

Annandale | Maple Lake | Clearwater | South Haven

# ♥ of the Lakes 2023 Summer Guide

Events | Dining | Entertainment | Parks | Recreation







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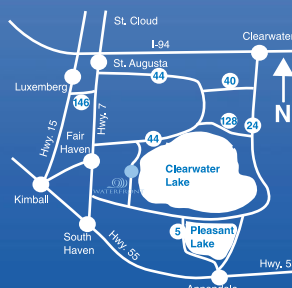
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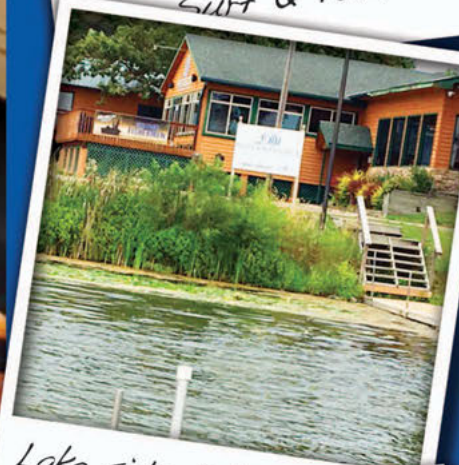
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*Dining Room*



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## ANNANDALE Advocate

Paw Publications, LLC



**EMAIL:**

news@annandaleadvocate.com



**WEBSITE:**

www.annandaleadvocate.com



**FACEBOOK:**

Facebook.com/AnnandaleAdvocate

Contributors to the Summer Guide include the writers noted within these pages and Advocate staff members Tom Westman, Samantha Bordak, Andrew Enninga, Maddie Juvland, Amanda Menden and Steve Prinsen.

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WELCOME

Annandale

# HEART OF THE LAKES

**W**elcome to summer in the Heart of the Lakes. It's that brief time of year when there are so many choices and not enough time, when you can dig into life's sand bucket and make a castle or two before the season becomes a distant memory.

Here's hoping you enjoy your summer and what it has to offer – whether it's on the lake fishing or boating, in your backyard or at one of the many area community events that provide fun for all ages throughout the summer.

You can smell the grill, you can hear the children play, you can see the sunsets and listen to the wildlife scurry about. Indeed, it's the time of year when all of nature awakens.

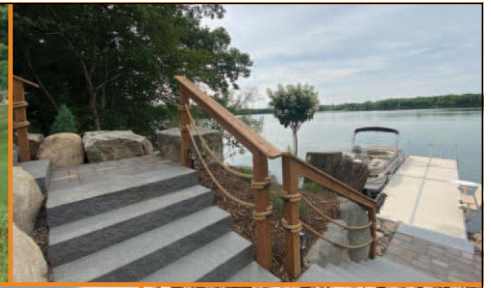
In the Heart of the Lakes Summer Guide we've put together some of the best of what the Annandale-South Haven area, the Heart of the Lakes, has to offer. We've blended some history, stories on local attractions and a lot of other fun and interesting information to help you better plan your summer.

Enjoy the season. It's our hope that you spend your leisure time with family and friends, making memories that will be cherished many years from now. Whether you're a visitor, a summer homeowner or a resident, stay safe in your travels and be respectful of others and nature.

Enjoy your summer!



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MAPS & INFORMATION  
WELCOME TO THE AREA



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The background image shows a sunny outdoor community event. In the foreground, the legs and feet of several people are visible as they walk on a paved surface. To the right, a white folding table holds a large black pot of food, with two women in red shirts serving themselves. A sign on the table reads 'ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH'. In the background, there's a blue building with a sign for 'AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE' and another sign that says 'The Arts' and 'Heart of the Annandale'.

# Explore LOCAL EVENTS 2023 Calendar

## MAY

### CINCO DE MAYO

**Friday, May 5:** A celebration of Mexican heritage and culture.

### ANNANDALE ALL-CITY GARAGE SALE

**Saturday, May 6:** There will be something for everyone at Annandale Chamber's annual city-wide sale, which has been held for more than 30 years. Look for many sales around town. Check your Advocate for listings.

### CLUB TRAIL RIDE

**Sunday, May 7:** Silver Bullet will host an 11 a.m. trail ride at Sibley State Park. Visit [silverbulletsaddleclub.com](http://silverbulletsaddleclub.com) to RSVP and for more information.

### POTLUCK SUPPER

**Tuesday, May 9:** Minnesota Pioneer Park will host a meal at 6:30 p.m.

### FISHING OPENER

**Saturday, May 13:** This is the opening date for most game fish in Minnesota. See the Advocate for more on the opener.

### YOUNG EAGLES

**Saturday, May 13:** The Young Eagles program introduces youth to the world of aviation by giving ages 8 to 17 their first free ride in an airplane. Airport location will change so please check the website and pre-register at [youngeaglesday.org](http://youngeaglesday.org).



### MOTHER'S DAY

**Sunday, May 14:** Celebrate mom today and every day.

### AHS COMMENCEMENT

**Friday, May 19:** The Annandale High School commencement ceremony will be held at 7 p.m.

### BIKE RODEO

**Saturday, May 20:** The Annandale Police will hold a free bike rodeo for children from 10 a.m. to noon at Annandale Middle School. They will provide instruction on proper bike safety, maintenance, hand signals and riding etiquette.

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Sunday, May 21:** From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Minnesota Pioneer Park will be hosting a pancake breakfast with all-you-can-eat pancakes. For more information check out their website.

### LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

**Thursday, May 25:** This is the final day of classes in the Annandale School District.

### CRUISE-NIGHT

**Thursday, May 25:** Classic Rides and Rods/Classic Event Center will host a car enthusiasts free cruise-in event beginning at 5 p.m. Visit Classic Rides and Rods Facebook page or call 952-451-2104.

### CHILI COOK-OFF

**Saturday, May 27:** Sample homemade chili at many participating businesses and organizations during the Annandale Chamber's annual Chili Cook-off. See the Advocate for more details.



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Have a safe and happy summer in the Heart of the Lakes!

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# EVENTS

## MEMORIAL DAY BREAKFAST

**Monday, May 29:** Annandale Boy Scout Troop 354 will hold its annual Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at the pavilion in the park. Check the weekly Annandale Advocate for up-to-date information.

## MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONIES

**Monday, May 29:** The Annandale Memorial Day Parade and Remembrance Service begins at 10 a.m. The parade proceeds along Oak Avenue to the city park and continues to Woodlawn Cemetery for services. Everyone is invited. Check the weekly Annandale Advocate for up-to-date information.

## JUNE

## MAPLE LAKE ALL-CITY GARAGE SALE

**Saturday, June 3:** Maple Lake's All-City Garage Sale is sponsored by the Maple Lake Chamber of Commerce. Visit [www.maple-lakechamber.com](http://www.maple-lakechamber.com) for more information.

## SUMMER READING PROGRAM

**Monday, June 5 to Saturday, Aug. 5:** Great River Regional Library starts its Summer Reading Program for children ages 0-12. The theme is "Find Your Voice!" For registration details, visit [griver.org](http://griver.org) or contact your Great River Regional Library. In Annandale, call 320-274-8448.



## MEET THE CANDIDATES DESSERT SOCIAL

**Wednesday, June 7:** Come meet the candidates at a dessert social at the Annandale Municipal Park in the pavilion, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Open to the public and free will donations accepted.

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**Friday, June 9:** Enjoy the live music of The Dollypops at Annandale Municipal Park. Event is free of charge and begins at 7 p.m. Bring your own chair. Picnics and family fun are encouraged. Check the weekly Annandale Advocate for up-to-date information. This event is sponsored by the Annandale library.



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**Sat. June 17 - September 30**  
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## HEART OF THE LAKES CRUISE-IN

**Friday, June 9:** Line up on Cedar Street by city hall to Excelsior Avenue, between 5 and 8 p.m. Everyone is welcome – cars, trucks, and motorcycles. There is no registration required, and there will be a food shelf at the Clock Tower, all sponsored by the Annandale chamber.

## CLUB TRAIL RIDE AND CAMPING WEEKEND

**Friday to Sunday, June 9-11:** Silver Bullet is hosting a trail ride and camping weekend at Wild River State Park. Visit [silverbulletssaddleclub.com](http://silverbulletssaddleclub.com) for more information.

## YOUNG EAGLES

**Saturday, June 10:** The Young Eagles program introduces youth to the world of aviation by giving ages 8 to 17 their first free ride in an airplane. Airport location will change so please check the website and pre-register at [youngeaglesday.org](http://youngeaglesday.org).

## ANTIQUE TRACTOR SHOW

**Saturday, June 10:** Don't miss this Minnesota Pioneer Park event, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Collectors are welcome to bring old tractors, garden tractors and gas engines. Prizes and more. Pre-register by contacting Pioneer Park, 320-274-8489 or download a form at [www.pioneerpark.org](http://www.pioneerpark.org).

## BUFFALO DAYS

**Sunday to Sunday, June 11-18:** This eight-day festival every June attracts thousands of visitors to Buffalo. There is a full slate of activities during the week, as well as weekend fun including

## Let's go cruisin'

The Annandale Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the "Heart of the Lakes Cruise In" on four Friday nights this summer, June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, and Sept. 8 (the second Friday of the month)

- The events are from 5 to 8 p.m. each night, so cruise on in.

- Everyone is welcome – trucks, cars and motorcycles

- Bring a food shelf item or a cash donation. A food shelf truck will be at the Clock Tower Park.

- No registration required, and there is no cost

- Lineup is on Cedar Street by City Hall and will extend to Excelsior Avenue.

fireworks on Friday night and a movie in the park. For more information visit [www.buffalochamber.org](http://www.buffalochamber.org).

## POTLUCK SUPPER

**Tuesday, June 13:** Minnesota Pioneer Park will host a meal at 6:30 p.m.

## FLAG DAY

**Wednesday, June 14:** Take a moment to appreciate our nation's banner and what it represents.

## CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT

**Wednesday, June 14:** The Annandale Chamber is sponsoring a golf tournament at Southbrook Golf Club in Annandale. Lunch will be served at noon, and the kickoff begins at 1 p.m. Check the chamber website on how to sign up at [www.annandalechamber.org](http://www.annandalechamber.org).

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**Friday, June 16:** Enjoy the live music of Tuxedo Band at Annandale Municipal Park. Event is free of charge and begins at 7 p.m. Bring your own chair. Picnics and family fun are encouraged. Check the weekly Annandale Advocate for up-to-date information.

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, June 17:** The Annandale Farmers Market is set to begin its 14th season from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square. The market runs every Saturday through the last weekend of September with the exception of the Fourth of July weekend.

## FATHER'S DAY

**Sunday, June 18:** Say thanks to dad today.

## BUFFALO CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO

**Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 22-24:** The 69th annual Buffalo PRCA Championship Rodeo will take place at 7 p.m. each day. For more information and tickets, visit [www.buffalorodeo.com](http://www.buffalorodeo.com).

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# EVENTS

## KICKOFF TO THE FOURTH GALA

**Friday, June 23:** Come and enjoy a classy evening to support the Annandale Ambassador Program at Southbrook Golf Course in Annandale (lower level). Begins at 7 p.m. Advance tickets available. For more details and to purchase tickets, visit [annandalegala2023.eventbrite.com](http://annandalegala2023.eventbrite.com).

## CHAOS IN CLEARWATER DEMO DERBY

**Friday to Saturday, June 23-24:** This event will be held at the club grounds in Clearwater. Performances start at 6 p.m. After the demo derby on Saturday night, the band Radio Nation will be playing. Visit [silverbulletsaddleclub.com](http://silverbulletsaddleclub.com) for more information.

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, June 24:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## FAIRHAVEN OLD SETTLERS DAY

**Saturday, June 24:** Check Old Settlers Day Facebook or the Advocate for further details.

## JULY

## FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

**Friday, June 30 to Tuesday, July 4:** Annandale's historic annual Fourth of July celebration includes a parade, multiple concerts, carnival, food, fun, games and activities. Discount carnival ride tickets will be available at some local chamber businesses before the week arrives. The celebration

is sponsored by the Annandale Area Chamber of Commerce. Check the chamber's site, [www.annandalechamber.org](http://www.annandalechamber.org), and [www.annandale4thofjuly.org](http://www.annandale4thofjuly.org). Also, check the Annandale Advocate for up-to-date information.

## FIRECRACKER 5K RUN-WALK

**Saturday, July 1:** The St. John's Firecracker 5K run-walk begins at 8 a.m. at St. John's

Lutheran Church. For more information go [www.tempotickets.com/firecracker5K](http://www.tempotickets.com/firecracker5K).

## CLASSIC CAR SHOW

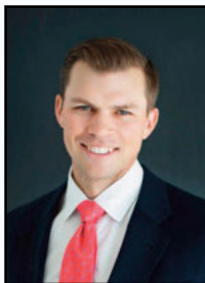
**Saturday, July 1:** Classic Rides and Rods and Classic Event Center will host a car enthusiasts event from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with live music, food and fun. Visit Classic Rides and Rods Facebook page for more details, and see the ad in on page 28.



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### AMBASSADOR CAR WASH

**Saturday, July 1:** The Annandale Ambassador Program Car Wash Fundraiser will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Annandale Fire Hall.

### PIONEER CHURCH SERVICE

**Sunday, July 2:** Minnesota Pioneer Park will host its annual Country Church Service. Music begins at 10 a.m., with a message and singing at 10:30. A free will breakfast will be served in the Big Woods Museum at 11:30 a.m. All welcome.

### FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

**Tuesday, July 4:** The parade begins at 10 a.m. and will feature bands from the surrounding area, a performance by the Annandale Middle School Band and the Annandale High School Drumline. The parade is one of the highlights of the celebration. Get your spot on the route early. Check [www.annandale4thofjuly.org](http://www.annandale4thofjuly.org). Also, check the weekly Annandale Advocate for up-to-date information.

### CORONATION, CONCERT, FIREWORKS

**Tuesday, July 4:** Coronation for the next Miss Annandale is at 5:30 p.m. at the Municipal Park. Fireworks will be displayed. Watch the Advocate for more information.

### SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**Friday, July 7:** Enjoy the live music of The Castaways at Annandale Municipal Park. Event is free of charge and begins at 7 p.m. Bring your own chair. Picnics and family fun are encouraged. Check the weekly Annandale Advocate for up-to-date information.



### YOUNG EAGLES

**Saturday, July 8:** The Young Eagles program introduces youth to the world of aviation by giving ages 8 to 17 their first free ride in an airplane. Airport location will change so please check the website and pre-register at [young eaglesday.org](http://young eaglesday.org).

### ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, July 8:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

### PICKIN' IN THE BIG WOODS

**Saturday, July 8:** Come enjoy the Minnesota Pioneer Park's annual Pickin' in the Big Woods Bluegrass Festival. The car show is 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with jam sessions throughout the day. For information call 320-274-8489 or visit [www.pioneerpark.org](http://www.pioneerpark.org).

### FAMILY NATURE NIGHT: ANIMAL PELTS

**Saturday, July 8:** Beginning at 7 p.m., enjoy an evening of learning about our wonderful Minnesota mammals with our animal pelts. Check [www.co.wright.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.wright.mn.us/parks) for more details.

### POTLUCK SUPPER

**Tuesday, July 11:** Minnesota Pioneer Park will host a meal at 6:30 p.m.

### FAMILY ADVENTURE: OVERNIGHT CAMPING

**Friday to Saturday, July 14-15:** Come for an introductory family camping experience at Beebe Lake Regional Park to learn the basics of camping. Activities include kayaking, compasses skills, plant identification, and many more family fun experiences! Check [www.co.wright.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.wright.mn.us/parks) for more details.

### HEART OF THE LAKES CRUISE-IN

**Friday, July 14:** Line up on Cedar Street by city hall to Excelsior Avenue, between 5 and 8 p.m. Everyone is welcome – cars, trucks, and motorcycles. There is no registration required, and there will be a food shelf at the Clock Tower, all sponsored by Annandale chamber.



### Your Local Source for:

- License Tabs
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- DNR Registration & Regulations
- Notary Public



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8-4:30 Monday-Friday

274-3284  
[www.annandale.mn.us](http://www.annandale.mn.us)

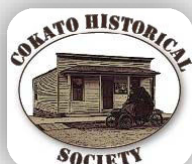
## COKATO MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Check out our local history museum and the award winning Gust Akerlund Photography Studio.

On the web at: [www.cokatomuseum.org](http://www.cokatomuseum.org)

### Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday,  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Phone: 320-286-2427  
E-mail: [info@cokatomuseum.org](mailto:info@cokatomuseum.org)  
175th 4th Street West, Cokato



## Wright County Swappers Meet

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Saturday, April  
through October



### HOLIDAY WEEKEND SCHEDULE:

Open Friday, Saturday & Sunday Holiday Weekends!

Memorial Day - May 26, 27 & 28

4th of July - June 30, July 1 & 2

Labor Day - Sept. 1, 2 & 3



- Gates open for shopping 1/2 hour before sunrise

- FREE admission and parking for visitors

Dealers! Set up on your trailer or tables, food and ATM on grounds.  
Setup begins 12 noon the day before the sale begins.

Clean out garages, basements & children's rooms. What you can't use, someone else can! Turn unwanted items into CASH!

More information at [wrightcountyswappersmeet.com](http://wrightcountyswappersmeet.com)

13594 100th St. NW, South Haven • Kevin & Laurie Miller • 320-274-9005  
3 mi. W of Annandale on Hwy. 55, 2 mi. N on CR3, 1/4 mi. E on 100th St NW



# EVENTS

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, July 15:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## FLY FISHING WITH MN TROUT

**Saturday, July 22:** Visit Fairhaven Mill County Park at 6 p.m. for a few hours of fun, learning, and meeting other anglers. This program will teach the basics of fly fishing. All equipment is provided. Guardians and youth over 16 years old will need a Minnesota fishing license. Check [www.co.wright.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.wright.mn.us/parks) for more details.

## WRIGHT COUNTY FAIR

**Wednesday to Sunday, July 19-23:** The Wright County Fair will be held at the fairgrounds in Howard Lake. Lots of family activities for all ages, including a car show, mud truck racing, motorcycle show, bull riding, demo derbies, tractor and truck pulls, carnival rides and more. For a schedule of events, visit [www.wrightcountyfair.com](http://www.wrightcountyfair.com), and watch the Advocate for updates.

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**Friday, July 21:** Enjoy the live classic rock music of Wondercure at Annandale Municipal Park. Event is free of charge and begins at 7 p.m. Bring your own chair. Picnics and family fun are encouraged. Check the weekly Annandale Advocate for up-to-date information.



## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, July 22:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## LUNCH WITH A NATURALIST

**Monday, July 24:** Have lunch at Robert Ney Nature Center with a local naturalist at noon. Bring your lunch to join a presentation about the natural world! Presenters still to be determined. Check [www.co.wright.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.wright.mn.us/parks) for more details.

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, July 29:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## FAMILY NATURE NIGHT: EVENING HIKE

**Saturday, July 29:** Join a naturalist as they lead you on an evening hike through the beautiful wood of Bertram Chains of Lakes Regional Park beginning at 7 p.m. Check [www.co.wright.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.wright.mn.us/parks) for more details.



## Our Mission

"The Annandale Area Community Team (ACT) will promote and facilitate community visioning and positive change by engaging area residents in grassroots involvement."

ACT is improving Annandale's quality of life. Visit our website to learn all about our activities!

"A Great Community Getting Better"

[AnnandaleOnline.com/ACT](http://AnnandaleOnline.com/ACT)

**Arts & Culture**  
Public Art, Concerts in the Park

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## AUGUST

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

**Tuesday, Aug. 1:** Get together with your neighbors and participate in this community-building event.

### SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**Friday, Aug. 4:** Enjoy the live roots and folk music of Traveled Ground at Annandale Municipal Park. Event is free of charge and begins at 7 p.m. Bring your own chair. Picnics and family fun are encouraged. Check the weekly Annandale Advocate for up-to-date information.

### ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, Aug. 5:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

### COKATO CORN CARNIVAL

**Monday to Wednesday, Aug. 7-9:** Come enjoy the annual Cokato Corn Carnival with a parade, entertainment, prizes, bingo and more! Also, free corn-on-the-cob served after Monday. See the schedule for dates and times. Watch the Advocate for more information.

### POTLUCK SUPPER

**Tuesday, Aug. 8:** Minnesota Pioneer Park will host a meal at 6:30 p.m.

### HEART OF THE LAKES CRUISE-IN

**Friday, Aug 11:** Line up on Cedar Street by city hall to Excelsior Avenue between 5 and 8 p.m. Everyone is welcome – cars, trucks, and motorcycles. There is no registration required, and there



will be a food shelf truck at the Clock Tower. Sponsored by the Annandale chamber.

### KIMBALL DAYS

**Friday to Sunday, Aug. 11-13:** This community-wide annual celebration includes many activities with a parade on Sunday. See details at [kimballareachamber.com](http://kimballareachamber.com) and in the Advocate closer to the event.

### YOUNG EAGLES

**Saturday, Aug 12:** The Young Eagles program introduces youth to the world of aviation by giving ages 8 to 17 their first free ride in an airplane. Airport location will change so please check the website and pre-register at [youngeaglesday.org](http://youngeaglesday.org).

### ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, Aug. 12:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

### STUDEBAKER DAY

**Saturday, Aug. 12:** Come out to Pioneer Park and see the classic cars that were labeled in their day as “ahead of their time.” Admission fee charged.

### ALL STAR CLOWN SHOW

**Saturday, Aug. 12:** 6 p.m., Annandale High School. Come, enjoy and watch more than 60 clowns perform at this free show from the Mooseburger Clown Camp.

### PORK CHOP DINNER

**Sunday, Aug. 13:** Pioneer Park will host a pork chop dinner. Check the Advocate for further details.

### CLEARWATER RODEO

**Friday to Sunday, Aug. 18-20:** The 43rd annual Clearwater Rodeo includes performances at 7 p.m. on Friday, 6 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday. A rodeo dance immediately follows the rodeos on Friday (Hitchville) and Saturday (Drop Tailgate). Saturday also features a barbecue supper at 4 p.m. Sunday events include a 10 a.m. Cowboy Church Service and it is Kid's Day from noon until 2 p.m. A petting zoo and games are also available for kids along with free pony rides. For more information see the ad in this guide or visit [www.silverbulletsaddleclub.com](http://www.silverbulletsaddleclub.com).

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# ANNANDALE Advocate

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Most recyclers accept clear, green & brown glass, newspaper, tin & aluminum cans. Some also accept corrugated boxes, auto batteries & plastic bottles (with a neck) labeled with recycling arrow and number 1 or 2. Call your city or township office if you have questions about which items your local recycler will accept and on which days.



For more information contact  
Wright County Solid Waste at  
**763-682-7331**

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# EVENTS

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, Aug. 19:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## GEAR HEAD GET-TOGETHER

**Saturday, Aug. 19:** The show and swap meet runs from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. in downtown Maple Lake. Bring your cars, trucks, rods, motorcycles, scooters, tractors, snow machines and more! Food, beverages and live music. For more information go to [www.gearheadgettogether.net](http://www.gearheadgettogether.net).

## ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL

**Saturday, Aug. 19:** The annual Buffalo Arts and Crafts Festival runs from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in downtown Buffalo. Approximately 100 plus arts and crafts vendors. Free to the public.

## EDDY TRAIL RACES

**Saturday to Sunday Aug. 19-20:** Come for a weekend of races based at Chi Rho Center on the south side of Lake Sylvia, on the outskirts of Annandale. The 50k and a half marathon will run through the Stanley Eddy Park Reserve. For more information, visit [running-tangents.com/eddy-trailraces](http://running-tangents.com/eddy-trailraces).

## WOMEN, WINE, AND WATER

**Friday, Aug. 25:** Beginning at 6 p.m., spend the evening kayaking, followed by a wine tasting and charcuterie boards at sunset. The guided kayak tour of the Bertram Chain of Lakes will be about an hour long. A local winery will provide



wine. You must be 21 plus to attend this event. Check [www.co.wright.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.wright.mn.us/parks) for more details.

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, Aug. 26:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## FAMILY NATURE NIGHT: STARGAZING

**Saturday, Aug. 26:** Join a naturalist for an evening of stargazing beginning at 8:30 p.m. Learn about the constellations, and learn a few constellations from other cultures. Check [www.co.wright.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.wright.mn.us/parks) for more details.

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## FEAST OF FRIENDS

**Saturday to Sunday Aug. 26-27:** Come enjoy this community dinner catered by Fresh Thyme from 4 to 8 p.m. at The Boathouse of Tween Lakes. There will be live music, a silent auction, and more.

## LUNCH WITH A NATURALIST

**Monday, Aug. 28:** Have lunch at Robert Ney Nature Center with a local naturalist at noon. Bring your lunch to join a presentation about the natural world! Presenters still to be determined. Check [www.co.wright.mn.us/parks](http://www.co.wright.mn.us/parks) for more details.

## SEPTEMBER

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, Sept. 2:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## LABOR DAY

**Monday, Sept. 4:** Make the most of this symbolic end of summer.

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

**Tuesday, Sept. 5:** Classes begin in the Annandale School District.

## HEART OF THE LAKES CRUISE-IN

**Friday, Sept 8:** Line up on Cedar St. by City Hall to Excelsior Ave. between 5 and 8 p.m. because everyone is welcome – cars, trucks, and motorcycles. There is no registration required, and there will be a food shelf at the Clock Tower, all sponsored by Annandale chamber.

## YOUNG EAGLES

**Saturday, Sept. 9:** The Young Eagles program



introduces youth to the world of aviation by giving ages 8 to 17 their first free ride in an airplane. Airport location will change so please check the website and pre-register at [youngeaglesday.org](http://youngeaglesday.org).

## CLASSICS BY THE LAKE CAR SHOW

**Saturday, Sept. 9:** Classics by the Lake Car Show in Sturges Park by Buffalo Lake in Buffalo. Visit [www.buffalochamber.org](http://www.buffalochamber.org) for further details.

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, Sept. 9:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## POTLUCK SUPPER

**Tuesday, Sept. 12:** Minnesota Pioneer Park will host a meal at 6:30 p.m.

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, Sept. 16:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## NOBEL SHADDUCK FESTIVAL

**Saturday, Sept. 16:** Honor Minnesota Pioneer Park's founder by attending the Nobel Shadduck Harvest Festival. There will be many activities to enjoy. Fun for all! Check the Advocate for more details closer to the date.

## CRUISE-NIGHT

**Thursday, Sept. 21:** Classic Rides and Rods Classic Event Center will host a car enthusiasts free cruise-in event beginning at 5 p.m. Visit Classic Rides and Rods Facebook page for more information or call 952-451-2104.

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, Sept. 23:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square.

## ANNANDALE FARMERS MARKET

**Saturday, Sept. 30:** The market is open from 8 a.m. to noon at City Hall Square. This is the last Saturday of the season for the market.



## CHAOS IN CLEARWATER DEMO DERBY

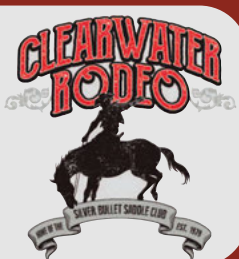
- Fri., June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7 pm performance
  - Sat., June 24<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm performance
- The World's Nuttiest DJ Chopper takes the stage Saturday after the Derby!



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FOR THE DEMO DERBY & RODEO!



Visit [Silverbulletsaddleclub.com](http://Silverbulletsaddleclub.com) for up to date information on the Demo Derby & Rodeo



## CLEARWATER RODEO

**Fri., August 18<sup>th</sup>,  
7 pm performance**

Rodeo dance following  
featuring HITCHVILLE

**Sat., August 19<sup>th</sup>  
6 pm performance**

Rodeo dance following  
featuring DROP TAILGATE

**Sun., August 20<sup>th</sup>,  
2 pm performance**

Kid's Day Noon-2 pm



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# HISTORY HAPPENED HERE

Reprinted from the Dec. 18, 1913,  
Annandale Advocate

**A**nnandale is situated on the Soo Line, 51 miles west of Minneapolis and has a population of about 800 inhabitants. As a resident point, Annandale is abreast of the age in natural beauty.

Its beautiful natural scenery and lakes that abound with all kinds of fish attract people from all parts of the United States during the summer months. It has become an ideal place for tourists and has a number of beautiful summer resorts within a radius of six miles.

In writing a history of a village it is of course necessary to give a few facts about the early happenings in the locality that afterward is embraced in the village. And as Annandale is in the township of Corinna, it will be well to say that Corinna was cut out of the district in early times known as the Big Bend which embraced all the country south of Clearwater and west of Monticello. The name is said by the late Levi M. Stuart, of Minneapolis, to have been given to the township by Elder Robinson, a baptist preacher who was a boyhood chum of Stuart's. Both were born in Corinna, Maine.

The locality in about where Annandale is now located went through the usual pioneer period, and some of the early landmarks are still visible on the lake shore where the early settlers fortified themselves in a wooden fort and defended themselves from an enemy that did not dare to attack.

In the year 1885 rumors were current about a railroad that would be put through the next year, very much as the reports we are now getting of the proposed electric lines that are being talked of. The new road was to be named the Minneapolis & Pacific, and sure enough the next year the road was laid out and the townsite of Abbyville was put on the map.

It remained there until it was time for a post office to be established, and it was found that there was one town of that name in the state.

Sen. Washburn was asked to give the place a new name and as stated he looked around for something to suggest itself. He saw the name of the actress, Lizzie Annandale, suspended across the street and from this he

gave the present name.

The land in which the greater part of the village is located was owned by James M. Pratt, a very friendly and easy going kind of a man who gave an undivided one half of his land for a townsite, W.D. Washburn owning the other half. Pratt had a very high opinion of the future of the village and took great pride in all



Clearwater Lake

the improvements and settlements that went on during his life and it is too bad that he could not have lived to see more of the village. He was accidentally killed by his own .22 rifle near where the cemetery is now located in September 1891 and was buried at Clearwater.

The townsite of Annandale was platted in October 1886. Quite a number of lots were sold on Oak Avenue the same fall and winter. The first man who erected a building on his lot was John H. Buri, who opened up his hardware store Jan. 1, 1897.

## Early 1900s

In the early 1900s, the Annandale Electric

Light and Power Company was formed as a local stock company made up of the citizens of Annandale. With 24-hour service, it was considered very successful in service to the town and from a financial standpoint. The Annandale Council granted an electric light franchise to the Public Service Company in March of 1916. In 1929, Northern States Power Company put up lines to furnish the farmers and lake dwellers with electricity.

In the early 1900s, one of the duties of the Marshal, Owen Groves, was to keep the old-fashioned street lamps clean and full, and to light them every evening at dusk.

## Annandale's first Fourth of July

Annandale's first Fourth of July celebration was held in 1889. The village council and citizens began to plan for a rousing celebration. Nearly all the citizens of the village were on some of the committees and pulled together to make Annandale's first celebration the best in the county. It was proposed by some and generally agreed to, that the funds remaining after the celebration were to be equally divided between the M.E. church and the Annandale school.

Sen. A.Y. Eaton of Buffalo, and Honorable C.M. King of Fair Haven, were secured as orators of the day. The Kimball brass band was employed to furnish music during the day.

There was a general turnout by the surrounding country and neighboring villages. The Annandale celebration passed off as a great success in every respect, and was one of the biggest advertisements for the new growing village at that time.



Historic Fourth of July



# Legends & Lore

The variety of theories on just how Annandale got its name reflects the nature of the place in which it lies. And there's no disputing the Heart of the Lakes claim.

It is here that folks will tell you about the settling days of what was called Abbyville in the 1890s.

When time came for a post office, the Abbyville name had been taken by another Minnesota location.

It was up to local Senator Washburn to figure out just what the name should be.

Legend has it that he looked out of his St. Paul office window and saw a marquee on a theater that said 'Lizzie Annandale To-night.' The rest is history.

Or bunk, if you ask county officials. They say the city was named after the port and river they call Annan in Scotland.

North, to Clearwater Lake, is where you will hear the very true story of the late Frank Ledwein.

On July 10, 1952, the bait shop owner landed a 55-pound, five-ounce carp.

Not a log or outboard motor, as he first thought, but a female carp over 42 inches long and 31 inches around. It was a world record catch until it was later broken.

That old carp probably knew all about the mystery that shrouds Bungalow Island in the lake's upper portion.

## First resorts

Clearwater was a home to the state's first resorts and Bungalow had a dandy built in 1915. Cofield's Hotel had its own ferry from Annandale and was host to visitors from all over.

Prohibition and anti-gambling laws led to the decline of the get-away and it was eventually destroyed by the owner.

Innuendo has surfaced since – full of gangsters and possible murders – and bones

found there have strengthened the rumors.

Be careful as you pass in your boat. You will find little remnants of the past when it comes to resorts in the area. In the '50s and '60s, Annandale resort owners posted signs along Hwy. 55 from the Twin



Bungalow Island

Cities boasting about the 50 resorts in the area.

Southwest of Clearwater Lake and across Hwy. 55 lies West Lake Sylvia and the adjoining East Lake Sylvia.

Children have a ball on the docks here as perch nibble on their toes in clear view.

This is one of the

clearest freshwater lakes in the state with visible depths up to 23 feet.

It is the one place in the area that requires an angler to be smarter than the fish. It sees you and you see it. Will it spook or take your bait?

## Two-bit scoundrels

In the late sweltering summer of 1903 the peaceful towns of Annandale and South Haven became the target of some two-bit, gun totin' scoundrels. They roamed around the county robbing stores, farm houses and just other general brands of thievery.

On Wednesday, Sept. 30, 1903, one of the outside agitators hit an Annandale store, which led to a shootout in South Haven two days later.

The thief made off with goods and loot totaling \$60.20, then fled to a box car, where his gang of ruffians were hiding out.

The county sheriff was called and two days later W.G. Young and a couple of his deputies rode the train up to Annandale.

In Annandale they were joined by town constable Walters and some others.

The officers got to the gang in the box car but were overtaken in their ambush attempt.

Sheriff Young was grazed on the cheek by a barrage of gun fire, before South Haven residents came to the rescue.

The gang fled to the woods, but the posse was hot on their tail.

The good guys surprised the bandits and killed the thief who had robbed the store. The remainder of the six-man gang surrendered after being hit with some birdshot.

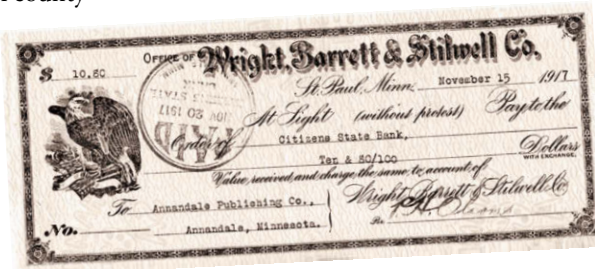
The survivors, after medical attention, were taken into custody and the 1903 South Haven Bandit Raid legend was born.

## Before the settlers

Before there were any white settlers in the Annandale area, the "Big Woods" were the homes of many different nations of American Indians.

The natives of the land would visit the area in the early spring months to collect sap from the sugar maples to make syrup.

The Indians would also take advantage of the fish moving into shallow waters to spawn. They would net and spear what they needed for the summer.



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# Celebrate FOURTH OF JULY

For more than 125 years Annandale residents have united to celebrate the Fourth of July as a city, and have welcomed many visitors for the festivities.

Over time, the celebration has grown from a single-day affair featuring a pair of area orators and a brass band from Kimball to a nearly week-long celebration of American heritage with a wide variety of entertaining events.

The first organizers in 1889 would be astounded to see today's 100-plus unit parade, the whirling, rushing rides of the carnival, and the captivating fireworks display. They would be mystified by the boat parade on Pleasant Lake, the crowds reaching up to 10,000 people, and the street dances at night.

Some elements, however, would remain familiar, such as the festive wind tunes from the Annandale Community Band, a general sense of patriotic pride and perhaps even the basic elements of the modern softball games.

In all things, today's event coordinators work to preserve some of the favorites from previous years while bringing a variety of new entertainment into the mix.

## Schedule of events

This year's celebration extends from Friday, June 23, to Tuesday, July 4.

■ The Annandale Ambassador dessert social to introduce the Miss Annandale royalty candidates will take place at the City Park Pavilion beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7. The Kick-Off to the Fourth of July Gala will be held at 7 p.m. at the Southbrook Golf Course, lower level, on Friday, June 23.

■ The celebration opens with the carnival opening at 4 p.m. on Friday, June 30. Each year the carnival spreads out over a few city blocks near Municipal Park on Oak Avenue north of downtown with an assortment of food, rides and games that the whole family will enjoy. Local food vendors will also be on hand along with the carnival's food vendors, and a men's softball tournament begins Friday evening and continues to Saturday evening.

There will be a pork chop dinner at 6 p.m. and music in the park will be from 6 to 8 p.m. featuring Josie Sanken. There will be a Brownies with the Band fundraiser as well.

■ A longtime tradition continues with



the Kiddie Parade at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 1, on Main Street, starting at Annandale Middle School. Along with parents and grandparents, the Annandale ambassadors will march with the children, who are invited to dress up in their favorite costumes, ride bikes, pull wagons or just march around the town in a mini version of the city's annual Fourth of July Parade.

After the parade, royalty and candidates will hold a car wash fundraiser from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Annandale Fire Station.

The carnival opens at noon. There will be bingo in the pavilion from noon to 6 p.m. Pie in the park begins at 6 p.m. and the West Metro Big Band will perform from 6 to 8 p.m. on the portable stage.

■ New this year is a morning co-ed softball tournament Sunday, July 2. In addition, the carnival will kick into gear at noon, and there will be bingo from noon to 6 p.m.

Also new this year, a new band, Boiling Point, will perform from 6 to 8:30 p.m. They are a Christian band that Heartland Evangelical Church and River of Life Church have brought together to perform.

■ On Monday, July 3, the carnival will open up at noon, and there will be bingo from noon to 6 p.m.

A KRWV roadshow will be from 6 to 8 p.m. and music in the park featuring the Annandale Community Band will be from 7 to 8 p.m. The Cake by the Lake fundraiser will begin at 7 p.m.

To finish out the day, the Pleasant Lake Boat Parade begins at 7 p.m. and concludes at 8 at Pleasant Lake Beach.

## Celebration centerpiece

A centerpiece of the celebration includes the parade, which begins at 10 a.m. on Tues-



day, July 4, when around 100 floats, cars, bands and more fill Park Street, Main Street and Chestnut Street. Grab your spot early!

In addition to colorful floats and exotic displays, the parade will feature an assortment of musical talent. Parade entries can vie for most entertaining in a float contest.

The carnival re-opens immediately after the parade at noon, with bingo from noon to 6 p.m., and at 5:30 p.m. a new Miss Annandale will be crowned in the park.

The Fabulous Armadillos will return to play the Fourth of July concert in the park at 7 p.m. and will play until 10. The Armadillos have drawn some of the largest crowds in memory during their recent performances. Once dusk settles in, a large fireworks display will light up the town from an offshore platform, capping off a long weekend and a great day celebrating the country's independence.

■ Check the Annandale Advocate this summer for more details. There is also a website devoted exclusively to Annandale's Fourth of July activities, [www.annandale4thofjuly.org](http://www.annandale4thofjuly.org).



# Summer CONCERTS IN THE PARK SERIES

By Tom Westman

**A**nnandale's Summer Concert Series returns to the Annandale Municipal Park this summer with five bands Friday nights in June, July and August.

The free concerts are a time to enjoy great music by the lake on Annandale's portable stage.

The concerts bring together friends and neighbors, as well as summer lake home owners, and visitors as well.

Plan to bring your lawn chair or blanket, relax and enjoy great music on the shores of Pleasant Lake. Each concert begins at 7 p.m.

If it rains, the shows will move into the park pavilion.

The Arts and Culture Committee of the Annandale Area Community Team (ACT) and Annandale Community Education sponsor the ongoing concert series.

## **The Dollipops, June 9**

Get ready to sing, dance and laugh with the engaging, high-energy, highly interactive kids' show – The Dollipops! Dolli and Pop are sisters who have traveled from Sweet Tart City to bring you on a magical and musical road trip that will surely get kids (and their parents) moving, grooving, and making memories.

From classic beach tunes to current Hollywood and pop hits, Dolli and Pop use music to allow kids to use their imaginations, sing and dance along, and even enjoy their four and a half minutes of fame.

The Dollipops are professional entertainers who have spent years singing and dancing nationwide. These confident ladies help families create memories at a time when clean, kid-friendly entertainment is hard to find. So, hop on the Candy Coaster and ride with the Dollipops.

The Dollipops are co-sponsored by the Great River Library.

## **The Tuxedo Band, June 16**

The Tuxedo Band is a premier Twin Cities

cover band providing an entertaining performance packed with songs from the past six decades and today. The Tuxedo Band is the Twin Cities' longest-running cover band of



classic and contemporary rock, pop and country music.

Multi-talented musicians and singers, the six-piece band delivers superb harmonies, great music and memorable moments.

## **The Castaways, July 7**

Best remembered for their 1965 garage rock song "Liar-Liar," The Castaways are a nationally known Minnesota-based rock 'n' roll band that audiences have been demanding and enjoying for years. The Castaways provide an exciting show with great sound and lights, from community concerts, fairs and festivals, country clubs, and wedding receptions.



The Castaways are comprised of four musicians. Jim Donna, keyboards and vocals; Bob Donna, guitar and vocals; Rick Snider, drums and vocals; and Ralph Hintz, bass and vocals. In 2005, Jim Donna was inducted into the Minnesota Rock/Country Hall of Fame.

The band features a versatile song list and plays the hits from artists like Bruce Springsteen, Elvis, Buddy Holly, the Beatles, Beach Boys, Johnny Cash and Neil Diamond.

The Castaways put on a show for all ages, with lots of audience interaction.

From their famous hula-hoop contest to audience sing-a-longs, you will surely be entertained at a The Castaways show.

## **Wondercure, July 21**

Wondercure is an Eden Prairie-Twin Cities based classic yacht rock band. They have played the Twin Cities off and on for more than 20 years. Come and enjoy all your favorites on a Friday night.

## **Traveled Ground, Aug. 4**

Traveled Ground, Waconia, is a combination of folk, blues, jazz and roots rock. The group has been together for over 30 years.

Traveled Ground has released six full length albums and are planning on their seventh release this summer.

Led by multi-instrumentalist Clark Machtemes, their brand of story driven songs, sense of song craft and arsenal of instruments have led to national radio play, commercial jingles and songwriter showcases across the country.



# Explore SHOPPING

Annandale's Main Street got a welcome facelift in 2020-21 as the street was completely rebuilt. The wooden canopies which adorned the downtown businesses for almost 40 years were removed, and widened sidewalks and awning-style canopies were added, including plantings and other amenities.

The result is a welcoming, pedestrian-friendly city that displays Annandale's unique downtown. Today, there are many shops and restaurants, as well as other retail and professional business that make up the downtown.

Here is a sampling of the shops, which reveal a wide variety of unique gift shops, art and craft galleries, fine dining and coffee stops, jewelry and more.

## Little Treasures Gift Shop

You may want to begin your treasure hunting at Little Treasures Gift Shop, located in the former Judy's Cottage building. The store carries a wide variety of fun and unique toys, games, books, puzzles, baby items and gifts in all price ranges. Little Treasures also specializes in lake area gifts and souvenirs.

The store stocks a wide variety of glassware, cutting boards, picture frames, and wooden maps etched with one of the Annandale area's many lakes. Custom etching is also available.

Put more fun in your life with a stop at Little Treasures.

## Shore House Outfitters

Just up the street a few doors is Annandale's newest shop, Shore House Outfitters, which is opened in the summer of 2022. Like the name implies, this shop offers items to outfit your home, gift items and more.

Christy and Topher McKinlay did extensive remodeling to the location which was once the Annandale Post Office but most recently was the office of Village Properties.

"Our store features cool gear to make your weekend and outdoor adventures memorable," Christy said. Pendleton blankets and home goods, Duluth Packs, Fox Outfitters hammocks, Nocs Provisions binoculars, Studio 32 West custom lake signs, Spiceology spice blends, Barebones axes, campfire cookware and gear are some of the items shoppers will find.

This new shop is a "must stop" on your Annandale visit.





## Annandale Advocate

Across the street is the Advocate, where you can pick up books by local authors that will give you a glimpse into the interesting tales that make up this small town's past, including "Memories of Annandale" by Lotus Williams.

For current information, pick up the Annandale Advocate, the community's award-winning newspaper.

## Lu's Cafe and Catering

Two doors down from the Advocate office is a comfortable place for breakfast and lunch. Lu's Cafe and Catering, with its large dining area and tasty food, is a fine place to relax and socialize. Breakfast food is served at all times, and customers are encouraged to stay awhile and enjoy the fine food and wonderful staff.



Shore House Outfitters

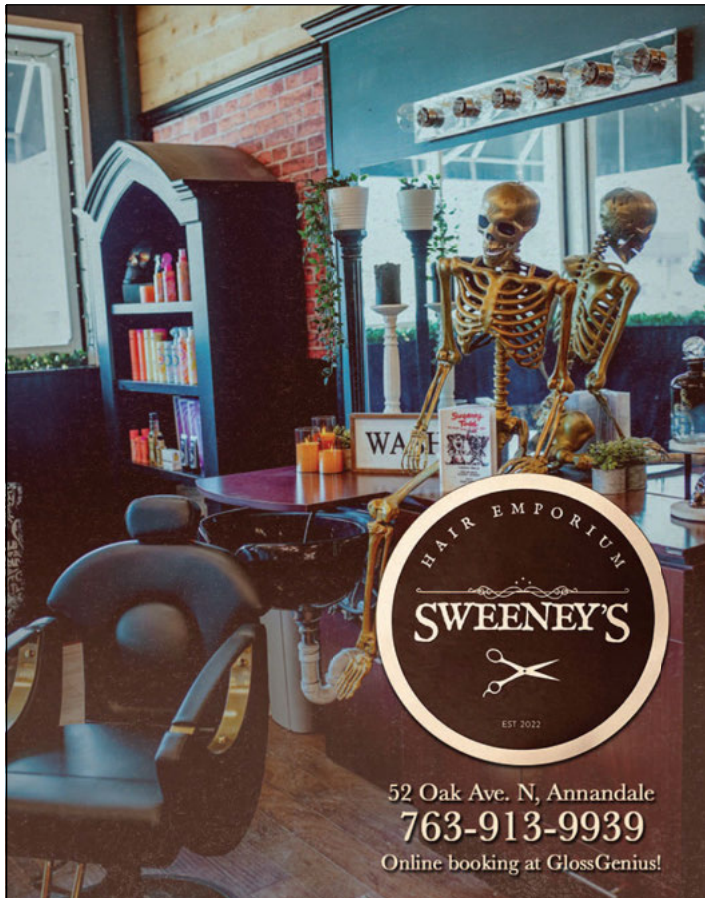
After being closed for two seasons, because of the pandemic, the eatery reopened in the spring of 2023.

## Grandpa Earl's Country Store

At the end of the block is Grandpa Earl's Country Store. It is much larger than some of the other shops on Main and is divided into themed rooms that are as art worthy as the paintings they sell and frame.

A walk down "the garden path" consisting of a cobblestone trail painted on the floor, will lead you past murals and artfully arranged displays that makes it feel like strolling through a garden. It's a great way to get ideas for your own space.

Like many stores on Main Street, Grandpa Earl's has done a good deal of renovating its building, and it blends nicely into the downtown.



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[www.facebook.com/VintagePatinaAnnandale](https://www.facebook.com/VintagePatinaAnnandale)



# SHOPPING

## Zahler Photography

In the summer of 2018 Dan Zahler and Zahler Photography moved from the corner of Oak and Chestnut to just around the corner on Chestnut.

The former Annandale State Bank building (Lake Central) is now David Burd's State Farm Agency, which was formerly located about a block north on Oak.

Zahler Photography specializes in high school senior portraits, but also covers a wide array of school activities, children and families, sports and weddings.

## Annandale Art and Textile Center

Owners Joe and Elizabeth Bayer bought the former "All Things Good" building (across from Kaz Hardware) and started this art haven. They are a non-profit that provides training and employment to individuals with a variety of abilities.

The store offers artwork, unique gifts, creative classes (including how to weave) and more. It's a "must stop" if traveling down Main Street.



Annandale Embroidery

## Kaz Hardware

Kitty corner from State Farm is Kaz Hardware, Annandale's long-time hardware store. Ed and Donna Kaz came to town in 1958. It has been a fixture in town ever since.

Their son, Joe, owns the store and has all your hardware and rental needs in addition to small and major appliances, gift items, garden tools and supplies, other seasonal items and much more.

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Whether you're in need of items for a fix-it-quick day at the lake or a larger-scale project, Kaz Hardware has the right equipment and the expertise to share some friendly advice.

### Annandale Embroidery

Annandale Embroidery and Apparel has been a fixture of downtown since 2006. They are a custom apparel shop specializing in embroidery and heat printing services to outfit businesses, organizations and teams of all sizes. All work and services are done in house.

In 2023, laser engraving was added to their service offerings.

Their large retail area is filled with Cardinal spirit wear, Annandale and lake-centric clothing and hats, and many non-apparel items as well.

### Sweet Escape

Continuing north, Sweet Escape is the fun sweet shop with the easily identifiable aqua-striped awning. They have been in business since June of 2020.

The shop is owned by Annandale residents John and Terri Dyer.

Items available in the shop include super premium ice cream, Minnesota-made choco-

lates, ultimate sundaes, cakes with real ice cream, nostalgic candy, bath products, and unique gifts for everyone.

With friendly customer service, and an amazing atmosphere, Sweet Escape, is a



Sweet Escape

must stop for those with a sweet tooth or those who know someone with one – in other words, everyone.

### Grey Duck Screen Printing and Apparel

Grey Duck Screen Printing and Apparel is just up the street. It's owned by Kindra and Jerry Liebhard.

Grey Duck specializes in screenprinting for businesses and organizations. If you need something screenprinted for your business or organization, Grey Duck will take care of you.

They also have retail items on sale, including Cardinal gear and fun lake apparel.

### Miller's Jewelry

Keep north, across the street across from the post office, and you will find Miller's Jewelry in a classic, attractive building. Jim and Amy Miller took ownership from Mark and Laurel Miller in 2011, becoming the third generation of the family to offer fine jewelry and many services from the store. Mark's father Lee owned the

store before him.

The building itself has been continuously operated as a jewelry store since 1892. The iconic store brings in shoppers from a wide area. When visiting Annandale, you will not want to miss this stop.

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# SHOPPING

You'll find a wide selection of diamond engagement and wedding rings, and beautiful fashion styles. Miller's is also known for its custom work. All work is done in-house, and the expert, friendly staff will assist you with any question you may have.

## City Hall Square

From Miller's Jewelry, cross the street and head east toward the post office, and continue toward "City Hall Square." This is the location of the Annandale Farmers Market on Saturday mornings throughout the summer growing season.

## In Hot Water

The former Cafe Jules is now In Hot Water, which was formerly located across the street.

The historic building is the perfect spot to stop for a break. This traditional gathering spot has expanded its offerings since moving into the new location.

Stop in for coffee, breakfast item, lunch and more. In Hot Water is owned by Megan Champlin and Nikki Seaberg.

While there, look around – the walls feature original works from several local artists. They also feature local wares including honey, lotions, soaps, wild rice and more. In Hot Water has been an Annandale fixture since 2000.

## Sylvia + Louisa

Across from In Hot Water, you will find a cute boutique that supplies trendy, affordable women's clothing and accessories.

Owners, Sarah Onstad and Missy Hardin opened the boutique in July of 2020. The fun clothing and accessories will tempt your pocketbook!

## Kat's Lake Country Antiques

Add a short distance to your journey by heading west down Cedar Street to the former Annandale Co-op Creamery building, and you'll be at Kat's Lake Country Antiques, which opened in the winter of 2022.



Vintage Patina



Miller's Jewelry

You might say that antiques are in owner Kathleen Nystrom's blood. The Annandale native along with a number of vendors are located on Maple Avenue at the former Vintage Style Market location. There you can step back in the past and browse countless antiques beautifully displayed in a rustic setting.

## Vintage Patina

From Kat's, go west a few short steps and you're at Vintage Patina. Owners Tiera Marsh and David Anderson remodeled the classic building, the former Petty Bros. Meat Market, keeping some of the original architecture with the old style block wall and windows.

This timeless treasures and local artisan creations shop features specialty antiques, collectibles and furniture, as well as unique, handmade goods produced by local artisans. It is well worth the trek west of Main Street to see the fun items of the past. You will not want to miss this stop to complete your journey.

## More eats, drinks

Annandale's downtown boasts three bars that all offer a variety of beverages and have their own kitchens: Billy D's Crooked Tavern, the Stadium, and the Rendezvous Bar and Grill, which has expanded to include a retail store that offers, beer, wine and other spirits.

Each has its own hometown flavor and feel, and often features local musicians on the weekends.

The Thayer Hotel Dining (see inset) also is an authentic, tasty stop you will want to visit. Whether you're looking for casual dining, or a more intimate experience, this is a unique stop.

## Just off Main...

**Homestyle Country Cafe** – Situated on the south side of Highway 55 at the edge of Annandale's downtown, the people at this friendly restaurant serve up tasty meals with a small town flavor.

**Lakeside Nutrition** – Next to the Lake Region Cenex Gas Station on Highway 55. They offer nutritious shakes, teas and more in a variety of flavors. Be sure to check them out the next time you're in town.

**Thayer Hotel Dining** – The historic Thayer Hotel re-opened its doors in the spring of 2018. Longtime restaurateur Bob Krebsbach and members of his family operate the busy facility that fronts Highway 55. The Thayer dates to 1889, and it's Annandale's only structure that is on the National Register of Historic Places. Come hungry! See the story in this Guide.



# TRUCK MATE TOPPERS

By Tom Westman

It's summer and that means getting out on the roads, or in some cases off the roads and enjoying all that summer, vehicles and motors have to offer.

Annandale's Truck Mate Toppers has been accessorizing vehicles for more than four decades.

Truck Mate Toppers was founded by Don "Minnow" Rasset in 1983. Eric Rasset bought it from his uncle in April 2020.

"Customers are often surprised that Truck Mate Toppers carries more than just toppers," Eric said. "We carry pretty much everything other than toppers. Most people are not aware that we have accessories for cars, SUVs, ATVs and side-by-sides too."

Truck toppers, tonneau covers, running boards, side steps, "nerf" bars, and remote starters make up the majority of their business, but their offerings don't end there.

Additional products include floor mats, bug shields, hood protectors, vent visors, mudflaps, bed liners, air suspension, custom wheels and tires, bed storage units and drawers, bed slides, fender flares, brush guards, aftermarket bumpers, toolboxes, seat covers, trailer hitches, under-seat storage, headache racks, truck top tents and racks, paint protection film, and wheels and tires for ATVs, UTVs and side by sides."

"Truck Mate Toppers is way more than a topper shop," Rasset said. "We truly are your one-stop-shop for all your vehicle accessories."

## Annandale native

Rasset is the son of Denny "Chopper" Rasset and Mary Lou (Ahsenmacher) Rasset. He grew up in the Annandale area and bought his first home in Annandale in 1999.

Rasset and his wife Stacy, a

Maple Lake native, were married in 2002, and their 12-year-old daughter Charlie now live in South Haven.

"I attended Annandale my whole life and graduated from Annandale High School in 1996," Rasset said. "I worked at various jobs post-high school and did on-the-job training to become an electrician."

## Remodeling, other improvements

A fresh, new look was undertaken last year.

"We remodeled the showroom," Rasset said. "We are able to display more of the goods and services we provide."

In addition, last year Truck Mate became a purified water distribution center, the Water Shack, to handle all your drinking and other water needs.

"Annandale is a great town to do business," Rasset said. "It has a great support system for the local businesses. Word of mouth is the best there is."



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[www.truckmatetoppers.com](http://www.truckmatetoppers.com)





# IT'S TRULY A CLASSIC

Classic Event Center and Classic Rides and Rods is a one-of-a-kind gem located in Annandale. This beautifully restored building on the east side of town is a unique combination of wedding, corporate meeting events center and classic car sales showroom.

## Classic Event Center

Classic Event Center offers a nostalgic setting with a modern flair, which provides a perfect atmosphere for events. The setting offers an "old town" appearance, a black-and-white checkerboard tile floor, and a collection of classic dream cars just a peek around the velvet curtains away. The event center captures the imagination of all who enter.

At the event center visitors are transported to Main Street U.S.A., where they find replica storefronts with cool names like Cadillac Cafe, Hotel Desoto and the fully functioning Corvette Bar.

In addition, the marquee on the Grand Movie Theater is a hit with wedding and party guests alike, as they see their name in lights. Other storefronts include a mercantile bank, soda fountain, local tavern, rooming house, town jail, wedding chapel and barbershop.

Classic Event Center offers 20,000 square feet of space to rent for groups from 20 to 420, for anything from weddings, banquets, expos, reunions, dances, meetings, car shows and seminars.

For more information, call 952-451-2104 or visit [www.classicevents.site](http://www.classicevents.site).

## Classic Rides and Rods

Classic Rides and Rods is located next to Classic Event Center, which also houses some of the classic vehicles sold by Classic Rides and Rods.

Hundreds of cars rotate through the car collection throughout the year, so car buffs and others will want to stop often. Cars on display range from muscle cars, sport and exotic cars to luxury cars, antiques, street rods and special interest cars. Some cars are local and national award winners.

■ A Classic Car Show is planned from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 1, the Clock Trophy Show. There will be live music and much more. Twenty-three trophies will be given. Contact Classic Rides and Rods for more information.



■ There are two "Cruise-Ins" planned for Thursday, May 25, and Thursday, Sept. 21.

■ In addition, Classic Rides and Rods is partnering with the Annandale chamber for four other Friday night Cruise-Ins that start in downtown Annandale. See the Calendar section of this guide and page 34 for more information.

For more information on Classic Rides and Rods, call 952-451-2104 or check the website [www.ClassicRidesandRods.net](http://www.ClassicRidesandRods.net).

See the ad below.

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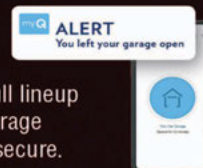


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## — *Explore* — **DINING & ENTERTAINMENT**

The essence of community can be found in the Annandale area's many civic events, and deeper relationships can be forged around the table at any number of fine establishments found nearby.

In fact, that act of sharing a meal and conversation inspired a small group of community residents to organize the first Field to Feast event in 2016 that brought about 200 diners together on Oak Avenue near Municipal Park at the close of summer. In 2019, more than 300 gathered, even though the event had to be brought indoors. After a pandemic hiatus, the event was returned in 2022 and is now the Feast of Friends.

Those and other events are visible demonstrations of the connection between food and hospitality the community has produced in recent years. The same principal of food as a conduit to fellowship applies to any group of people that chooses to visit one of the area's fine establishments to share a meal, beverages and time together.

The Annandale area boasts a wide variety of restaurants to suit just about any taste. There are places that specialize in breakfast and lunch. There are lake establishments that include a great view with the meal. There are numerous places to enjoy a favorite style of burger, sandwich or pizza, and quality options for many other foods as well.

In the same way that food can bring people together, entertainment does the same by providing a common attraction. And those who live in the area year-round or simply visit have many opportunities that include the Summer Concert Series, the Farmers Market, the 4th of July and other events. Read on to find out more.





Stop in today to satisfy that craving with a sip, nibble or treat.

#### HOURS

Monday - Friday: 7am - 5pm

Saturday: 7am - Noon

Sunday: Closed

#### CONTACT

320-274-6828

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---	---



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# CRUISE ON IN

For four Friday nights this summer you can head on downtown Annandale, and you will be greeted by some heavy-hitting collectible vehicles.

Go to the area of City Hall Square and the Clock Tower Park, and you will see a line of cars that stretches a couple of blocks.

While EVs (Electric Vehicles) power some present and may power all future vehicles, you likely won't find those here. Instead, you'll find various renditions of the internal combustion engine atop chassis and inside vehicle bodies of all shapes – throwbacks to the past.

On Friday nights June 9, July 14, Aug. 11, and Sept. 8 from 8 to 5 p.m. you'll find almost any type of motor vehicle.

After a successful run last year, the Cruise-In nights are back again, and of course, more vehicles are always welcome.

Organizers encourage bringing a foodshelf item. The event is sponsored by the Annandale Area Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, visit the Facebook page [heartofthelakecruisein](#) or call 952-451-2104.



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# MARKET FRESH

By Corry Bregendahl

On Saturday, June 17, the Annandale Farmers Market will launch its 16th season in the parking lot in front of Annandale City Hall.

The market will be open from 8 a.m. to noon every Saturday until Sept. 30. Volunteers run the Annandale Farmers Market as part of the Discover Downtown Committee through the Annandale Area Community Team.

This year, the market looks forward to hosting more musicians, and as always, the market will offer the popular Power of Produce program for all kids 1-18 who register. The market will also accept SNAP (food assistance) benefits and participate in the Market Bucks program, which doubles the value of SNAP dollars spent at the market.

## Favorite vendors return

The following vendors will be returning to the 2023 Farmers Market.

■ Fairhaven Farm will be at the market on a drop-in basis this year, offering fruit, jams, pies and flowers. Follow them on social media for market dates.

■ Untiedt's Vegetable Farms will enter its fifth year at the market and sell a wide assortment of produce grown in Waverly, Minnesota.

■ Olson Family Farm's Shelly and Chris will provide local maple syrup, honey, maple barbecue sauce, granola, freeze-dried sweets and treats, pet snacks, eggs, and other sea-

sonal surprises. They often have new inventory, so check them out every week.

■ Lazy Toad Farm with Joe Rand will be at the market weekly, offering plants, honey, bars, bread, and seasonally available canned goods.

■ Weaving by Linda with Garry and Linda Elfstrand will be at the market once a month to offer loomed rugs, embroidered dish towels, jam, pickles, fudge, and woodworking items.

■ Misty Mountain Bakery, with Kelsey Pilgram, will be at the market full-time selling organic no-corn, no-soy chicken eggs; organic sweet bread, cookies, and artisan loaves;

jumbo muffins; gluten-free products; honey; garden products when available and homemade bags for market shopping.

■ Seiffert Family Boothill Farm will be at the market every week, offering goat cheese,





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pasture-raised chicken eggs, seasonal vegetables, and gluten-free chocolate chip cookies.

■ Frisky Rooster with Terry and Beth Alison Berggren will return this year to sell their Bloody Mary mixes, salsa, barbecue sauce, nut mix and spice mix.

■ The Danish Baker with Rasmus Bregendahl will be on-site every week, offering

Papa Tom's sticky buns, buttermilk cinnamon rolls, Danish rye bread, doughnuts, gluten-free Brazilian cheese bread, chocolate chip cookies, and sourdough bread.

■ Hultgren Farms Reno Williams will sell individual cuts of beef.

■ Made by Jane with Jane Schmidt will offer photo cards, buntings and bowl cozies.

■ Robin Hoeft will sell a variety of hand-crafted macaron cookies.

■ The Annandale Friends of the Library will be on-site once a month to hold their ongoing book sale.

■ Hand Made in Clay with Stephanie Pieske will sell one-of-a-kind functional pottery for the kitchen and more.

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■ Brothers Bay, with the Hardin brothers, will sell fishing lures at their booth.

■ Secret Gardens Produce with Natalia Gunnary will sell produce, flowers, pickled vegetables and wool slippers.

■ Karen Polaschek will carry a variety of homegrown canned pickles, salsas, jams and jellies.

■ Three Farm Dogs with Virginia Marohn will sell beeswax items, honey, flowers, handmade soap, canned goods, and baked goods.

■ Hope and Healing will be at the market once a month, offering goat milk-based personal care products handmade by trafficking survivors.

■ Annandale Art and Textile Center will join the market with weaving demonstrations and locally made fiber products. AATC is a non-profit vocational weaving program for people with various learning styles and abilities.

### New vendors

■ Black Lake Farm with Lindsey and Marcus Syverson every other week will offer colorful heirloom vegetable varieties, chicken and duck eggs, and baked goods.

■ Elise's Sweet Treats with Crystal and her daughter Elise will offer homemade desserts on a drop-in basis.




### Power of Produce

The wildly popular Power of Produce or PoP program will again be offered this year. The PoP program, which benefits families

and local farmers, will start on June 22, the second week of the market. PoP focuses on improving childhood nutrition, empowering kids to make healthy food choices and connecting children to healthy local food.

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Go to [annandalefarmersmarket.com/pop-program.html](http://annandalefarmersmarket.com/pop-program.html) to sign up online.

This program is supported by local businesses, healthcare providers, fraternal organizations and individuals. Program sponsors are listed on our website and receive some benefits. Contact Marnie Macgregor, PoP program coordinator, for more information about donating at [mmmacgregor25@gmail.com](mailto:mmmacgregor25@gmail.com).

### Plant sale

Fairhaven Farm will be hosting a plant sale to support the PoP program. Date to be determined; follow the market's Facebook page for information.

### Entertainment, special events

Market management is busy booking musicians for the market this year and will host musicians on-site at least every other week. In addition, Cottage Gourmets' Barb Westman will host a local foods-based appetizer and wine pairing fundraiser to fund these musicians at Fairhaven Farm on Saturday, July 29. The public is welcome. Check the market Facebook page for updates.

*Corry Bregendahl is the manager of the Annandale Farmers Market. Tom Westman, Annandale Advocate, also contributed to this article.*



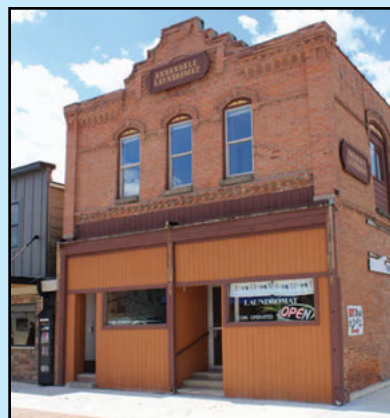
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# Find it all at **SWAP CENTRAL**

By Tom Westman

The Wright County Swappers Meet is a summer tradition, now in its 53rd year. Folks come out for the great bargains, good food as well as spending time with family and friends in the beautiful outdoors of Minnesota.

## April to October

The Swappers Meet opened the first Saturday of April and runs through the end of October. Hours are sunrise to 1 p.m., depending on the weather.

Holiday weekends are a three-day event open Friday, Saturday and Sunday. This year the Swappers Meet will be open for Memorial Day: May 26, 27 and 28; Fourth of July weekend: June 30, July 1 and 2 and Labor Day weekend: Sept. 1, 2 and 3.

“We don’t close the gates due to rain as some vendors with canopies will continue to sell even if the weather isn’t ideal,” Miller said. “In the event of heavy rain, most vendors do pack up to protect their merchandise.”

Visitor admission and parking is free. The meet is located at 13594 100th Street NW, South Haven.

For more information, the website is [wrightcountyswappersmeet.com](http://wrightcountyswappersmeet.com) and they can be found on Facebook or call 320-274-9005.

## Vision of Stanley Miller

It started as the vision of Stanley Miller, who opened the first Swappers Meet on April 4, 1970, with about five vendors and a dozen curious shoppers.

After he passed away in 1982, Stanley’s wife Gladys took over the







business. In 2013, Gladys' son Kevin and his wife Laurie assumed the responsibility to make sure the family tradition is carried on.

### **More than 200 vendors, 50 acres**

Professional vendors are drawn to the Swappers Meet because of the large crowds, with some coming from as far away as Missouri and Texas, while other vendors flood in from around the upper Midwest each week. Still, there is generally plenty of room on 50-plus acres of land for local sellers as well.

The Wright County Swappers Meet has grown into the largest seasonal outdoor market in Minnesota. According to Miller, an average week attracts 200 vendors showing off their wares from sun-up until early afternoon. On holiday weekends, the event swells to accommodate up to 300 to 350 vendors and more visitors than can be counted.

"It's a family-run farmers market, art fair, garden center, antique mall, sporting goods store, and garage sale near South Haven," Laurie said.

The Swappers Meet offers both new and used items. Most weekends you will find antiques, clothing, sporting goods, tools, music CDs and vinyl, video games, jewelry, collectibles, home goods, artwork, produce, flowers, trees, toys, books, pets and more.

"Vendors vary from week to week, so the merchandise for sale is

always changing," Miller said. "I would advise shoppers to arrive by 9 a.m. for the best deals."

### **Food and more**

- Food is available from several vendors selling cold drinks, hot beverages, candy and treats.
- There are flush toilets and porta-potties on-site.
- There is free parking, including handicapped parking.
- An ATM can also be found on-site.



# Living History PIONEER PARADISE

One of the Annandale area's cultural gems is Minnesota Pioneer Park, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2022. The park has been an attraction for five decades, from musical interests to historical artifacts, buildings, and re-enactors. It remains a refuge where the people and places of the past live on.

Its dedicated volunteers and detailed exhibits illustrate what life was like in years gone by and help thousands of visitors each year understand how the present has been shaped.

The park, which includes a recreated turn-of-the-20th century main street, began when the abandoned Soo Line train depot was put on wheels and towed down Highway 55 to the east side of Annandale.

Along with Blaine Barkley, the late Nobel Shadduck saved the depot from becoming just another dress shop or antique store and made it into the museum's first historical display. The park's 26 acres, which once belonged to the Ridgway family, are home to more than 20 exhibit buildings, including the original Ridgway homestead's log cabin and house from the 1800s.

## Since 1972

The museum opened as the Minnesota Travel Park in 1972, but it quickly evolved into a place to preserve the area's pioneer heritage and was renamed Minnesota Pioneer Park.

In 2011 the park's board of directors approved adding "An Open-Air Historical Museum" to all park literature to reflect its mission and role as an area educational and tourist attraction.

## Caboose, schoolhouse, church

Now people come from all over to visit attractions like the authentic 1886 Soo Line caboose, the one-room schoolhouse dating back to 1902, and the 1886 Finnish Apostolic Church, which has ties to the Titanic tragedy. The minister and his wife were two of the lost passengers at sea.

Visitors can hike through a piece of the countryside once called the "Big Woods" by



pioneer settlers and view an assortment of native plant life. Near the railroad, visitors can stroll down the main street and stop at recreations of a general store, dentist's office, funeral parlor, blacksmith's shop and other buildings. The park also features the original Corinna Township Hall.

In the fall of 2017, a town fire hall was constructed.

## Big Woods building

At the center of the park is the Big Woods building. Inside, visitors can see exhibits featuring area veterans and military history, Native American artifacts and clothing, photographs of the Annandale community and more.

The Big Woods building also features the Gordon Memorial Library, which opened in the fall of 2015 and contained several hundred books that either date from or feature the mid-1800s through World War II. Some examples include an Annandale High School yearbook from 1910; an Encyclopedia Britannica set from 1893 formerly owned by Annandale settler John Buri, and a large set of leather-bound classic novels.

## Student visits

Minnesota Pioneer Park hosts hundreds of students each year from as far away as the Twin Cities for a day-long guided tour that includes hands-on activities.

Over the years, the park has welcomed more than 50,000 students, with many schools making return visits.

## Summer calendar

Spring and summer events at the park this year include:

- Spring Maple Syrup Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, May 21
- Sixth annual Vintage Tractor Show – Saturday, June 10
- Pioneer church service – Sunday, July 2
- Picker's Festival and Car Show – Saturday, July 8

**PIONEER PARK,** See page 43



# A SALUTE TO A NEW ERA

As the hearty hard-working immigrant settlers pursued their dreams, wheels of progress were turning. Work horses were being replaced by “iron horses” and the era of tractors and farm equipment was dawning. By the middle of the 1900s farming was becoming an easier form of prospering.

Pioneer Park likes to convey this new era to the community and all visitors young and old. In the summer they have an antique tractor show planned for Saturday, June 10 (check the Advocate for updates). During the event, weather permitting, the fields will be plowed, disced, planted and harvested using old equipment stored here or loaned by members. Area tractor clubs bring their old machinery and it's fun to see them work.

Demonstrations are held throughout the day. The east field features hay cutting and harvesting by hand or baler on hay racks in the morning. The west field is worked up in the afternoon.



## ► PIONEER PARK

From page 42

- Studebaker Day— Saturday Aug. 12
- Pork Chop Feed – Sunday, Aug. 13
- Nobel Shadduck Festival, Kids' Day – Saturday, Sept. 16,
- Fall Maple Syrup Breakfast – Sunday, Oct. 1.
- Halloween Spooktacular, Saturday, Oct. 28

Event details are subject to change. Check the website [pioneerpark.org](http://pioneerpark.org) for more

information.  
**Visit the park**

The park is located on Anandale's east side on Highway 55 and is usually open from Memorial Day to mid-October. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The park is staffed by volunteers during weekends.

Call the office during the week for weekend availability. There is an admission fee. Check their website for more information at [www.pioneerpark.org](http://www.pioneerpark.org) or call 320-274-8489.

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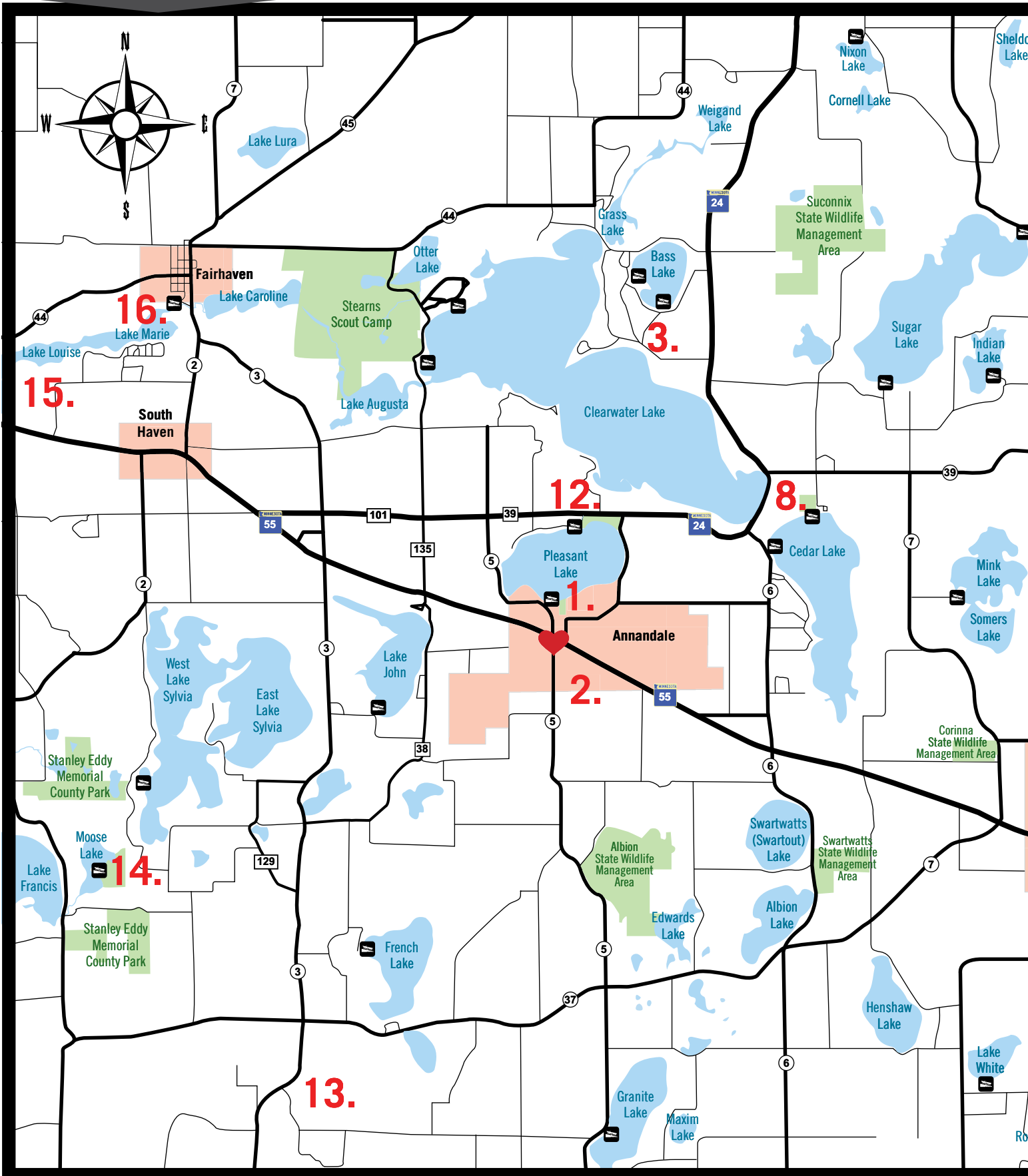
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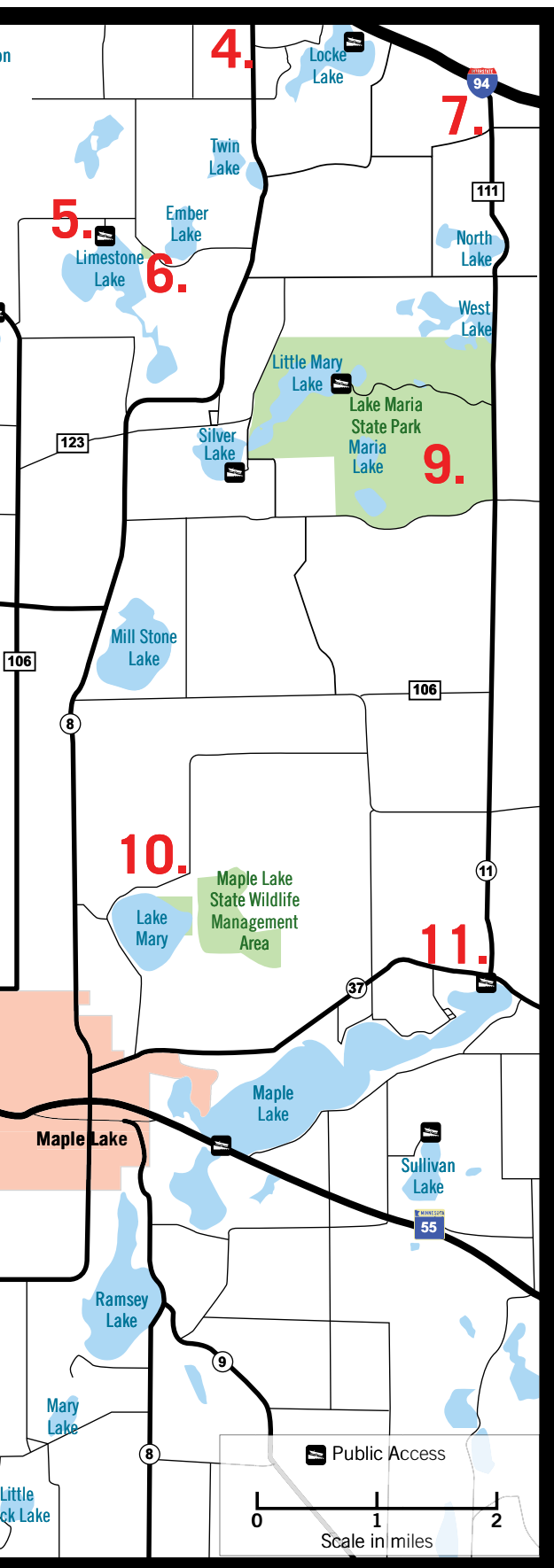
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## AREA MAP







1. Municipal Park - picnic area, pavilion, softball field, beach, fishing pier, public access
2. Minnesota Pioneer Park
3. 1872 Saint Mark's Episcopal Chapel in the Woods
4. Marcus ZumBrunnen County Park – hiking trail
5. Limestone Lake County Access - picnic area, fishing pier, public access
6. Stirewalt Memorial County Park – beach
7. Harry Larson County Forest – picnic area, hiking trail, ski trail
8. Schroeder County Park – picnic area, campground, beach, fishing pier, public access
9. Lake Maria State Park – picnic area, campground, hiking trails, ski trails
10. Ney Memorial County Park – nature center, hiking trails, ski trails
11. Maple Lake County Access – picnic area, fishing pier, public access
12. Clearwater Pleasant County Park – picnic area, beach, disc golf, dog park, fishing pier, public access
13. Carl Johnson County Forest – picnic area, hiking trail, ski trail
14. Stanley Eddy County Park – picnic area, hiking trails, ski trails
15. Lake Louisa County Park – nature park
16. Fair Haven Dam County Wayside – picnic area, fishing pier, historical marker



# Run in the wild **HOME OF EDDYS**

By Tom Westman

**O**n Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 19 and 20, the Eddy Trail Races will be held at the Stanley Eddy Park Reserve.

Eddy Trail Races are a weekend of races based at Chi Rho Center on the south side of Lake Sylvia, on the outskirts of Annandale.

Races include, a 50K, a 5K and a half marathon. The half marathon and 50K will run through the Stanley Eddy Park Reserve, a remarkable series of trails.

This will be the second year of the Eddy Trail Races. “The first Eddy Trail Races were in 2022, and we couldn’t have asked for a better turnout,” said director Mike Combs.

“We received overwhelmingly positive feedback, with a lot of praise from runners who are happy to see a distance event like this happening in the Annandale area.”

Finishers in 2022 included 37 for the 50K, six for the 5K and 43 for the half marathon. “It’s clear the desire is there for longer race distances, and Stanley Eddy Park Reserve is the perfect place,” Combs said.

## **Lodging, meals, more**

Eddy Trail Races offers onsite lodging on both Friday and Saturday nights in different settings, serving six buffet-style meals throughout the weekend.

There will be three lodging options available for runners to stay onsite. There will be cabins of various sizes with multiple bunk beds in an open room, dorms with two bunk beds in a room, or pitch your tent. In addition, there are showers onsite for all lodging to use.

For the 5K on Saturday and the half marathon on Sunday, Eddy Trail Races will have volunteers to watch potty-trained children for the duration of your race. In addition, there is a playground and fields to play in. The team ranges from educators and professionals who work with children to parents and teenagers with experience. There is a fee for this service.

## **Big Eddy**

Stanley Eddy Park Reserve is beautiful and very scenic while being hilly and a challenging run.

There is one central aid station you will run by six times and three others you will run by two times each. So there will be 12 aid



stations throughout 32 miles, so runners are never far from support if needed.

Cross the finish line and jump in the lake when you’re done.

■ Date: 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 19

■ Distance: 50 kilometers (32 miles)

■ Course: Stanley Eddy Park Reserve and the surrounding streets.

## **Eddy ‘Round the Block’**

“This race will be one of the more difficult 5K races you’ll ever run,” Combs said.

“The course starts with 90 feet of elevation going up or down throughout the course.

“The course is not actually in Stanley Eddy Park, but is still a wonderful course, half gravel and half paved.”

■ Date: 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 19,

■ Distance: 5K (3.11 miles) Time limit: No time limit (But given the hill that starts the course and the one-mile jog to the starting line from base camp, it is advised that walkers not participate).

■ Course: The hills and around the block just south of Chi Rho.

## **The Eddy**

The Eddy is the only race on Sunday and is a mix of trails, gravel and a little bit of paved road.

Eight miles of trails, three miles of gravel, and some pavement at the start and end of the race.

There are three different aid stations, one that you pass by three times, so you will never be too far from water or help should you need it.

■ Date: 8 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 20

■ Distance: Half marathon, 21.1 kilometers (13.1 miles)

Time limit: Four hours

■ Course: The south and east portions of Stanley Eddy Park Reserve and the roads to and from Chi Rho.

## **Challenges**

Challenge finishers will receive all the goodies of both races they participated in, a unique completion award, and being part of the challenge standings. Sign up for both races individually, and you are entered into the challenge.

■ Big Eddy Challenge: Run the 50K race on Saturday and the half marathon on Sunday.

■ The Eddy Challenge: Run the 5K on Saturday and the half marathon on Sunday.

## **Running Tangents**

Race director Combs, an Annandale resident, started race organizing in 2021, with the Firecracker 5K and 1 Mile Sparkler Run and has now added Main Street Mile, Eddy Trail Races and the Tri West Triathlon.

“I decided I should probably start a company if I was going to organize multiple races throughout the year,” Combs said. “In a race, running the shortest distance between two turns is called ‘running the tangent,’ which I’ve always done because I don’t want to run any farther than I must in a race. So, I thought that Running Tangents was a great name, and I went with it.”

For more information and registration information, contact Mike Combs by email: [mike@running-tangents.com](mailto:mike@running-tangents.com) or the website <https://tinyurl.com/eddy2023>

Registration closes for the runs on Monday, Aug. 14, at 11:59 p.m.



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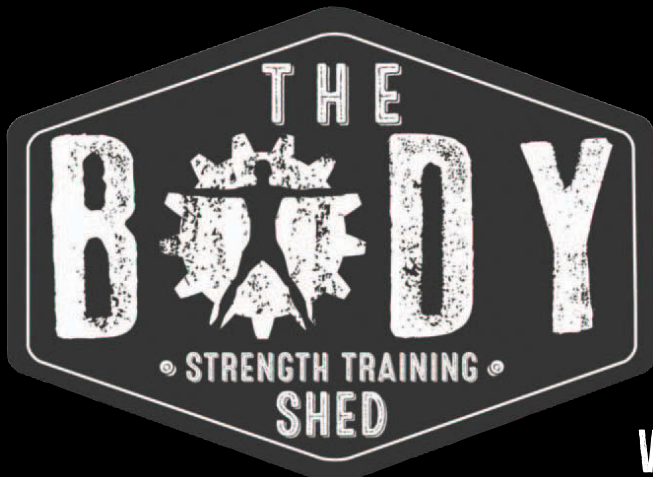


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# Rich in History **THE THAYER**

By Tom Westman

**T**he Thayer Restaurant and Hotel, located at 60 Elm St., has been a part of Annandale since 1895. The three-story building is rich in history, with different owners, from Albert Augusta Thayer to the present owners, the Krebsbach family. The following summarizes the Thayer's 128-year journey in Annandale.

## Thayer timeline

■ 1878: Albert Augusta Thayer moved to Fairhaven and took the contract for the Star mail route between Fairhaven and St. Cloud. He operated a daily stage over this route for ten years. He also managed the Star Hotel at Fairhaven.

■ 1887: John Charles built the first hotel in Annandale, the Charles Hotel, in 1887 on the west side of Oak Ave. Across the street, on the east side of Oak Street, Red O'Loughlin built the Pleasant Lake House in 1888. The two hotels were on the corners of Oak and Elm Street.

■ 1890: Thayer moved to Annandale and operated the livery stable for four years.

■ 1894: Thayer started managing the Annandale House, formerly the Charles Hotel, owned by D. Lanore.

■ 1894: On Dec. 4 the Annandale House burned down. Annandale's population at the time was about 700. The closest help at the end of the 1800s was Maple Lake's fire department, as Annandale did not have a fire department then. By the time the fire was eventually controlled and put out, several buildings in the downtown area of Annandale were lost.

■ 1895: The Soo Line Railroad, concerned over a loss in revenue, convinced Thayer to rebuild a hotel to accommodate passengers who were beginning to come to the Annandale resorts. The railroad offered Thayer land and operating capital to build a new hotel across the street from the Soo Line Depot. The new three-story Thayer Hotel, with 35 rooms, a sample room where traveling salespeople could display their samples and a dining room. The Thayer was steam heated and lighted with gas.

The hotel cared for transients and provided a home for unattached Annandale resi-

dents, including some teachers, the druggist and the editor of the Annandale Advocate.

■ 1905: The Thayer Hotel was more technologically advanced than most buildings and businesses at the time in the Annandale area. It was the first building to have electricity which came in 1905.

■ 1920: The hotel was renamed the Annandale Hotel when in 1920, Gus Thayer sold the Hotel to Samuel Heasley.

■ 1923: Albert and Caroline operated the Thayer until Albert died at his home in Annandale on March 3, 1923, at 74. He was buried at Annandale's Woodlawn Cemetery.

The Thayers had five children, four daughters and one son. Their eldest daughter, Effie, married James Walters. After Albert died, James and Effie operated both hotel and the livery next door.

■ 1940: Albert and Caroline Thayer's son Bert (1887-1966) and his wife Ruby Cofield Thayer (1888-1982) operated the Thayer Department Store in Annandale from 1940 to 1965.

■ 1976: The City of Annandale acquired the hotel in 1976 and offered it for resale but ended up owning it for six years. The hotel's structure was not in good shape. The roof was leaking, and water was standing on all three floors. In addition, the porches on the front of the building were sagging nearly to the point of collapse. Some city leaders wanted to raze the building, but others

wanted to preserve it for its historical significance. A legal battle ensued, and just one week before its scheduled demolition, the preservationists won a court injunction, and the building was not demolished.

■ 1978: Annandale Mayor Wally Houle and Julia Barkley worked to get the Annandale Hotel on the National Register of Historic Places.

■ 1984: After efforts to secure developers fell through, Mayor Houle announced that he would develop the property. Houle left the City Council to qualify to buy the building for \$1.

He formed a limited partnership of three local investors and others from outside Annandale, used financial assistance from the Annandale Housing and Redevelopment Authority and began reconstruction on Sept. 6, 1984. The extensive water damage, rotting mattresses and carpets made for an unpleasant start for the workers.

"The stench was unbelievable," Houle told the Advocate after restoration was complete in 1985. "It made our eyes water." The total cost of repairs totaled \$550,000.

■ 1985: The newly renovated hotel and restaurant would reopen again in 1985, 90 years after it was first built. The renovation



1895



1985



would convert the 22-room hotel into a twelve-room hotel, each guest room now with its private bath and historic charm. A shared sauna was built on the third floor. The sauna was an alternative amenity added as most hotels by this time were offering pools, but there was simply no room for a pool at the Thayer. After the restoration was finished, it was initially a big hit.

1985 also saw Robert Krebsbach come to Annandale. Former Mayor Wally Houle hired him as the head chef of the restaurant. Krebsbach held that position for nearly four years before moving on to another lead chef position.

■ 1993: Sharon Gammell purchased the hotel and completed further restorations, claiming to have spent \$3.8 million in the remodel. She renamed it Thayer's Historic Bed 'n Breakfast.

The Thayer became known as a hot spot for paranormal activity, and Gammell used the Thayer as a venue for her medium psychic services and murder mystery dinners. Gammell operated it until 2010.

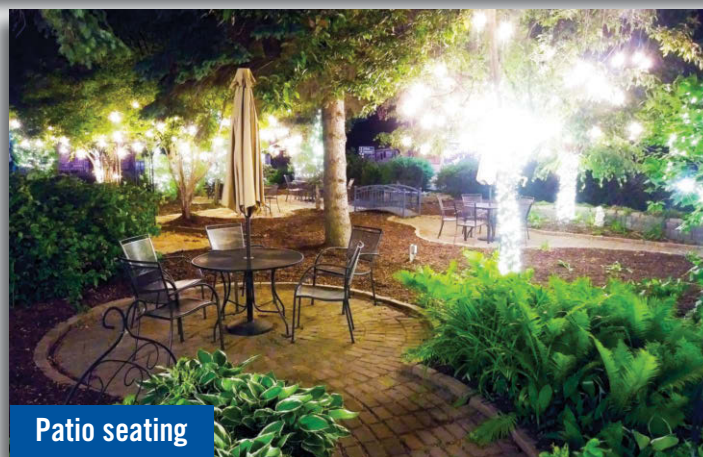
Gammell could be controversial. She hosted the male exotic dancing group Chippendales soon after she opened the bed and breakfast. Many Annandale locals disapproved and organized a picket line around the event. After that, the Thayer was closed to the public and available only by reservation as a bed and breakfast. However, Gammell was determined not to let the townspeople decide how she would run her business.

Gammell helped establish the Thayer on the map as a hotel haunted by cat ghosts (former pets of hers), her late husband Warren, killed by a drunk driver in 1996, a former employee and the hotel's original owners, Gus and Caroline Thayer.

■ 2004: In October 2004, Jason DeRusha from WCCO-TV videotaped a night at the Thayer, which at the time, was billed as spending the night in a haunted hotel.



**Crystal's Haunted Suite**



**Patio seating**

■ 2006: Gammell sold the hotel to a friend, Katherine Owens, in 2006, though she continued to operate it as before.

■ 2011: Owens evicted Gammell in 2011

■ 2012: The empty Thayer building was on the market for \$199,000.

■ 2013: The Thayer's furnishings were auctioned off, and the asking price was reduced to \$174,900.

■ 2015: The hotel was sold to Renewal Development for \$85,000. Renovations were made, including painting inside and out, repair of the balconies, general cleaning, and restarting the heat and plumbing systems.

■ 2017: Now vacant for seven years, the Thayer was sold to Andrew Hybben.

■ 2018: In 2018, the Thayer was sold to Bob and Colleen Krebsbach, Brian Krebsbach and Amy Krebsbach. The Krebsbach family has run the Thayer ever since.

### **The Thayer today**

"We really love to cook," said co-owner Brian Krebsbach. "We are proud to serve those unique dishes and something you must come to the Thayer to enjoy.

"We are always excited to talk about our

menu. Some of our favorite dishes include our Coffee Rubbed Salmon, the Berry Brie Chicken, Steak Oscar, and our fantastic ribs.

"Besides our unique food items, the atmosphere, hotel rooms, patio seating, the night lighting outside and the live music while eating.

"We want people to come to the Thayer and have a uniquely wonderful experience to re-

member."

The menu can be found online at <https://thethayer.com/menu>.

Summer Hours: Monday Closed; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Sunday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Rooms are available on weekends only and can be booked directly through their website <https://thethayer.com>.

Many of the Thayer rooms have unique names: Chef Bob's Suite, named after the current co-owner

and lead chef, Bob Krebsbach; and Julia B's Room, named after Julia Barkley, one of the leading voices in the efforts to save the hotel from demolition in the late 1970s.

The Gus Room is named in honor of the original owner of the Thayer, Albert Augustus "Gus" Thayer.

The Crystal's Haunted Suite is for those who are interested in the rumors of the Thayer being haunted. According to multiple sources and people, this is the room with the most ghostly activity reported.

Miss Lilly's Room is named for the ghost that is supposedly haunting the stairways at the Thayer.

All rooms include a private bath, air conditioning, a full tub or Jacuzzi, television with Roku and Wi-Fi.

For more information, call 320-274-2970 or email [annandalethayer@gmail.com](mailto:annandalethayer@gmail.com).

Sources: <https://thethayer.com>, <http://www.annandaleonline.com/History/index.htm>, and <https://www.annandaleadvocate.com>.



## Explore LAKE LIFE

Breathtaking natural beauty is a year-round benefit of living in the Heart of the Lakes. The drab browns and grays of early spring soften and warm into the dark greens, deep blues and brilliant colors of summer. The lakes shed their icy blankets and welcome swimmers, boaters and waterfowl back into their welcoming waves, and abundant life is evident on all sides.

Brilliant sunrises and sunsets accentuate the allure of the lakes, and the call of loons lends a northern Minnesota-style soundtrack to the evenings. With such peaceful surroundings, it's no wonder that the lakes have made Annandale a destination from its earliest days.

A culture of seasonal lake residents has developed alongside and in cooperation with the services and residents in town. Over time, many multi-generational lake homes have become permanent residences for the "lake people," adding year-round vibrancy to life in Annandale.

With 26 lakes in a 10-mile radius, Annandale is a hub of fishing activity during the warm season. There are regional attractions in large, beautiful bodies of water like Clearwater and Sylvia. Many boaters make a day of it in the area, moving from lake to lake as they wish.

Outside of fishing, area residents also have an abundance of lakeside parks and beaches to enjoy, as Annandale Municipal Park is located in town, and county parks like Clearwater-Pleasant on the north side of Pleasant Lake and Schroeder Park on Cedar Lake are just a short drive or bike ride away. These places are popular for families with children, as each park offers a quality playground as well as large swimming areas and beaches. There are also picnic shelters and recreational options like ball fields, volleyball courts and walking or biking paths.

Go forth and live life on the lakes to the fullest.





# Wet a line CATCH A FISH

By Jerry Carlson

**H**ere are some basic presentations that can be used to catch the most popular fish species in the Annandale area.

■ Crappies are one of America's favorite fish and can be caught year round on many lakes. In order to consistently catch crappies, there are some basic rules to follow.

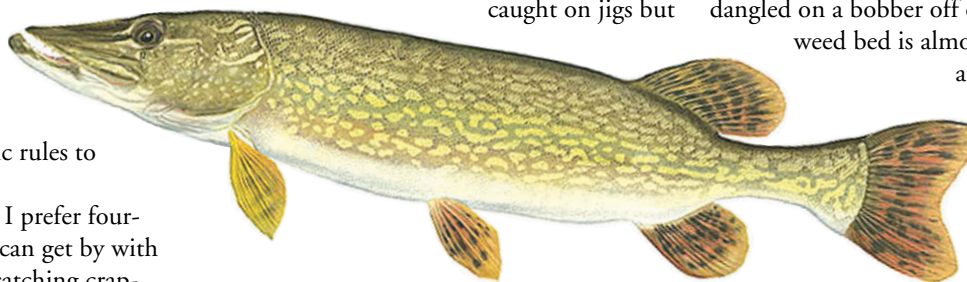
First of all, use light line. I prefer four-pound-test Trilene, but you can get by with six. Light line is crucial for catching crappies.

For bait, I use small 1/64 or 1/32 ounce jigs. In the spring I fish the jigs plain but later in the year I will tip them with a minnow. Chartreuse, white, yellow, or black can all work depending on the day. My favorite jigs, however, are a pink and white feathered

jig or a plastic Northland Slug Bug.

A sliding bobber rig will allow you to fish in two feet of water or in 20 feet. Sensitive floats are ideal for detecting light biting crappies in the cold water of spring or when the fish are feeling finicky. Crappies are attracted to weeds and cabbage beds. They often bite best in the early morning and late evenings.

■ Sunfish are frequently found in the same location as crappies but are more consistent biters. Sunnies can also be caught on jigs but



long shank hooks tipped with live bait are often preferred to make hook removal easier.

Sunnies are cooperative biters when small, but get fussier with age and size. Big sunnies are often caught in deep water by walleye anglers trolling live bait rigs tipped with leeches and crawlers. Sunnies love to

hide in weeds or seek cover under boat docks and diving platforms.

■ Northern are toothy critters with razor sharp teeth that can cut heavy line with ease. They are also aggressive feeders that provide thrills and excitement all summer long.

They can be taken on many artificial lures such as Flicker Shads and Mimic Minnows. Various spoons and spinnerbaits fished around weed edges and drop-offs will also work. Northern have a weakness for sucker minnows. A four to six inch sucker minnow dangled on a bobber off of a deep break or a weed bed is almost sure to get some

attention. A heavy nylon leader will work better than steel.

Sucker minnows can also be trolled effectively for northern. Use

chartreuse or orange floating jig heads with a three-eighths or half ounce slip sinker. Troll this rig at the deep weed line, around points, weed beds, and sunken islands. Live bait trolling with sucker minnows will net you numerous bass as well.

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■ Bass are one of the most sought after fish found in the Annandale area and are also one of the most plentiful. Bass are popular because, like northern, they are found in many locations and are often aggressive feeders.

Artificial lures work well for bass. In my opinion plastic worms are probably the best all around bass lure ever invented. I prefer to use a six-inch

Berkley PowerBait fished on 1/8-ounce jig or a seven inch worm fished with a more weed-less Texas rig. Sinking worms hooked wacky style can be exceptional early in the year.

The plastic worm may not look like much, but it is a real killer when it comes to bass. It can be fished both deep and shallow but works best when fished with slow hops right on the bottom. The toughest part



about fishing a plastic worm may be detecting the light bites.

Spinnerbaits and crankbaits are two other lure types that also work well for bass. When it comes to spinnerbaits, I really like to use a 3/8-ounce single spin in either white or chartreuse.

■ Without a doubt, there is something special about catching walleyes. Maybe it is because they are such good table fare or maybe it is the fact they are a little trickier to catch than other species of fish. Whatever the reason, walleyes are a prominent fish in the eyes of the angler.

Walleyes are found in many Annandale area lakes. Although the walleye can sometimes try one's patience, there are many impressive catches made locally each year.

Live bait rigs are an effective way to fish for walleyes. I usually start by trolling live bait rigs but once active fish are found, jigging or slip bobbers may be more effective. Minnows, especially shiner minnows, work well for rigging and tipping jigs early in the year but give way to leeches and crawlers after the first few weeks of the season.

I believe that too many anglers ignore crankbaits for walleyes. It wasn't that many

years ago that Shad Raps were the hottest thing going for walleyes.

Trolling is a good way to search for active walleyes. Deep water weed lines, rock piles, and sunken islands are popular hangouts and should be worked thoroughly. If a likely looking spot is found, don't be afraid to include the surrounding deep water in your search.

Local bait stores can save you hours of time if you ask for advice on where, when, and how deep.

Walleyes are notorious low light feeders. Many anglers prefer to fish for them early or late in the day. Night fishing will also work. Using light line will add a few percentage points in your favor.

Whatever you fish for, be versatile! Don't just sit in one spot all day. Try different methods and lures. Fish for another species of fish if the one you are after is not cooperating. You may want to try another area lake to see if fish are more active there.

*Jerry Carlson of St. Augusta is the author of "Details for Catching Fish." He has fished the area's lakes for many years, and he is an avid hunter. He is an occasional contributor to the Advocate and Messenger.*

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# IT'S ALL NEW

By Kris Potter

We noticed something two years ago that between our house in town and our fifth-generation cabin, that all told we had 180 years of house.

One hundred-eighty years of house means things like no main floor bathroom for aging in place, bats in the belfry, airplanes flying over at all hours of the day and night disrupting sleep, being on round three or four of repainting the wood siding, toads on the stair, and a septic system that only works May to January if you're lucky.

I'll leave it to readers to ferret out which problem applied to which house, but all this led to the following statement from our friendly lakeside contractor, "This could all be new."

My inner self bristled with thoughts like, does it look like we like new? The cabin is full of antiques! We've gently cared for our cozy cabin like people care for vintage boats. Every repair person within 70 miles knew our cabin and all its flaws, which include half of it having dirt just beneath the flooring ... perhaps that's where the toads were?

Once we calmed down, with retirement looming, kids to the west and east, and a need to streamline our lives we started formulating a plan.

Much as we loved our South Minneapolis home, it was our family raising home. The place where our kids thrived, where we could walk to the grocery, the creek, the lakes, the library, pharmacy, gas station, car repair and eventually my mom's care center.

We never saw or were affected by crime, our neighbors were like dorm mates, as we could see them in their PJs in the morning, as they could see us due to the five feet of distance between lots, it was a village.

But we could see the village changing ... friends in Florida for half the year, friends moving to be near kids, friends drifting away into new endeavors.

The idea had been planted, and more and more the thought of new, a new house, a new place, a new space that fit our new stage of life was pulling us to the lake.

## Pull of the lake

With only an hour of driving, our beloved city could become the place we visit and lakeside could become our anchor and launch pad. Closer to up north camping, quieter,



and honestly, a new challenge that two long married people could face together.

We tried to argue ourselves out of the daunting project of rebuilding our cabin, but we lost on every point.

I will say one thing about building new, it is almost a miracle for a civilian to see a house go from ideas, to flat paper plans, to a frame, to coloring in between all the lines with paint, siding, flooring and curtains.

As an observer, to watch the skill of local craftspeople as they design, hammer, lay tile, and formulate answers to challenges ... it gives me renewed respect for what it takes to build a house.

It's a creative dynamic endeavor that I can say, I'm glad we did, but I don't know that I would do again. It increased my empathy for those losing homes to fire, hurricane, tornado and flooding.

It's a blessing and privilege that we have been able to choose this; for many it's not al-

ways a choice. In addition, it prompted the sobering thought: this house will outlive us. Which for me, increased the desire to get it right and have it done well for the next family or family member that will inhabit it.

So after 53 years, I get to watch the sun rise at the lake every day, I don't have to complain that, "I'll bet it's really nice at the lake today," and know we couldn't get there due to commitments in town, and for the first time in my adult life I live in rural Minnesota and don't just teach in rural Minnesota. It is truly a journey for our family and we are ready for it "all to be new!"

*Kris Potter and her husband Mike, Minneapolis, have had a cabin on Lake Sylvia for many years, which is now their rebuilt home.*



# The stretched out NEIGHBORHOOD

By Kris Potter

In the city, neighbors are the people who reside on your block, in a standard neighborhood that's about 12 houses. Houses so close that when the landline phone used to ring, your neighbors phone was so close you sometimes thought it was your phone.

That also means neighbor's household arguments are close, as are parties. But it also means there are always people to talk to, always folks walking by commenting on your garden or yard, and someone always has an egg to borrow for your recipe which demands an egg you don't have. A good neighborhood is like a small town where everyone knows everyone.

I was interested when I told someone at the lake where I lived, right away they commented, "Well, we're neighbors!"

Which surprised me and also made me feel good because we are several miles from their house. So the idea of neighbors is different here at the lake and in the surrounding countryside. Stretched out, more like a net than a piece of fabric. But both nets and fabric hold things together and hold themselves together.

Which got me thinking about our beautiful state and how the city and the countryside are neighbors too.

The city dwellers need the respite and calm that woods, waters, fields and streams bring. Renewing them from the demands of city life.

And for those outside the city, the urban center holds the Twins stadium, the large concert venues, the art museums, the training institutions – colleges, technical institutes and culinary schools, the un-



usual restaurants, the State Fair. They are all places that need a city to be able to support them.

The last three years we all hunkered down, in the city, in the country, at the lake. But it's become more clear that we truly need each other. That if you look at us as a state, we are neighbors, one to another. That what happens in one place, enhances and compliments the other.

So it's summer, a time when rural and city cross paths as they visit each others spaces and places. Where we are renewed and inspired by the places we don't usually live in. Say "hi" to those neighbors, and respect their neighborhood, just like you do at home.

*Kris Potter and her husband Mike of Minneapolis, have had a cabin on Lake Sylvia for many years, which is now their rebuilt home.*

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# Area LAKES

The Heart of the Lakes area has an abundance of lakes, rivers and streams with fishing opportunities.

Most of the lakes in Wright and Stearns counties are managed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Area Fisheries office in Montrose.

Public water access maps are available from the Section of Trails and Waterways, and are helpful guides to the state owned public access sites. Also, visit any local bait shop for maps or the DNR's website, [www.mndnr/fishmn](http://www.mndnr/fishmn).

## AUGUSTA

180 acres. Public access via Clearwater Lake. Resort. Good northern, panfish, walleye.

## BASS

213 acres. Public access on the west side. Crappies, largemouth bass, northern and panfish.

## CAMP (HENRY)

108 acres. Public access on the north end. Panfish, northern and bass.

## CEDAR

837 acres. Public access from Co. Rd. 6. Over 100 feet deep. County park (Schroeder) with camping facilities on north side. DNR fishing pier. Panfish, northern, walleyes, bass.

## CLEARWATER

3,182 acres. The area's largest lake. Two public accesses on the west side. Best fishing in the area for northern, walleye, panfish and largemouth bass.

## FRANCIS

1,172 acres. Public access on the northwest side. Panfish, northern, bass, walleye.

## FRENCH

332 acres. Public access on the northwest corner. Some trophy walleyes with crappie, northern and carp.

## GRANITE

339 acres. Public access on west side. Sunken island good for crappies, bass, walleyes and northern.

## LOUISA

179 acres. Public access on Lake Marie. Some large pike, panfish.

## MARIE

141 acres. Access on the northeast side. Panfish, northern. Scenic Fair Haven Mill dam on lower east side.

## MARY

209 acres. Public access on the northwest side. County park. Panfish, northern, walleyes – and some two-pound crappies.

## MINK-SOMMERS

459 acres. Public access on Sommers Lake. Five-pound northern, panfish.

## NIXON

56 acres. Access on the north end. Sleeper bass. Bluegills and northern.

## PLEASANT

509 acres. Adjoins city of Annandale. Two public accesses (one on the south side, one in the new Clearwater-Pleasant County Park on the north side). One of the top 100 walleye lakes in the state. Bluegills, bass and northern.

## SUGAR

1,050 acres. Public access on the north and south ends. Resort. Wright County's only muskie lake. Northern, bass, panfish and walleye.

## EAST LAKE SYLVIA, WEST LAKE SYLVIA

1,524 acres. Public access on West Lake Sylvia (west side). The cleanest in the area with 30-inch walleyes. Panfish, bass and northern.



## JOHN

411 acres. Public access on the south side. Nice size panfish along with bass and northern.

## INDIAN

129 acres. Public access on the south side. Lots of panfish and a few nice northern.

## LIMESTONE

188 acres. Public access on the north side. Resort and campground. Weedless lure will catch northern, bluegills and bass.



# Aquatic invasives DO YOUR PART

The long, hard fight against aquatic invasive species in the Heart of the Lakes area and many parts of Minnesota is ongoing. In recent years several types of AIS have made their way into Annandale area lakes. That list includes starry stonewort, eurasian water milfoil and zebra mussels.

Agencies and volunteers have stepped up the fight on area lakes. Many have ongoing initiatives in place to fight invasives.

For specific lakes and launches, check all signage to make certain your watercraft is legal. Also, visitors and residents should keep up to date on lakes they are using.

For more on invasives, check with local lake associations, including the Greater Lake Sylvia Association, Cedar Lake Conservation Club and others, who are taking an active role in the fight (see the website listing on this page). Also, visit the DNR website, the Advocate's archives on its website, and [www.wright-swcd.org](http://www.wright-swcd.org).

## Prevent the spread

Regardless of the invasive species in question, boaters should be aware of legal guide-

lines for protecting lakes and other bodies of water. All boaters are required to:

- Clean all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels or other species from watercraft, trailers and equipment before leaving a water access or shoreland.

- Drain equipment, including boat, ballast tanks, bait containers, bilge, live well and bait well by removing drain plugs and keeping them removed during transportation. It is illegal to arrive at a lake access with drain plugs in place, to transport aquatic plants or species on a roadway, or to transport water from lakes or rivers.

- Dispose of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches and worms, in the trash. It is illegal to release live bait into a body of water.




To keep live bait, use bottled or tap water.

Those who fail to comply with the regulations can face criminal or civil penalties that can include fines. In addition, a boat lift, dock, swim raft, or associated equipment that has been removed from any infested water body throughout the state may not be placed in another water body until a minimum of 21 days have passed or unless they have been washed at an approved wash station.

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## Lake associations

The Heart of the Lakes area has a good number of active lake associations. If you own a home or cabin on a lake, or are interested in lake related issues, join a lake association. Dues are usually very reasonable and members can be both active and semi-active. Most associations have annual meetings, most often during the summer months.

■ Camp Lake Association, Ryan Bollman, chair, 320-241-5543, website: [www.camplake.org](http://www.camplake.org)

■ Cedar Lake Conservation Club, president David Glass, email: [glassdavid@gmail.com](mailto:glassdavid@gmail.com), website: [www.cedarlakecc.org](http://www.cedarlakecc.org)

■ Clearwater Lake Property Owners Association, president Jim Kutzner, email: [contact@clpo.org](mailto:contact@clpo.org), website: [www.clpo.org](http://www.clpo.org)

■ Clearwater River Watershed District, chairperson Robert Schiefelbein, 320-398-8400, email: [rgaaab@meltel.net](mailto:rgaaab@meltel.net), website: [www.crwed.org](http://www.crwed.org)

■ Cokato Lake Improvement Association, president Louis King, 612-490-0482, [cokatolakeexperience@gmail.com](mailto:cokatolakeexperience@gmail.com)

■ Granite Lake Watershed Association, website: [www.granitelakewatersh.wixsite.com/granite-lake-watersh](http://www.granitelakewatersh.wixsite.com/granite-lake-watersh)

■ Lake Francis Area Recreation and Conservation Club, president Craig Panning,

952-449-1286, website: [www.lakefrancismn.org](http://www.lakefrancismn.org)

■ Lake John Association, president Topher McKinlay, email: [president@lakejohnassociation.com](mailto:president@lakejohnassociation.com), website: [lakejohnassociation.com](http://lakejohnassociation.com)

■ Greater Lake Sylvia Association, president Russ Fortner, 612-865-5470, email: [russfortner@hotmail.com](mailto:russfortner@hotmail.com), website: [www.lakesylvia.org](http://www.lakesylvia.org)

■ Mink and Somers lakes, chair Sandy Braun, website: [www.minksomers.org](http://www.minksomers.org)

■ Pleasant Lake Association, president Kevin Bergstrom, website: [www.pliamn.com](http://www.pliamn.com)

■ Sugar Lake Association, chairperson Dan Erdmann, [sugarlakemember@gmail.com](mailto:sugarlakemember@gmail.com), website: [www.sugarlake.org](http://www.sugarlake.org)



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## Explore PARKS & REC

The summer months open endless possibilities for outdoor recreation in the Heart of the Lakes. Annandale's trail system is expanding, a handful of exceptional state and county parks are nearby, and there are multiple opportunities to engage in sports like softball, golf, tennis and more.

For youth, there are many opportunities to play baseball or softball at various levels of competition in a traveling league. Annandale Community Education also offers a variety of summer activities.

Adults might enjoy taking in a baseball game played by one of the best Class C teams in the state, the Maple Lake Lakers. Those who still want to play can join a slowpitch softball league in Annandale, or pursue a less traditional sport like disc golf at Clearwater-Pleasant Regional Park or a round of paintball at a nearby course.

Golfing is a main attraction in the area, with three high-quality golf courses located in or within a few miles of town, and many others located nearby.

The Southside Trail now connects various trail segments south of Highway 55 this year and creates a continuous 2.7-mile link from Southbrook to Minnesota Pioneer Park that bikers, runners and walkers will appreciate for years to come.

Families can enjoy their choice of beaches to handle hot summer days, visiting two on Pleasant Lake or the Schroeder Park beach on Cedar Lake. A beach house is open at Annandale Municipal Park.

Those looking for a more wooded walk can find it at beautiful trails in Wright County's Robert Ney Regional Park and Stanley Eddy Regional Park, each just a few miles east and west of Annandale, respectively. More trails and activity options are available a short distance to the northeast at Lake Maria State Park.

Read on for more details about each of those items.



# OUTDOOR ATTRACTIONS



## Baseball-Softball Traveling League

■ Youth ball games are as common as fishing poles in the Heart of the Lakes. The traveling league, for kids age 9 to 18, begins each year in late May and ends around the first week of August. Throughout the summer, the fields around Annandale are busy most evenings, including Annandale's new rec park. For registration and schedule information, visit [www.annandalebbsb.org](http://www.annandalebbsb.org).

## Community Education

■ There are lots of activities for younger children. Annandale Community Education offers an assortment of classes, clubs and sports. Visit [www.isd876.org](http://www.isd876.org), click on Community Education and follow the links to view a catalog of youth and adult programs. Printed copies are also available, or call

274-3058 Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

## Maple Lake Lakers

■ Baseball fans will enjoy a night out at historic Irish Stadium in Maple Lake, home of the Maple Lake Lakers. The amateur baseball team consists of former college and high school athletes who play because they love the game. The ball field is lit up most Wednesday, Friday and Sunday nights during the summer starting in May, and seats are inexpensive. For a complete schedule of games, visit [www.maplelakelakers.com](http://www.maplelakelakers.com).

## Softball

■ Slowpitch softball leagues play during the summer months at Annandale Municipal Park. Look for men's action on Thursday and Friday evenings. Grab a seat or get in the game. Concessions are available.

## Tennis

■ As part of the Annandale Rec Park project, new tennis courts were completed in the summer of 2017. They are behind the high school and open to the public in the summer.

The tennis courts alongside Annandale Middle School make a recreational game of tennis appealing to area visitors and residents. The courts are open to the public throughout the summer.

## Disc golf

■ Clearwater-Pleasant Regional Park has a disc golf course across the road from the main park. It's clearly marked, and there is parking. The holes vary in length, making it an attractive activity for all abilities.



# OUTDOOR ATTRACTIONS

## Paintball

■ Annandale Paintball offers a fun and exciting summer activity for individuals 8 years and older. Having been in business for over 15 years, they have extensive experience ensuring a fun and safe afternoon is in store.

Sharing a parking lot with the Wright County Swappers Meet, located at 13659 100th St. NW, South Haven, Annandale Paintball features multiple playing fields that are all surrounded in netting. This netting ensures paintballs are kept on the playing field, while allowing spectators the ability to view the game.

They offer three versions of paintball, so that it best fits the group outing. Additionally, paintballs are 100% washable and biodegradable.

For younger players who are 8 to 14, there is family friendly paintball. These markers are spring powered instead of air, and are designed especially for kids. The intermediate level offered is low impact paintball. Using a smaller paintball,



and slightly slower speed, this is the perfect version available to first time players, and those who are 10 and older.

Traditional Paintball is for those that have experience playing paintball, and is the version that most people are familiar with when they think of paintball.

Annandale Paintball also offers airsoft, laser tag and gel blaster games. Annandale Paintball offers rental equipment that includes everything needed to play, without time limits.

To learn more or to make a reservation visit [www.annandalepaintball.com](http://www.annandalepaintball.com) or call

320-274-8242.

## Walking, running, biking

■ The Southside Trail extension project was completed in the summer of 2017. It links the southern side of town together. During the project, 1.2 miles of new trail segments were constructed to connect existing trails and form a continuous 2.7-mile link from Southbrook to Minnesota Pioneer Park.

■ A nice walking, running and biking trail from Annandale begins on the west side of Pleasant Lake and ends at Clearwater-Pleasant Regional Park, which also

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has a lovely path system. Be careful of traffic on County Road 5 (Montgomery Ave. NW) out of Annandale. There is no path from the park back to town on Highway 24, but road reconstruction in the fall of 2007 widened the shoulders. A trip around the lake is about 5.3 miles. From Annandale Municipal Park to the CPRP and back (on the path) is a mile or two longer.

## Swimming

■ Swimming is available at the Annandale Municipal Park beach and the Clearwater-Pleasant Regional Park beach. At the city park, volunteers have improved the beach house and helped make the beach family-friendly.

The beach house is usually open from mid-June through mid-August. Concessions are available, along with games and towels, and accessories are for sale. No lifeguards are on duty. 10,000 Lakes Recreation rents paddle boards at the Pleasant Lake beach area. See the ad on page 59.

■ Another nearby beach is Schroeder Park on Cedar Lake. It is part of the Wright County Park system and offers a number of amenities (see the article in



this Guide) and is a just short distance from Annandale.

## SUP

There is an loosely organized Standup Paddle Boarding group in Annandale. For more information contact Anchor Dock

and Lift at 274-6500. SUP boards are sold and rented locally at several outlets, including Anchor Dock, Little Jim's and Clearwater Outfitting. SUP boards are also available in from 10,000 Lakes Recreation. See the ad on page 59.

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# CW Outfitting RIVER TRAVELS

By Tom Westman

If paddling the beautiful and scenic bends of the Mississippi River where bald eagles soar and deer can be seen drinking at the water's edge is what you're looking for, there's one area family that's got you covered.

Sandra and Dan Meer, owners of Clear Waters Outfitting, have turned their passion for the outdoors into a livelihood that has people falling in love with the sport and river.

"When you put a paddle in your hand and shove off from shore, whether it's a lake or river, the rest of the world has a tendency to just slip away," said Dan Meer.

Since opening its doors in 2009, CW Outfitting has quickly become a destination for beginner and experienced paddlers alike.

Serving thousands of paddlers each year CW Outfitting is now Minnesota's premier Mississippi River outfitter and paddle sport specialty store.

Located on the banks of a state-designated "wild and scenic" stretch of the Mississippi River, CW Outfitting is within a stone's throw of the Highway 24 bridge leading out of Clearwater, only about 20 minutes from Annandale.

"Living in this state, there is a growing desire to experience the water in new ways," Meer said. "On our river adventures, it's just you and the river. It helps to put life into perspective."

"Whether beginner or experienced, we have a bunch of options for you to choose from, and we offer the perfect way to enjoy our Minnesota summers."

## Complete outfitter and paddle specialty store

The area's only complete outfitter and paddle sport specialty store, CW Outfitting offers half-day, full-day and multi-day paddling adventures.

There are rentals, shuttles, and all different types of paddle sport equipment for sale including: paddle boards, recreational kayaks, touring kayaks, fishing kayaks and canoes.

CW Outfitting will do free delivery and pickup, with a three-day rental, within 15 miles of Clearwater.

## More information

For more information or to schedule a paddle trip, contact CW Outfitting at 320-558-8123 or visit [www.cwoutfitting.com](http://www.cwoutfitting.com).



See more on the  
**Mississippi State  
Water Trail** on  
page 68.

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# Fields of dreams Here's where the action is

By Tom Westman

**T**he 80-acre Annandale Recreation Park is enjoying excellent success, and this year, the park will be the site of many games, tournaments and activities.

If you visit the park on any given weekend in the summer months, chances are good you will find a youth softball or baseball tournament underway.

Visitors to the park can also enjoy the trail that circles the park.

Phase I of construction began in the spring of 2016 with road and field grading, the installation of drainage systems and water mains.

Phase II saw the construction of the ball fields, the tennis courts, the walking trail and parking lot in 2017.

High School.

All parking areas are paved with curbing around them and the access road from the park to Hemlock has been paved.

The three football-soccer fields began being used in the late summer of 2018.

The concession-press box building was also completed by the Annandale Lions Club.

Batting cages, funded by the Annandale Athletic Foundation, have been installed for both baseball and softball.

## 2015 referendum

The project was funded by a \$4 million school district referendum passed by Annandale School District voters in November of 2015. The question was approved by a 69-39 percent margin.

Completed in the summer of 2017 and available for use by the public are the eight new tennis courts, located at the back of Annandale

Discussions on the need for additional recreational facilities began in Annandale around 2003. Passage of the referendum was the culmination of more than a decade of effort to address the issue.

The referendum dollars along with private and civic donations provided the project with a \$4.4 million budget.

## Joint powers

The City of Annandale and the Annandale School District have formed a joint powers agreement and share equally the future costs of the operations and maintenance.

## Future plans

Many additional features have been outlined for the park, but those will be added by private donations, civic organizations or the city as revenue is available.

Possibilities for future facilities include basketball and volleyball courts, horseshoe pits, bocce ball courts, a skate park, dog park, splash pad, additional multi-use fields and additional infrastructure such as lights for the tennis courts.



# Wright County PARKS

**W**right County is blessed with some beautiful geography, from rivers and lakes to woods and prairie, and there are few better ways to experience what nature has to offer than by visiting one of the nearly 30 parks, reserves, waysides and accesses that make up the Wright County Parks system. Refer to the Events Calendar for scheduled summer activities.

## Clearwater-Pleasant

Nearest to Annandale is the Clearwater-Pleasant Regional Park on the north side of Pleasant Lake. It is very popular with families. This park features a large swimming beach, park pavilion, bathroom facilities, a playground, a Department of Natural Resources public boat landing and fishing pier, and walking and biking trails that stretch through the entire 210-acre park.

The trail starts on County Road 5 on the west side of Pleasant Lake and winds its way to the park. The six-mile journey, either walking or biking, might make you a little hungry, so pack a lunch and enjoy it at the park.



A disc golf course was added and the playground area was expanded in 2005. In addition, the trail system has been updated, making CWPRP even more attractive.

The disc golf course is across the road from the main park. It is clearly marked, and parking is available. The holes vary in length, making this an attractive outdoor activity for all abilities.

## Lake Maria

Lake Maria State Park will offer a variety of programs and events during the summer. The park is located approximately 10 miles northeast of Annandale on Wright County 111. A paradise for hikers, horseback riders and campers, there are 14 miles of hiking trails, plus six miles of horse trails.





## Schroeder Park

Rivalling Clearwater-Pleasant Regional Park for variety of features is Schroeder Park on Cedar Lake, a short drive north and east of Annandale.

Schroeder Park features a fishing pier, creative play area for the kids, hiking trails, a boat launch and a beach area. An extensive upgrade to the camping and park facilities is set to begin in the summer of 2023.

At both Clearwater-Pleasant and Schroeder, the swimming area is marked by buoys. There is no lifeguard on duty.

## Ney Nature Center

Another county park close to Annandale is the Ney Nature Center just north of Maple Lake. It features a large number of interpretive programs and ski trails in the winter, and lots of hiking trails and other amenities in the summer. Take County Road 8 north and just watch for the signs.

## Stanley Eddy

The Stanley Eddy Park Reserves south of South Haven are open for horseback riding and hiking in the summer and skiing in the winter. It has a bike trail as well.

The four units of the reserves make up 658 rolling acres of scenic beauty. This is the perfect park for the hiker.



## Camping options

One feature that Schroeder holds above that of the Clearwater-Pleasant Regional Park is that of overnight camping on the lake. It is one of two locations in the county park system that offer conventional camping – the other being Collinwood Park near Cokato.

There are also canoe camping or backpack camping options available in Wright County. Canoe camping sites are available on the North Fork of the Crow River, including at Albright's Mill County Park south of Annandale on County Road 5. Remote backpacking camping sites are also available at Stanley Eddy Memorial Park Reserve near South Haven. There is no charge for using these campsites and they are available on a first-come, first-served basis. A use permit is required.

Contact the Parks Department office at 763-682-7693 a few days before your trip to obtain a permit.

■ Visit [www.co.wright.mn.us](http://www.co.wright.mn.us) for more on the parks system.

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# Fun Outdoors CAMPS

## Camp Friendship

■ Location: 10509 108th St. NW, Annandale. Ten acres of the camp are located off Clearwater Lake, an additional 60 acres are located across the lake access road.

■ Phone: 274-8376

■ Website:

[www.truefriends.org](http://www.truefriends.org)

■ Founded: In 1964 by Arc Minnesota. A group of parents established a facility where they could entrust the care of their children with disabilities to others for short periods of time.

■ Mission: Camp Friendship is owned and operated by Friendship Ventures, a non-profit agency. The camp offers resident camp programs for children, teenagers and adults with development, physical or multiple disabilities, special medical conditions, Down Syndrome, autism or other conditions. Many sessions are open to siblings or friends without disabilities. The camp has many modern amenities, including a program center with an indoor gym and swimming pool, modern cabins, a dining hall, large swimming beach, animal farm, tree house and much more. It features dozens of indoor and outdoor activities. Scholarships are offered for those with limited financial resources.

## Camp Courage

■ Location: 8046 83rd St. NW, Maple Lake.

■ Phone: 963-3121,

■ Website: [www.truefriends.org](http://www.truefriends.org)

■ Founded: Originally founded in 1938 on the shores of the St. Croix River, east of Hinckley. It was then moved to the east side of Cedar Lake near Maple Lake in 1955.

■ Mission: Camp Courage is a barrier-free residential camping facility serving people of all ages with physical disabilities and kids with speech/language/hearing impairments. It offers a safe, accessible natural environment where campers discover abilities they never knew they had or thought they had lost. During the school year groups rent the facilities for retreats. There are also a number of volunteer opportunities available. The camp encourages campers to visit, regardless of ability to pay; referrals are welcome.

In addition to Camp Friendship and Camp Courage, there are also several other area camps. Each has its own rich history and serves one or many needs; they are non-profit and have distinct missions that benefit campers from the local, state, regional and even national area. Most of the camps operate year-round. Check with a specific camp for programs that are offered in the fall and winter.



## Camp Chi Rho

■ Location: 5750 Porter Ave. NW, Annandale, southeast side of West Lake Sylvia.

■ Phone: 274-8307

■ Website: [www.chirhocenter.org](http://www.chirhocenter.org)

■ Founded: Formed in 1967 by St. John's Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

■ Mission: Camp Chi Rho and retreat center is located northwest of Annandale. The 76-acre site sits on a peninsula overlooking West Lake Sylvia. The center offers educational camps and Bible programs for youth during the summer months. It's also used for other programs, like the Arrowwood basketball camp for girls. The camp and center are available for organizations and groups like schools, churches and family reunions throughout the year. Visitors are welcome. Call or stop for more information.

## The Fields at Wellsprings Farm

■ Location: 13537 47th Street NW, Annandale

■ Phone: 612-619-5290

■ Email: [info@wellspringsfarm.org](mailto:info@wellspringsfarm.org)

■ Website:

[www.wellspringsfarm.org](http://www.wellspringsfarm.org)

■ Founded: This retreat center was organized by the nonprofit organization The Fields and homesteaders Dan and Joan Pauly Schneider in 2015 after Clare's Well closed at the same site.

■ Mission: The Wellsprings Farm Community Supported Retreat model hopes to foster an evolving community oriented toward healing, listening and mutual responsibility grounded in inclusive spiritual and ecological principles.

The retreat might be the first Community Supported Retreat Model in the country. Visitors purchase stay shares at the retreat center.

## Stearns Scout Camp

■ Location: 3303 County Road 44, South Haven

■ Phone: 236-7879, 236-7494 for summer camp only, fax: 236-7879

■ Website: [www.northernstarbsa.org](http://www.northernstarbsa.org)

■ Founded: 1968

■ Mission: Located on 1,200 acres in rural South Haven, the year round camp is used primarily by Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, although youth and church groups do use the camp on occasion. The camp is visited by thousands of scouts each year.



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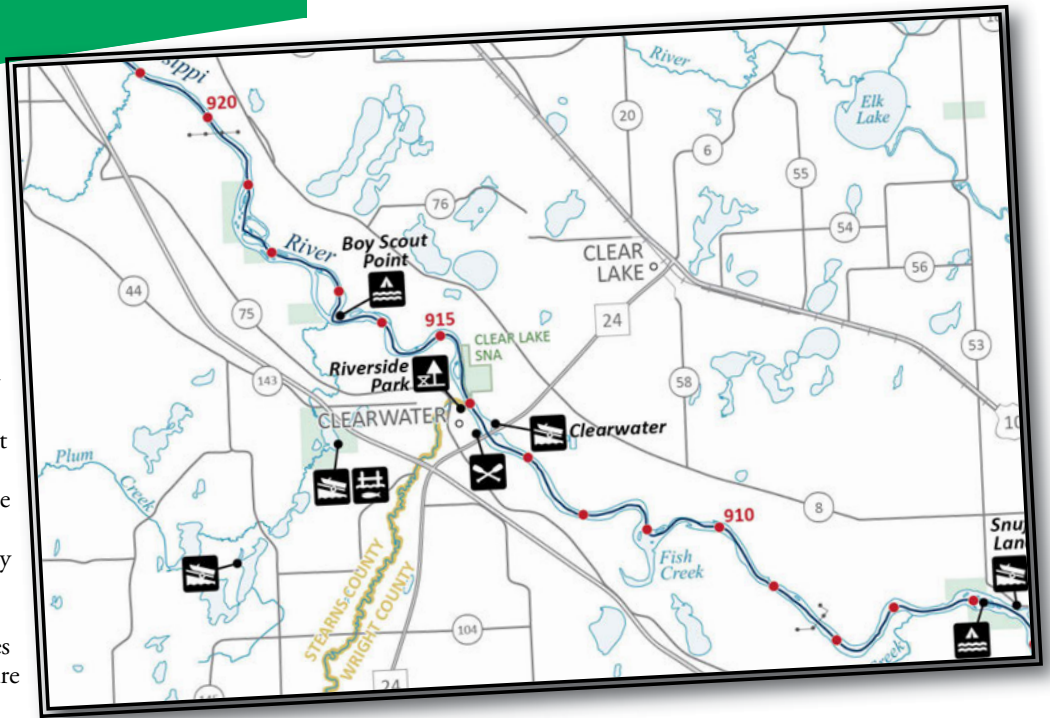
# Mississippi River State WATER TRAIL

The Mississippi State Water Trail is located north of Annandale where the river flows through a valley that features bluffs, islands and sandbars teeming with a wide variety of plants and animals.

In 1973, the section of the river where the trail is located was designated as a Minnesota Wild and Scenic River and is on the State Water Trail System. The fully navigable waters are open to small motorized boats, canoes, kayaks, etc. throughout the season.

Multiple accesses are available along the trail to launch your watercraft. Moderate rapids and currents provide family-friendly paddling opportunities.

Northern pike, smallmouth bass and walleye present great angling opportunities as well. If you need gear, local outfitters are available nearby to help with shuttles and rentals.





# Stroll the links TEE IT UP

By Dave Greve

To be an avid golfer and live in Annandale has been a great match for me the past many years. And to have a family who enjoys golf has been a bonus, in that our area has offered us many an opportunity to enjoy the sport.

## Whispering Pines Golf Course

Travel to Whispering Pines, Annandale's original golf course, and a player is likely to see the much-the-same course when he plays a round now as when the course opened back in 1986. Several stands of woods filled with birds, squirrels and the occasional deer are just part of Whispering Pines' natural beauty.

Although the course's general attitude is one of "I want an entire family to have fun when they come to play," the course can be anything but a walk in the park. Its stands of strategically placed trees and water hazards make both the novice and the accomplished player take note.

Today the course is an enjoyable 18-hole layout, having added nine holes in the late 1990s.

Starting with Mark Dvorak's purchase of the course in 2012, things began to change greatly. As an example, several stands of trees and brush have been cut and removed, and the ground has been groomed to improve playability and course sightlines. In 2015 Whispering Pines remodeled its clubhouse to better accommodate its guests. It now includes a very comfortable sports bar setting to enjoy a beverage following a round of golf. A newly renovated outdoor patio area overlooks the first and 10th tee boxes, as well as the 18th green. Each golf group can enjoy a post-round beverage on the patio that is enhanced by a beautiful running brook and waterfall.

On the course, literally tons of crushed rock and sand were dumped on the many cart paths and sand traps in previous seasons. Several tee boxes have been leveled and enlarged. A new fleet of carts, a new liquor license, new golf leagues and new ball washers highlight a long list of improvements to the overall golf course's amenities. And yet, improvements continue to happen. During the past couple seasons, the course has upgraded to GPS systems on each cart to better help the players make club selection on the course.

While the original beauty of the course, and its great layout, haven't changed, the clean look of the traps and true rolling greens make "the Pines" a must-play attraction for area residents.

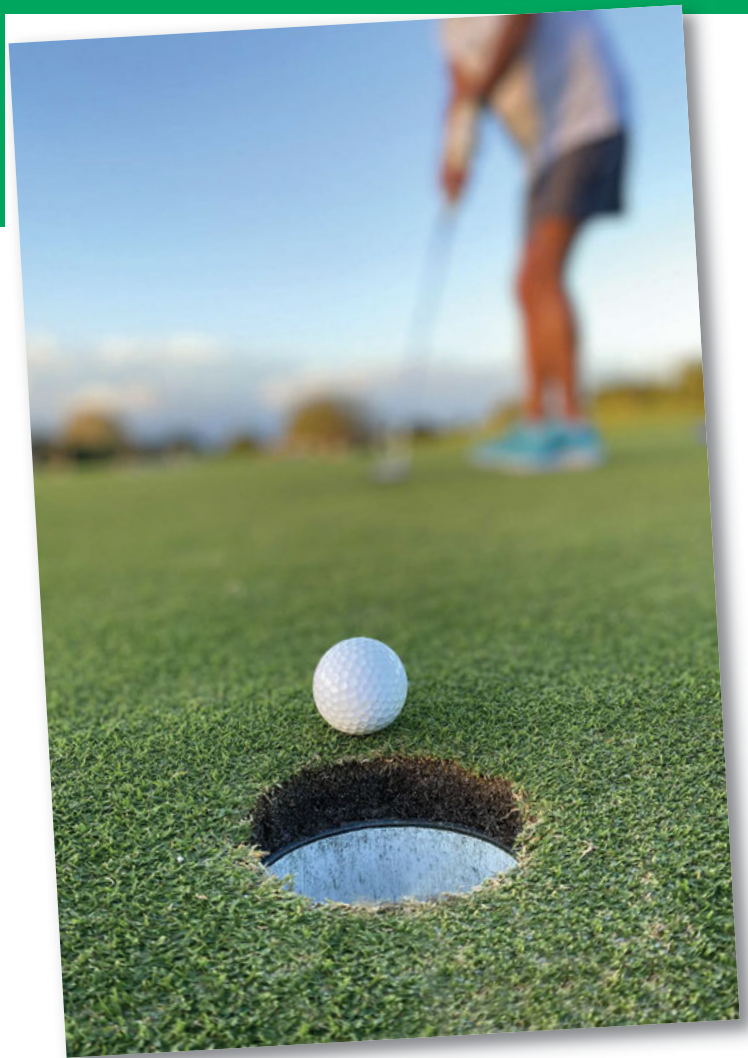
The course now offers many leagues and an ever increasing number of events to suit just about every level of golfer.

Having known the Dvoraks for many years (Mark played for me on the Annandale golf team), I know that they will continue to work hard to improve both the on-course and clubhouse product each and every year.

## Albion Ridges Golf Club

While Whispering Pines was designed by capturing the beauty of its natural stands of oaks and cedars on its rolling terrain, Albion Ridges Golf Course, approximately five miles southeast of Annandale, was developed from the rolling terrain of Dennis and Joann Olson's rich black farmland.

Despite very few natural stands of trees, Albion Ridges, designed



by Todd Severud, opened in 1991 to rave reviews. It was obvious to everyone that it would become one of the very best conditioned public courses in Minnesota. That initial opinion has not changed and today includes 27 holes of public golf as good as you will find anywhere. A third nine was added in 2000.

Owners LeRoy and Michelle Wurm took over from Dennis and JoAnn Olson in 2018, and bring new ideas to the course operation, yet provide the same quality service and conditions that have always marked the Albion Ridges reputation. As the long time course superintendent, the outstanding care by LeRoy and his maintenance staff continues with excellent greens, tees and fairways that many golfers compare with the best in the state. Michelle, who was an outstanding high school golfer for me at Annandale, and a member of the nationally-ranked Minnesota State, Mankato golf team, brings a fresh perspective to this great course.

Beginning his third full season as the clubhouse manager, PGA Professional Steve Fessler brings a wealth of expertise to Albion. Steve has a long list of accomplishments and awards from the golf community including winner of the prestigious Horton Smith Award given to the top professional in the Minnesota Section of the PGA each year. Since 2004, he has been named a top 10 teacher in Minnesota by Golf Digest and has been a PGA Award Top Junior Leader. In 2015-16, he served as the president of the Minnesota Section of the PGA and was a section board member from 2000-2018. And, in December to add to his achievements, Steve was named the 2022 Minnesota PGA Professional of the Year! Needless to say, Albion Ridges is



in good hands. Steve is available through the clubhouse for individual and group lessons.

I can't think of another course that has a design that allows players of all levels to enjoy the experience as much as this one does. Novices and high handicappers love playing at Albion because it allows them to spray the ball all over and still have some sort of shot to the green. Additionally, it has four tees on each hole to choose from, giving players the chance to find a playing distance that suits their games. There isn't an overabundance of sand traps or water, but just enough of them, and they are strategically placed at that.

But even though it appears to be wide open, it is also as much a challenge to the low handicapper as it is welcoming to the high handicapper. Quick, undulating greens that roll true test the nerves of even the best players. Unless players are driving in the fairway, it is challenging to hit a shot close to the pin. Even at that, approaching from the fairway is often not enough, as good pin positioning can force players to approach from the "correct" side of the fairway. And approaching from the lush rough does not allow the top player to control trajectory, distance or spin to consistently give himself the type of chance at birdie that he would like.

Arriving at Albion Ridges, players will be met with a long fleet of golf carts near the well-maintained clubhouse area. Started in the summer of 2021 and completed last spring, Albion's clubhouse received a complete makeover, enticing golfers to enjoy a post-round relaxing discussion. As always, the staff provides a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for area and Twin Cities golfers alike.

### Southbrook Golf Club

The dream of Daryl Gunnarson began to take shape in the early 1990s, when he and his partner, Clint Olson, built Southbrook Golf Club as part of their larger golf course community. Now in year six of Clint's daughter- and son-in-law Holly and Brian Peterson's ownership, Southbrook is a family run course, and employs a friendly and helpful staff.

Playing at Southbrook, you will enjoy great rates and great course conditions. Annexed to the west side of Annandale, the course weaves through several wooded areas, single-family residential areas and a whole lot of wetlands. In fact, Southbrook sports no less than 17 holes with some form of water hazard to challenge players of all levels. Its well-manicured fairways and lush roughs put a premium on driving accuracy.

The course is probably the easiest to walk in the area as it is built on flat land and, in some regards, the most difficult to score on. The front nine makes its way through the golf community that expands

each and every year, while the back takes a more traditional golf setting, away from the homes of Southbrook.

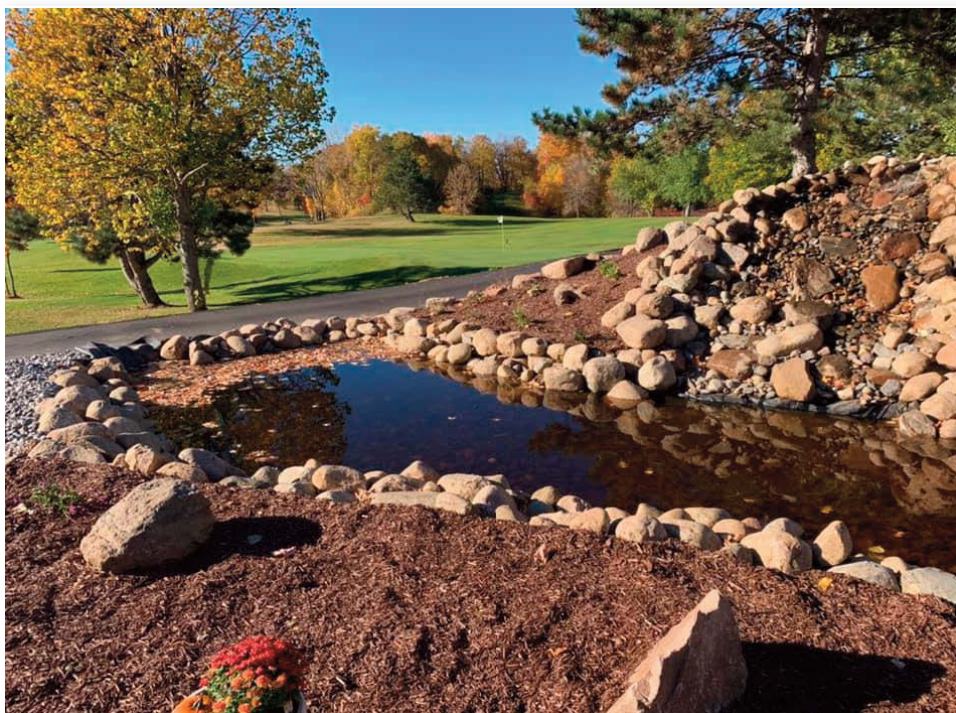
Southbrook's huge teeing areas and three separate tees on most holes, are made of bent grass, which makes them a treat from which to start each hole. While the novice golfer can play the course from one of the course's two front tees, the low handicapper can challenge himself from the back blues.

That challenge is exemplified on each of the par fives where the back tees can add up to 75 yards more than the distance from the white tees. This extra distance makes the par fives the most challenging part of the Southbrook experience for me. No hole exemplifies this more than No. 18. Many a round has been shipwrecked near the shores of this challenge, but no trip to Southbrook should be avoided for fear of running aground here. There are enough "friendly" holes to make this a completely enjoyable experience for every level of golfer.

You get more than good golf at Southbrook. Brian and his staff are constantly striving to improve the course's playability. Add to that a beautiful clubhouse and a party room on the lower level. Tournaments, junior golf clinics and the home of the Annandale High School golf teams just add to the allure of the course.

Andrew Daniels has taken over the restaurant operation. The great menu and fine relaxing atmosphere make the Southbrook Grille bar and restaurant on the upper level a fine social facility. The view from the deck of holes one, 10 and 18 make for a great setting to enjoy the round just completed.

These beautiful facilities allow Southbrook to be a complete entertainment package.



SOUTHBROOK GOLF COURSE GOLFER SPECIAL!		
<b>WILD Wednesday</b> <b>18 HOLES W/CART</b> <b>Only \$26</b>	 <b>Southbrook Golf Course</b> <b>IN ANNANDALE</b> <b>320-274-2341</b> <small>511 Morrison Ave. S., Annandale, MN</small> <small>Conveniently located between Annandale and Lake John on Cty Rd 183</small>	<b>AFTER 5 P.M. EVERYDAY!</b> <b>9 HOLES W/CART</b> <b>Only \$15</b>
<b>Thurs. Senior Day</b> <small>(Over 55)</small> <b>18 HOLES W/CART</b> <b>Only \$27</b>		<b>Twilight Golf</b> <b>18 HOLES W/CART</b> <b>Only \$26</b>
<b>WWW.SOUTHBROOKGOLF.COM</b>		



## Kimball Golf Club

Travel a short distance to Kimball and enjoy the scenic Kimball Golf Club. Joel Goldstrand was called in to design a new nine holes when in the late 1990s Kimball decided to go to 18 holes from its original nine.

Still hilly, but always well maintained, it offers one of the toughest finishing stretches in the area in holes 14 through 18. Lengthy par fours such as the dogleg No. 14, plenty of marsh-filled risk and reward from the short but treacherous No. 15 with its island green, and the tight landing area on the long par-five 17th highlight this group.

These and other challenges make the Kimball Golf Club one of the best golfing values around.

### More area courses

■ Still more golf is available only minutes away from the immediate Annandale area as golfers can play Eagle Trace along the Mississippi River in Clearwater.

Upgrades have been made to the course, and there are many challenging risk-reward options from the beginner to the pro.

There are 15 acres of man-made lakes in addition to three holes along the Mississippi. No. 11 is the signature hole, and a birdie is rare here. The hole is a visual gem.

■ Take a trip to Monticello and play one of two challenging layouts in the always interesting Monticello Country Club. Drive south from Monticello to Buffalo and find two other long-standing courses in the small but well-maintained Buffalo Heights and, just a few minutes away, at the challenging Wild Marsh.

■ In addition, there is always the dependable nine-hole Cokato Town and Country Club that is enjoyable because of its small-town flavor.

■ To the west, Koronis Hills Country Club offers 18 challenging holes among scenic, rolling hills.

On any given day during the golfing season, one is likely to encounter an Annandale area resident on any of the fine courses that can be found in the Annandale area.

The area has become a golfing haven to an enthusiast such as myself. I hope that each of you takes the time to enjoy the golfing riches



that our beautiful area has for each of us.  
See you at the first tee!

*Dave Greve has been teeing it up in the Heart of the Lakes for many years. The retired middle school teacher has his share of trophies, and he is a longtime golf coach-instructor. Dave's three sons played high school golf and two competed at the collegiate level. Ben, who is the current Minnesota State Amateur Champion and played for the University of Minnesota, has golfed professionally on the Canadian and Hooters tours. He was the 2019 Minnesota Golf Association Player of the Year and two-time Minnesota State Open Champion.*

## Locate the links...

**Albion Ridges** – Go two miles east of Annandale on Highway 55 to County Road 6 and turn right (south). Keep going south for five miles and turn left on County Road 105. Follow the signs for one mile. The course is on the right. For more information, call 963-5500, or 1-800-430-PUTT. The website address is [www.albionridges.com](http://www.albionridges.com).

**Kimball Golf Course** – Go west of Annandale on Highway 55 to Kimball. At Highway 15 go left (south) through town. Turn left at County Road 150. Course is about one mile on the right. For more information call 320-398-2285. The website is [www.kimballgolf.com](http://www.kimballgolf.com).

**Southbrook Golf Course** – From Highway 55 in Annandale turn south on County Road 5, then west on County Road 183. Go one mile and turn left on Morrison Ave. For more information, call 274-2341 or 1-877-292-9630. The website is [www.southbrookgolf.com](http://www.southbrookgolf.com).

*(The Driving Range is located before the entrance of Southbrook Golf Course, although it is not affiliated with Southbrook. It is open sun-up until sundown in the summer months.)*

**Whispering Pines Golf Course** – Located a quarter mile north of Highway 55 on County Road 6 or two miles south of Highway 24 on County Road 6. For more information, call 274-8721. The website is [www.whispering-pinesgolf.com](http://www.whispering-pinesgolf.com).



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This is one of Central Minnesota's finest golf courses! Mature trees and rolling hills define the landscape of the **KIMBALL GOLF CLUB**. The course has something to offer golfers of all different skill levels.

**11823 County Rd. 150, Kimball, MN • 320-398-2285**



# Explore CLASSROOMS & COMMUNITIES

**A**nnandale schools hold a well-earned reputation for serving as quality centers of learning occupied by outstanding students. The school district strives to provide quality education to over 2,000 students. In addition to the traditional kindergarten through grade 12 population, educational opportunities for individuals of all ages are provided through the district's community education program. For more information, see the school district's website at [www.isd876.org](http://www.isd876.org).

## **Annandale Elementary School**

■ Location: 655 Park St. E. School hours: 8:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. Office hours: 7:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. Telephone: 320-274-8218. Principal: Jonathan Klippenes. Annandale Elementary School serves 882 students from the pre-kindergarten level to the fifth-grade. The school, built in 2013, is located next to the high school.

## **Annandale Middle School**

■ Location: 125 Cherry Ave. N. School hours: 8:10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone: 274-8226. Principal: Jeffrey Erickson. About 35 teachers at Annandale Middle School serve about 400 students in grades six through eight. The middle school is located on an 11-acre site downtown. A referendum for August of this summer is planned. It will ask voters to replace the middle school and build a new structure near the two other schools.





## Annandale High School

■ Location: 855 Hemlock St. E. School hours: 8:20 a.m. to 3:10 p.m. Office hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone: 320-274-8208. Principal: Steve Scherber. About 40 teachers at Annandale High School, located on the northeastern edge of the city, serve more than 500 students in grades nine through 12. The high school building was constructed in 1991 and is designed to meet educational needs of students for many years to come. A 650-seat auditorium-performing arts center was completed in March of 2000.

## Annandale Community Education

Location: 655 Park St. E. Office hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Telephone: 320-274-3058 Fax: (320) 274-2862 Director: Tiffany Grube

The Community Education Center at Annandale Elementary School is home to the Community Education offices, Kindergarten Connection Preschool, Adult Basic Education/GED, Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE), Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE), Cardinal Playland and the Family Information/Resource Kiosk.

Community Education offers a wide variety of programs for youth and adults. Watch for quarterly brochures with class and activity listings. Also, register for events and classes online at [www.isd876.org](http://www.isd876.org).



## Youth First

Youth First is a grassroots initiative to inspire the community to become asset builders for youth. Its origins are rooted in a group of community members who gathered in 1995 with a goal of creating healthy youth in Annandale.

The non-profit organization is involved in many activities and has an office located in the middle school.

Visit [annandaleyouthfirst.com](http://annandaleyouthfirst.com), call 320-274-0636 or e-mail Mary Barkley Brown at [mbarkleybrown@isd876.org](mailto:mbarkleybrown@isd876.org).



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## CITY OF ANNANDALE

### ■ City Hall

(320) 274-3055 Fax (320) 274-5728

Police (non-emergency) 274-3278

Deputy Registrar 274-3284

Public works garage 274-8520

Website: [www.annandale.mn.us](http://www.annandale.mn.us)

Email: [city@annandale.mn.us](mailto:city@annandale.mn.us)

30 Cedar St. E., P.O. Box K, Annandale, MN 55302-0136

**Mayor** ..... Shelly Jonas

**Council members** ..... JT Grundy,

..... Tina Honsey, Corey Czycalla, Matthew Wuollet

City Administrator ..... Kelly Hinnenkamp

Building Official ..... Metro West Inspection Services

City Attorney ..... Susan Kadlec

City Engineer ..... Jared Voge

Community Development Director ... Jacob Thunander

Deputy Registrar ..... Vicki Jarmon

Fire Chief ..... Kris Townsend

Police Chief ..... Peter Standafer

Public Works Director ..... Joe Haller

## CLEARWATER RIVER WATERSHED

The Clearwater River Watershed District maintains an office at 93 Oak Ave. S., Ste. 5 in Annandale. The mailing address is: 3235 Fernbrook Lane N., Minneapolis, MN 55447. Phone: 320-274-3935.

Copies of all CRWD public documents are on file at the district's office. The website is [www.crwd.org](http://www.crwd.org).

A board of managers runs the district, which encompasses about 159 square miles. The managers meet monthly in Annandale.

## WRIGHT COUNTY

### Government Center

(763) 682-3900, (800) 362-3667

Website: [www.co.wright.mn.us](http://www.co.wright.mn.us)

3650 Braddock Ave. NW, MN 55313

Tina Diedrick of Annandale is Wright County's District 1 commissioner who serves Annandale, South Haven, Southside Township, Corinna Township, Albion Township and other areas.

Darek Vetsch serves the Clearwater area and Maple Lake.

Mike Kaczmarek serves the Cokato area, including French Lake Township.

Contact them through the website or by calling the numbers listed above.

■ For information on Stearns County, call 320-656-3600 or see [www.co.stearns.mn.us](http://www.co.stearns.mn.us). Jeff Bertram, Paynesville, serves District 3, which includes Lynden and Fair Haven townships.

## TOWNSHIP INFORMATION

Albion. .... Clerk Debbie Uecker, 612-716-0465  
[www.albiontwpmn.govoffice2.com](http://www.albiontwpmn.govoffice2.com)

Clearwater. .... Clerk Jean Just, 320-558-4011  
[www.clearwatertownship.org](http://www.clearwatertownship.org)

Corinna. .... Mary B. Brown, 274-8049  
[www.corinnatownship.com](http://www.corinnatownship.com)

Fair Haven. .... Leslie Rose 320-251-1740

French Lake. .... Clerk Breanna Chapman, 320-274-2980

Lynden. .... Clerk Jenny Schmidt, 320-774-8507  
[www.lyndentownship.net](http://www.lyndentownship.net)

Silver Creek. .... Clerk Heidi Eckerman, 763-878-2600  
[www.silvercreektwp.com](http://www.silvercreektwp.com)

Southside. .... Clerk Carmen Merrill, 320-274-8602  
[www.southsidetownship.com](http://www.southsidetownship.com)



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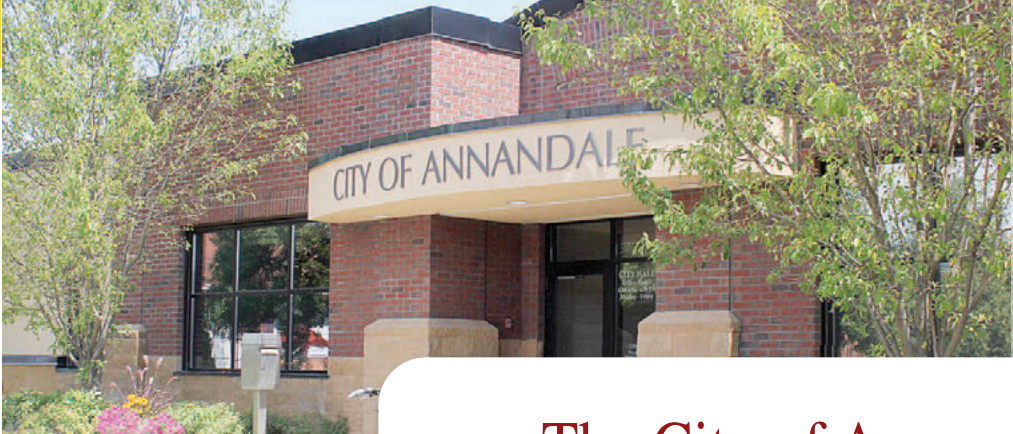
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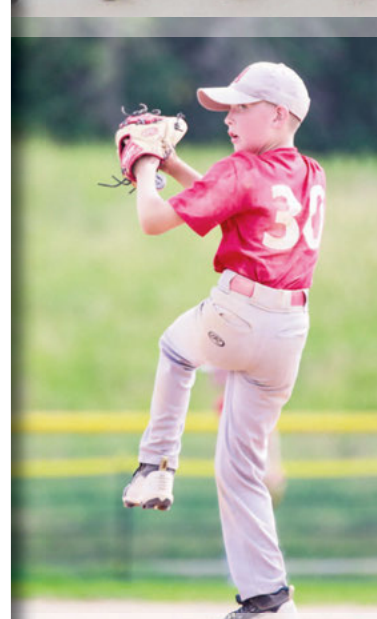
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# South Haven

Situated near the western edge of Wright County is South Haven, a city of just under 200 people located five miles northwest of Annandale on Highway 55. The community features restaurants and other stores and is close to several resorts and public water areas.

A city park includes a baseball field and playground equipment for children, which could be upgraded this summer. The city also has a wastewater treatment plant and sewer system that serves about 90 homes and businesses.

In 2013 the city completed construction of a new city hall-community building on Main Street. The new hall has brought an updated look to the community and is used for government and community activities.

South Haven has an active fire department, which formed a rescue squad in 2007 that responds to car crashes and other emergencies. The department hosts its annual smelt fry in early May.

One of the city's biggest events is the South Haven Sportsmen's Club fish fry, which is held in April, the first in 1938. The event typically attracts well over 1,000 visitors at the fire hall.

The popular eating place Mom's Place was sold in the spring of 2022, but re-opened later that summer as the Agave Mexican Restaurant. It, too, has become a popular destination for those seeking delicious food from south of the border.

The Bedrock Bar and Grill is also a Main Street fixture, and South Haven Sports carries groceries, gas, bait and much more.

Starting in the summer of 2022 and continuing this year, the city is undergoing major renovations to infrastructure that will include new streets, water and sewer lines, and the replacement of the city's water tower.

## City leadership

Norm Bodeker is the mayor and Melissa Stenson is the city's clerk-



treasurer. The city council meets monthly.

For more information, call the South Haven City Hall at 320-236-2424 or email [sohavencl@lakedalelink.net](mailto:sohavencl@lakedalelink.net).

The city's website is [www.cityofsouthhavenmn.com](http://www.cityofsouthhavenmn.com).

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# An active chamber

The Annandale Area Chamber of Commerce is a 100-plus member organization which actively promotes the Annandale area. The chamber holds monthly luncheon meetings (usually the second Wednesday) and other social events throughout the year. Members are notified in advance of the events. Look for monthly updates in the Annandale Advocate.

For more information, visit the website, the chamber's Facebook page, write Annandale Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 417, Annandale, MN 55302, or contact one of the officers listed below. The website is:

[www.annandalechamber.org](http://www.annandalechamber.org).

## 2023 officers

President .....Jeremy Wheeler, 320-420-3416

Treasurer .....Aleah Edwards, 320-274-8827

Secretary .....Stacy Rasset, 320-274-8216

Other members of the chamber's board of directors are David Burd, Mike Zieska, Kelly Hinnenkamp, Holly Peterson, Mona Volden, Kris Nelson and Christy McKinlay.

Amanda Amundson handles the chamber's communications.

## Chamber MEMBERS

### 10,000 Lakes Recreation

Above & Beyond Therapeutic Services.....

.....320 200-1181

Alisma, LLC.....844-830-0115

Allina Health - Buffalo Hospital.....763-684-7025

Anchor Dock & Lift.....320-274-6500

Annandale Advocate.....320-274-3052

Annandale Area Community Team (ACT).....

.....612-247-9881

Annandale Art & Textile Center.....320-980-0437

Annandale Community Education.....

.....320 274-3058

Annandale Eye Clinic.....320-274-3701

Annandale Health & Community Services.....

.....320-274-2579

Annandale Family Sports & Chiropractic.....

.....320-274-3060

Annandale Kiwanis.....

Annandale Improvement Club.....

Annandale Lions.....320-274-2563

Annandale Marketplace.....320-274-3828

Annandale Monument & Countertops.....612-293-4176

Annandale Paintball.....320-274-8242

Annandale Youth First.....320-274-0636

Any Thyme Catering.....320-290-4158

Aspen & Oak Contracting, LLC.....320-980-6208

Backyard Reflections, Inc.....320-275-9908

Body Strength Training Shed, The.....320-260-2081

Bolton & Menk, Inc.....320-640-3393

Carefree Lawn Sprinklers.....320-963-2178

Cardinal Athletic Foundation.....

City of Annandale.....320-274-3055

Classic Rides & Rods - 360 Sports and Events.....

.....952-451-2104

Clearwater Forest Resort Community.....320-274-8857

Clearwater River Watershed District.....320-274-3935

Clearwater Truck Center.....320-558-6565

Country Chevrolet.....320-274-3064

Custom Door Sales, Inc.....763-535-0042

Destination Vacation Travel.....320-241-0355

Dingmann Funeral Care.....320-274-8811

Eastview Mobile Home Park.....320-274-8187

Edina Realty - Amy Eben.....763-333-5898

Edina Realty Home Services.....320-282-5656

Edmonson Ink & Drafting Design Co.....320-223-1519

Edward Jones.....320-274-2302

Elevate Realty.....320-291-1388

Essex Mortgage.....763-355-0441

eXp Realty, Heart of the Lakes Team.....320-274-6160

Expanse, The.....

Flygare Excavating, Inc.....320 274-5437

FS3, Inc.....320-274-7223

Grey Duck Screen Printing & Apparel.....320-296-6033

Heartland Evangelical Free Church.....320-274-8951

Hoelt Party Rentals.....320-309-2193

Homestyle Country Cafe, LLC.....320-274-1404

Howard's Plumbing.....320-274-8913

In Hot Water Coffee Shop.....320-274-6828

Independent AMSOIL Dealer.....612-760-0320

J & J Marine, Inc.....320-236-3625

Jack's of Eden Valley.....320-453-2248

Jane Goodall Environmental Sciences Academy.....

.....952-852-0129

Jimmy's Pizza.....320-274-2522

Just North of Memphis BBQ & Catering.....

.....612-306-1432

Kaz Hardware and Rental.....320-274-5214

KRWC.....763-682-3542

Lake Central Bank.....320-274-8216

Lake Central Insurance Services, LLC.....320-274-8216

Lake Central Investments.....320-274-8216

Lake Country Cabinets and Trim.....320-274-2494

Lake Country Decks.....320-292-3900

Lake Region Coop.....320-963-6074

Lake Union Evangelical Covenant Church.....

.....320-298-2992

Lakeside Garden Center.....612-351-6363

Laketown Dental.....320-274-8555

Lundeen Bros., Inc.....320-274-8211

M & M Bus Service, Inc.....320-274-8313

Malco Products, SBC.....320-274-8246

Maple Lake Chamber of Commerce.....320-963-3813

MCP Collision & Glass.....320-274-8283

Miller's Jewelry.....320-274-5313

Minnesota Department of Health.....320-223-7300

Minnesota Pioneer Park.....320-274-8489

Ms. Victoria Morgan.....

Norgren Builders Inc.....320-274-5884

Northern Peak 4-H Club.....

O.T.S. Grading and Landscaping.....320-274-3739

Oak Realty.....320-274-5737

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Petty Brothers Meats, Inc.....320-274-5615

# Events and projects. . .

■ Annandale Expo

■ Annandale All-City Garage Sale

■ Chili Cook-off

■ Summer Cruise Ins

■ Annandale Fourth of July Gala featuring the candidates for the Miss Annandale coronation

■ Annandale's 125-plus year old Fourth of July Celebration, featuring a large parade, the Annandale Queen Coronation and fireworks in the evening at the municipal park, and much more

■ Float which can be seen in the Fourth of July Parade and many other area parades

■ Annual Golf Tournament

■ Trick-or-Treat at Chamber businesses

■ After-hours winter social

■ Regular meetings and social events

■ New business welcoming

■ Downtown Committee

Pintail Ponds.....320-261-5299

Priscilla Moose Burger: The Original Costume

Shope.....320-963-6277

Rainville Carlson, Inc.....612-823-5229

RE/MAX Advantage Plus.....320-274-2233

Reich's Plumbing.....320-274-3016

Rendezvous Bar & Grill.....320-261-5167

Room to Grow Therapy & Consulting, LLC.....

.....320-281-6800

Running Tangents.....

Sand Profile.....320-274-2940

Shorehouse Outfitters, LLC.....

Southbrook Golf Club.....320-274-2341

Southbrook Grille.....320-274-6181

Specific Foods, LLC.....

Spilled Grain Brew House.....320-274-1129

St Ignatius Catholic Church.....320-274-8828

St. John's Lutheran Church.....320-274-8827

Star Bank.....320-274-2265

State Farm Insurance.....320-274-3185

Sticks & Stones Inc.....320-274-6853

Sweet Escape.....320-274-1632

The Thayer.....320-274-2970

Think Up Technologies.....763-238-6443

Thrifty White Pharmacy #787.....320-274-3062

Tom N Gary's Bowling Center.....320-274-2695

Trails End Pub.....320-274-5400

Truck Mate Toppers.....320-274-3008

True Friends.....952-852-0101

United Plumbing, LLC.....320-582-3905

Vantage Woodwork.....204-326-1900

Vintage Patina.....320-980-7977

Waterfront Lakeside Grille, The.....320-274-9988

West Central Sanitation.....800-246-7630

Whispering Pines Golf Course.....320-274-5226

Wright County Economic Development.....763-496-5632

Wright County Swappers Meet.....320-274-9005

Wright Hennepin Cooperative.....763-477-3000

Young & Brown LLC.....320-274-8221

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Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church.....320-274-5226



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- Historic 4th of July Celebration

### Summer Events

- ♥ **All-City Garage Sale -**  
Saturday, May 6
- ♥ **Chili Cookoff**  
Saturday, May 27
- ♥ **Friday Night Concerts in the Park**  
-See Schedule
- ♥ **Farmers Market**  
Saturday mornings, Annandale  
City Square beginning June 17
- ♥ **Heart of the Lakes Cruise-Ins**  
Four Fridays throughout the  
summer
- ♥ **Fourth of July**  
June 30-July 4



#### Annandale Area Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 417, Annandale, MN 55302

[info@annandalechamber.org](mailto:info@annandalechamber.org)

[www.annandalechamber.org](http://www.annandalechamber.org)

@AnnandaleAreaChamberOfCommerce



#### City of Annandale

30 Cedar St. E, Annandale, MN 55302

320-274-3055


[www.annandale.mn.us](http://www.annandale.mn.us)


@CityOfAnnandaleMN





# AREA CHURCHES



**Annandale United Methodist Church**  
320-274-5127 • 250 Oak Ave. N  
Rev. Mark Schlasner, Pastor  
[www.annandaleumc.org](http://www.annandaleumc.org)  
Sunday Worship, 8:30 am  
Fellowship, 9:30 am  
Like us on Facebook 



**OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
14550 County Rd. 37 NW, French Lake  
Sunday Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
<https://oursavioursfrenchlake.org>

*These area churches  
welcome you to  
visit and worship  
with them!*

More churches on page 81



**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
(LCMS)  
360 East Chestnut St., Annandale  
320-274-5226  
Rev. Tyler LaGrave, Pastor  
[www.zionannandale.org](http://www.zionannandale.org)  
**SUNDAY Worship, 9 am**  
**Sunday School & Bible Study, 10:15 am**  
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office@heartlandfree.com  
[www.heartlandfree.com](http://www.heartlandfree.com)  
Senior Pastor: Denny Johnson  
**Sunday Morning Worship: 8:30 & 10:30 am**  
**Sunday Fellowship Hour: 9:45 am**  
**Vacation Bible School: July 23-27**



35 Birch Street E,  
Annandale, MN 55302,  
320-274-8828  
[www.stignatiusmn.com](http://www.stignatiusmn.com)  
Pastor: Fr. John Meyer

MASS SCHEDULE	RECONCILIATION
<b>Saturday Mass</b> - 5:00 pm <b>Sunday Masses</b> - 8:30 am and 10:30 am 8:30 Mass is live-streamed on the parish Facebook page and YouTube channel <b>Daily Mass</b> - Mondays 6:00 pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 8:00 am (No Daily Mass on Fridays)	4:30 pm Saturday (one-half hour prior to Saturday Mass)
<b>ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT</b> Last Thursday of the month, 8:30 am - 7:00 pm	

**Find more information on our website and like us on Facebook**

**Come. Join Us**



**LAKE COUNTRY BIBLE CHURCH**  
Sunday Worship  
10 a.m.  
Silver Creek  
Township Hall  
Follow us on Facebook!   
LCBCconnection@gmail.com  
[www.lakecountrybiblechurch.com](http://www.lakecountrybiblechurch.com)



**St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA**  
331 West Harrison Street, Annandale, MN  
(320) 274-8827 [www.stjohns-annandale.org](http://www.stjohns-annandale.org)  
**Sunday Worship:**  
8:30 a.m. Traditional service  
10 a.m. Contemporary service  
Pastor Todd Nelsen      Pastor Alex Becker  
Watch our Website [www.stjohns-annandale.org](http://www.stjohns-annandale.org)  
and Facebook for updates & changes



**Kimball CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
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241 State Highway 55  
Kimball MN 55353  
(320) 398-3660  
Vacation Bible School  
July 30 - August 3  
[www.KimballChristian.Church](http://www.KimballChristian.Church)



# Celebrating 125 years ANNANDALE IMPROVEMENT CLUB

By Liz Leitch-Sell

Here's a trivia quiz question for all you Annandale historians: What local organization was established in 1898 and raised funds to buy a piano for the newly dedicated Annandale town hall as its first project?

Let me give you a hint. The group is still active in the Annandale community today – an impressive 125 years later – supporting the community with beautiful flowers in spring, spruce greens in winter and lighting up the trees aligning Oak Street all year long. The club also prides itself on supporting the local library, funding scholarships for Annandale High School seniors, and interacting with local businesses and community groups to keep informed on all things Annandale.

If you guessed the Annandale Improvement Club (AIC) you are correct! Historian Jill Bishop, has chronicled an impressive list of highlights of the club's long history at this link: [http://www.annandaleonline.com/ImprovementClub/History/timeline\\_1898-2009.htm](http://www.annandaleonline.com/ImprovementClub/History/timeline_1898-2009.htm)

We encourage you to check it out and see for yourself the impact AIC has had on our local community over the years.

## Looking forward

However, today's club isn't interested in looking back as much as moving forward to ensure the club impacts this community for another 125 years.

This year we will be making a concerted effort to grow and expand club membership. Though historically the club has been composed of mainly women, our membership is open to everyone and we are seeking people of all ages and genders to come join us on the quest to improve Annandale.

Love to garden and be outdoors? Each spring we grab our tools and spruce up the Peltó Garden (in front of In Hot Water Coffee Shop), the American Family Garden, and the city garden near the

Thayer.

This year we've set that date for Monday, May 22. Come join us! Bring garden tools, a spade and a rake and meet at In Hot Water at 10 a.m. Later in the week we will be joined by the Annandale HS Key Club to spread new mulch and give the entire garden a much-needed facelift.



Join us on Thursday, May 25 to plant flowers in the 15 rounds scattered across the city. Again, we'll meet at In Hot Water at 10 a.m. This is a fun activity which takes only an hour or two and is a great way to "paint Annandale beautiful" while meeting new friends.

Annandale Improvement Club meets the first Thursday of each month (except July) at St. John's Lutheran Church. Currently, meetings begin at 10 a.m., but we are considering an 11 a.m. start beginning this fall, in order to attract working professionals who might be able to join us once a month for an extended lunch and interesting speaker.

There is no requirement to regularly attend the meetings – come when you can. Membership fees are \$35 per year and our delicious lunches, provided by Barb and Tom Westman (formerly Cottage Gourmets) for a small charge.

We'd love to have you visit, and there is no pressure to join. We only ask you email Judi Gay, AIC secretary, at [jshepherdgay@gmail.com](mailto:jshepherdgay@gmail.com) so we can add you to the lunch count.

Annandale becomes your community when you get involved!

*Liz Leitch-Sell is a member of the Annandale Improvement Club.*

**Note:** Besides the Annandale Improvement Club, Annandale and the Heart of the Lakes offer many other volunteer opportunities. Find the civic organization that's right for you and lend a hand.

## AREA CHURCHES

### Bethlehem United Church of Christ

400 County Road 37 NE; Maple Lake  
320-963-3118; [bethuccml@gmail.com](mailto:bethuccml@gmail.com)

**Sunday Worship - 9:30 a.m.**

Check Our Facebook Page for Online Services

**[www.bethlehemmn.org](http://www.bethlehemmn.org)**

**No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.**

**Zion United  
Methodist Church**  
450 Fairhaven Ave., South Haven  
320-249-6756  
**Worship** 11 a.m.  
**Fellowship** 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor Lori Artner

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
(LCMC)  
Summer Schedule (May 28-September 3)  
Sunday Service 9:30 am  
Wednesday Service 6:00 pm  
5460 63rd St NW, Maple Lake  
[www.holycrossmaplelake.org](http://www.holycrossmaplelake.org)  
**Vacation Bible School August 7-10**

**Concordia Lutheran Church**  
LCMS, 13455 Bluffton Ave., Fair Haven  
[www.concordialcms.com](http://www.concordialcms.com)  
320-236-7655, Pastor David Buchs  
Sunday Service 9 am  
Wednesday Service 7 pm

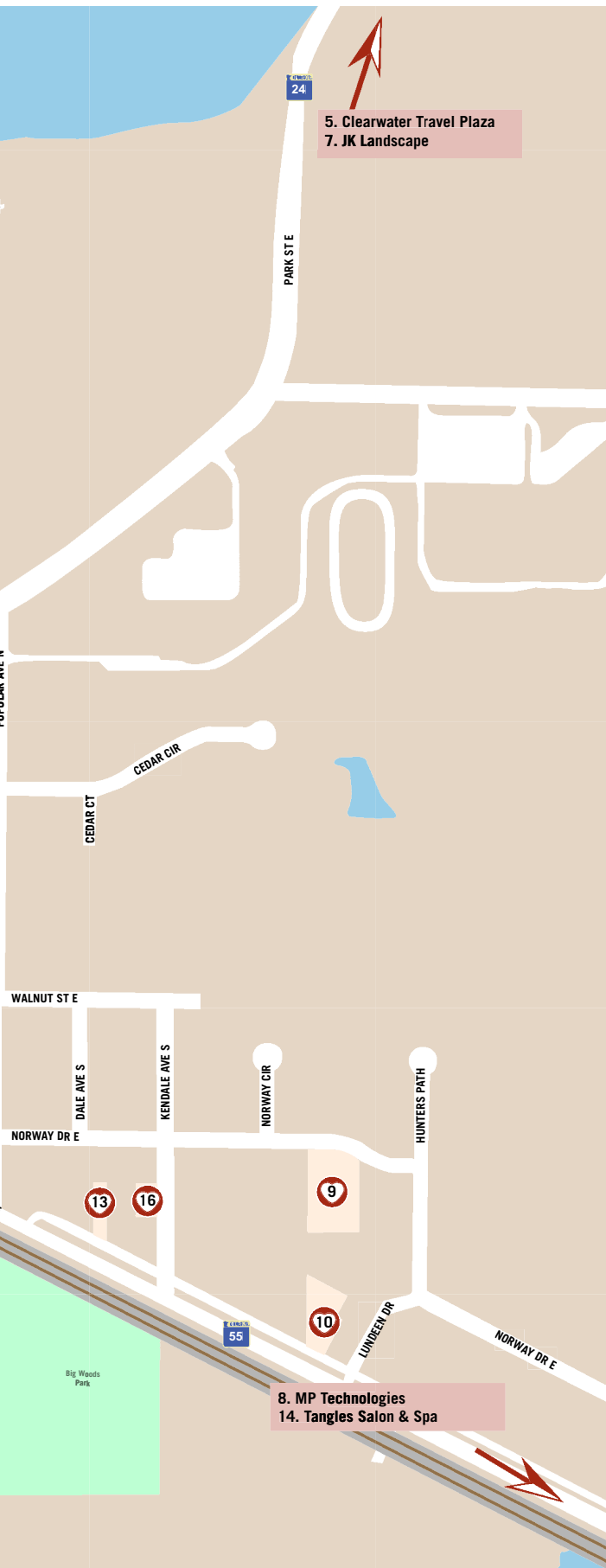
**ST. MARK'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
10536 108th St. NW, Annandale  
(across from Camp Friendship)  
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June 11 through August 20  
320-274-3545







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## 1 10,000 Lakes Recreation

300 Oak Ave. N, Annandale  
[www.facebook.com/10000-Lakes-Recreation-Annandale-HiWater-110867061915983/](http://www.facebook.com/10000-Lakes-Recreation-Annandale-HiWater-110867061915983/)

## 2 A-1 Marine

305 W Commercial Dr, Annandale  
 320-274-8227  
[www.a1marineinc.com](http://www.a1marineinc.com)

## 3 Andy's Pro Tire & Auto

160 Poplar Ave. S., Annandale  
 320-274-3986  
[www.andysprotire.com](http://www.andysprotire.com)

## 4 Annandale Paintball

13659 100th St. NW, South Haven  
 320-274-8242  
 Follow us on Facebook  
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## 5 Clearwater Travel Plaza

950 MN-24, Clearwater  
 320-558-2261  
[www.clearwatertravelplaza.com](http://www.clearwatertravelplaza.com)

## 6 Dingmann Funeral Care

305 Park St E, Annandale  
 320-274-8811  
[www.dingmannfuneral.com](http://www.dingmannfuneral.com)

## 7 JK Landscape

19512 Hubble Rd., Clearwater  
 320-980-2710  
[www.jklandscape.com](http://www.jklandscape.com)

## 8 MP Technologies LLC

9938 Hwy 55 NW, Annandale  
 320-963-2499  
[www.mptech.biz](http://www.mptech.biz)

## 9 O'Brothers Wine & Spirits

Hwy. 55 E., Annandale  
 320-274-5737  
[www.obrotherswineandspirits.com](http://www.obrotherswineandspirits.com)

## 10 Oak Realty

720 Elm St E, Annandale  
 320-274-2019  
[www.oakrealtymn.com](http://www.oakrealtymn.com)

## 11 Petty Brothers Meats, Inc.

320 Elm St. E, Annandale  
 320-274-5615  
[www.pettybrothers.com](http://www.pettybrothers.com)

## 12 RE/MAX Advantage Plus

270 Elm St E, Annandale  
 320-274-2233  
[www.therealestateadvantage.com](http://www.therealestateadvantage.com)

## 13 Star Bank

460 Elm St. E, Annandale  
 320-274-2265  
[www.starbank.net](http://www.starbank.net)

## 14 Tangles Salon & Spa

990 Elm St. E. #500, Annandale  
 320-274-6603  
<https://www.facebook.com/people/Tangles-Salon-And-Spa/100063652774973/>

## 15 The Waterfront Lakeside Grille

13195 Bayview Road, South Haven  
 320-274-9988  
[www.waterfrontlakesidegrille.com](http://www.waterfrontlakesidegrille.com)

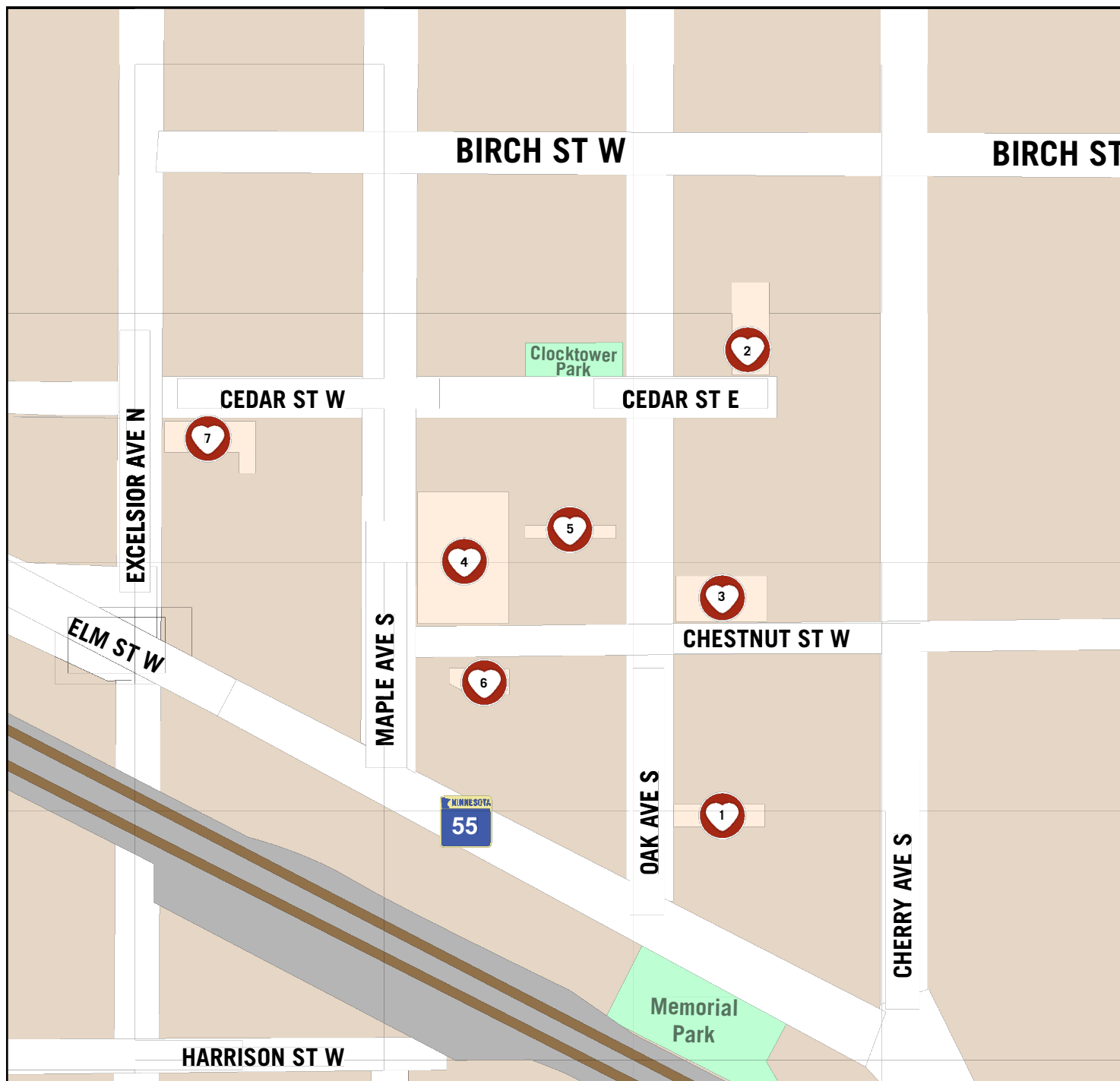
## 16 Truck Mate Toppers

540 Elm St. E, Annandale  
 320-274-3008  
[www.truckmatetoppers.com](http://www.truckmatetoppers.com)

Scan the code below view map interactively  
 or go online to [www.annandaleadvocate.com/area-info/35039/hotladmap](http://www.annandaleadvocate.com/area-info/35039/hotladmap)







## DOWNTOWN ADVERTISERS

### 1 Annandale Advocate

73 Oak Ave S, Annandale  
320-274-3052  
[www.annandaleadvocate.com](http://www.annandaleadvocate.com)

### 2 In Hot Water Coffee Shop

20 Cedar St E, Annandale  
320-274-6828  
See Facebook For Specials!  
[www.facebook.com/IHWCoffeeShop/](https://www.facebook.com/IHWCoffeeShop/)

### 3 Kaz Do it Best Hardware

19 Oak Ave. N, Annandale  
320-274-5214  
[kazhardware.doitbest.com](http://kazhardware.doitbest.com)

### 4 Lake Central Bank

40 Chestnut St., Annandale  
320-274-8216  
[www.lakecentralbank.com](http://www.lakecentralbank.com)

### 5 Sweeney's Hair Emporium

52 Oak Ave. N, Annandale  
763-913-9939  
GlossGenius

### 6 The Stadium

45 Chestnut St. NW, Annandale  
320-274-6646  
<https://www.facebook.com/thestadiumsportsbarandgrill/>

### 7 Vintage Patina, LLC

131 Cedar St. W, Annandale  
320-261-5267  
See Facebook For Details  
[www.facebook.com/VintagePatinaAnnandale](https://www.facebook.com/VintagePatinaAnnandale)



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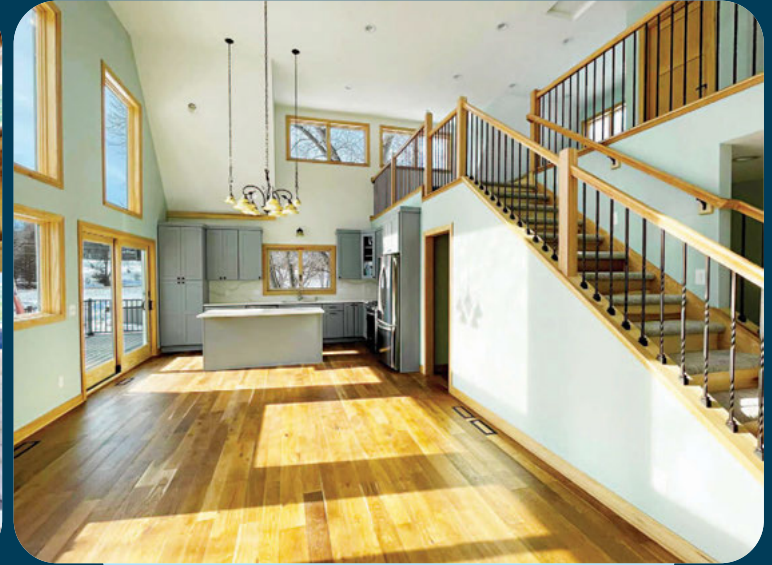
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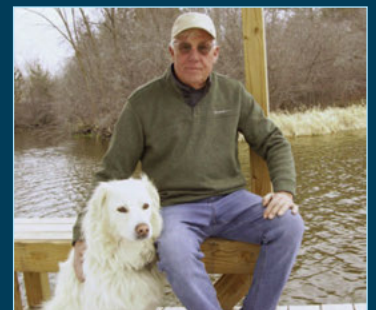
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