

Christmas Greetings! from Mary McPhetridge, Executive Director

We wish you a Very Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year!



It's a wonderful time of year! I was just downtown and the Ashland Fire Fighters are busy hanging garland on Main Street. Thank you to the Ashland Fire Department, City of Ashland Public Works, and the Ashland Beautification Committee for the beautiful decorations!

We are so excited about Small Business Saturday as we head into the Christmas shopping season. We promote our downtown and small businesses all year long, but at this time of year, it is especially important to remember our small locally owned retail businesses. Ashland is very fortunate to have 95% of our small retail businesses locally owned and operated. Ashland is full of unique, locally owned businesses that support Ashland sports teams, charities, and community events. This is the time of year when purchases by community members show those business owners how much we appreciate their support! To give added incentive to consumers, for every \$10 (ten dollars) you spend at a small locally owned retail business through the end of the year...you can receive one entry into the Shop Small Win Big Raffle. The prizes are **two drawings of \$250.00 in Chamber Dollars**. The first deadline for entries is Monday, November 28th, with the drawing on Wednesday, November 30th following Small Business Saturday. On **Small Business Saturday, November 26th**, you will **receive double** entries. Your entries from the first drawing will stay in the basket throughout the raffle period. (November 18th – December 31st). The second drawing will be held on January 6th, 2017.

Entry into the Shop Small Big Win Raffle is easier than ever! All receipts (or copies of the receipts) from downtown and Ashland small locally owned retail businesses, can be stapled to one entry form and dropped off or mailed to the Ashland Chamber Office at PO Box 746 – Or, you can drop off your entry forms at the reception desk at Northern State Bank on Main Street. The total dollar value will be used to determine the number of times the individual is entered into the raffle. Shoppers can even include receipts from purchasing gift certificates from locally owned retail businesses! Full contest details and printable raffle entry forms are also available at locally owned small business retailers throughout downtown and Ashland and on our website www.visitashland.com.

Small business is BIG!

- ⇒ The 28 million small businesses in America account for 54% of all U.S. sales.
- ⇒ Small businesses provide 55% of all jobs and 66% of all net new jobs since the 1970s.
- ⇒ The small business sector in America occupies 30-50% of all commercial space, an estimated 20-34 billion square feet.
- ⇒ The number of small businesses in the United States has increased 49% since 1982.
- ⇒ Since 1990, as big business eliminated 4 million jobs, small businesses added 8 million new jobs

**Thank you for supporting your locally owned small businesses!!!!
Merry Christmas!**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ◆ **November 18 - December 31: Shop Small Win Big Raffle.** www.visitashland.com for more information.
- ◆ **December 1-31: Christmas Cash Raffle**
- ◆ **December 2-4:** Children's production of **The Nutcracker Suite**, Ashland High School Auditorium. For tickets, stop at New England Store. 518 Main Street West, or call 715/682-2171. www.acp-nutcracker.com
- ◆ **Dec. 3: Customer Appreciation Day** at Ashland area retail stores, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Shop small and save!
Ashland High School Choirs will be on Main Street from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. singing Christmas carols.
Garland City of the North Christmas Parade, 4:30 p.m., on Historic Main Street. Broadcast live on 93.3FM!
- ◆ **Dec. 5-9:** Where's Elfie? Check out our website for more information www.visitashland.com.
- ◆ **Dec. 21: Christmas After Hours**, 5 p.m., hosted by **Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund** and **Northwest Wisconsin CEP at The Niblick Bar & Grill**, 3000 Golf Course Rd
- ◆ **Dec. 24: Christmas Eve.** Many retail stores are open until 4 p.m.
- ◆ **Dec. 25: Merry Christmas** from the Ashland Area Chamber!!



Call the Ashland Chamber at 715/682-2500 for more information on any of these events.

Highlighting Our December Christmas After Hours host

Submitted by: *Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund & Northwest Wisconsin CEP*



CHEQUAMEGON BAY AREA
COMMUNITY FUND
*An affiliate of the Duluth Superior Area
Community Foundation*

Chequamegon Bay Community Fund

Since 2012, the Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund (CBACF) has served the communities of Ashland, Bad River, and Washburn. CBACF's mission is simple. Private Giving for the Public Good. CBACF establishes permanent resources for our community by building a community grant making endowment to respond to current and future community needs. Each year, the funds earnings are granted to local nonprofits who work to solve underlying community problems through their responsive programs. Together, we are the fertile seeds that provide for an inclusive, generous and holistic community.

Northwest Wisconsin CEP

NW Wisconsin CEP's mission is to strengthen the economy of Northwest Wisconsin, by providing effective and efficient workforce development services to businesses and workers. CEP has administered federal, state, and private foundation funded workforce development programs for more than 40 years with a history of excellence, innovation, and accountability. Along with providing employment and training activities to citizens in our region, CEP also works with other programs such as Vocational Rehabilitation, Pathways to Independence, and the Health Resources and Services Administration.



The Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund and NW Wisconsin CEP are partnering to celebrate our community and the spirit of the Holiday season on December 21st at the December Christmas After Hours at The Niblick Bar & Grill, please join us!

**Welcome to our newest
Chamber members!**

Wilderness Inquiry

Jeffrey Kemnitz
33095 Little Sand Bay Rd
715/779-3328
www.wildernessinquiry.org



**Thank you for being
a Chamber Member!**

Business News Contact the Chamber office with your Business News by the 20th of the month!

The **Big Bundle Up Campaign**, which benefits children being served by the Bad River Zhwenidig Domestic Abuse Program, Bad River Women's Shelter and the Ashland New Day Shelter, runs **now through Dec. 20**. Donate brand new, warm, winter children's mittens, hats, scarves, boots, snow pants, jackets, etc., to **Bad River Lodge and Casino**. For more details, call 715/682-7121, ext. 1249.

Congratulations to McRae True Value, 118 Prentice Avenue, **celebrating 40 years on Dec. 7 & 8!!** Stop in for their Christmas Tool Show and celebrate with them!

Remember a special person or pet with a "Love Light" this holiday season from **Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College**, 2100 Beaser Ave. Honorees will be commemorated during a 6 p.m. ceremony on **Dec. 7**. Lights will remain lit through early January. For additional information, call 715/682-4591, ext. 3113.

Gift wrapping for The BRICK fundraiser at Associated Bank. Stop into Associated Bank on **Dec. 14**, from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., bring a cash donation or food item for The BRICK. Cash buys quadruple the amount of food for The BRICK. Associated staff will merrily wrap your Christmas Gifts. Hot chocolate, cider, and cookies will be provided while you wait. 715/682-9371.

The **Ashland Snowmobile Club's 13th Annual "Cashing in on the New Year" Raffle** tickets are now on sale. The Cash Raffle tickets are \$50 per ticket and 1st prize is \$2,000. There are a total of 20 cash prizes. Only 200 tickets will be sold. They are also selling tickets for a 2016 Yamaha Venture MP snowmobile worth \$9,999! The snowmobile tickets are \$10 each or 3/\$25. The drawings will be held **Jan. 14, 2017**, at 7 p.m. at the Neighborly Bar. Tickets are available at the Chamber. Call 715/682-0638 for more information.

Malmberg's Jewelers, 406 Main Street West, has a world-wide geological collection of stunning minerals and crystals of different sizes and colors on display in their jewelry store! Stop in and view this incredible collection. For more information call 715-682-3922.

The **Salvation Army** has bell ringers in Ashland now through Christmas Eve at Super One Foods, Walgreens, and Walmart, as well as at the Washburn IGA, in Iron River & Cable. Please donate to the bell ringers' bucket or volunteer to ring the bell. To volunteer in Ashland call 715/209-1127 or 715/292-3697 or in Washburn call 715-373-2965.

Heartland Communications has teamed up with **Coffey Oil** (Ashland Lakeshore Holiday West) to help out The BRICK Food Shelf. The Magic Stockings will be at the Ashland Chamber and other area businesses in December. For every dollar you put into the Magic Stocking, Coffey Oil will match it up to \$1,000! Call 715/682-2727 for more details.

Arby's has a new owners, Northern Ostrowski Enterprises, owners Jennifer and Jeremy Ostrowski (brother and sister). Manager Michael Lochridge. Stop in and welcome Michael to the area.

Murder Mystery Dinner at the Rookery Pub, in Cable. Looking for something fun and unique to do when the weather turns gloomy? Round up a group of 8 friends and figure out who done it...over a fabulous four course dinner served in our private dining room. The setting? A 1920s speakeasy in old Chicago. You and your companions each will assume the role of one of eight beguiling characters. They provide the script, the costume suggestions, and of course an amazing Rookery feast. All you need to bring is your sense of humor. Only \$69/person (plus cost of bootleg beverages). Offered exclusively to self-organized groups of 8 friends by reservation, typically on a Wednesday, Thursday, or Sunday evening during our quiet season (Nov-Dec and Mar-Apr).. www.rookerypub.com/special-dinners/

Ashland Lions Club is collecting deer hides, now thru the end of December. Proceeds from the hides go to Wisconsin Lions Camp. Drop-off locations are: Ashland Subway, River Rock Inn & Bait Shop, Midland Gas Stations and the Ino Bar. 715/746-2027

See this months inserts: Ashland Super One Deli Holiday Planning, Bad River Casino Snowmobile Giveaway; Support The BRICK Ministries this holiday Season; Freehands Lakeside Party Menu and Sixth Street Market Holiday Gift Boxes.

Chamber News

- ◆ Each week, the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce **highlights a business** on Heartland Communications radio station WATW 1400AM with multiple free 30-second commercials. The chosen businesses are also featured on the front page of the Chamber website, www.visitashland.com, and on the Ashland Chamber Facebook page. **December's highlighted businesses** will be: **Country Blossoms, Nature's Honey Therapeutic Massage, Niblick Bar & Grill and the Ashland Snowmobile Club**
- ◆ Congratulations to **Susan Wiberg** of Ashland on winning the **Witches' Night Out**. Grand Prize of \$50 in Chamber Dollars!
- ◆ **Remember our local troops this Christmas season.**
- ◆ Chamber Membership renewals will be mailed this month.

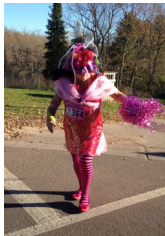
Where's Elfie?



It's Back....
With a new way to play...
Starting on Dec. 5th Where's Elfie will begin and run through Dec. 9th. More information will be available on our website in December. It will be FUN!

5th Annual Chick-uamegon

Thanks to all who participated and to the great volunteers!! This year we had the BEST weather ever!!! Chicks came not only from the Chequamegon Bay but from the Twin Cites Area, Duluth & Superior as well as Eagle River. Blingiest participant this year was Peppy!



Great Christmas gift ideas!

The Mural Committee would like to remind shoppers that this is a great time to purchase a name on a mural for that someone special on your shopping list. Their name would be highlighted on the new Women of Ashland Mural, planned for completion in the summer of 2017, depicting portraits of Ashland's women, past to present. Go to the Chamber website, stop in the Chamber office or call Sue at 715/292-4573.

Chamber Dollars are the perfect gift for any occasion and they can be used at any of the more than 200 participating Chamber businesses. Chamber Dollars come in denominations of \$5, \$10 and \$20 and work the same as cash! We all win when you shop local!!



WIN BIG RAFFLE!!

Support the many small, family-owned retail businesses in Ashland... and win Chamber Dollars!

This Christmas Season the Ashland Chamber of Commerce is making it easy to choose shopping small. We are offering **2 Drawings of \$250.00** in Chamber Dollars to two lucky local shoppers for Small Business Saturday and the Christmas Shopping Season! The Ashland Chamber and Downtown Merchants want to emphasize the importance of shopping small and shopping local all year round. **We invite you to think of the small retail businesses in Ashland first, before hitting the send button!** There are a variety of unique, locally owned retail businesses that offer personalized services and products. For every \$10 you spend in one of our locally owned retail business you get a chance to win \$250!

It's a WIN WIN Christmas Story!

Want to win \$250 by shopping downtown? It's easy:

- Shop between Nov. 18 and Dec. 31.
- Fill out the registration form found on our website.
- Staple your receipts (copies accepted) to your form.
- Submit your form to the Ashland Chamber.

1st drawing deadline—Monday Nov.28th

For more information go to the Shop Small WIN BIG Raffle page on our website www.visitashland.com.



Help make a child's Christmas bright!

The 34th annual Ashland Firefighters' Toy Drive is under way. New, unwrapped toys or monetary donations are needed and may be dropped off at area banks, Walmart, Walgreens or the Ashland Fire Station, 217 E 6th Street. For a complete list of drop-off locations, please call the fire station at 715/682-7052. **The deadline is Dec. 8** for signing up children (newborn to 12 years) to receive a toy for Christmas. Parents or legal guardians may call RSVP at 715/292-6400, ext. 2 or 3, to sign up their child. The toys will be distributed on **Dec. 16** from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Bretting Community Center, 400 4th Ave. W.



Christmas Cash Raffle, Dec. 1-31!!

Every ticket is eligible for every drawing! (If you win, your ticket is placed back in the bucket for the next drawing.) There will be 33 prizes awarded totaling \$3,100 in Chamber Dollars!! Drawings will be held every day in December with the winners posted on our website, Facebook page, the Superior Choice Credit Union marquee and announced on the radio at WBSZ, WJH and WNXR. ***FYI** There will be two \$500 drawings on Christmas Day and two \$175 drawings on New Year's Eve Day, so there is still time to purchase a ticket. Call the Chamber office!

EPC News

Dec. 3rd is Customer Appreciation Day!

Many retail stores will offer extended shopping hours starting Dec. 12. The Events and Promotions Committee would like to thank everyone for **shopping small!**

Please keep your sidewalks free of ice and snow.

Find yourself next to the water.

ASHLAND

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Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 746
Ashland, WI 54806



Check out this month's inserts:

- ◆ Ashland Super One
- ◆ Bad River Casino
- ◆ Freehands Lakeside
- ◆ Sixth Street Market
- ◆ The BRICK

**Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors**

Executive Board Members:

Rick Forsythe, President
Gail Fox-Anderson, Vice-President
Mike Hines, Secretary
Mike BeBeau, Treasurer
Jeff Moravchik, Past President

At-Large Members:

Nancy Turner Tina Miller
Dave Martin Todd Chingo
Lisa Gervais Bill Kacvinsky
Karen Hansen John Beirl

Ex Officio Members:

Mary Garness Keith Hilts
Dale Kupczyk

Staff:

Mary McPhetridge, Executive Director
JoAnn Erickson, Office Manager
Kysa Granger, Customer Service

Phone: 715-682-2500 or 800-284-9484

Fax: 715-682-9404

Email: info@visitashland.com

Web: www.visitashland.com

www.travelashlandcounty.com



Christmas After Hours

Your December host:

***Chequamegon Bay Area
Community Fund &
Northwest Wisconsin CEP***

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2016

at 5:00 p.m.

Held at:

**The Niblick Bar & Grill
3000 Golf Course Rd**

Join us for good food and a great time!!

*If you are unable to attend, we encourage
you to extend this invitation to another
representative of your business.*