

LANESBORO & WHALAN MINNESOTA

A few of the dozens of musicians who bring music to Lanesboro

*Eclectic music
becoming strong
part of Lanesboro
art scene
p. 10*

LANESBORO.COM
OFFICIAL 2024 VISITORS GUIDE

Make Lanesboro & Whalan part of your story

We invite you to visit Lanesboro & Whalan, Minnesota – charming gems in the heart of the Midwest!

Nestled along the scenic Root River, Lanesboro and Whalan offer a delightful blend of natural beauty, outdoor recreation, arts experiences and historic charm. Whether you're an outdoor enthusiast, history buff or simply looking for a peaceful escape, there's something for everyone in our vibrant towns.

While in the area, make sure to discover the treasures that can be found in Lanesboro, Whalan and southeastern Minnesota.

➤ Those treasures include the Root River Recreational Trail: The Root River State Trail, a 42-mile stretch of picturesque biking and hiking paths, runs right through the hearts of both Lanesboro and Whalan. You can explore the breathtaking beauty of the area while pedaling through lush forests, alongside babbling brooks and across charming bridges. Breathe in the fresh air and relish the tranquility of this natural haven.

➤ Also flowing right through both Lanesboro and Whalan is the Root River: The Root River is not only a sight to behold but also offers fantastic opportunities for kayaking and tubing. Relax in a gentle current as you soak up the scenic surroundings. If you're an angler, you're in for a treat! The Root River and its many tributaries are well-known for exceptional trout fishing. Cast your line and savor the thrill of catching these elusive beauties in pristine waters.



We hope your visit to Lanesboro and Whalan is filled with adventure, relaxation and a touch of nostalgia. Our friendly community is eager to welcome you and help you make the most of your time here. Don't hesitate to reach out if you need any assistance or recommendations during your visit. Our visitor center is located right on the bike trail and is filled with the resources needed to create your perfect trip.

Joe Goetzke,
President, Board of Directors
Lanesboro Area Chamber of Commerce

➤ Both Lanesboro and Whalan's Historic Downtowns are picturesque and full of culture: Step back in time as you explore Lanesboro's business district, or Ernie's 1917 Station (pg. 18). Immerse yourself in the rich heritage of Lanesboro and Whalan, where you'll find charming boutiques, art galleries and inviting eateries. The preserved architecture and welcoming atmosphere make it a true treasure.

➤ Lanesboro and Whalan are the home to cozy Bed & Breakfasts, Luxurious Resorts, Welcoming Inns and Beautiful Camping: They offer a variety of comfortable, intimate accommodations. Experience the warmth and hospitality of our local hosts who will make your stay truly unforgettable. Enjoy the outdoors at one of our resorts or campgrounds freely without the threat of mosquitoes.

➤ So much more: We have Amish Tours; a Local Brewery; great shopping and parks and facilities for sports and recreation. Niagara Cave is located nearby as is Mystery Cave, two very popular attractions in our Driftless region that highlight our unique geology.

Lanesboro & Whalan, MN 2024 Travel Guide

Produced by the Lanesboro Area Chamber of Commerce in support of its members and in cooperation with the City of Lanesboro, EDA and Lanesboro Public Schools.

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On the Cover:

Representing a diverse group of musicians who perform regularly in Lanesboro, live music is a regular offering throughout the year at various venues and events. Art, theater and music thrive in Lanesboro and Whalan and create a unique experience for visitors and residents alike. Shown, in back, from left are Walter Bradley, Steve Johnson, Ron Huey, Nathan Davidson, Dave Harrenstein, Lee Loerch, Andy Lowe, Gary Marcoux, Jeff Sanders. In front, from left are Bob Bovee, Anne Lowe, Derek Berg, Robert Petzer.



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ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

With something exciting happening just about every week in Lanesboro, you'll have to come back to catch them all! From unique family festivals, live music and amazing theatre, to art tours, unique shopping, pub crawls, parades and more, make your choices and join the fun! » lacc.mn/events



WINTER EVENTS

FEB 9-11 LOVEBIRDS IN LANESBORO

Lanesboro | Reconnect with your sweetheart during a weekend away. Enjoy lighted luminaries, special activities and discounts.

MAR 8-10 CABIN FEVER FEST

Lanesboro | Fight the winter blues and get out of the house by visiting Lanesboro for shopping, dining and entertainment. Don't forget to embrace the outdoor adventures and snow challenges!

MAR 1-3 INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF OWLS

Houston | Enjoy a weekend in Lanesboro and take a day trip to the Owl Festival in Houston, the only North American, full-weekend, all-owl event.



Lanesboro is the perfect winter escape.

The only thing worse than hustle and bustle is hustle and bustle in three feet of accumulated snow. Come to Lanesboro and enjoy a retreat from all the noise. Cuddle up in a comfortable inn, sipping coffee or hot chocolate. Put on winter layers to seek adventures in the snow. Winter is Lanesboro's "quiet season" and that's the secret — it's quiet. Peaceful. We encourage you to plan ahead to make sure certain activities are possible during your visit, but we are confident you will find plenty to enjoy while you are here.

If you're more of an indoor person in the winter, here are a few ideas to consider when planning your trip.

- ☐ Research family history at the Lanesboro Museum or the history center in nearby Fountain.
- ☐ Solve clues at a mystery event at the Scandinavian Inn.
- ☐ Plan a crafting retreat or arrange a class through Driftless Fiber Arts.
- ☐ Grab a coffee and cruise through town searching for snow sculptures created for the annual snow art contest.
- ☐ Grab a board game at Sylvan Brewing and play while enjoying some craft brews.
- ☐ Sit by a fireplace and enjoy a good book or wonderful conversation.

If an outdoor adventure is more to your liking, consider some good old-fashioned fun in the snow.

- ☐ Accommodations can be made for snow tubing and sledding as well as ice skating.
- ☐ Grab some rods and cut a hole in the ice for some ice fishing on Lanesboro's bass pond.
- ☐ Trek through the snow to the banks of the Root River and enjoy catch-and-release-fishing.
- ☐ Put on boots, skis or snowshoes and check out the trails at Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center.

Find unique winter travel itineraries on our website



lanesboro.com/chill-inn-lanesboro

ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

Lanesboro comes to life in spring with vibrant colors and a renewed energy in town.

Nestled amidst the scenic bluffs, there's a real transformation as trees and flowers blossom along the Root River. Springtime in Lanesboro invites visitors and residents alike to shake off the cabin fever and get out and explore nature as it wakes from hibernation.

- ❑ Anglers know the Karst topography created some of the best streams in the country. Cast your line to catch rainbow, brook and brown trout.
- ❑ Stroll downtown and shop as Lanesboro stores, restaurants, inns and other businesses greet you for another busy season with warm hospitality and excitement.
- ❑ Check out the produce and crafts at the Farmers' Market, located in Sylvan Park, May - October.
- ❑ Take in a local event that celebrates our artists, musicians and even the owls.
- ❑ Load up your bikes (or rent one locally) and hit the trails to enjoy the beautiful scenery.
- ❑ Seek out the wildflowers and emerging wildlife in the area.
- ❑ Catch a performance at our professional theater, The Commonweal Theatre Company.



SPRING EVENTS

APR 19-20 GET SQUIRRELY WITH SURLY

Lanesboro | Join your friends for Lanesboro's seventh annual Spring Pub Crawl. Participating bars are serving Surly. Enjoy great beer and time with friends and crawl on!

APR 26-28 BLUFF COUNTRY STUDIO ART TOUR

Lanesboro Area | Begin at the Juried Sales Gallery at Lanesboro Arts, then travel scenic back roads to the studios of the area's artists.

MAY-OCT LANESBORO FARMERS' MARKET

Lanesboro, Sylvan Park | Saturdays 9am-noon. Fresh local produce and goods for sale weekly. Regular offerings include canned goods, baked items, meat, produce and other edible items. Others sell art, crafts and other hand-made items.

MAY 10-12 BOUTIQUE & BUSINESS CRAWL

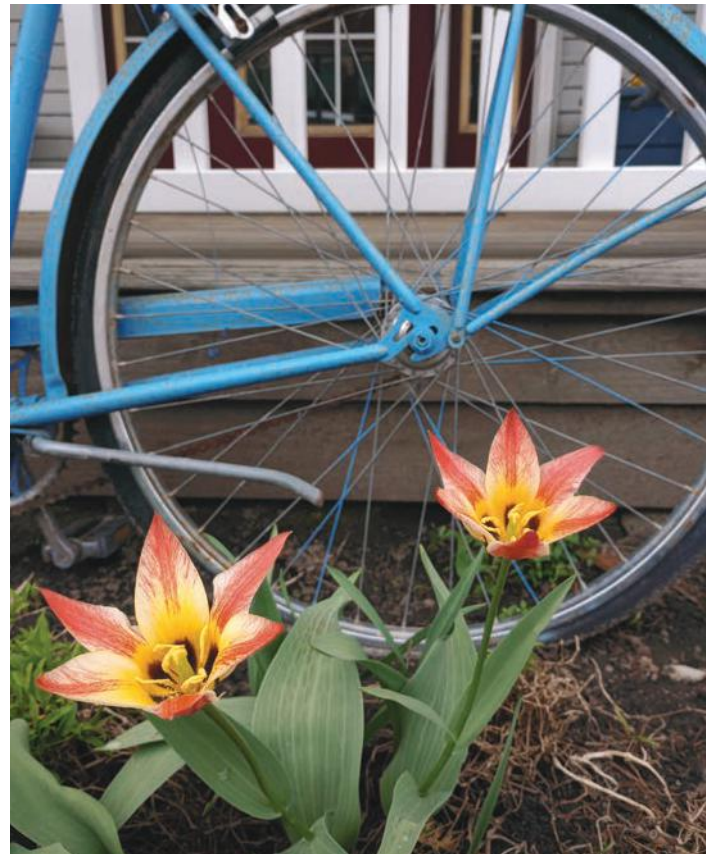
Lanesboro, downtown | Savor a day of local shopping where you will find deals, prizes and more!

MAY 16-19 BLUFF COUNTRY GATHERING

Lanesboro | Old-time music festival/camp with workshops, concert and square dance. Many musicians provide pop-up performances in the park and around the community.

MAY 27 MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

Lanesboro | Honoring our fallen comrades with a parade, program of patriotic music, speakers and gun salute with taps.





SUMMER

Visitors flock to town for everything Lanesboro has to offer in the summer.

With the meandering Root River running through the community, water activities are easily accessible. Beautiful green spaces and scenic overlooks provide a place to relax and rejuvenate. The beautiful downtown is adorned with colorful flowers and sidewalk displays that promote a quiet stroll. A summer in Lanesboro is perfect for someone who seeks a quiet day, but also for those searching for a more active and adventurous experience.

- ❑ Grab a tube, canoe or kayak and paddle your way through the countryside, past pastures and homesteads, through bluffs and forests.
- ❑ Cool down with a picnic or grab a meal on one of our restaurants' outdoor patios.
- ❑ Seek out an adventure at the environmental learning center where one can enjoy a high ropes course, mountain bike trail and a network of hiking trails.
- ❑ Step into the phone booth by the Lanesboro Museum and learn more about the town's history and the people who have lived here.
- ❑ Pickleball/tennis and basketball courts, campgrounds, playgrounds and pavilions are available at Sylvan Park.
- ❑ Escape the heat by visiting either the Niagra or Mystery Caves – they are 48 degrees all year round.
- ❑ Enjoy live music at a festival, bar or brewery or as part of a special concert series held periodically in town.

SUMMER EVENTS

JUN 1 RHUBARB FESTIVAL

Lanesboro, Sylvan Park | Celebrate Minnesota's sweet-tart favorite. Free tastings of rhubarb delights, games, music and fun.

JUN 15 ART IN THE PARK

Lanesboro, Sylvan Park | In its 43rd year, experience this fine arts festival with over 90 exhibitors, live music and family art activities. 10am-5pm

JUN 19 FILLMORE CTY CATTLEMEN'S STEAK FRY

Lanesboro, Sylvan Park | \$20/person, 4:30-7:30pm. Drive through, walk-up or dine in the park. If inclement weather, meal will be served in the community center.

JUL 4-7 GIRL FASTPITCH SOFTBALL TOURNEY

Whalan | Exciting action by some of the most talented female athletes from the area. Age groups of 12 and under through 18 and under will be competing in this two-day event. Refreshments available onsite.

JUL 15-21 FILLMORE COUNTY FAIR

Preston | Hosted by the Fillmore County Agricultural Society since 1865. This multi-generational event is a reflection of the values, culture, history, heritage and dreams of all that call Fillmore County their home.

AUG 2-4 BUFFALO BILL DAYS

Lanesboro | Lanesboro's city-wide festival: marketplace, food booths, entertainment, dance, volleyball and softball tournaments, grand parade and fireworks.

AUG 5-20 STRINGWOOD MUSIC FESTIVAL

Lanesboro | This premiere summer music festival specializes in connecting young musicians (ages 12-22) to chamber music as an art form, and developing expression in a supportive and nurturing environment. Full list of concerts: stringwood.com/events



RHUBARB FEST

ALWAYS THE FIRST SATURDAY IN JUNE

9 AM - 3 PM • SYLVAN PARK, LANESBORO

Rhubarb Run

Farmers Market

Opening Ceremonies with Local Celebrities

Rhubarb Tasting

(Prizes awarded to crowd favorites!)

Rhubarb Fashion Show

Live Music



FAMILY FAVORITES!

- Rhubarb Games
- Rhub-Art Opportunities
- Goat Chill-Out
- Local Vendors
- Yummy Treats!

WWW.RHUBARBFESTIVAL.ORG

FALL EVENTS

AUG 16-17, SEP 20-21, OCT 18-19

LANESBORO AREA ART TRAIL

Lanesboro Area | Artists open the doors to their studios, from 10am to 5pm. This self-guided tour through town and the region allows visitors to talk with artists and see their work spaces. Visit lanesboroarearttrail.com for the map and artist information.

SEP 13-14 60-MILE GARAGE SALE

Trail Towns | Shop garage sales and local business specials throughout the ten towns in the Root River Trail Towns organization and everywhere in between.

SEP 20-22 BOUTIQUE & BUSINESS CRAWL

Lanesboro, downtown | Savor a day of local shopping where you will find a fashion show, local vendors, deals, prizes and more!

SEP 20-22 FALL BEER AND WINE FEST

Lanesboro | Enjoy Oktoberfest and seasonal fall drinks from midwestern craft breweries at Lanesboro bars and restaurants.

OCT FILTHY 50 GRAVEL BICYCLE EVENT

Lanesboro | The Filthy 50 is a beautiful, unsupported, gravel-road bicycle riding event that begins and ends in downtown Lanesboro. Race it and set a record. Ride it and take in the beauty. Either way, get filthy. Register at thefilthy50.com.

OCT 5 FALL INTO LANESBORO

Lanesboro | Family-friendly, fun-filled fall event with a scavenger hunt, wagon ride, pumpkins and more.

OCT 31 DOWNTOWN TRICK-OR-TREATING

Lanesboro | Celebrate Halloween by trick-or-treating at local businesses and display your creative costumes!

NOV 27 TURKEY BOWLING

Lanesboro | Just like it sounds, but more. Turkey Bowling is an annual Fundraiser for the Senior Class trip to Washington DC. Come support teenage civic participation, and bowl a turkey at some pins. For a good cause, and for fun. Chicken bowling for the kids precedes the event.

WINTER EVENTS

NOV 30 EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC

Lanesboro | Holiday fun for the whole family! Cookie decorating, bonfires, shopping, wagon rides, games and Santa! Support your neighborhood businesses on Small Business Saturday®.

DEC 7 HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE

Lanesboro | Gather with friends and family and dance the night away! Gather for wine and a social hour prior to a delicious meal. Dancing begins after dinner and continues through the evening.

DEC 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE IN LANESBORO

Lanesboro | Dine at a local establishment and take in live music at various venues. Celebrate the arrival of the new year with a ball drop at midnight.



Lanesboro transforms in the fall from lush greens to vibrant reds, yellows and golds.

The colors paint the bluffs surrounding the town as crisp air carries the aroma of woodsmoke and fallen leaves. Abundant produce supplies the farmers market and our many restaurants with seasonal sensations that you can only get in Lanesboro. Grab your beanie and your flannel and hit the trail with us.

- ❑ Take a scenic drive through the countryside, enjoying the bluffs, forests and truly unique vistas as the leaves turn bright red, yellow and orange.
- ❑ Ride the bike trail and get a view of the vibrant colors as you ride under the branches of trees that have been growing for hundreds of years.
- ❑ Explore the studios of many local artists as they showcase their work during the Lanesboro Area Art Trail.
- ❑ Grab a "treasure" map (and a Sweetbender) from Sylvan Brewing in Lanesboro and follow it to wineries, distilleries and other breweries in the area.
- ❑ Catch multiple performances in one weekend at The Commonwealth Theatre as it rotates shows through the fall.
- ❑ Don't miss out on Turkey Bowling, a senior class fundraiser, held the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. It's definitely an experience worth the drive to Lanesboro!



ARTS & CULTURE

Lanesboro is alive with the arts and history!

Take in a side-splitting comedy or stirring drama in a state-of-the-art professional theater. Enjoy an inspiring regional art tour or gallery opening. Catch a concert or unique film event. Delve into genealogy, historic records and stories from the past at the Lanesboro Historical Museum. » lacc.mn/arts

BLUFF COUNTRY PHOTOGRAPHY

310 Maple Dr | (507) 467-2122

bluffcountryphoto.com

Juried artist at the Lanesboro Arts Gallery, Barb Jeffers captures the beautiful rural landscape within the Driftless Region along with the communities, businesses and tourism of the area.

COMMONWEAL THEATRE COMPANY

208 Parkway Ave N | (507) 467-2525

commonwealththeatre.org

Award-winning, professional live theatre since 1989! With an enticing mix of musicals, comedies, dramas and more, there's something for everyone at the Commonweal!

BLUFF COUNTRY STUDIO ART TOUR

40051 Cty Rd 12 | (651) 307-6373

bluffcountrystudioarttour.org

Art enthusiasts can find exciting treasures in the hills and valleys of Bluff Country during the annual self-guided Studio Art Tour, always the last full weekend in April.

CHERYL LAMON - ARTIST

108 Coffee St E | (507) 467-4466

cherylsfabricgarden.com

One of Cheryl's greatest joys is working with bright, bold color. She blends colors to make things out of fabric and adds decorative stitching to create motion and depth.

HISTORY ALIVE! LANESBORO

33949 Golden Dr | (612) 823-0776

historyalivelanesboro.org

True stories of Lanesboro's past performed in our historic streets and buildings with original scripts. Performances and guided history walking tours. See website for details.

JOAN FINNEGAN FINE ARTS

34617 Cty Rd 12 | (507) 272-0254

joanfinnegan.com

Joan's studio is a short drive from Lanesboro. Her classic and playful styles of oil and watercolor paintings reflect the winding roads and unique landscape of the Lanesboro area.

LANESBORO AREA ART TRAIL

40051 Cty Rd 12 | (651) 307-6373

lanesboroareaarttrail.com

Artists open the doors to their studios, from 10am to 5pm. This self-guided tour through town and the region allows visitors to talk with artists and see their work spaces.

LANESBORO ARTS

103 Parkway Ave N | (507) 467-2446

lanesboroarts.org

Multi-disciplinary arts organization that serves diverse audiences through year-round programming in its galleries, at the St. Mane Theatre and in public spaces throughout the community.



Galleries

year-round exhibitions

Performing Arts

music, dance, theater

Art in the Park

Saturday, June 15, 2024

Arts Campus

public art & education

507-467-2446
LANESBOROARTS.ORG



A non-profit, multidisciplinary arts organization activating the people and places of Lanesboro, MN



Eclectic music becoming integral part of Lanesboro art scene

By David Hennessey

Bridget Harvey loves to book musicians to perform at the High Court Pub, which she owns with her husband, Jason. “One night in particular,” she said, “Jason and I were looking out on the patio (behind the pub) on a perfect summer night with the lights and the river in the background, watching couples of all ages spontaneously get up and dance. I love magical nights like that!”

Popular venues

The Pub is one of four venues in Lanesboro that regularly brings such music magic to customers. The other three are Sylvan Brewing, owned by Karen and Andy Heimdahl, and two venues organized by the Lanesboro Arts organization: the St. Mane Theatre and the Rhythms on the Root (ROTR) outdoor concert series.



Lanesboro singer and songwriter Sarah Peterson released her album in 2023 at Sylvan Brewing.

“Rhythms on the Root is fun,” said Melissa Wray who schedules music groups for Lanesboro Arts. “We get to bring in bands that don’t fit in the St. Mane, so we can accommodate their audience size.”

Located in Gateway Park, a city-owned site just across the Root River from downtown, the concerts are easy to get to by way of a

historic walking bridge. The park sits right beside the river and provides natural amplification. Melissa noted they have had as many as 200 people at a concert there.

“We started ROTR in 2020 when we couldn’t have concerts in the theater because of COVID,” Melissa said. So, partnering with the city, they installed electricity in the park and, out of the pandemic’s isolation, emerged a riverbank venue where people can gather for music and other events.

Melissa coordinates informally with the Pub and Sylvan to avoid booking overlapping performances as much as possible, and they all work together to cross-promote and program a variety of music.

“We do a mix of music people will like,” said Bridget from the Pub. “A couple of three- or four-piece bands, bluegrass, blues, classic rock, country singers.” Generally, the Pub has music on Fridays and Saturdays, from late March through November. In the winter, they may have it once a week.

Besides similar offerings, Sylvan Brewing also has hopes to “do more open mic events with a singer-songwriter,” said Karen. “But we haven’t quite figured it out yet. Most people who come are not here to listen as much as to talk (with friends).”

Sylvan usually has music every Sunday from Memorial Day through Labor Day and possibly in early October. Karen and Andy said they hope to have music about twice a month on various dates in the winter.

“We try to be a wide-ranging event series for ROTR,” Melissa said. “Indie rock, bluegrass — family friendly, but still engaging for adults.”

People are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets and take-out food from local restaurants. ROTR will host an outdoor concert in July of 2024, with others possible. Meanwhile, artists will perform in the St. Mane Theatre throughout the year.

For specific information on upcoming music performances, check the websites or Facebook pages of these venues.



River Crossing, a popular local band, on stage at the High Court Pub.

Performing traditions

The history of performing arts and the Lanesboro community is well-represented in the theatre district mural in the alley near the St. Mane and Commonweal Theatres. The work of local artist Erik Pearson, it was unveiled and dedicated in June of 2023, three years after area residents told Lanesboro Arts what they wanted to see in its design. Ideas included local history, a focus on nature and agriculture, cultural highlights and generational diversity.

The mural includes seven figures, starting with a woman in a corn silk dress, representing the fairy in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," the first production at the Commonweal in 1989. She holds a lantern, which is actually a window in the building



The mural by artist Erik Pearson combines historical references with the emerging music scene. Ribbon cutting June 7, 2023.

wall. Below her, a woman with a guitar represents musical performers who've appeared locally. The gentleman with the broom is Robert Greer, businessman and Lanesboro's first mayor.

Above Mayor Greer is a telephone operator, an homage to the switchboard that used to be in the building. Just as operators linked people in town, her headset wire weaves among the mural characters

and eventually plugs into the guitar. The girl and man at the bottom represent community members and visitors who support the arts. Then, at the far right, a woman at a piano recalls music played for silent movies in the old Elite Theater before it became the St. Mane.

As Lanesboro's art scene continues to develop and change, musicians and musical events have become a popular draw for the community. The talented artists provide an eclectic mix of styles that will appeal to a wide variety of audiences.

MUSIC PERFORMERS IN SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA

Though not meant to be comprehensive, this list is a sampling of the many musicians and musical groups in the area.

Abbey Lane	Orchid Jane
Ann and Andy Lowe	Rhubarb sisters
The Arnold-Bradley Band	River Crossing Band
Ben Scruggs	Ross Sutter
Bluff Country Gathering*	Rutabaga Brothers
Charlie Warner	Rustic Moon
Chris Holm	Ryan Howe Music
Clay Fulton & The Lost 40	Rhythms on the Root**
Driftless Troubadours	
Eggen and Hippen Music	Sarah Peterson***
Fred the Bear	Sister Luv
Fukawe AC	Slipin Jimmy the Band
Heidi Dybing	Spartz Electric
Jason Helder	Tennessee Stiffs
Kerry Klungtvedt	Tim Dallman
Laura Lamb	Tim Emmons
Lou Shields	Tom Carpenter
Mike Munson	Tom and Barb Schramm
Nick Foytick	Trouble Shooter
	Troy Hrtnek

* A four-day event of traditional American music with workshops open to registered participants, plus a public concert and barn dance on May 17 and 18

** Concert series at Gateway Park throughout the summer. Sponsored by Lanesboro Arts, once announced, the line-up can be found at [Lanesboroarts.org](https://lanesboroarts.org).

*** Sarah hosts a 'Songwriters in the Round' concert series at St. Mane Theatre, featuring local songwriters performing original songs, April 27, June 29 & Oct 5. Info at sarahpetersonmusic.com.

TOURS & ATTRACTIONS

You'll be swept away by all you can discover and experience here!

Whether that happens in a cave (there's one of the country's best here), in Amish country, in a tube, canoe or kayak on the Root River, by birding in the bluffs or by hiking or biking on the Root River and Harmony-Preston Valley State Trails, Bluff Country calls out for exploration! » lacc.mn/attractions

NIAGARA CAVE + MINI GOLF

29842 Cty Rd 30, Harmony | (507) 886-6606
niagaracave.com

Seasonal. Rated one of the top caves in the US and voted Best Family Destination. Underground waterfall, stalactites, fossils and 18-hole mini golf course.

BLUFFSCAPE AMISH TOURS

102 Beacon St E | (507) 467-3070
bluffscape.com

Step back in time and take a fully-narrated three-hour tour to Amish farms and shops. Learn about their culture by meeting Amish farmers, families and shopkeepers.

CHURCH HILL SCENIC OVERLOOK

From the visitors center, go up Kenilworth Ave N to the summit of Church Hill. A cozy bench here provides a respite to enjoy a breathtaking view overlooking Sylvan Park and Lanesboro Dam.

COFFEE STREET WALKING BRIDGE

An 1893 railway bridge, restored for pedestrians. Continue over the bridge, through Gateway Park and to the Poetry Parking Lot at the Bass Pond.

COLORS OF BLUFF COUNTRY COMMUNITY MURAL

206 Parkway Ave N | (507) 467-2446
lacc.mn/murals

Peek behind the St. Mane Theatre to see a large-scale mural honoring the community's heritage and creativity. Collaboratively designed and painted by locals, kids and artists. It's a great photo op!

MEDALLION WALKING TOUR

(507) 467-2446
lacc.mn/medallion

A game of creative hide-and-seek and a social studies lesson! Find 20 iron medallions throughout the town. Pick up your map at the Visitors Center or Lanesboro Arts Gallery.

HISTORIC FORESTVILLE

21899 Cty Rd 118, Preston | (507) 765-2785
mnhs.org/forestville

Come and explore the choices and changes that faced the inhabitants of this area-from ancient civilizations to today's residents. Round out the visit with a game of croquet or horseshoes on the lawn.

HISTORIC LANESBORO: SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Take a self-guided tour of historic Lanesboro landmarks, buildings and B&Bs. Learn about the people and places of Lanesboro. All walkable from downtown. Pick up your map at the visitor center.

INTERNATIONAL OWL CENTER

126 E Cedar St, Houston | (507) 896-6957
internationalowlcenter.org

Experience big and small live owls up close and personal at the only owl education center in the USA!

LANESBORO 1868 STONE DAM

One of only six gravity arch dams left in the US. It was created by immigrant craftsmen using mortar-less limestone blocks. Listed in the National Registry of Historic Places.

LANESBORO POETRY PARKING LOT

(507) 467-2446
lacc.mn/poetrypl

A unique initiative that weaves poetry into the social and municipal infrastructure of Lanesboro. The lot features 15 winning poems from a 2014 Haiku contest.



LANESBORO STATE FISH HATCHERY

23789 Grosbeak Road | (507) 765-0010

Visitors are welcome to the Lanesboro hatchery for a self-guided tour each weekday from 7am to 3:30pm. Guided tours are also available by appointment.

LANESBORO STORYTELLING TELEPHONE BOOTH

105 Parkway Ave S

This decommissioned phone booth was relocated to the Lanesboro History Museum and repurposed as a storytelling kiosk. Pick up the phone and press a number to hear a story about Lanesboro's rich past.

LANESBORO SYLVAN PARK

This community park (est 1881) has two trout-stocked ponds, modern playground equipment, shelters, campground and a beautiful bluff settings.

SCANDINAVIAN INN MYSTERY NIGHTS

701 Kenilworth Ave S | (507) 467-4500
scandinavianinn.com/mystery-nights

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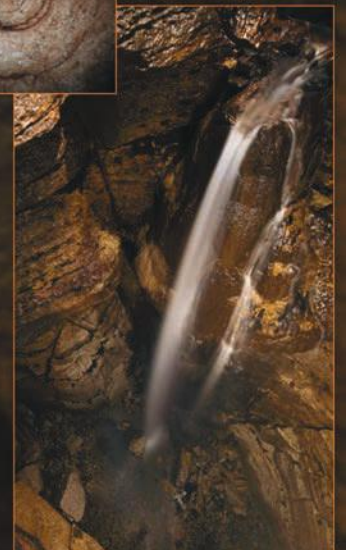
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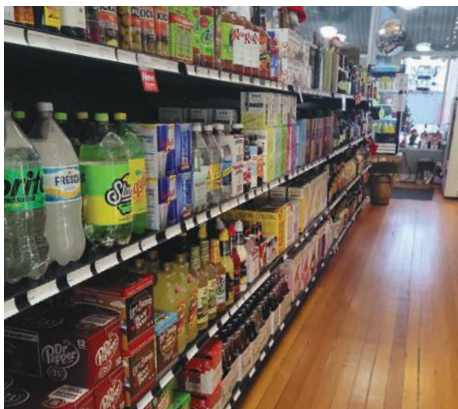
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WHALAN DEPOT \$ 722 Alley Dr, Whalan 1-507-703-6144 whalandepot.com	S		•					•		•
AMERICAN LEGION POST #40 \$ 103 Elmwood St E (507) 467-3440 lanesboroamericanlegion.org	Y		•	•	•	•		•	•	•
ANOTHER TIME ICE CREAM PARLOR \$ 100 Parkway Ave N (507) 467-3556 anothertimeicecream.com	S		•				•	•	•	•
CLARA'S EATERY \$\$ 111 Parkway Ave N (507) 467-2200 claraseatery.com	Y		•					•	•	•
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HAWAIIAN SHAVED ICE \$ 401 Parkway Ave S (507) 467-2253	S							•	•	•
HIGH COURT PUB \$ 109 Parkway Ave N (507) 467-2782 highcourtpub.com	Y		•	•	•	•		•	•	•
JUNIPER'S \$\$ 109 Parkway Ave S (507) 467-4040 junipersrestaurantmn.com	S	•	•	•	•	•			•	•
PADDLE ON COFFEE AND MAKER EMPORIUM \$ 115 Parkway Ave N paddleoncoffee.com			•	•			•	•		•
ROOT RIVER SALOON \$ 112 Coffee St E (507) 467-3355 facebook.com/rrsaloon	Y		•		•	•		•	•	•
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Riders from the 2023 Filthy 50 Road Race enjoy their tour through southeastern Minnesota by biking on gravel roads and rural routes that take them by hidden treasures and breathtaking views.

Gravel routes take cyclists on the 'road less traveled' for breathtaking beauty

**An Interview by Alison Leathers
with Toby Markowitz and Trenton Raygor**

Lanesboro is in the heart of 60 beautiful miles of paved bike trails, the Root River State Trail and the Harmony-Preston Valley State Trail. Tens of thousands of locals and visitors enjoy these miles of trails on bike, foot or skis each year, soaking in the beauty of farmland, woodlands and grassland.

There are some cyclists who decide to take a road less traveled and those roads provide them even more opportunities to witness the magic of the driftless: stunning vistas, deep valleys and rolling hills. There are even a few who ride their bikes from their homes, all the way to Lanesboro.

Here is a conversation between Lanesboro resident Alison Leathers and long-time Lanesboro visitor and road cyclist Toby Markowitz.

Alison: Thanks so much, Toby, for sharing your knowledge on road biking. Tell me more about your travels biking from the Twin Cities to Lanesboro.

Toby: I have ridden yearly to Lanesboro since 2018, employing the techniques of ultralight packing and credit card camping. Our current bike route from the Twin Cities uses overnight stays in Cannon Falls and Rochester. We have nice hotels in Cannon Falls and, of course, Rochester has a lot to offer for lodging and restaurants. The last of our three days brings us from Rochester to Fountain and then to Lanesboro. Fountain includes a lunch and pie stop at the Village Square. We schedule our ride to Lanesboro to meet a group from the Twin Cities who stay there mid-week. Many in the group arrive in

Lanesboro early enough to get on their bikes and meet us in Fountain. After having ridden a couple of days, it is fun to break bread with friends and then enjoy the long downhill ride into Lanesboro.

Alison: That is quite an amazing journey. Once you are in Lanesboro, you like to bike even more. What are your favorite routes?

Toby: I recommend riders use the site ridewithgps.com. My favorite paved route is from Rochester to Fountain to Lanesboro. The route has a great hill climb out of Fillmore on the way to Fountain. I love that climb and test myself every year. The grade levels out after a steep pitch and then continues to climb at a more gentle rate for awhile. A good ride would be an out and back from Lanesboro to Fountain and Fillmore.

We have ridden gravel around Lanesboro. In 2019, the Filthy 50 (an unsupported gravel bicycling event) moved to Lanesboro. We've ridden it in some great conditions and some absolutely horrible weather. I recently did a ride that used the state bike trail from Lanesboro to Harmony and returned primarily on the Filthy 50 route. I was reminded why we decided we should leave this event for younger and fitter riders.

Alison: It is awesome you make it a priority to get on the trails and roads in Fillmore County. What is a positive difference of road biking in Bluff Country versus the state bike trail system?

Toby: The state trail is sheltered. After a storm, the trail often has debris. There is a clean up crew, but it takes time. Being sheltered also means the scenery is limited. The Root River

is in a valley so that means climbing and descending hills in and out of the valley. Riding these roads allows us to see more of the countryside. For some routes, the trail can be a good outbound or inbound leg for a loop ride.

Alison: For those of us with little knowledge on what it takes to bike the roads, do you need a special kind of bike or any special equipment?

Toby: If riding roads, consider having lights on your bike to be seen during daytime and wear very visible clothing. There are some big hills near Lanesboro, so one might want to be sure the bike has gears suitable for climbing. Riding gravel calls for wide tires at low pressure. Newer road bikes can accommodate wider tires but to have tires suitable for gravel often means moving to an all-around or gravel bike.

Alison: What is your advice for someone who is interested in biking the roads around Lanesboro?

Toby: MN-16 is fairly busy but many other roads in the area are lightly traveled. Around harvest time, beware of heavy tractor and truck traffic. Stay safe and plan a stop for a bite to eat. There are a number of places where one can find excellent pies.

Alison: Thank you Toby for sharing your love of and advice on road biking. What an awesome option to explore the inspiring beauty of Bluff Country.

One way to get your feet wet (and get dusty, muddy and make lifelong memories) while road biking in the Lanesboro area is to participate in the Filthy 50 unsupported gravel road bike race. This organization, run by a father and son team of Trenton and Joel Raygor, celebrated its tenth anniversary of the race in 2023. It had humble beginnings in Stewartville, but now now has a celebrated participation of 1,000 riders that come to Lanesboro on the second Saturday in October.

Here is a conversation with Trenton on gravel road biking and the Filthy 50.

Alison: Tell me the brief story on how the Filthy 50 was started.

Trenton: The Filthy 50 was an idea that started during a 100-mile gravel ride through Fillmore County. My parents were living in Stewartville at the time and our friend, Kevin Clark, who lived on their street, would often ride gravel with us. After the 100-mile ride, Dad noted he would prefer something a little more accessible, so I said to both of them that we should put on a 50-mile ride. They both said "no," but eventually Mom and Dad agreed to let me host a 50-mile BBQ ride out of their house in Stewartville and Kevin helped me put together the route. We were expecting 30 people to sign up. Pretty soon we had 300 signed up, which kind of freaked my parents out. We clearly couldn't host the ride at

GRAVEL ROUTES CONTINUES ON PAGE 23...



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Ernie Johnson has created a vintage gas station in Whalan full of automotive knick knacks, auto parts and original gas pumps. His 1937 Plymouth truck is the station's centerpiece.

Time pauses to preserve history, heritage of Whalan

By Steve Harris

We live in a world of mind-numbing change. So much is happening so quickly we barely have time to process it. Life flashes by at the speed of light and sound. We'd like to keep up. We're tempted not to try.

That is why we need places like Whalan, Minn. There are many reasons it's worth a visit . . . or two.

Located just four miles northeast of its larger neighbor of Lanesboro, Whalan is one of the smallest towns in the Root River region. With a population of 63, give or take a dozen, this town has a history and heritage as big as you'd want or need to explore. Stories of railroads and dance halls, tobacco farms and Norwegian immigrants abound. The village had its own grocery stores, post office (closed now), a bank (closed, too), a Stand Still Parade, even a mink farm. Some of the nicest people you'd ever want to meet live within its boundaries.

Many of them are still residents.

Today, Whalan has a world-class bike trail running through it, one of the most popular pie shops (for good reason) in southern Minnesota and the Root River itself, beckoning kayakers, canoers and people who like to catch fish. (You'll spot eagles with the same agenda).

Others stop by for Whalan's Fourth of July softball tournament, getaways at the award-winning Cedar Valley Resort, cold drinks, snacks and goodies at The Whalan Depot, or to browse the Taste of the Trail gift shop. There are lots of pleasures to enjoy in this hidden treasure of a town.

With a few extra minutes you'll want to explore Ernie's Station, just a couple blocks from the Aroma Pie Shoppe. The sign says "Open when here. Closed when gone," but if you are lucky, Ernie Johnson will be there to open the doors to allow you to peruse the treasures within. Over the last three decades, Ernie



The Whalan Town Hall is the town's gathering place for civic and social events. The local American Legion is also located in this historic place.



Kim Berekvam of the Whalan Depot showcases some of the locally-made products that can be found within her store. Those riding by the Depot can stop in for a refreshment and snack as well as a souvenir to take home.

SHOPPING & SPECIALTY RETAIL

From fine to funky, practical to quirky, Lanesboro merchants offer it all. You'll find bicycle accessories, camping supplies, DNR licenses and cross-country ski passes, fair-trade items, jewelry, apparel, artisan goods and inspiration for your quilting or knitting project. Browse home décor and fine art or sample a locally-grown treat. » lacc.mn/shop

FIFTH SUN GARDENS

110 E Coffee St E | (847) 626-8387

fiftsungardens.com

5th Sun Gardens is a low dose cannabis/hemp edible lounge and retailer.

WHALAN DEPOT

722 Alley Dr, Whalan | 1-507-703-6144

whalandepot.com

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AMISH EXPERIENCE

105 Parkway Ave N | (507) 467-2992

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CEDAR HOLLOW GIFT SHOP

905 Bench St, Whalan | (507) 467-9000

cedarvalleyresort.com

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CROWN TROUT JEWELERS

107 Parkway Ave N | (507) 467-3078

crowntroutonline.com

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108 Coffee St E | (507) 910-1489

driftlessfiberarts.com

Open year-round. Driftless Fiber Arts has many textile and fiber offerings, including quilts, yarn, fabric, thread and notions available. Check it out for ongoing knitting and quilting classes.

E2 BOUTIQUE

117 Parkway Ave N | (507) 467-2994

e2boutiquemn.com

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55 Center St W, Harmony | (507) 886-2225

myharmonyfoods.com

IGA FOODS - PRESTON

105 Fillmore St W, Preston | (507) 765-2465

myprestonfoods.com

IGA FOODS - RUSHFORD

400 S Mill St, Rushford | (507) 864-2878

myrushfordfoods.com



LANESBORO BP FOOD SHOP S&A PETROLEUM

100 Sheridan St W | (507) 467-2121

sapetroleum.net

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LANESBORO FARMERS MARKET

202 Parkway Ave S | (507) 450-9659

facebook.com/LanesboroFarmersMarket

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STONE MILL CLOTHING & GIFTS

100 Beacon St E | (507) 467-8663

stonemillsuites.com

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WINDY MESA

102 Parkway Ave N | (507) 467-2198

windymesajewelry.com

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has restored and filled this 1917-vintage gas station to the brim with automotive knick-knacks, original gas pumps and so much more. A large Chevrolet marketing sign promising "A Six in the price range of the Four!" hangs proudly on one wall. Whalan's first phone booth (which does still work) is there, with instructions from the 1920s that says calls can be made by "stockholders and their families, also servants...but no more than five minutes at any one time." The station's centerpiece is Ernie's

1937 Plymouth truck (he's had it since tenth grade), now sporting forest-green with shiny, black bumpers. It took Ernie nine years of meticulous love and labor to resurrect. He did it to perfection.

Maybe what this town offers most of all is a place to slow down, to pause, to listen to the quiet — to halt that rushing clock for at least a few minutes. We all need that. You can find it, for free, in Whalan.



Ernie's Station is adorned with old gas signs, original pumps and lots of other interesting automotive memorabilia.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Adventure abounds in the gorgeous Driftless Region of Southeastern Minnesota! Hop on a bike and ride on the famous 60-mile, paved Root River and Harmony-Preston Valley State Trails; grab a canoe, kayak or tube and take a trip down the Root River; grab your rod and reel and cast your line for fly fishing in a cold stream, or simply play a round of golf. Enjoy the view and let the river take your cares away. » lacc.mn/outdoors

EAGLE BLUFF ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER

28097 Goodview Dr | (507) 467-2437

eaglebluffmn.org

Let professional guides help you reach new heights on a ropes course or explore Bluff Country on nine miles of hiking, mountain and fat tire biking and snow-shoe/ski trails.

BIG SPRINGS FARM PUMPKINS & CORN MAZE

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BigSpringsFarmMN.com

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cedarvalleyresort.com

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EAGLE CLIFF CAMPGROUND OUTFITTING

35455 St Hwy 16 | (507) 467-2598

eagle-cliff.com

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GATOR GREENS MINI GOLF

439 Half St, Whalan | (507) 251-5101

cyclin-inn.com

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LITTLE RIVER GENERAL STORE

105 Coffee St | (507) 467-2943

LRGeneralStore.com

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ROOT RIVER OUTFITTERS

101 Parkway Ave S | (507) 467-3400

rootriveroutfitters.net

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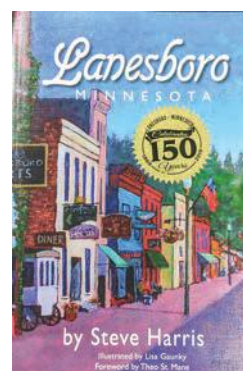
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28097 Goodview Drive, Lanesboro, MN 55949



**“Where might Lanesboro’s
creative spirit take you?”**



The spirit of Lanesboro has a creative streak. That’s very obvious in the beautiful work of local artists, painters, photographers, jewelry makers and crafters. Lanesboro creativity goes beyond “typical” art, though. It shows up when people have new ideas, try new things, take some risks. It might be someone deciding to learn how to paint. It might be starting a new business. It might be acting in a play. It might be strumming a guitar or finally writing a story that’s been in your head for years. Maybe it’s coming up with a new rhubarb recipe. Creativity takes people to all kinds of places in Lanesboro.

“Where might Lanesboro’s creative spirit take you?”

From the book “Lanesboro, Minnesota,”
by Steve Harris

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- » On the Beautiful Root River
- » Access to Root River Bike Trail

GRAVEL ROUTES, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17...

the house, so we got permission from the folks at Fareway in Stewartville and hosted the first year out of their parking lot. A total of 209 riders joined us that year.

Alison: Those are some humble and memorable beginnings. What is the main purpose or mission of the race today?

Trenton: The Filthy has always been about creating a welcoming place for all kinds of new people to share a special experience and to discover what riding gravel is all about. When it started, there weren't many gravel events out there and those that did exist were often 100 miles or more in distance. We put something out there that made riding gravel more accessible to people with a broader range of abilities. As someone once said, "Race it and set a record. Ride it and take in the beauty. Either way, get filthy!"

Alison: What a fantastic three sentences to describe the Filthy 50. What are your favorite road biking (gravel or paved) routes in and around Lanesboro?

Trenton: We definitely visit the Lanesboro area for the gravel roads. Our favorite area gravel routes happen to be our own, which can be found at the-filthy.com/info. That being said, we do enjoy the Root River State Trail between Lanesboro and Peterson. There's so much nature and beauty to enjoy down there and it's a pretty easy ride.

Alison: We certainly are fortunate to have our state trails and these country roads. For those of us with little knowledge on what it takes to bike the roads, do you need a special kind of bike or any special equipment?

Trenton: Back when The Filthy started, the industry had yet to begin marketing "gravel bikes." Most of us were riding mountain bikes, cyclocross bikes or an old road bike that could fit a little fatter tire. That's really the key. When riding gravel, you want to run a tire that is a little wider than your standard paved road bike tire. This allows the rider to run a lower pressure in the tires which improves comfort and handling of the bike on gravel. That being said, you can ride any bike on gravel, however, you'll enjoy your ride a lot more if you're riding a bike with tires that are 35c or wider. Today, if you walk into any bike shop and tell them that you want to

ride gravel, they will point you to the "gravel bikes," which will have everything you need.

Alison: That is helpful information. Now, what is your advice for someone who is interested in biking the roads around Lanesboro?

Trenton: Get lost. Meander down a road that you've never been down. If you see a sign that says "Minimum Maintenance Road," check it out. There are so many hidden gems spread throughout the heart of the Driftless Region, our gravel routes can't begin to cover them all. Also, when you're riding, bring everything you think you'll need to sustain you for a while. This includes food, water and even a tool bag with a spare tube so you can change a flat if something goes wrong. Your day is going to go better if you're prepared.

Alison: Excellent advice. Last question - what does "the Spirit of the Gravel" mean to you?

Trenton: "The Spirit of Gravel" comes from this community of people, most who don't know one another and who come from all walks, coming together to challenge themselves, challenge each other and lift one another up while doing it. These experiences that we have, which are often filled with high-highs and low-lows, can be transformative for an individual. They most definitely have been for me. I've learned so much about myself by sharing thousands of miles with other riders, fixing each other's bikes, and discovering the seemingly endless kindness of rural Americans. I carry this spirit with me every day as a reminder that we can all do hard things, that we are stronger together, and that human beings (all of them) are inherently good.

Alison: Thank you for sharing that special and meaningful philosophy. Lanesboro is so fortunate for the positive, electric energy and "Spirit of Gravel" that the Filthy 50 brings into town.

Our rural county not only has excellent paved bike trails, but numerous gravel and paved county roads to explore on bike. Just remember to research your route, be prepared with some sustenance and tools and be flexible for the adventure ahead. There are many beautiful roads to take as you bike outside of downtown Lanesboro and take the road less traveled.



Trenton Raygor announcing the start of the Filthy 50 Road Race



The Root River continues to be a great fishing spot, even in the winter. Beautiful trout come out of the icy waters just off the Lanesboro bank.

Winter provides unique opportunities to ‘deep dive’ into the Root River

By Andrew Darling

Locals and tourists are by now familiar with the Root River’s ample fishing opportunities. Many have also loaded up the cooler for an afternoon of tubing, kayaking or canoeing. The river is “flooded” with people throughout the summer as they enjoy these commonly-known activities.

However, did you know that the Root River holds many opportunities for winter fun as well? Few have ever had the chance to go far beneath the surface, submerging into the icy depths that wind through the Lanesboro community. Two local residents and a few businesses can offer some unique insights on how to have some winter fun on this popular summer destination.

The Polar Plunge is a Special Olympics fundraiser where people throw themselves into freezing cold water. Lanesboro hasn’t hosted a Polar Plunge (yet), but that doesn’t mean people cannot enjoy a frosty swim.

Lanesboro resident Anne Happel has been swimming in the frigid water for years. She enjoys the health benefits that come from the activity. Athletes have been known to take ice baths after a game or a workout. They can help reduce muscle soreness, boost your immune system and increase alertness.

Anne explained she likes to wait until at least the end of October to go for a swim, or when the water reaches 20 degrees! Each swim lasts only a few minutes, but rejuvenates and refreshes her body. A video of her going for a dip under the walking bridge went semi viral in 2022. It shows her in the snowy weather, breaking ice chunks off the river bank to clear a path.

“I think my being of Danish descent also helps make it more tolerable,” Anne said.

Local house painter Eric Gehrke, also shared his experiences enjoying the cold waters of the local river. He prefers to scuba

dive in the Root during the winter and has been doing so since 1981. Eric has become a certified master diver and keeps all the diving equipment he needs in his Lanesboro workshop.

Since the water is clearer in the colder months, he prefers to go for a dive during this off season and dons a drysuit to help keep him a little warmer.

On his numerous dives into the Root, he has found old pipes, an old wagon wheel and even a safe. At one spot where he dives, Eric said the water was so dense with trout that it felt like something out of National Geographic!

Eric still looks forward to diving on the weekends and encourages any interested readers to email him at eric@ssedive.com.

If diving into the icy depths is out of your comfort zone and you would rather keep your head above water, Root River Rod offers guided fishing tours year round.

While it is an exciting concept to consider, deep diving into the Root River during the winter might not be for everyone. However, fun adventures can be had on the waters around Lanesboro in spring, summer, winter and fall. Rest assured, the Root River offers more than first meets the eye.



Eric Gehrke prepares to dive into the Root River.



The health benefits motivate Anne Happel to brave the icy waters.

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OAKENWALD TERRACE B&B \$120-230 218 Winona St SE, Chatfield (507) 867-3806 oakenwaldterrace.com	6	F	•			•	•				
HISTORIC SCANLAN HOUSE INN \$115-225 708 Parkway Ave S (507) 467-2158 scanlanhouse.com	7	F	•	•		•	•			•	
O'LEARY'S BED & BREAKFAST \$85-130 707 Parkway Ave S (507) 467-3737 olearysbandb.com	5	C				•	•				
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HOTEL LANESBORO \$99+ 101 Parkway Ave NW (507) 323-3239 hotellanesboro.com	9		•		•	•	•				
ROOT RIVER INN & SUITES \$85-250 106 Parkway Ave S (507) 273-4100 rootriverinn.com	9	C	•		•	•	•			•	
STONE MILL HOTEL & SUITES \$90-210 100 Beacon St E (507) 467-8663 stonemillsuites.com	13	C	•		•	•	•		•	•	
COFFEE STREET INN \$73-198 303 Coffee St E (612) 599-2964 coffeestreetinn.com	6		•		•	•	•			•	•
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■ Lanesboro Area Chamber Spotlight Member

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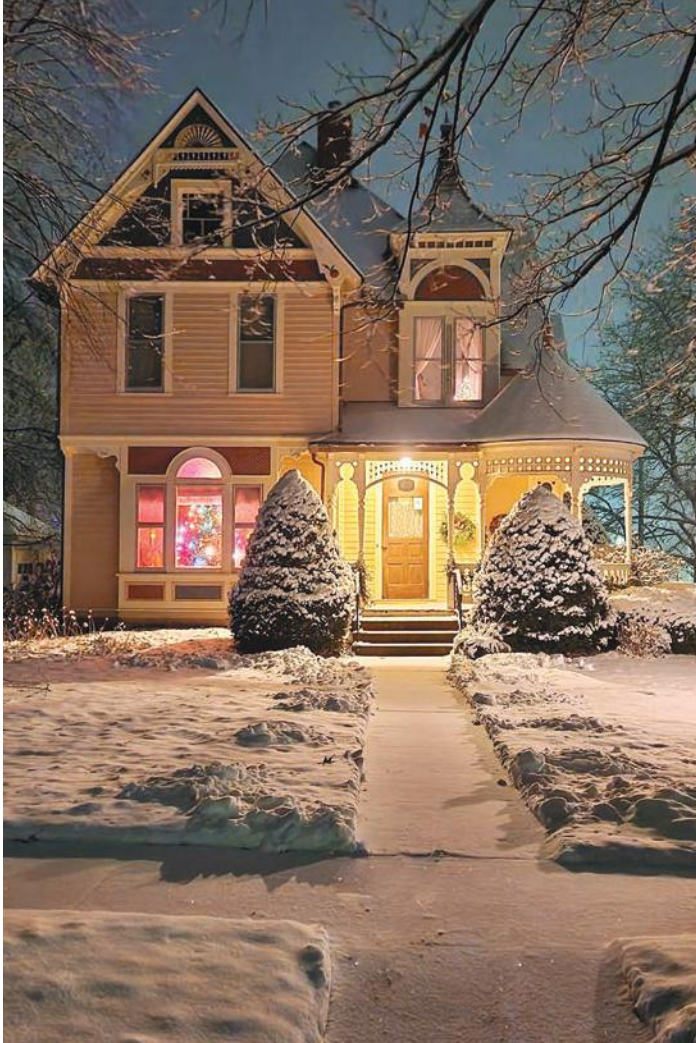


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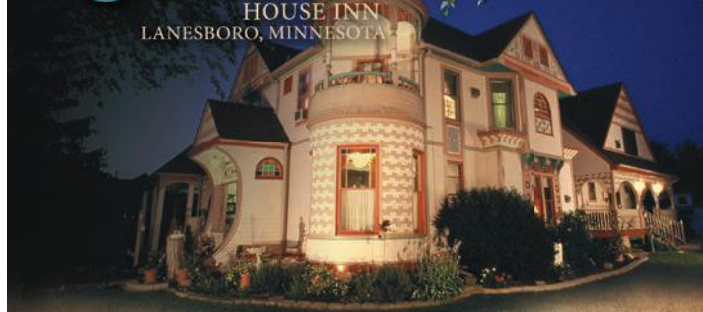
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■ Lanesboro Area Chamber Spotlight Member



A collection of local artifacts can help tell Lanesboro's story. Don't miss out on hearing local legends with a stop into the phone booth.

Local history comes alive through visits to museums

By Jonathan Levine

History is apparent in Lanesboro. You can't ignore it, it's all around you and it brings you in. Whether it is the deep rooted families that still call Lanesboro home, or visitors stumbling across Lanesboro for the first time, everyone wants to know, "What's the story of Lanesboro?" There is no better place to get the answer to that question than at the two main history museums that are located within the Lanesboro area.

The Lanesboro Area History Museum is a great place to start a journey into the past. With three floors of displays and exhibits and even more in their archives, there is no shortage of stories to be told.

"We get all kinds of folks, we get folks who just want to see, who are just curious about our history. And we get people tracking down family histories, or artifacts donated by the family years ago" said Val Tindall, the Lanesboro Historical Society's executive director. "There are things that anyone can connect with. Be it textiles or vintage clothing, crafting, woodworking, farm equipment — there is something here for everyone."

Visitors can dig into wedding fashions, dive into the history of Lanesboro schools, delve into a master photographer's studio and learn about the important and pivotal moments from local history or just moments in time.

"In the 1920s, in general, Lanesboro was thriving. And that was after the initial vision that we would be a resort community," Val explained. "It truly became a thriving community of the people who lived here. There were so many businesses and quite a lot of growth and wealth. It was a good place to live."

The Lanesboro History Museum is more, however, than just what's on display. "This museum really is to collect things that relate to the history of Lanesboro and preserve them and keep them safe so we can share them. I like to think of this as a home for people's treasures," she added.

It is exactly that type of "treasure keeping" that has dovetailed nicely with an increased interest in genealogical or familial history. "In the early 2000s, more and more resources were being put online. Then COVID hit and people were stuck at home and the internet was at their fingertips. It was something that was personal and it was accessible,"



The Fillmore County History Center, located in Fountain, has an extensive campus, filled with information about community leaders and influential residents.

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explained Sara Sturgis, former director of the Fillmore County Historical Society. The history center, located in nearby Fountain, has had a focus of helping people track their family history for about 40 years.

"We get people who are just starting out, and learn everything they can from their family, and they are really trying to build their family tree," Sara continued. "And then we get people that are looking for the leaves of the tree. They want the information that's in between the vitals. The things you find in newspapers, the little anecdote that [their ancestor] was the town treasurer — it's the things that bring that person to life."

And while the library and the vital resources it contains may be why someone would first visit the Fillmore County museum, there is so much more there to see.

"We have two planes," said Sara, referring to the original Pietenpol planes built by Fillmore County native Bernard Pietenpol, who was considered the father of experimental flight.

"The main gallery is a permanent installation that talks about journalism and a military installation that features 'Fillmore in the War.' We have freaky Fillmore sections — the curiosities or oddities that maybe don't fit in another category. Like our two-headed calf." Sara pointed out that

these items make up just one gallery in the complex.

While many stories of Lanesboro and the surrounding areas can be found among the walls of these two history centers, there are many more stories to tell.

"The people who built the town, the laborers built their houses on Church Hill and the Flats, and there's more stories there," noted Val. "I would like to know more about those people, how they lived and how they survived. The people who are not listed in recorded history, the people who built the dam, who built the railroad, to me that is where I want to fill in some blanks. And women are not talked about as much as the men."

Sara echoed this sentiment about the Fillmore County histories. "There are groups of people who have come through here whose stories are untold. One of the exhibits we have is about the African American Barbering community that existed in Fillmore County for at least 50 years."

When visiting Lanesboro, be sure to carve out some time to swing by both the History Museum in Lanesboro and the Fillmore County History Center in Fountain. There are exciting stories to be shared and unique artifacts to discover in both of these extensive collections.

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Working at local establishments provides young people with valuable experience, foundation for future careers

By Jonathan Levine

There are certain rites of passage that take on a different level of gravitas when you grow up in a place like Lanesboro, none of which are more impactful than your first summer job. In a town of 711 people, the residents have to wear a lot of hats during the summer season to accommodate the needs of hundreds of visitors to the area. Many who are employed by restaurants, hotels, shops and outfitters also wear the hat of “student.”



Aaron Eversole spent his youth working in Lanesboro-area kitchens and is now pursuing a career in culinary arts.

Aaron Eversole knows all about working in Lanesboro — he grew up here with his parents, Kerry and Cindy, who are the pastors of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Through high school, college and grad school, Aaron spent every summer working in one kitchen or another. If you had visited over the summer in the last few years, it's statistically likely that Aaron has cooked for you at some place or another. He got his first job at Old Village Hall, washing dishes and making salads.

“I loved it. It was a great time,” Aaron said. He got a masters degree in accounting and spent a year working for an accounting firm in St. Paul. After that year, however, Aaron decided to quit and follow a different path for his life. He enrolled in the Culinary Institute of America, the prestigious culinary school in upstate New York.

“Tyler (Shipton, owner of Junipers Restaurant) wrote me a letter of recommendation,” Aaron explained. “That’s the type of work environment we have in Lanesboro — it’s supportive. These jobs matter, because you get responsibilities that you would never get at a Texas Roadhouse. You might be a senior in high school, but everyone else is a sophomore or junior so you get the keys to lock up at night. You have a connection with the people you work for, you’re in community with them and they support you, take care of you.”

This experience isn't unique to Aaron Eversole. Lanesboro

is only able to function at the full capacity of a major city in the summer thanks in no small part to the amazing summer workers who help out each year. “For me, it felt really good, getting a phone call from someone who wanted to ask me to come back,” he added. “I felt a lot of appreciation from my employers in Lanesboro.”

Addie Harvey has worked at several establishments throughout Lanesboro, including Pedal Pushers, Parkway Market, Root River 102, Sylvan Brewing, Junipers Restaurant and now The High Court Pub. With all that experience, she was quickly promoted in her previous job. “I was 18 and managing full-grown adults. It was definitely a little intimidating,” Addie said. “I did all of the front of house ordering, I configured almost all daily finances, and opened and closed every day. At times, it was hard to be taken seriously, not only with co-workers, but with distributors and vendors and customers as well. It taught me to read people and learn the way they learn or the best way to address them, along with lots of hard work and responsibility.”

Those skills are setting Addie up for her next step in life. “My parents have recently purchased the High Court Pub and people assume I will go on to manage The High Court. I have no intentions or plans of managing the bar. I’m still in school at Nova Academy of Cosmetology in Rochester so the High Court is just a weeknight side job for me.”

The human-to-human skills, the bookkeeping and ordering, working with finances and the entrepreneurial spirit in Lanesboro will catapult Harvey into her next chapter as a cosmetologist.

“All the skills I learned at Juniper’s, Sylvan Brewing, Pedal Pushers, the Parkway Market and the Pub, are all valuable skills and lessons that I take with me to my next job or career,” she added.

Growing up in Lanesboro has its benefits and the availability



Addie Harvey gained confidence and experience working at local restaurants and now, as a young adult, manages staff of various ages.

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Whalan Lutheran Church is serving the community and engaging and encouraging others through a life-changing journey. Alternating start times each month.

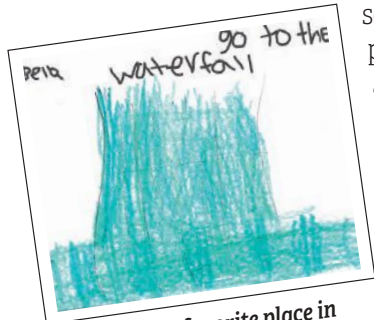
for summer work and advancement for young people is definitely an advantage found in this community. These young, student employees help make sure Lanesboro businesses provide a positive experience for their consumers. Students can be found taking a food order or clearing a table. They clean rooms and help with groundskeeping. They ring up sales in the boutiques or stock shelves in the gift stores. They are scattered through the businesses and serve as essential support to the workings of the industry. When the seasons begin to slow, the students return to school to get their education and build a strong foundation for future success.

Many who worked as students in the community return home as adults to start businesses. Just ask Aaron Eversol. "My dad really wants me to buy The Old Village Hall," he said. "It'll probably be sold well before I graduate, and I have no idea where my career will take me, but I wouldn't rule out opening a restaurant in Lanesboro one day."

Experience Lanesboro through the eyes of second graders

By Alison Leathers

On a beautiful fall day, a gathering of great minds occurred at a premier location — the Lanesboro Elementary School. This



Bella said her favorite place in Lanesboro is the waterfall.

serious meeting had the sole purpose of discussion, writing and drawing all things liked and loved about Lanesboro. The great minds in question were students in Courtney Graves' second grade class and, although these minds are only 7 and 8 years in the making, they will be sure to teach you about the joys, tastes and sights that can be

found in this tiny, but mighty, town.

These young students were asked about their favorite place in Lanesboro, and the top answer was one of life's greatest

pleasures, the ice cream shop! (There are

two establishments that offer the creamy treat — Clara's Eatery and Another Time Ice Cream Parlor). The second favorite place noted by the second graders was the school.

There were no ulterior motives of brown-nosing involved, they truly love their school and demonstrated their school pride. Other highlights to Lanesboro's favorite places included the football field, the library, the BP gas station and Sylvan Park.

When asked about their favorite food in town, the top answers were pizza and ice cream. The favorite restaurants were Clara's Eatery, Pedal Pushers Restaurant, the Driftless Trading Post (at Sylvan

Brewing) and Paddle On Coffee and Maker Emporium. Lanesboro is blessed to have a variety of dining options, and the top two favorite kids' foods are offered at Clara's Eatery (pizza and ice cream), Another Time Ice Cream Parlor (ice cream), and High Court Pub (flatbread pizza).

For fun things to do in town, the students listed Sylvan Park as the number one answer (who would dare to disagree?).

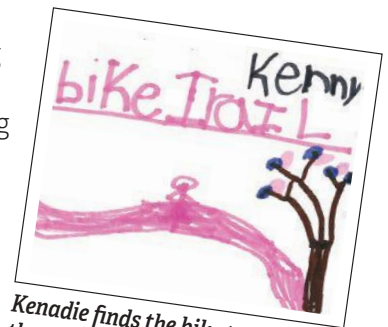
Their other recommendations for fun were the bike trail, the football field, swimming at the Old Barn Resort, golfing, visiting the waterfall, swimming in the Root River, shopping and visiting the library.

Two students provided some thoughtful answers. They have fun "hanging out with my teacher" and "going on my hill." How fortunate to have some fun teachers in Lanesboro as well as many, many hills to choose from when wanting to go climb and conquer.

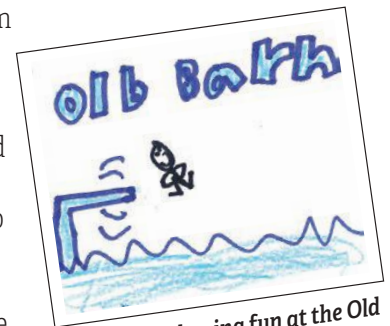
Finally, the students were asked to describe Lanesboro in three words. The number one word to describe Lanesboro was "fun!" Topping the list in second place were words used to describe the school ("big school", "small school", "fun school") and the school colors of "black, orange and white." That school pride continued to show through. In third came the word "cool." Other notable answers on how to describe Lanesboro were "awesome," "wonderful," "existing," "old," "hill," "friend," "fish in Root River" and "pretty."

To see this town, a place a few call home and many come to visit, through the eyes and minds of the second graders was a great reminder that Lanesboro is loved in many ways for many different reasons.

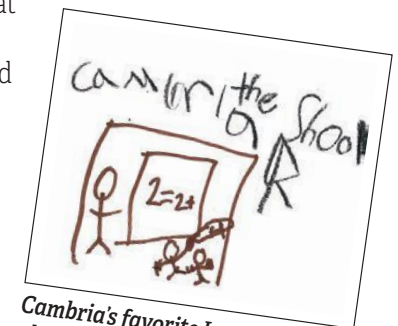
Visitors will find the students' descriptions to be true and will experience all the "fun, coolness, hills, prettiness, ice cream licks, misty waterfall sprays, playground swings" and more that these second graders love about their town.



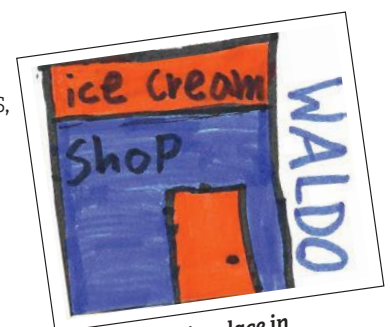
Kenadie finds the bike trail to be the most fun.



Tatum loves having fun at the Old Barn swimming pool.



Cambria's favorite Lanesboro place is the school.



Waldo's favorite place in Lanesboro is the ice cream shop!

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ARTS AND CULTURE	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
Bluff Country Photography	310 Maple Dr	(507) 467-2122	pg. 8	bluffcountryphoto.com
Commonweal Theatre Company	208 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2525	pg. 8,9	commonwealtheatre.org
Bluff Country Studio Art Tour	40051 Cty Rd 12	(651) 307-6373	pg. 8	bluffcountrystudioarttour.org
Cheryl Lamon - Artist	108 Coffee St E	(507) 467-4466	pg. 8	cherylsfabricgarden.com
History Alive! Lanesboro	33949 Golden Dr	(612) 823-0776	pg. 8	historyalivelanesboro.org
Joan Finnegan Fine Arts	34617 Cty Rd 12	(507) 272-0254	pg. 8	joanfinnegan.com
Lanesboro Area Art Trail	40051 Cty Rd 12	(651) 307-6373	pg. 8	lanesboroareaarttrail.com
Lanesboro Arts	103 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2446	pg. 8	lanesboroarts.org
Lanesboro Arts Gallery	103 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2446	pg. 9	lanesboroarts.org
Lanesboro Community Theater	206 Parkway Ave N	(507) 272-2270	pg. 9	https://bit.ly/LCTheatreinfo
Lanesboro History Museum	105 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-2177	pg. 9	
Peterson Creative Photography & Design	30601 Grouse Rd	(507) 421-9906	pg. 9	petersoncreativephoto.com
St. Mane Theatre	206 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2446	pg. 9	lanesboroarts.org/st-mane-theatre
Steve Harris, Writer	507 Fillmore Ave S	(952) 836-7904	pg. 9	
Sue Pariseau Pottery	40051 Cty Rd 12	(651) 307-6373	pg. 9	suepariseaupottery.com
Whalan Museum	224 2nd Ave, Whalan	(507) 867-3746		
TOURS & ATTRACTIONS	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
Niagara Cave + Mini Golf	29842 Cty Rd 30, Harmony	(507) 886-6606	pg. 12,13	niagaracave.com
1877 Peterson Station Museum	228 Mill St, Peterson	(507) 875-2415		
Bluffscape Amish Tours, LLC	102 Beacon St E	(507) 467-3070	pg. 12	bluffscape.com
Ernie's 1917 Station	510 New St, Whalan	(507) 467-3434		
Historic Forestville	21899 Cty Rd 118, Preston	(507) 765-2785	pg. 12,13	mnhs.org/forestville
International Owl Center	126 E Cedar St, Houston	(507) 896-6957	pg. 13	internationalowlcenter.org
Lanesboro State Fish Hatchery	23789 Grosbeak Rd	(507) 765-0010	pg. 12	dnr.state.mn.us/areas/fisheries/lanesboro-hatchery/index.html
Scandinavian Inn Mystery Nights	701 Kenilworth Ave S	(507) 467-4500	pg. 12	scandinavianinn.com/mystery-nights
DINING & SPIRITS	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
Pedal Pushers Cafe	121 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-1050	pg. 14,15	pedalpusherscafe.com
Whalan Depot	722 Alley Dr, Whalan	1-507-703-6144	pg. 14	whalandepot.com
American Legion Post #40	103 Elmwood St E	(507) 467-3440	pg. 14,15	lanesboroamericanlegion.org
Another Time Ice Cream Parlor	100 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-3556	pg. 14	anothertimeicecream.com
Aroma Pie Shoppe	618 Main St, Whalan	(507) 467-2623		
Brenda's Stockyard Cafe	402 Coffee St E	(608) 633-2252		
Clara's Eatery	111 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2200	pg. 14,17	claraseatery.com
Granny's Liquor	113 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2700	pg. 14	grannysliquor.com
Hawaiian Shaved Ice	401 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-2253	pg. 14	
High Court Pub	109 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2782	pg. 14	highcourtpub.com
Home Sweet Home Cafe and Cakery	210 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2244		
Juniper's	109 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-4040	pg. 14,15	junipersrestaurantmn.com
Lanesboro Pastry Shoppe	202 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2867		
Paddle On Coffee and Maker Emporium	115 Parkway Ave N		pg. 14	paddleoncoffee.com
Root River 102	102 Coffee St W	(507) 475-8804		
Root River Saloon	112 Coffee St E	(507) 467-3355	pg. 14	facebook.com/rrsaloon/?rf=156466047717964
Sylvan Brewing	100 Beacon St W	(507) 467-4677	pg. 14	sylvanbeer.com
SHOPPING & SPECIALTY RETAIL	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
Fifth Sun Gardens LLC	201 Parkway Ave N	(847) 626-8387	pg. 19	fithsungardens.com
Amish Experience	105 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2992	pg. 19	e2boutiquemn.com
Cedar Hollow Gift Shop	905 Bench St, Whalan	(507) 467-9000	pg. 19	cedarvalleyresort.com
Copper Crane Pottery	27972 Deep River Rd	(507) 875-2751		
Crown Trout Jewelers	107 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-3078	pg. 19	crowntroutonline.com
Driftless Fiber Arts	108 Coffee St E	(507) 910-1489	pg. 19	driftlessfiberarts.com
E2 Boutique	117 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2994	pg. 19	e2boutiquemn.com
Essence of Lanesboro	100 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-2800		
IGA Foods - Harmony	55 Center St W, Harmony	(507) 886-2225	pg. 19	myharmonyfoods.com

LANESBORO AREA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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SHOPPING & SPECIALTY RETAIL	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
IGA Foods - Preston	105 Fillmore St W, Preston	(507) 765-2465	pg. 19	myprestonfoods.com
IGA Foods - Rushford	400 S Mill St, Rushford	(507) 864-2878	pg. 19	myrushfordfoods.com
Lanesboro BP Food Shop/S&A Petroleum, Inc.	100 Sheridan St W	(507) 467-2121	pg. 19	sapetroleum.net
Lanesboro Farmers Market	202 Parkway Ave S	(507) 450-9659	pg. 19	facebook.com/LanesboroFarmersMarket
Leafy Legacy Herb Farm	33949 Golden Dr	(612) 823-0776		
Pop's Pool Room	110 Coffee St E	(563) 419-0727		
Stone Mill Clothing & Gifts	100 Beacon St E	(507) 467-8663	pg. 19	stonemillsuites.com
The Peddler	107 Coffee St E	(507) 380-1677		
Treasures on the Trail + O's Popping Kernals	431 Half St, Whalan	(507) 467-2015		
Windy Mesa	102 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2198	pg. 19	windymesajewelry.com
OUTDOOR RECREATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center	28097 Goodview Dr	(507) 467-2437	pg. 20,21	eaglebluffmn.org
Root River Rod Co. Fly Fishing Outfitters & Guides	116 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2101	pg. 20	rootriverrodco.com
Big Springs Farm Pumpkins & Corn Maze, LLC.	32060 Furrow Rd	(507) 216-7946	pg. 20	BigSpringsFarmMN.com
Cedar Valley Outfitters	905 Bench St, Whalan	(507) 467-9000	pg. 20	cedarvalleyresort.com
Eagle Cliff Campground Outfitting	35455 St Hwy 16	(507) 467-2598	pg. 20	eagle-cliff.com
Gator Greens Mini Golf	439 Half St, Whalan	(507) 251-5101	pg. 20	cyclin-inn.com
Lanesboro Public Golf Club	900 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-3742		
Little River General Store	105 Coffee St	(507) 467-2943	pg. 20	LRGeneralStore.com
River Rats Outfitters	210 Rochelle Ave N	(507) 429-7202		
Root River Outfitters	101 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-3400	pg. 20	rootriveroutfitters.net
LODGING	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
A Guest Hus Motel	610 Parkway Ave S	(507) 438-5546	pg. 26	aguesthus.com
Berwood Hill Inn	22139 Hickory Rd	(612) 867-3614	pg. 26	berwood.com
Cedar Valley Resort	905 Bench St, Whalan	(507) 467-9000	pg. 26,27	cedarvalleyresort.com
Cottage House Inn	209 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2577	pg. 26,28	cottagehouseinn.com
Hotel Lanesboro	101 Parkway Ave NW	(507) 323-3239	pg. 26	hotellanesboro.com
James A. Thompson House B&B	401 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-2253	pg. 26	jamesathompsonhouse.com
Oakenwald Terrace B&B	218 Winona St SE, Chatfield	(507) 867-3806	pg. 26,30	oakenwaldterrace.com
Root River Inn & Suites	106 Parkway Ave S	(507) 273-4100	pg. 26	rootriverinn.com
Root River Valley Cabin	34880 Fawn Dr	(507) 990-5265	pg. 28,31	vrbo.com/1311007
Stone Mill Hotel & Suites	100 Beacon St E	(507) 467-8663	pg. 26,29	stonemillsuites.com
The Cozy Cottage	203 Ashburn St E	(952) 994-3637	pg. 31	airbnb.com/rooms/36039215
Anna V's B&B	507 Fillmore Ave S	(507) 424-9021		
Art Loft	103 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2446	pg. 31	artlofts.org
Blossom Valley Inn	511 New St, Whalan	(507) 450-2306		
Bluff Country Retreat	26557 Evening Dr	(612) 283-0591	pg. 31	bluffcountryretreat.com
Bluff Country Retreat - Bunk House	26557 Evening Dr	(612) 283-0591	pg. 31	bluffcountryretreat.com/bunk-house
Bluff View Guest House	111 1st Ave, Whalan	(507) 467-2415		
Coffee Street Inn	303 Coffee St E	(612) 599-2964	pg. 26	coffeestreetinn.com
Cozy Quilt Cottage	23824 Holly Rd	(507) 459-8722	pg. 31	cozyquiltcottage.com
Cyclin-Up Inn	920 Bench St, Whalan	(507) 251-5101	pg. 31	cyclin-inn.com
Eagle Cliff Hotel	35455 St Hwy 16	(507) 467-2598	pg. 26	eagle-cliff.com
Grandma's	100 Elmwood St E	(612) 460-1609		
Green Gables Inn	303 Sheridan St W	(507) 467-2936		
High Court Loft	109 Parkway Ave N	(507) 951-4483		
Highland Store B&B Circa 1894 - airbnb	22485 391st Ave			
Historic Knotty Pine Cabins	607 Fillmore Ave S	(507) 438-5272		
Historic Scanlan House Inn	708 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-2158	pg. 26,30	scanlanhouse.com
Into the Wild Farmhouse	37574 Dew Drop Rd			
Irish Ridge Retreat	32339 Cty Rd 8			
Iron Horse Outfitters & Inn	100 Coffee St E	(507) 951-2955		
Lanesboro Lofts	204 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-3474		
O'Leary's Bed & Breakfast	707 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-3737	pg. 26	olearysbandb.com
Pruett's Paradise - airbnb	32675 Grit Rd			
Riverside Suites	208 Ashburn St E	(507) 459-0940	pg. 31	highway250campground.com/riverside-suites
Scandinavian Inn Bed and Breakfast	701 Kenilworth Ave S	(507) 467-4500	pg. 30	scandinavianinn.com
The Hen House Retreat	22445 391st Ave, Highland	(507) 993-0380		

The information for listings in the Business Directory is provided by MN Public Records and LACC Staff efforts.
For any questions and/or inquiries please contact the Lanesboro Area Chamber of Commerce Office at (507) 467-2696.

CAMPGROUNDS	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
Eagle Cliff Campground	35455 St Hwy 16	(507) 467-2598	pg. 22	eagle-cliff.com
Old Barn Resort & Restaurant	24461 Heron Rd, Preston	(507) 467-2512	pg. 22,25	barnresort.com
City of Lanesboro Riverview Campground	202 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-3722	pg. 22	lanesboro-mn.gov
City of Lanesboro Sylvan Park Campground	202 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-3722	pg. 22	lanesboro-mn.gov
Highway 250 Campgrounds	25276 St Hwy 250	(507) 467-3395		
EVENT VENUE RENTALS	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
Lanesboro Community Memorial Center	202 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-3722	pg. 33	lanesboro-mn.gov
Sons of Norway - Heimbygda Lodge	200 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-0100	pg. 33	
The Rustic Hearth Event Center	905 Bench St, Whalan	(507) 467-9000	pg. 33	cedarvalleyresort.com
COMMUNITY & LOCAL SERVICES	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
Minnesota Building Contractors	102 Parkway Ave S	(507) 206-9607	pg. 34	minnesotabuildingcontractors.com
AcenTek	207 E Cedar St, Houston	(888) 404-4940	pg. 34	acentek.net
Action Fitness	102 Coffee St E	(507) 272-0549	pg. 37	actionfitnesslanesboro.com
Alton Erickson & Assoc. Real Estate Sales	205 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-3783		
Artisan Design & Landscape, LLC	203 Sheridan St E	(507) 993-6399		
Barb's Carpet Care	310 Maple Dr	(507) 467-2122	pg. 34	
Bluff Country Properties - Real Estate	Peterson	(507) 577-1121	pg. 34,35	bluffcountryproperties.com
Bunge Construction, Inc	100 Alley Dr	(507) 251-7952	pg. 34	
Church Hill School Condominiums	201 Ridgeview Ln S	(320) 309-9966		
City of Lanesboro	202 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-3722	pg. 37	lanesboro-mn.gov
City of Whalan	224 2nd Ave, Whalan	(507) 467-2212	pg. 37	cityofwhalan.weebly.com
Cyndy Gove, GRI Realtor, Counselor Realty	34001 Enfield Rd, Peterson	(507) 250-2910		
Driftless Goat Company	22514 Grosbeak Rd	(507) 467-2077		
Eagle Bluff Nature Preschool	28097 Goodview Dr	(507) 467-2437	pg. 37	eaglebluffmn.org/preschool
Eye Prize Marketing	107 Parkway Ave N	(612) 865-5103	pg. 34	eyeprizemarketing.com
F & M Community Bank	100 St. Anthony St N, Preston	(507) 765-3823	pg. 34	fmcommunity.com
Fillmore County Agricultural Society	413 Fillmore St E, Preston	(507) 273-1481	pg. 37	fillmorecountyfair.com
Fillmore County Cattleman's Association	20462 County 117, Wykoff		pg. 37	
Fillmore County Journal	136 St. Anthony St S, Preston	(507) 765-2151		
Good Job Services	808 Auburn Ave S	(507) 450-6030	pg. 34	
Gregory Bonow, Thrivent Financial Advisor	102 Sheridan St W	(507) 522-3620		
Hero Insurance and Planning	207 Parkway Ave N	(507) 268-4370	pg. 34	hero-insure.com
Huntington Electric	26418 Hideaway Rd	(507) 251-9510		
Jen You 1 Touch	401 Parkway Ave S	(507) 517-1119		
John Nelson, ABR, RE/MAX Results	202 Hwy 16, Rushford	(507) 216-1140	pg. 34	johnnelsonrealty.com
Johnson-Riley Funeral Home & Cremation Services	304 Sheridan St E	(507) 467-2130		
Kelly Printing & Signs	21142 US Hwy 52, Preston	(507) 765-9805		
Krage Insurance Agency & Preble Farmers Mutual	205 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-3309	pg. 34	
Lanesboro Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center	100 Milwaukee Rd	(507) 467-2696	pg. 37,42	lanesboro.com
Lanesboro Area Community Foundation	PO Box 370	(507) 696-1884	pg. 37	smifoundation.org/lanesboro
Lanesboro Car Wash & Laundromat LLC	102 Ashburn St E	(507) 951-7451	pg. 34	
Lanesboro Fire Department	301 Sheridan St W	(507) 467-2225		
Lanesboro Post Office	114 Coffee St E	(507) 467-2250		lacc.mn/usps
Lanesboro Public Library	202 Parkway Ave S	(507) 467-2649		lanesboro.lib.mn.us
Lanesboro Public School and Childcare Center	100 Kirkwood St E	(507) 467-2229		lanesboro.k12.mn.us
Lanesboro Sales Commission	402 Coffee St E	(507) 467-2192	pg. 37	lanesborosalescommission.com
Life Style Kenilworth & Sylvan Manor Apartments	607 Kenilworth Ave S 503 Parkway Ave S	(507) 451-8524	pg. 37	lifestyleinc.net
Merchants Bank	118 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2145	pg. 34	merchantsbank.com
Midwest Virtual Assistants	41597 120th St, Mable	(507) 421-5493		
MiEnergy Cooperative	31110 Cooperative Way, Rushford	(507) 864-7783	pg. 34	MiEnergy.coop
MN DNR Root River Trail Center	100 Milwaukee Rd	(507) 467-2552		

LANESBORO AREA BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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COMMUNITY & LOCAL SERVICES	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
O'Koren Law Office, LLC	204 Parkway Ave N	(507) 467-2317		
Pamela Ristau CPA	209 St. Anthony St S, Preston	(507) 765-2180	pg. 34	pamristaucpa.com
Preston Specialties Inc.	103 Coffee St W	(507) 467-2137		
River Hills Chiropractic	102 Sheridan St W	(507) 467-2629		
RLH Grain	18 Beacon St E	(507) 467-2300		
Root River Gardens	27835 Goodview Dr	(847) 626-8387		
Root River Recovery	210 Zenith St	(507) 259-4309		
Scenic Design Hairstyling for Men & Women	102 Sheridan St W	(507) 467-2233		
Sveen Construction Excavating	269926 Everyday Rd	(507) 467-2510		
VIS Plumbing & Heating, Inc	105 Sheridan St W	(507) 467-2240	pg. 34	visplumbingheating.com
Waniya Health		(612) 790-7107		
Whalan Auto Body	210 2nd Ave, Whalan	(507) 467-3598		
WORSHIP	ADDRESS	PHONE	PAGE(S)	MEMBER INFO
Bethlehem Lutheran Church	200 Kenilworth Ave S	(507) 467-3344	pg. 37	staronthehill.com
Elstad Lutheran Church	37784 Dogwood Rd	(507) 765-3621	pg. 37	elstadlutheranchurch.org
Highland Lutheran Church	37784 Dogwood Rd	(507) 467-3318		
North Prairie Lutheran Church	35957 Hwy 30	(507) 875-2460		
St. Patrick's Catholic Church	100 Ridgeview Ln	(507) 867-3922		
Union Prairie Lutheran Church	31872 MN-16	(507) 467-3363		
Whalan Lutheran Church	903 Oak St, Whalan	(507) 467-2159	pg. 37	

■ Lanesboro Area Chamber Spotlight Member  LACC Members bolded

Who are we and what do we do?

The Lanesboro Area Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to promoting the Lanesboro and Whalan communities to potential visitors throughout the state and beyond. We welcome visitors and share information about our area through our visitor center, located right on the bike trail at 100 Milwaukee Road.

The Chamber collaborates with other local boards, committees and organizations to create a place where families can make a home, find gainful employment and find success and fulfillment in their lives.



The Chamber has developed a strong partnership with the business community, industries and individuals to ensure a healthy economic base. We encourage cooperation, engagement and communication from our members to make it work.

The Chamber team is dedicated to sharing our region's unique stories - in promotional materials, on our website and through local news sources.

We hope you like what you have seen in our visitor guide and will plan a trip to see us soon.

OUR NEIGHBORS

Hop in the car or on your bike. Go exploring!
These trail towns are a short trip from Lanesboro.

» rootrivertrail.org



PRESTON 10 miles by bike • 8.4 miles by car
prestonmnchamber.com

FOUNTAIN 11 miles by bike • 9.7 miles by car
fountainmn.org

HARMONY 22.5 miles by bike • 13.6 miles by car
exploreharmony.com

WHALAN 4.6 miles by bike • 4.8 miles by car
rootrivertrail.org/site/rrt-whalan-landing.php

PETERSON 13.5 miles by bike • 14.4 miles by car
petersonmn.com

RUSHFORD AND RUSHFORD VILLAGE
18.3 miles by bike • 18.7 miles by car • rushfordpetersonvalley.com

HOUSTON 31.1 miles by bike • 29.5 miles by car
houstonmnchamber.com

ROOT RIVER TRAIL TOWNS





Rhubarb Sister shares recipe for festival favorite



Julie Kiehne loves rhubarb and sings with the local quartet, the Rhubarb Sisters.

Rhubarb is a staple of early summer throughout the region, but here in Lanesboro, the official state-recognized Rhubarb Capitol of Minnesota, rhubarb is life. The passion for this sticky-sweet-tart sensation runs deep in our roots, and that passion manifests in Lanesboro's annual tradition: Rhubarb Fest.

Rhubarb Fest is held the first Saturday in June every year and celebrates everything rhubarb. Among the heralded festivities is the rhubarb

tasting, where people stand in line for hours to sample rhubarb delicacies. Every year, people from around the region compete to see whose family recipe, or new twist on an old classic, will be voted the best.

Julie Kiehne had one of the most popular rhubarb selections during the Annual Rhubarb Festival of 2023. Julie sang the praises of this sweet and tangy vegetable as a member of the women's acapella quartet, "The Rhubarb Sisters."

"Rhubarb is like finding happiness in your own backyard," she said. Julie graciously agreed to share her recipe for the delicious Rhubarb Pecan Oatmeal Bars.

RHUBARB PECAN OATMEAL BARS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour | 1/2 tsp. salt |
| 1 1/2 cups old-fashioned rolled oats | 3/4 cup butter, softened |
| 1 cup firmly-packed light-brown sugar | 1/2 cup pecans, chopped |
| 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon | 2 cups Chunky Rhubarb Sauce * |

Heat oven to 375 degrees F. Lightly coat a 13-by-9-inch baking pan with cooking spray. In a medium bowl, combine flour, oats, brown sugar, cinnamon and salt. Add butter and stir with fork until mixture resembles coarse crumbs.

Press two-thirds of the crumb mixture into the bottom of the pan. Spread thickened Chunky Rhubarb Sauce evenly over the crumb layer. Top with remaining crumb mixture and pecans.

Bake until the top is golden and rhubarb sauce bubbles — about 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool on wire rack to room temperature. Cut into 16 pieces and store in an airtight container for up to three days.

*CHUNKY RHUBARB SAUCE

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4 cups fresh rhubarb, cut into 1-inch pieces | 1/2 tsp. freshly ground orange rind |
| 6 tbsp. sugar | 1/8 tsp. ground nutmeg |
| 2 tbsp. fresh orange juice | 1/8 tsp. salt |
| 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract | 2 tbsp. cornstarch dissolved in 3 tbsp. cold water |



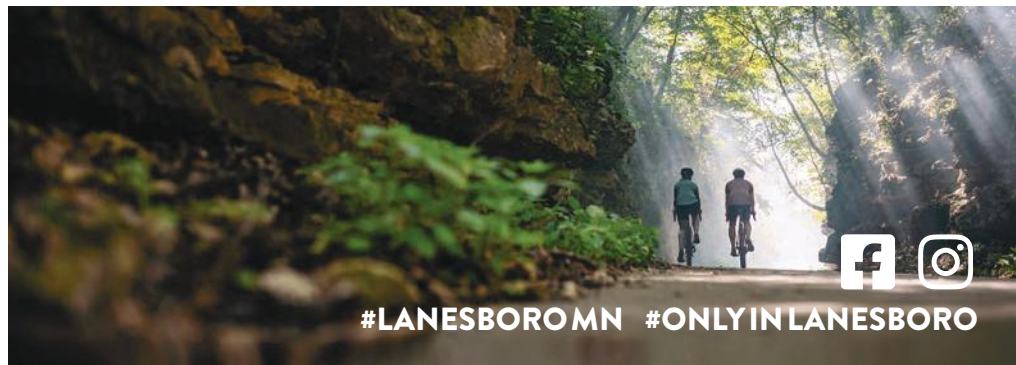
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