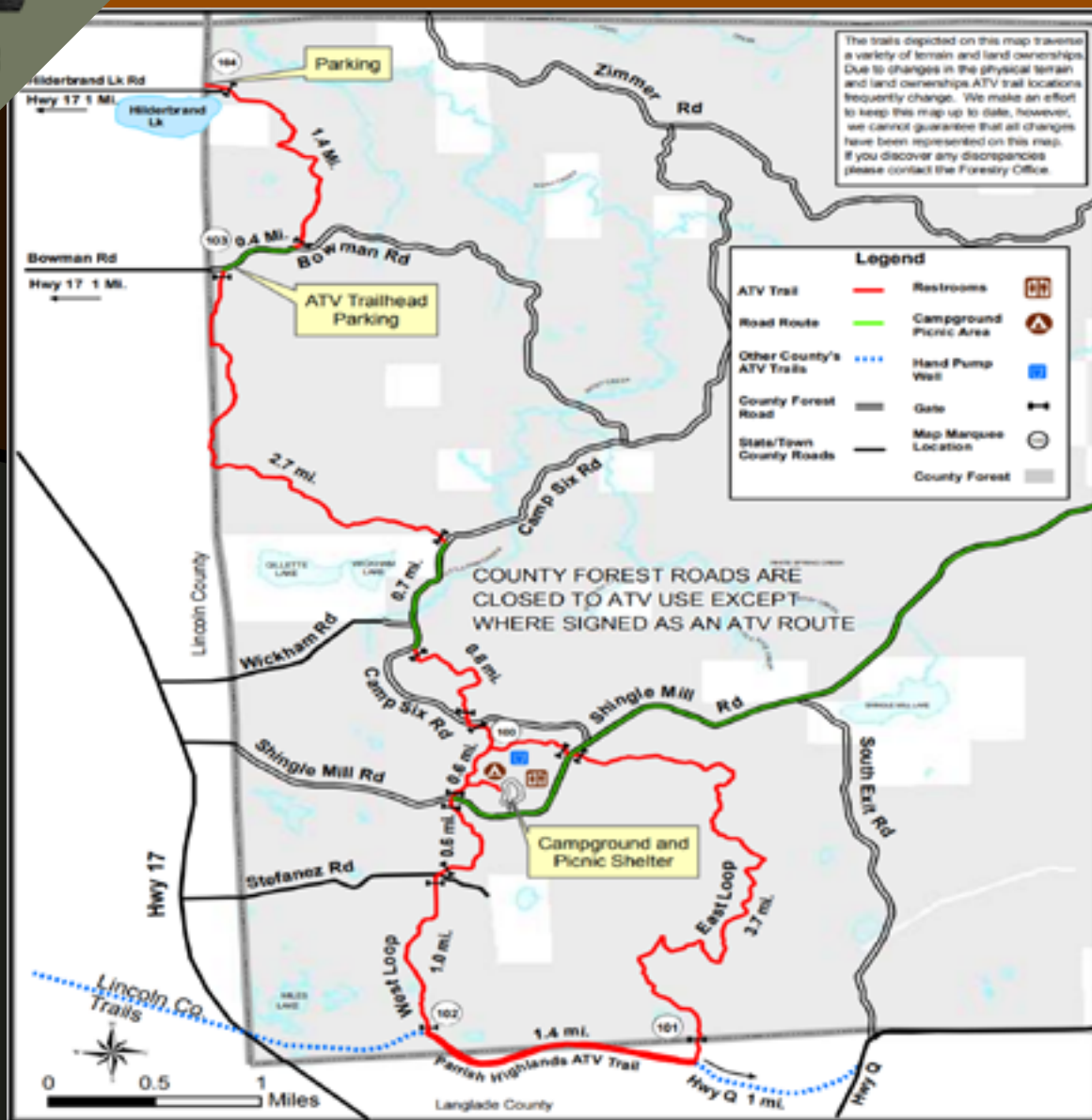


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 When the seasons change  
 We play in good company  
 A symphony  
 An elemental harmony  
 As time goes by  
 We live and love so simply  
 Again here rolls in  
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 All of the colors are  
 Telling of our  
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 Summer rolled along Just like  
 it used to  
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# BIKING FROM TOWN TO TOWN

*By Dan Hagen*

Imagine a world where every town is connected with a bike trail. Seems like a fantasy, right? In Vilas County, that vision is actually closer to reality.

The western half is pretty much done. Mercer to Manitowish Waters to Boulder Junction to Sayner to St. Germain. These towns are all connected with more than fifty miles of smooth asphalt, surrounded by lakes and forests. It is the Heart of the Vilas trail system. The Heart was recognized as a National Recreation Trail last year. But Jeff Currie doesn't want to stop there.

"Bringing the eastern end of the county into the network just makes a lot of sense," said Currie.

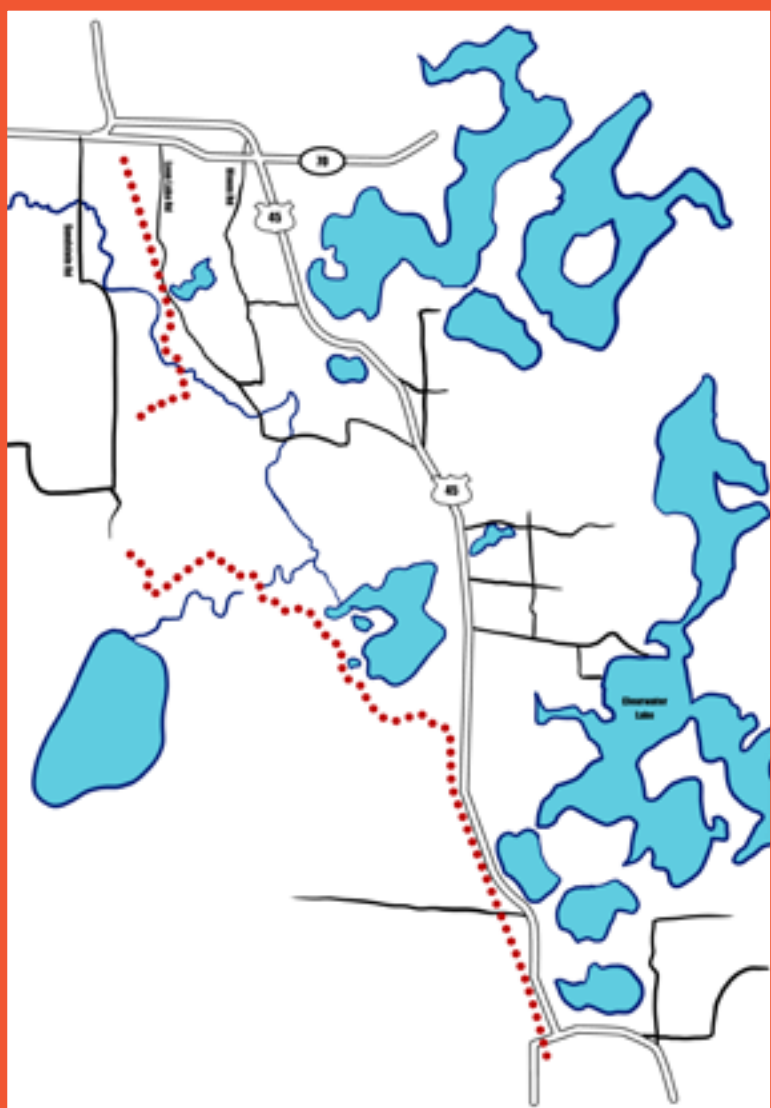
Currie and others formed the nonprofit Great Headwaters Trails back in 2010. The group's vision is to create a 40-mile trail network connecting Eagle River, Land O'Lakes, Conover, and Phelps. Once complete, it will also connect to the Heart, the Three Eagle Trail (connects Eagle River and Three Lakes) and the Wilderness Lakes Trail (includes a paved trail extending west from Land O' Lakes).

This year, the 8.5-mile Conover-to-Phelps section was completed. Currie has his sights set on a trail connecting Eagle River and St. Germain next.

"There are long trail systems around the country, but north of Wausau – what's going on in Vilas County is unique," said Currie.

Biking is a great way to explore the Northwoods and see all the Fall colors. On the next page is a visual of the completed trails, and proposed future trails. A good introduction to the Heart of the Vilas is starting at the M&N Trailhead and biking east toward Sayner until you feel like turning around. Enjoy!





▲ **Clearwater Lake**

▲ **Bearskin Trail**

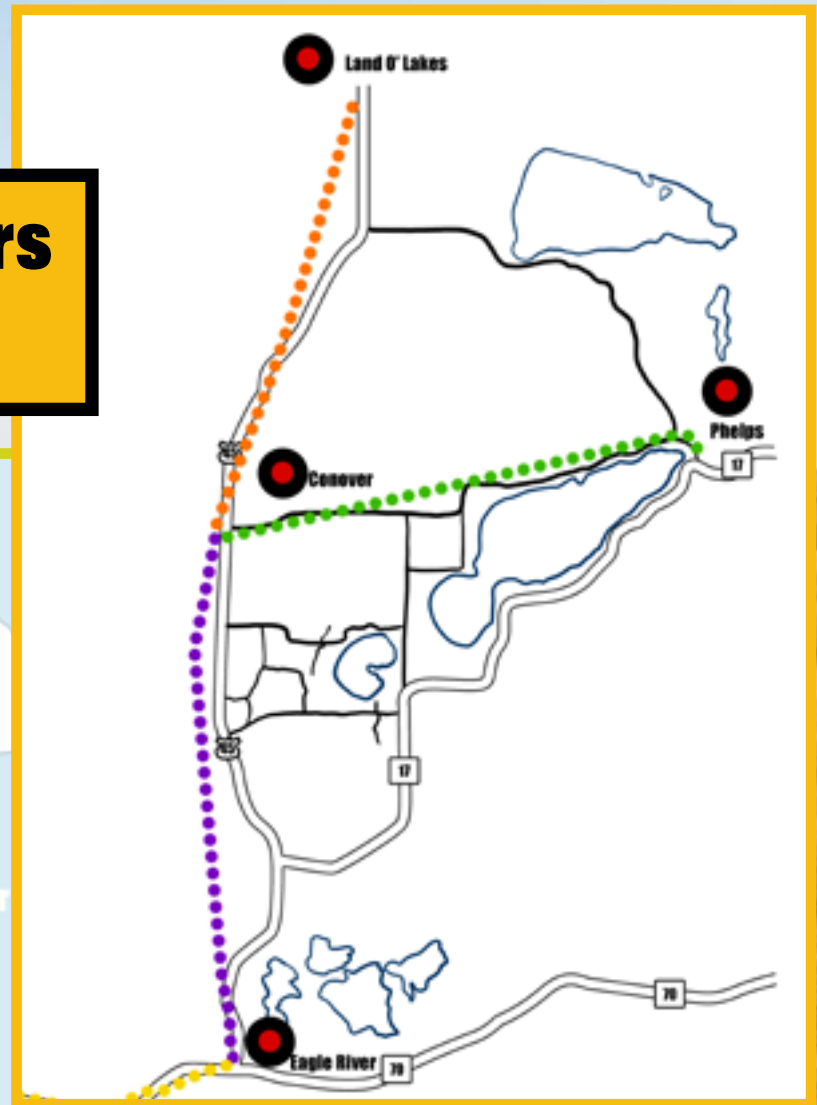


Jeff Currie



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# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

By Kerry Bloedorn

Rhinelanders are a very festive community during the holiday season, with many wonderful things to do and places to eat that deck the halls.

## Restaurants

Every year, a number of local restaurants pull boxes out of the proverbial closet and decorate for Christmas and the New Year. Of special note are The Rhineland Café and Pub, Three Coins at Holiday Acres Resort, and The Al-Gen. All of these long standing supper clubs go all out with gorgeous Christmas trees and holiday décor, making for great places to grab a fish fry and enjoy the holiday spirit. These are just a few of the many area places that decorate for the holidays so I hope you'll go exploring this Christmas season!

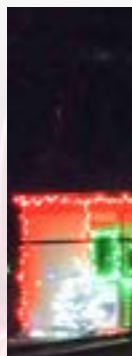
Rhinelanders have had several holiday events growing over the years that have become destinations for people all over the area.

## 2021 Turkey Trot

Starting off the holiday season is the annual Turkey Trot, a cool weather 5k race that starts and ends at St. Marks Church in Rhinelanders. It is a popular event for racers of all ages and experience levels. More information can be found at: [www.rhinelanderturkeytrot.com](http://www.rhinelanderturkeytrot.com)

## Lights of the Northwoods

Lights of the Northwoods will be setting up one of the largest holiday lights displays in the area at Hodag Park again this year. With the increasing popularity of the Hodag Park display, this year, "Lights" have decided to run their event from December 3rd through January 1st. The lights will be on from 5pm - 9pm. This event brings in donations for the Rhinelanders Area Food Pantry and attendees are encouraged to







bring non-perishable items to donate. The Lights of the Northwoods display can be driven or walked through, opening up options for everybody. This year will include a fireworks display on New Years Day January 1st 2022 at 7pm!

For more information visit [www.lightsofthenorthwoods.com](http://www.lightsofthenorthwoods.com)

### **Pioneer Park Historical Complex Christmas Display**

If you're visiting the Lights of the Northwoods display, you might want to take a drive through Rhinelander's other popular park, Pioneer Park. Pioneer Park Historical Complex, in a joint effort with the Rhinelander Railroad Association, has been decorating the museum complex during its off-season. The Depot, the Train, and a lot of the outdoor displays are lit up in fantastical fashion and make a complimenting drive along with the Hodag Park display. Visit Pioneer Park Historical Complex on Facebook for more details.

### **Rhinelander Railroad Museum Christmas Open House**

Also at Pioneer Park Historical Complex, the Rhinelander Railroad Association with help from the Complex opens up the Depot for its annual Christmas Open House. The RRA decks the interior of the Depot with a variety of railroad related Christmas displays, gives speeder rides, serves hot cocoa, cider and cookies, and receives a few visits from Santa Clause himself. This year's open house will be held on two weekends. December 3rd from 4:30pm-7:30pm, which will allow visitors to see the depot at night and walk around the outdoor displays as well. December 4th from 12noon - 4pm will allow folks to stop by before heading to the parade downtown, and the following weekend Saturday, December 11th from 12noon-4pm. Keep an eye on the Pioneer Park Historical Complex Facebook page for more details about Santa's visit as we get closer to December.





## **Rhineland Area Chamber Events:**

### **Parade of Lights, Tree Lighting, and Community Decorating Contest**

The Rhineland Chamber of Commerce will be running its community wide Christmas Decorating Contest once again this season. Entries can be submitted by sending photos of holiday decorated homes or businesses to the Chamber email or Facebook Page between Thanksgiving and December 17th. The week of December 20th the Chamber will release a map of all the contestants so people can drive around and vote on their favorite. On Saturday, December 4th the RACC will host it's Parade of Lights in downtown Rhineland beginning at 5pm, with a tree lighting ceremony to follow. Those interested in entering a float can contact the Chamber @ [www.rhinelandchamber.com](http://www.rhinelandchamber.com)

### **Rondele Ranch Christmas Lights Display**

Just west of Rhineland on Hwy K, Rondele Ranch will be hosting a Christmas Lights Display too. Check in with the Rondele Ranch website for more details @ [rondeleranch.com](http://rondeleranch.com)

### **Ice Skating**

The ice rink at Pioneer Park will be flooded again this year by the Rhineland Parks Department. The warming house will be open as well. This rink is the oldest rink in town and always draws big crowds on sunny winter days!

### **Downtown Rhineland**

Of course Downtown Rhineland is always very festive for the holidays. The downtown décor compliment the Courthouse Dome that itself looks like a giant Christmas light bulb. With so many great events, lights displays, and participation from the whole community, Rhineland becomes a magical place to visit during the holiday season!

*Happy holidays to all!*





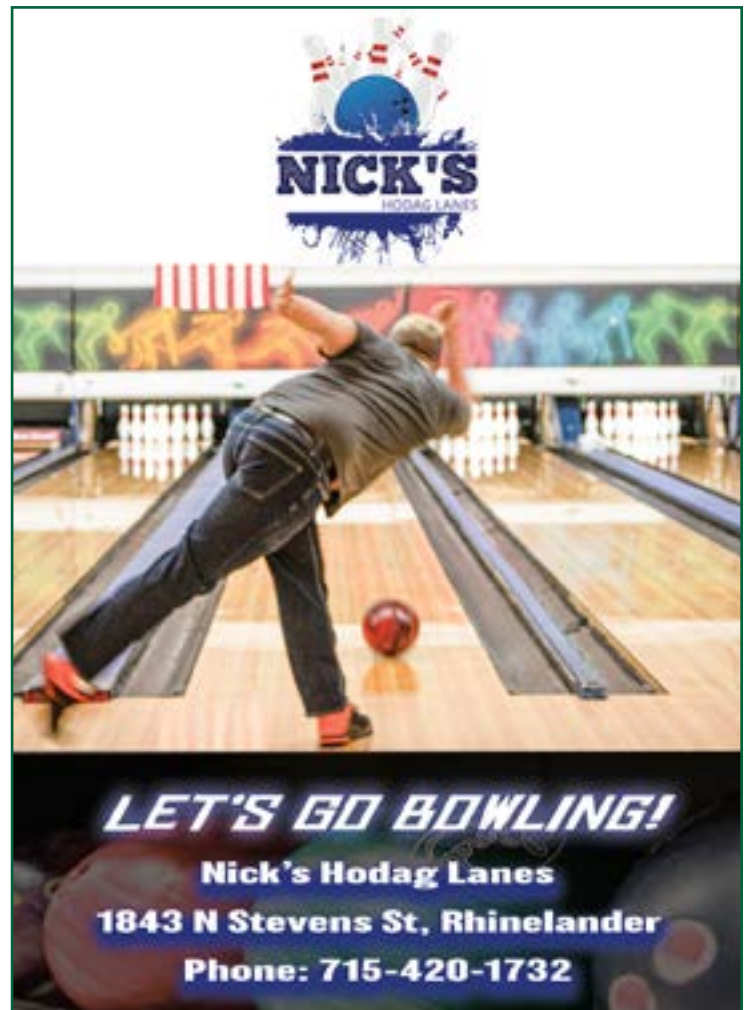


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# LIGHTS of the Northwoods

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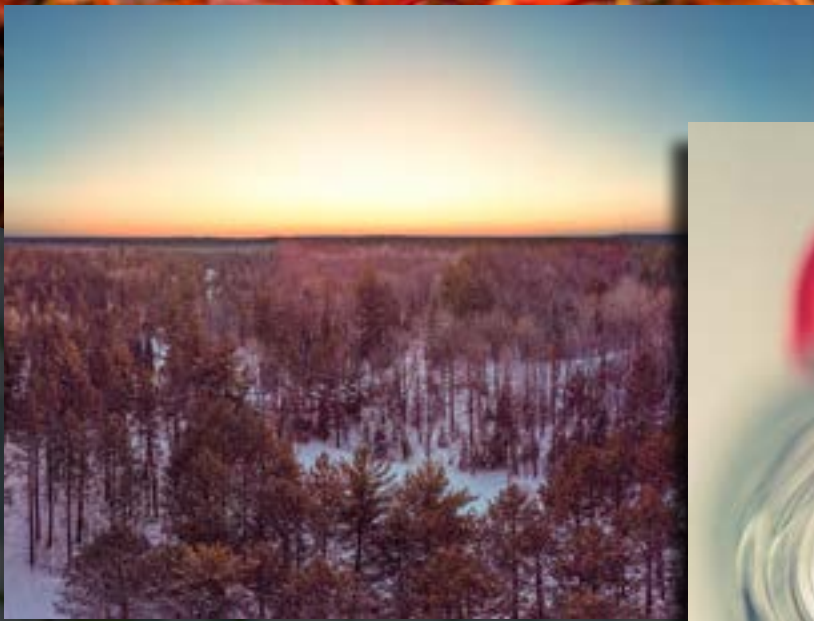


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*Al*

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# 10,000 CASTS - FALL MUSKY FISHING

By Kerry Bloedorn

It's getting dark on the lake as the sun sets on the horizon. Breath begins to freeze as the air cools but our bodies stay warm as we continue the rhythm of cast and reel. It takes both arms to bring the heavy-duty nine foot rod back and throw the big bucktail out into water. When the bait gets back to the boat I end with a figure-eight swirling the rod tip past a few golden birch leaves that have fallen into the lake, keeping my eyes below the surface for that elusive follow up. We are on the hunt for one of the most prized trophies in the Northwoods. The Muskellunge. There's a reason they call it "fishing" and not "catching" as is said, because not every trip on the lake results in fish landed, such as my time, but any time spent on the beautiful lakes of the Northwoods is time well spent.

Despite my lackluster attempt at catching a freshwater giant, people are often surprised to hear that some of the best musky fishing in history is occurring right now, in these present times. Photo albums of the past often show huge fish on display. Fish stories of old lead many to believe the good times have come and gone. But not so as DNR statistics show Northern Wisconsin waters have an excellent population of 40+ inch fish. It takes about a decade for a musky to reach the 40+ category and conservation groups have done a mighty fine job of preserving fishing opportunities over the last many decades. Oneida County itself is home to a number of world class musky waters, this in part to conservation efforts and largely due to the concept of catch and release. Catch and release methods were not well used in the golden resort age of Wisconsin between 1930-1950, but has become the norm with more anglers choosing to send their fish back to the depths to live another day, and fight another day, making for better overall fishing.

The Muskellunge was made the Wisconsin state fish in 1955, with Wisconsin producing more world record muskies than any other place. The current world record musky was a just over 69 pound,

5 foot 3 inch monster taken from the Chippewa flowage in 1949. A replica of a fish purported to have been netted by a conservation team on a Northwoods lake hangs at Trigs grocery store in Eagle River which claims to have been 102 pounds!

I had a nice chat with Scott Biscobing who owns and operates Hodag Guide Service. He's been fishing his whole life and guiding fishing outings for 25 years. He confirms the stats that musky fishing in the area is excellent these days. Area lakes have good populations of muskies and despite the increased pressure over the years, musky fishing is great. I asked Scott, if he only had one area lake to fish and one bait to use this fall what would it be? Without skipping a beat he said, "the Rhinelander Flowage" with "a nine-inch Grandma's Lure", and that was a quick answer considering there are thousands of different musky lures out there. Now, I didn't dig too far into Scott's tricks of the trade that he's learned over decades on the water, but was happy to get those couple of tips from him.

As the days get shorter and the nights colder, our local lakes begin the process of "turning over" in the fall. Warm water on the top of the water column cools and sinks as the warmer water at the bottom circulates to the top causing the layers of water to become mixed. Between the time that the water starts cooling and the turn is complete, Muskies become almost voracious, needing to make up for the pace of their increased metabolism as the water cools. These autumn days on the lake produce some of the largest fish caught during the year, and is a choice season for the most serious musky anglers including Scott at Hodag Guide Service.

Scott has seen a lot of big fish In the twenty-five years he's been guiding, with specimens hitting the near 50" mark. Scott guides folks to any number of fish species but predominantly targets Muskies, so if you want to land a trophy fish this fall, visit his web





page and give him a call. Be sure to talk with him early because his services are in high demand.

The end of the season musky bite drew anglers from all over the country to participate in The Hodag Musky Challenge, which took place September 24th - 26th, 2021. This tournament celebrated 40 years this year and is currently run by The Northwoods United Way, The Rhinelander Area Ice Arena with a major sponsorship from Shoeders RV and Marine. This respected catch and release musky fishing tourney saw two-man teams plying the glacial lakes of the Northwoods in hopes of landing one of these famous fish of ten thousand casts. 102 boats were on the water this year and 32 muskies were caught and released in this year's tournament according to Brett Aylesworth, one of the organizers. The top prize for the biggest musky of the event is based on sign ups and the winner takes home between \$9-10 thousand dollars, with over \$20k in prizes given out during the event. The tournament is scored by points tallied based on measurements of fish caught per team over the course of two days. The top prize this year was taken by team Gibson/Block, who fished Crescent Lake and had three muskies on the board; 38.75", 38.75", and a 42". The largest musky landed during the weekend was 46.5" caught by team McInnis/Schmitz, also on Crescent Lake. For a full list of fish, visit the Hodag Musky Challenge Facebook page.

Musky fishing in the Northwoods is as sacred a time as the annual trip to deer camp. The sport is expected to continue to grow in popularity. We are blessed to have an abundance of wonderful lakes in the area and now's the perfect time of year to get out in the fresh autumn air and throw a lure around! Good luck!  
[hodagguideservice.com](http://hodagguideservice.com)  
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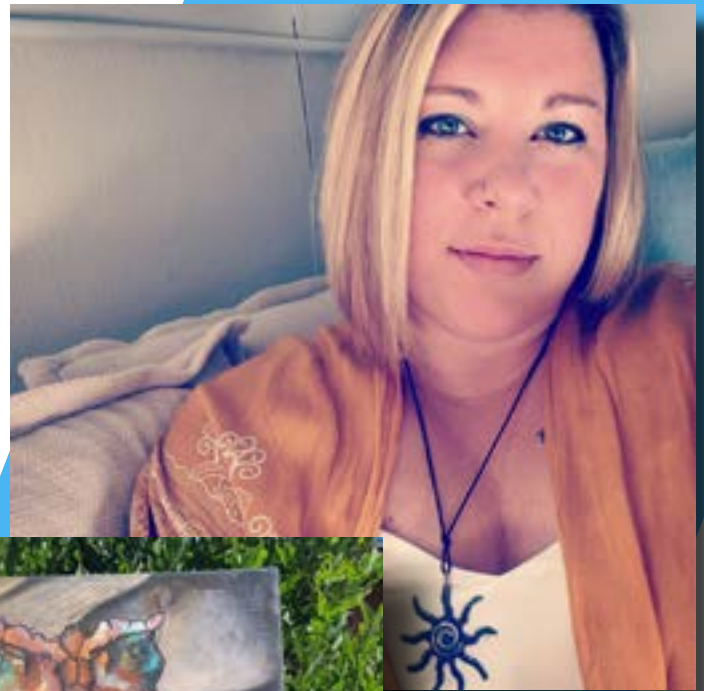
# EM ORADEI NORTHWOODS ARTIST

*By Jaclene Tetzlaff and Andrew Egan*

A starry night can be inspiring to a lot of people, including Vincent Van Gogh. But hundreds of years later after Van Gogh painted "Starry Night," a young artist in Northern Wisconsin continues to be inspired. "I've probably painted it fifty times. It's my favorite painting," says Em Oradei.

Oradei is an artist in the Northwoods and grew up in Rhineland. "I can't remember when I started liking art. As a kid, I would always rather be inside coloring or drawing. It was something to keep me busy." Her grandmother taught her to paint at an early age, and she was good at it. In junior high and high school, she took every art class that was offered. "Even when I wasn't in an art class, I was always thinking about how to incorporate art into everything I did." After high school, Oradei attended Northern Michigan University and studied fine arts with a concentration of drawing and painting. "I originally went for graphic design, but changed majors when I realized that I enjoyed the physicality of an actual canvas, and I liked getting paint on my hands," she says with a laugh.

Oradei has also learned that creating art can be collaborative. "Art is fun when you have people in a group that can critique, share, or bounce ideas off each other. You learn different ways to view art. Art is more fun when you do it together." Talk about collaboration-- "One time, a couple came in, covered themselves with paint, and rolled all







over the canvas. I painted through the shapes I saw – there's a chihuahua and a T-Rex in there! A company later turned the painting into a puzzle!"

Her travels took her to Seattle, where she lived for a couple of years. She also lived in Durango, Colorado. "Mountains and landscapes call to me, so I paint a lot of them. I am inspired by them." Oradei likes to go on adventures and create art along the way. "I bring a watercolor pan and brushes everywhere I go."

She strongly believes that art is very important in a community. "Art gets people thinking outside the box. It's a way for people to connect-- whether that means going to a gallery, seeing art at a fair, or being creative at the farmer's market. It just brings people together. There needs to be more art all around us. It allows us to see things in a different perspective."

You can find Em Oradei on facebook.



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# NORTHWOODS IN MUSIC

## DAVID WALTERS - THE OLD PINE ROAD

*By Kerry Bloedorn*

Just south of Rhinelander is what's left of an old logging community called Parrish, Wisconsin. I call it a "blink and miss town", if you blink while driving through it, you'll miss it. The remainder of the community, the Parrish Cafe, is now gone and what's left was the very thing that allowed the community to develop in the first place, trees! Lots of trees. It was in those trees that the sound of the crosscut saw disappeared and in its place the music of David Walters did spring up over 100 years later. David is well known in the area for performing with his group The Old Pine Road Band, named after the very road he walked growing up in Parrish.

David grew up in those inspiring woods of Parrish and they taught him, in so many subtle ways, how to play guitar, how to sing, and how to make music. At 10 years old David got a guitar lesson book and began learning to play, a feat made more challenging as there was nobody in his immediate family that played an instrument. In later years he cut his teeth playing at church, but soon discovered he needed a better outlet for his music and creativity. One of those outlets would come in the form of a jam group that practiced in the now razed Kabel Auto building, formerly on Stevens St. in Rhinelander. Eventually he landed his first paid gig in downtown Rhinelander, which kindled a desire to throw more wood on his musical fire. In 2011 the birth of his daughter Kaydence would change his life and the trajectory of his music career. After years of slogging away in the retail business, David decided to make music a full-time gig. Being a father made his time more valuable, and gave him a drive to make a career out of playing music. In the following years he poured countless hours into honing his musicianship, a set list, and worked his way up to playing regular shows.

If you've been out to see any live music in the Northwoods this summer, odds are good you've seen David Walters perform. After the quiet year the live music biz saw in 2020, David has hit the local scene hard this year. From Phillips Music in the Park where his group was voted best concert of the year, to the Pea Patch Saloon in Mani-Waters, to the southern reaches of Birnamwood,







Wisconsin for Jackpine Jamboree and every place that hosts live music in between, David and his band The Old Pine Road Band, made up of Mr. Walters, Thor Gunderson, and Chris Skinner, have been entertaining thousands of Northwoods residents and visitors this year. David's music is an upbeat variety of originals and popular covers, all well rounded by the trio that makes up the Old Pine Road Band. The tunes span genres from folk, blue grass, to rock and roll, and more, moving between them as smoothly as a musky through a clear glacial lake. The kind of music you expect to hear when you drive through the pines and enter a Northwoods venue, David's performances compliment every place he plays.

It's difficult to write a music article without speaking to the effects covid has had on live music artists. Like many performers, David says covid was a challenge for him, but he is grateful to the venue

owners of the Northwoods for helping get him through the tough season, many of whom took an active responsibility in helping their employees, which extended to the live music performers like David that they hire at their establishments. That's a true testament to the strong community that's been built up in the Northern Wisconsin live music circuit, and the important role that performers like David play at Northwoods venues.

With 2020 in the rear view mirror, David Walters keeps driving down that old pine road with optimism about the future and his music ventures. He maintains that keeping an open mind and heart can provide enough reward for the work he puts in. And put in the work he does. The Old Pine Road Band is lining up another round of gigs for fall and winter, and is sure to entertain. You can keep an eye on The Old Pine Road's Facebook Page and website [oldpineroad.com](http://oldpineroad.com) for upcoming gigs.

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# ROTARY CLUB OF RHINELANDER

By Jaclene Tetzlaff

## “SERVICE BEFORE SELF”

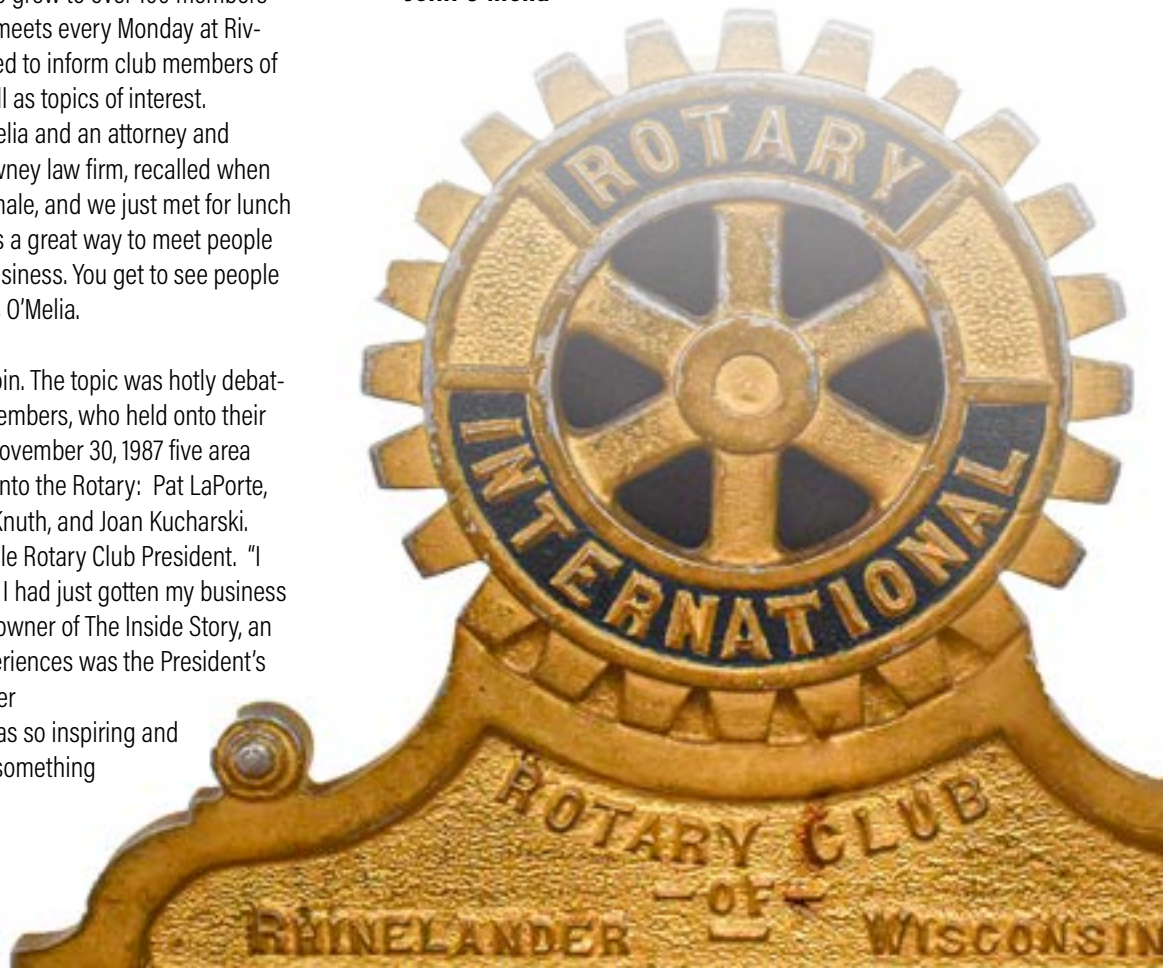
This is the motto of The Rotary Club of Rhinelander, as well as the worldwide organization, Rotary International. One of the world's first service organizations, Rotary was founded in 1905 by Paul Harris, a young Chicago lawyer who had the idea that businessmen should get together to enlarge their professional circle. The original plan was to include one representative from each vocation. Each week a meeting was to be held at a different member's place of business and rotated through the roster, thus the name, "Rotary" was adopted. The Club was founded to encourage and foster the opportunity to be of service to the community, to uphold high ethical standards in all members' business and personal life, and to advance international understanding of goodwill.

On February 16, 1920 the first meeting of the Rhinelander Rotary was held. Charter members were, Al O'Melia, an attorney, Ron Reardon, a druggist, and Bud Leadbetter, an insurance and real estate agent. They officially received their charter on April 1, 1920. In the early years, the Club met in the Trinity Lutheran Church and were served lunch by the ladies of the congregation. Later, the Club grew to over 100 members and met at the Claridge. Today, the Club meets every Monday at Riverview Hall. A local guest speaker is invited to inform club members of philanthropic activities in the area, as well as topics of interest. John O'Melia, grandson of founder Al O'Melia and an attorney and partner with O'Melia, Schiek and McEldowney law firm, recalled when he joined in 1979. "At that time, it was all male, and we just met for lunch and that was it. However, I thought it was a great way to meet people in other professions and facilitate new business. You get to see people you may not normally see everyday," says O'Melia.

In the late 80s, women were allowed to join. The topic was hotly debated at the time, especially by the oldest members, who held onto their traditional thoughts toward women. On November 30, 1987 five area women business leaders were inducted into the Rotary: Pat LaPorte, Bridgett Haggerty, Carole Mustacci, Geri Knuth, and Joan Kucharski. In 1993 Pat LaPorte became the first female Rotary Club President. "I was a little overwhelmed at first because I had just gotten my business going, but I got through it," says LaPorte, owner of The Inside Story, an interior design firm. "One of my best experiences was the President's Training Program where I got to meet other presidents from all over the country. It was so inspiring and enlightening, seeing that you are part of something so much bigger."



**John O'Melia**







*From Left to Right: Connor Showalter, Tim Thorsen, Shane Dornfeld, Dr. Bill Wright, David Holperin, Jack Grzesik, Dr. Greg Grzesik, Ron Skagen, Gina Scheuer, Sheriff Grady Hartman, Diane Sowinski, Father Kevin Farrell, Angie Dreifuerst, Jaclene Tetzlaff, Amy Vanney, Dwight Webb, Tom Rudolph, Paul Marquardt, Karen Marquardt*

In 1989, Rhinelander Rotary became part of the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program. Both Inbound and Outbound students have participated in the program throughout the years, giving many the opportunity to have an enriching experience abroad in a foreign country. The program has been on pause for the past two years due to Covid restrictions, but plans are to continue in the future. In years past, Rotary has also invited local RHS students to spend the day with local business owners to learn more about how business is conducted. In the mid '90s, Rhinelander Rotary began doing an annual Gala fundraiser. Proceeds from the Gala are distributed to organizations that are educational and civic-minded and that benefit the community.

"I have always enjoyed the Gala," says Paul Marquardt, current president of the Rhinelander Rotary and owner of Northwoods Auto Techs. "I am honored to be part of an organization that helps people both locally and globally." Paul joined Rotary in 2015 and stepped into the role of president in 2019. Paul's goals for Rotary are to increase the club's profile by being more socially active, and to welcome more and younger members who may be interested in what Rotary stands for. Also, Paul and his wife Karen, hosted a foreign exchange student in years past, and still maintain contact today.

The Rotary Club of Rhinelander is hosting its Fall Gala on October 16, 2021 at Holiday Acres. The event starts at 5 pm with cocktails, a raffle, then dinner and a live auction. Proceeds will benefit local non-profit organizations.

In the past, donations from Rotary have supported local chapters of Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Youth Exchange Programs, Babe Ruth League, Badger Boys and Girls State, Rhinelander Historical Museum, Pioneer Park, Hodag Park, and the Rhinelander Merit Scholarship Program, among others. Internationally, Rotary works with developing countries to produce clean water for their communities. Rotary was also instrumental in eradicating Polio by distributing vaccines in poor countries around the world.


"We welcome new members, new ideas, and new energy to the group," says Marquardt. If you are interested in joining The Rhinelander Rotary, or attending the Gala on October 16, please email: [jjtetzlaff@gmail.com](mailto:jjtetzlaff@gmail.com) for more information.




**Paul Marquardt**



**Pat LaPorte**



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# HAPPENINGS IN THE NORTHWOODS

## Friends of RHS Class of 1980 Golf Outing

What started as a small group of 1980 classmates having a round of golf, turned into a summer tradition of fundraising to raise scholarships for Rhinelander area graduates. Each year, the class of 1980 along with many others, turns this philanthropic event into an annual reunion filled with fun.



*Mike Dineen, Tom Stephens, Rick Rolain, Mike Fritz*



*Jane Bloom Rondeau*

**Drawing of Mike Webster Presented and Donated to the Hodag Dome by Friends of RHS Class of 1980.**



*Jeff Tracy, Rick Nelson  
Tucson Frechette, Paul Marquardt*



*Dave Robinson, Janet Jamison, Todd Johnson*

## Hodag BMX

Thousands attended the BMX Competitions in West Side Park, Rhinelander.



*Andy Bozicevich, Zakk Sorley,  
Jules Sorley, Stu Sorley*



*Highly-ranked Zakk Sorley soaring through the air*





**Oneida County Fair Opening Ceremonies**

This year's Oneida County Fair in Pioneer Park had great weather and record attendance.



*The Oneida County Fair from above  
Photo By: Andrew Egan*



*VFW Color Guard*



*Meg Sprecksel and friends*



*Tom Barnett and Kerry Bloedorn*

**The (Intuition) Collective - Art/Create Day**



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*John Ring*



*Shelly Vandervest,  
Amanda Anderson*



*Amanda Anderson and Andrew Egan*



*Will Young*







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# MORE ART, PLEASE..

By: Dan Hagen

A bunch of smiling people in front of the world's largest Hodag – a common sight at the Rhinelander Area Chamber of Commerce. And walking past AirPro's mural on Sutliff Avenue, it's hard not to stop for a moment to appreciate Rhinelander's industrial history. At the Pioneer Park pickleball courts, a recent temporary art installation provoked reflection on a tragic death. Whether it's happiness, pride, or reflection, art is a powerful tool – and Ashley McLaughlin wants more of it.

"Rhinelander has so many assets already with outdoor education and a vibrant history," said McLaughlin. "What we're missing is a connection to a city in the form of public art."

McLaughlin is the executive director of ArtStart, a non-profit focused on promoting arts and culture in Rhinelander. She is working with the city to install more public art, a mission more economically feasible than ever before.

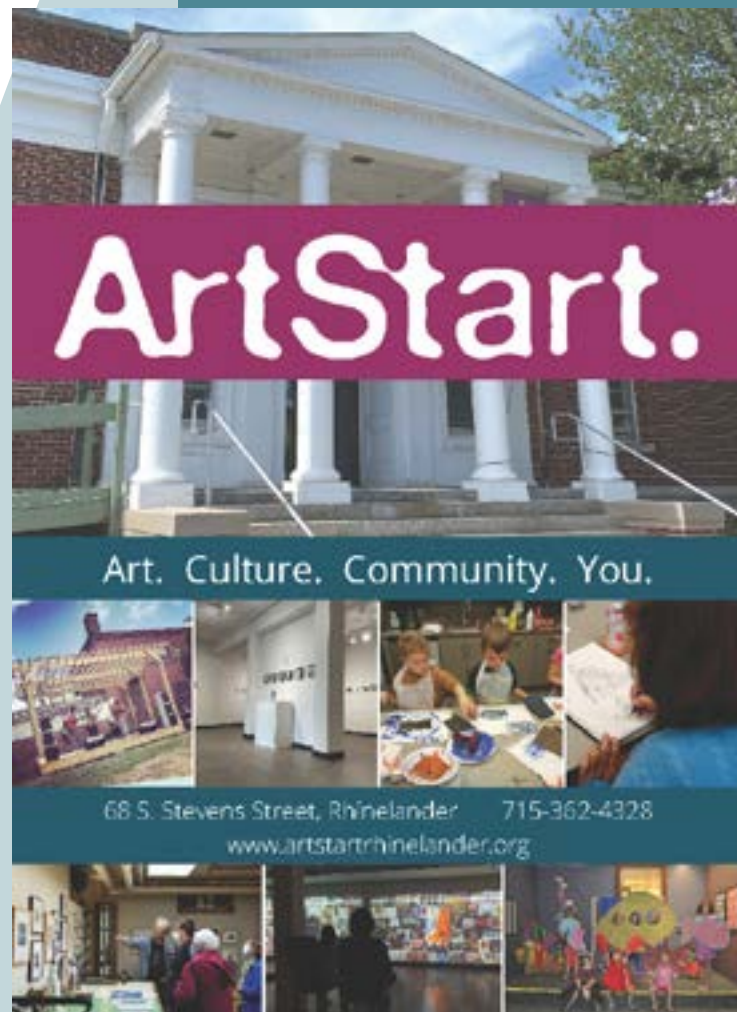
"There's a huge amount of funding out there for cultural tourism. From the city's standpoint, we could apply for some of those funds as well." McLaughlin envisions a future where Rhinelander's public art spurs conversation – whether that's about local history, current issues, or what lies ahead. There can also be creative ways for the art to serve a dual purpose, with practical items like bike racks, benches, or a place for kids to play.

"Public art is a vehicle where we can start talking about issues and what we want Rhinelander to be."

So what do you think Rhinelander should be? And what possible public art could reflect that?



Ashley McLaughlin





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