

Ken Trom /
Blooming Prairie
Local Attractions / Norway.
in Austin Area

507-567-2355

Mower Co. Fair

Nancy Schnable Exec Dir
CVD



Nancy Schnable
Executive Director
507-437-4563
director@austinmn.com

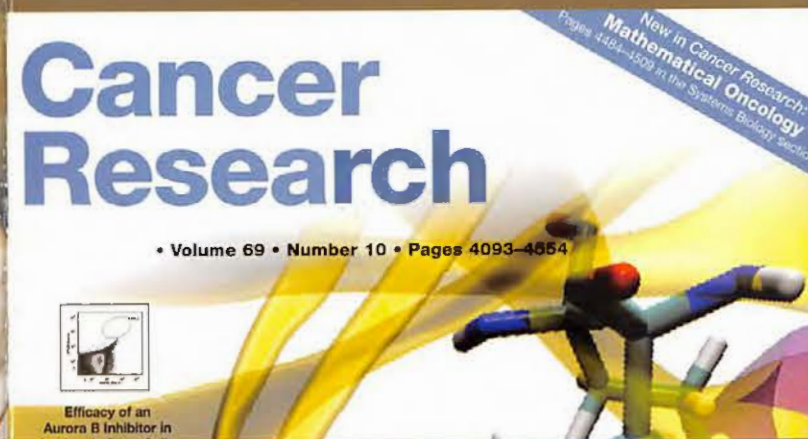
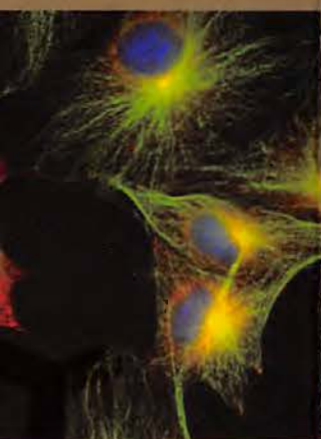
301 North Main Street, Suite 101
Austin, Minnesota 55912
www.AustinMN.com



Justin Jones
Tourism Coordinator
507-437-4563
tourism@austinmn.com

301 North Main Street, Suite 101
Austin, Minnesota 55912
www.AustinMN.com

Research for a cancer-free world



Decades of Discoveries

Founded in 1942 by Jay C. Hormel and given to the University of Minnesota, The Hormel Institute is one of the oldest research centers in the United States. Its decades of significant discoveries and achievements include the naming and research of omega 3 and omega 6; obesity's cancer connection; and research of cancer-preventive chemicals found in foods like grapes, ginger and green tea. Strides toward other major scientific discoveries continue today as The Hormel Institute is an emerging world leader in cancer research.

World-Class Publishing

The Hormel Institute's publishing record in top-tier scientific journals — the best in the world — is significant as it indicates The Institute's position as a world leader in cancer research. Dedicated to sharing information and advancing knowledge worldwide, The Hormel Institute's discoveries are consistently published in an effort to accelerate discoveries with cancer research partners worldwide.

ICRT International Center of Research Technology

The Hormel Institute is committed to providing its scientists with the most cutting edge technologies and instruments designed to accelerate discoveries. One of the few in the world to own our own Blue Gene/L Super-computer, The Hormel Institute's ICRT includes a protein crystallography lab, 3D technology, robotics and defraction system, confocal microscope and more.

Donor gifts support our emerging International Center of Research Technology, giving our scientists cancer-fighting tools to help find answers to prevent and treat cancer even faster.

as the leading killer
ne Hormel Institute
— as quickly as
disease. Cancer
ays and The Hormel
throughs.

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could be used to

rch.

oday's RESEARCH,
tomorrow's CURES



Donate. Dedicate. DEFEAT.

Giving a financial gift to cancer research is a noble and honorable act. It shows your commitment to a cancer-free future. Because of our strong benefactor support, 100% of every gift for research is used for cancer research, not for administrative or operating costs.

We ask your support through annual pledges and/or planned giving. Many donors choose to designate their gift through recognition on our beautiful Donor Wall or by thoughtfully adding the name of a loved one lost to cancer to our Cancer Memorial Wall.

Thank you for joining the quest for a cancer-free world. We urge your consistent support of cancer research — your donation is the hope for finding effective control and treatments for cancer today and a world free from cancer tomorrow.

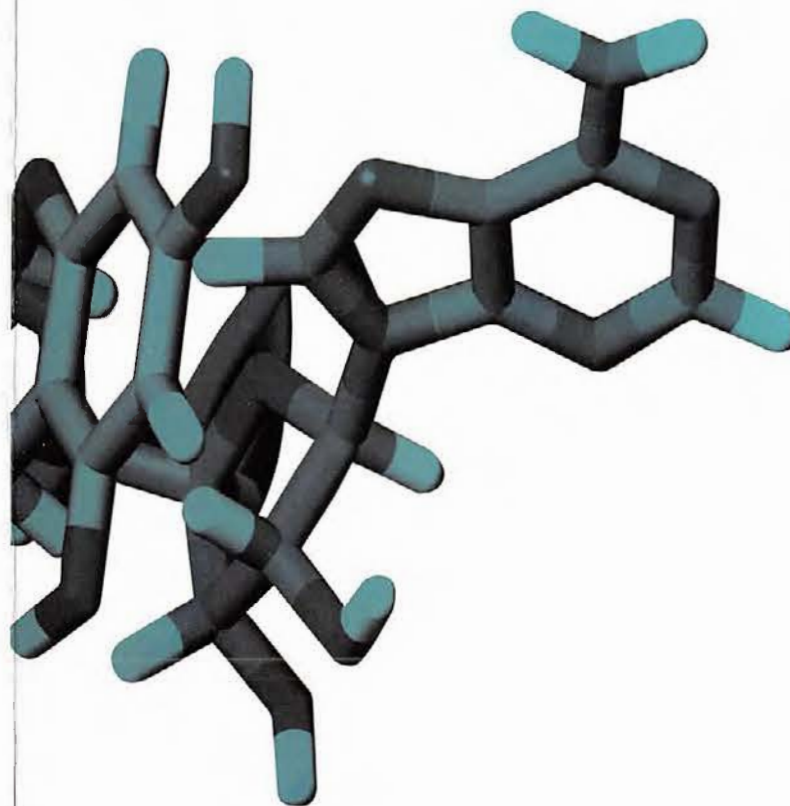


THE HORMEL INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MAYO CLINIC

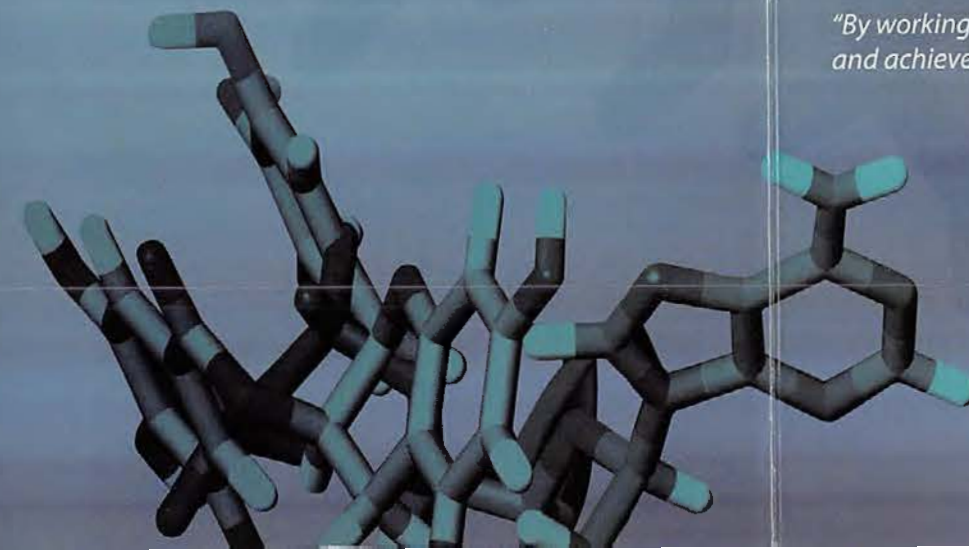
801 16th Avenue N.E. Austin, MN 55912

507.437.9604 • www.hi.umn.edu

A world without cancer?



It will happen.



THE HORMEL

Our vision is sp

Nearly 70 years ago, TH
to help humanity by ir
study. Today, we focus
so, have become a lea
cancer discoveries.

Research of The Horm
position as an advance
Minnesota and partne
led to global recogniti
leader in the preventi

*"By working together, v
and achieve the goal o*



Hormel Historic Home

A National Register Historic Site
Austin, Minnesota

Preserving the past while serving the community
through Music, Education, and Hospitality

Open Monday – Friday for tours



208 Fourth Ave NW, Austin, MN 55912





*Present this pamphlet to receive a free Hormel
Historic Home postcard with paid admission*

The treasured home of George A. Hormel, who founded the Hormel Foods Corporation in 1891, serves as a symbol of hard work, dedication, and dreams fulfilled.

- Self-guided tours available.
- Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- \$5 per adult.
- Children 18 and under are free.
- Special activities available for young children.
- Guided group tours can be arranged for groups over 10 people.
- Customized tours with a snack or lunch for your group are available.

Hormel Historic Home

208 Fourth Avenue NW

Austin, MN 55912

507-433-4243

www.hormelhistorichome.org





THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE

The Heritage Edition
A Gift of Sacred Art



A Gift of Sacred Art

The Saint John's Bible

The Saint John's Bible has been commissioned by Saint John's Abbey and University and is being created by Donald Jackson, Senior Scribe to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Crown Office, along with a collaborative team of scribes and artists.

This is the first illuminated, handwritten Bible of monumental size to be commissioned by a Benedictine monastery in more than 500 years.

All 73 books from the Old and New Testaments using the New Revised Standard Version will be presented in seven volumes of approximately 1,150 pages.

The work of *The Saint John's Bible* is being done in a scriptorium in Wales. When complete, Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, will be the Bible's home.

The Saint John's Bible is being made using traditional materials such as vellum (calfskin), ancient inks, gold and silver leaf and platinum, and is being written with quill pens fashioned from goose, turkey and swan feathers.

The Heritage Edition

The Saint John's Bible Heritage Edition is a timeless gift of sacred art. Its breathtaking beauty offers hope today and will inspire future generations for centuries to come. While the original manuscript will eventually reside at Saint John's University, this fine art version has been created to bring a source of hope to people around the world.

An extension of the original *Saint John's Bible*, the Heritage Edition is the only full-size, limited, signed and numbered fine art edition that will ever be produced. In all, 299 fine art editions will be created and placed in religious, arts, academic, healing and literary institutions around the world.

The first volume released was presented to His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican in April 2008. Upon viewing the pages, Pope Benedict exclaimed: "This is a work of art ... this is a great work of art ... this is a work for eternity."

Bound in soft Italian leather and printed on 100 percent American cotton paper, the Heritage Edition features the exquisite calligraphy, vibrant imagery and stunning gold and silver illuminations inspired by the original. With Donald Jackson as the creative director, the Heritage Edition is a work of art in its own right and each volume includes Jackson's signature and certificate of authenticity. Proceeds from the sales of the fine art editions will help fund the continuing preservation of endangered medieval manuscripts worldwide, a permanent home for *The Saint John's Bible* and scholarly work related to this monumental masterpiece.

For More Information

The Saint John's Bible Heritage Program

320.363.2611

www.saintjohnsbible.org/heritage

Directions Off Of I-90 To Museum

Take exit 178B off of I-90.
Turn onto 6th St. NE towards the Hormel Foods Plant,
Turn right onto 14th Ave. NE and stay to the right onto 15th Ave. NE, which turns into Main St.



SPAM[®] MUSEUM

101 3rd Ave NE Austin, MN 55912
507-437-5100

www.spam.com/museum

**Admission:
FREE**



Museum Hours:

April - October
Monday-Saturday: 10am - 6pm
Sunday: 12pm - 5pm
November- March
Monday: Closed
Tuesday-Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: 12pm - 5pm

SPAM[®] Shop Hours:

April-October
Monday-Saturday: 9am - 6pm
Sunday: 11am - 6pm
November-March:
Monday-Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sunday: 12pm - 5pm

Closed: New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

**SPAM[®]
MUSEUM**

**Please
don't
eat the
exhibits.**



www.spam.com/museum

See what's trending in our pork-filled world, email yourself delicious recipes, and share your SPAM® brand story for a chance to become part of our exhibits.

Can Central



Explore the SPAM® brand across the globe. Travel from Japan to the U.K. to Philippines to South Korea to Latin America to China to Hawaii.

World Market



Learn the 6 simple ingredients that make SPAM® classic, then work the assembly line. Put on a hard hat and frock to fill, bake and label SPAM® brand cans. Then discover your height in SPAM® brand cans.

SPAM® Brand 101



Learn the history of Hormel Foods Corporation from its inception, and stand behind the actual desk of company founder George A. Hormel.



1891 and Beyond

Sorry adults, this is a 950 square foot play area just for kids, complete with a hand-painted mural by Minneapolis artist phenom, Adam Turman.



Kids Can Play

Make Your Visit A SPAMTOWN™ Experience!



Hormel Historic Home



Jay C. Hormel Nature Center



Paramount Theatre



Austin Artworks Center



Historical Society

Discover Austin, MN



Imagine days gone by as you cruise the Eastside Lake on one of the few true paddleboats in the United States. Create memories with family and friends.

This boat is an unforgettable conversation piece. Twenty passengers can share the fun on every cruise and it's a great photo opportunity.

Plan an outing soon with your club, youth or tour group



TRY IT, YOU'LL LIKE IT!
...Then tell your friends.

We are a state licensed boat. The Belle has all the life jackets, bells, whistles and flares, etc. you would expect to see on a much larger boat. Some of the running lights have to be visible for two miles, which is important on Eastside Lake.

Cruise time – about 30 minutes.



**Find out more
online at
AustinMN.com**

Ask how to Charter a cruise.

507-437-2074



AHOY!

Come aboard Austin's
**SPAM[®] Town
Belle
Paddle Wheeler**



Cruises on Eastside Lake

Saturday and Sunday

1 to 5 PM

(Weather Permitting)

June – September

Free will donation gratefully accepted -
\$2 per rider suggested, or \$40 for charter

SPAM® Town Belle

It's all about the boat...

Welcome aboard the SPAM®town Belle, one of the few true paddlewheel boats still running on the waterways of this great country! "True paddlewheel" means that the paddlewheel is the only means of propulsion. The Belle was designed in 1956 in Dacien, CT, and built by Whit-Craft River Boats, Whittaken Marine and Manufacturing Company in Winona, MN that same year, for a Mr. W. Wayne Smith. It was styled as a stern-wheeler, which was popular for craft on large rivers like the Mississippi, though this boat was scaled down from full-size of 90 feet to 36 feet, and weighs about 6 tons.

The boat has had several owners over the years, and finally ended up in bad shape in Iowa, where local Austin businessman Bill Regner found it with all the original blueprints. He fully restored it, and in 1999 donated it to the city of Austin. It was renamed the SPAM®Town Belle and launched June 29, 1999 on Eastside Lake. Its bright yellow and blue colors are a tribute to its famous namesake. It can carry about 20 passengers per cruise, and is in the water for cruises from spring to fall.



The first lake in this area was created in the late 1800's or early 1900's when early settlers built an earthen dam which created a small lake that existed for a few years until it was destroyed by a storm. For many years, the area was nothing more than a big swamp with a little creek, Dobbins Creek, running through it. The current dam was built around 1935 by blocking off Dobbins Creek. The local Izaak Walton League had envisioned a man-made lake of about three quarters of a mile long and half a mile wide with a surface area of about 180. Final results didn't quite make that – East Side Lake has a surface area of about 40 acres and an average depth of 4 to 5 feet. Since the lake was created, it has proven to be a very popular area for boating, fishing, swimming, and picnics. The fill that was removed from this area was moved about a half a mile east to form the land on which Queen of Angels church is built.

SPAM®Town Belle Captain Dick Nordin offers an enthusiastic response when asked about the appeal of a 30-minute cruise around Austin's Eastside Lake. "The experience is more about the rare opportunity to ride on a true paddle wheeler."

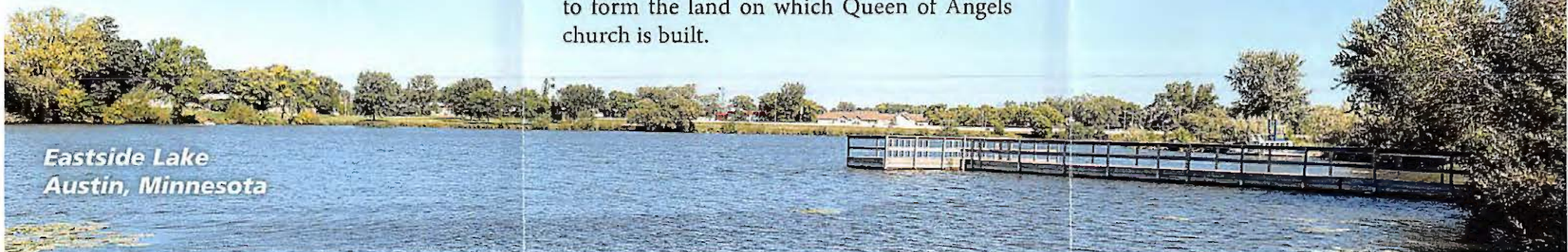
The boat is a very unique attraction and the captains dedicated to the continued running of the Belle and sharing the experience with their guests. The Belle can be chartered for a suggested \$40 per hour – for birthdays, anniversaries, or any occasion. Guests can bring their own refreshments on board.

Suggested fee for riding is \$2 for adults, \$1 for kids. Tips are gratefully accepted!

We are always looking for Captains pilot the Belle – training and some compensation are available. If you are interested, call Walt at 507-437-2074.

Donations are WELCOME

*Eastside Lake
Austin, Minnesota*



History of Mower County

Mower County was officially formed on March 1, 1856, with the signature of Governor Willis A. Gorman. It was named Mower after John E. Mower, a territorial legislator. Until this time, Mower County was part of Wabasha County. Hunter Clark made the first settlement in the western part of the county, where Oakwood Cemetery is currently located in Austin.

The first Board of Commissioners met on April 7, 1856, in Frankford and located the county seat there. Since there was no official county building, all of the records were kept in a tin box. Wherever this tin box was located was where the county seat was established. A plot was designed to steal the box and relocate it to Austin. The plot was a success. In March 1857, the county board obtained the office of A.S. Everest in Austin to be used as the county seat headquarters. An election followed on June 1, where the citizens of the county voted to have Austin established as the permanent county seat. The vote was split between the western residents and the eastern residents. In January 1868, the first courthouse was built.

Since that time, the county has grown tremendously. Austin is still the county seat and largest city, and is the home of the corporate headquarters of the Hormel Corporation.



Map to the Mower County Fairgrounds

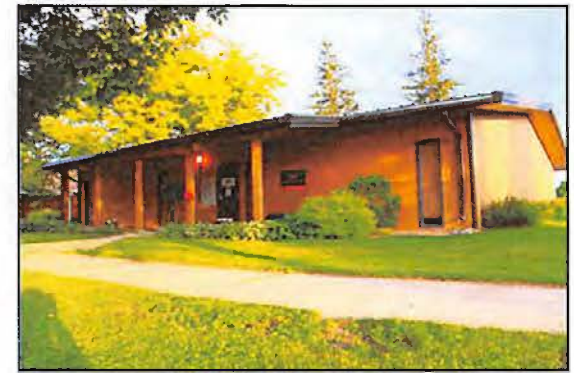


Interested in becoming a member of the historical society? As a member, you receive a subscription to our quarterly newsletter, free tours, reduced rates for programs and research, automatic enrollment in the Time Travelers program, and knowledge that you are personally helping to preserve Mower County History!

Annual Dues

Individual: \$25
 Family: \$35
 Business: \$60
 Bronze: \$100-\$249.99
 Silver: \$250-\$499.99
 Gold: \$500-\$749.99
 Diamond: \$750-\$999.99
 Platinum: \$1,000 or more

Mower County Historical Society



Hours & Days:

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday
 (Nights & Weekends by Appointment)

Museum Tours:

\$5 per Adult
 \$3 per Senior (60 & up)
 Children under 17-years-old - Free
 Group Rates are Available—Call for information

Tours are given Tuesday-Friday, 10am-4pm (May-September only). The last tour leaves the Administration Building at 3:15pm.

Mower County Historical Society

1303 6th Ave SW
 Austin, MN 55912
 (507) 437-6082

E-mail: info@mowercountyhistory.org
 Website: <http://www.mowercountyhistory.org>
 Instagram & Twitter: @mowercohistory





The Headquarters Building, the oldest building in Austin, houses our "Mower County in World War II" exhibit.



The Rahilly Building holds our wonderful collection of horse-drawn buggies, wagons and sleighs.



We have one of the original Hormel buildings where George Hormel started the company.

Historical Archives and Research Library

Are you on the trail of your family history or do you want to learn a little bit more about Mower County? Then check out our Research Library in the Administration Building. Our library is filled with files on families, businesses, events, and places. We also have photo files, city directories, plat maps, newspapers (bound and microfilmed), and many history books. The staff at MCHS welcomes any opportunity to help out! There is a small fee to use the Research Library (\$5 for non-members and \$3 for members).



Have a research project or question but can't do the research yourself? MCHS can do that too! Email us at research@mowercountyhistory.org with your information and we will email you with research fees before getting to work.



Our blacksmith forge is fired up during special events such as the County Fair and Fall Harvest Celebration.



The Historical Society is a perfect place for family outings and school fieldtrips.



Ever go to country school? Bring the kids to our one room school.

A celebration of the arts.



The Austin ArtWorks Festival is a free two-day event held annually each August which celebrates artists, musicians, and authors from all corners of the nation. Originally located in an historic power plant in the heart of the city, the festival was launched in 2012 and quickly became a staple of summer entertainment in the area, receiving rave reviews from local publications and visitors. Designed to offer visitors a broad selection of experiences in the arts—visual, performing, and literary—in one celebratory weekend, the festival houses several galleries which showcase original work in glass, jewelry, metalwork, painting, photography, sculpture, and more. Included on the festival grounds are interactive activities, demonstrations in media such as glassblowing, wheel throwing, and metalwork, and a free outdoor stage featuring musical guests. The ArtWorks Festival also organizes activities off-site, including festivities on Main Street and a concert which takes place on Saturday night.



WHO WE ARE

The Austin Area Commission for the Arts is a local 501(c)3 nonprofit that oversees the Austin ArtWorks Center, Historic Paramount Theatre, and annual ArtWorks Festival. Through these programs, the AACA works to carry out a three-fold mission: to showcase local arts, to provide arts enrichment to children and adults, and to foster a community of artists and art lovers.

BECOME A MEMBER

Membership costs about as much as a coffee run (\$5/month for an individual or \$10/month for a family). Or, if you like to buy in bulk, you can pay your dues by the calendar year (\$60/year for individuals or \$120/year for a family). Either way, you're helping us keep the lights on and the doors open. In return, we keep the good vibes rolling and hook you up with discounts on tickets to Paramount events and classes at the ArtWorks Center, invitations to gallery openings, and more.

To sign up, visit
austinareaarts.org/membership,
call us, or stop by the ArtWorks Center.



AUSTIN AREA
COMMISSION
FOR THE ARTS

OUR
PROGRAMS



A space for vision.



AUSTIN ARTWORKS CENTER

The Austin ArtWorks Center, opened in August 2014, is a space for our creative community to learn, create, display, and perform in all artistic avenues. The county's only public clay studio is housed in the center's lower level, while exhibits on the main and 2nd floors host rotating gallery shows for professional and emerging artists as well as private collectors. The main floor boasts original artwork, jewelry, glasswork, and other handmade goods from local and regional artists. The upper level is also home to classroom and office space, a lounge, and an incomparable view of downtown Austin.



History in the making.



HISTORIC PARAMOUNT THEATRE

One of only four remaining atmospheric theaters in the state of Minnesota, The Historic Paramount Theatre hosts a variety of arts & entertainment—from comedy to symphonies—each year, and provides a space for local performing arts groups to celebrate established as well as emerging talent.

The theatre was built in 1929 and served as a "first run" movie house until 1975, then as a disco bar, teen club, and comedy club from '75 to '87. When it was purchased by the AACA in 1992, it required a staunch fundraising effort and work by innumerable tireless volunteers to return the theatre to its former splendor. Today the colorful interior, arched blue ceiling complete with twinkling stars and drifting clouds, and revitalized pseudo-Baroque exterior facade once again call to mind a small Spanish garden on a clear night.



RENT US!

Our facilities are available for rent. Please contact us at info@austinareaarts.org or call (507) 434-0934 for more information.

AUSTIN ARTWORKS CENTER

There is a tech support rate of \$25/hr and a \$75 set-up/clean-up fee for all rentals.

- Standard Rental: \$60/hr (+ \$2/ticket, if applicable)
- Nonprofit Rental: \$30/hr (+ \$2/ticket, if applicable)
- Member Rental: \$45/hr
- Lounge Rental: \$25/hr during business hours, \$50 outside
(Ideal for book clubs, small meetings, and cozy get-togethers.)

HISTORIC PARAMOUNT THEATRE

Please contact us for rates and availability.



Become a Member



AUSTIN AREA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS

- Provide the AACAA with operating funds vital to the day-to-day existence of the Paramount Theatre.
- Support programming that enlightens and entertains.
- Receive benefits such as free popcorn and discounts on tickets and classes.
- All memberships are annual and may be renewed each Jan.

Membership Registration / Donor Form*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

☐ Individual Membership: \$60 ☐ Family Membership: \$120

*Donations of any size or frequency are also gratefully accepted. We are currently building a fund to be used for handicap-accessible bathrooms and other expansion projects.

Remember a loved one by naming a star or seat after them, place a name on our wall of fame, or donate an amount of your choosing:

☐ Star: \$250 ☐ Seat: \$500 ☐ Wall of Fame: \$1000

Other Donation Amount: _____

In memoriam of (Optional): _____

Payment methods accepted: cash, check, debit or credit card, or sign up online at austinareaarts.org. If you are interested in a different method of giving or in organizing a group donation, please inquire at info@austinareaarts.org or 507.434.0934. Thank you!

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____ CVS: ____

Signature _____

Please drop off at, or mail to:

Austin ArtWorks Center
300 N Main St., Austin, MN 55912

Timeline

— September 14, 1929 —

The theatre opens as a grand first-run movie house.

— April 30, 1975 —

The Paramount becomes the last downtown movie theatre to close its doors.

— 1977-1987 —

The theatre serves in turns as a disco bar, teen club and comedy club.

— 1988 —

The Paramount is named to the National Register of Historic Places.

— 1990 —

The AACAA forms as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

— 1992 —

Purchase of the Paramount Theatre complete.

— 1993 —

Fundraising efforts commence.

— 1996 —

Removal of 1950s marquee to make room for reproduction of the original 1929 marquee.

— 1996 —

Programming begins with a Matchbox Children's Theater production - Bedtime Stories.

— 1999 —

Restorative painting in the theatre's interior, led by artist John Durfey, is completed.

— 2001 —

A generous donation by Virginia Wilder allows construction of a replica of the 1929 marquee.

— 2004 —

The Paramount celebrates its 75th anniversary.

— 2005 —

Replication and installation of original doors.

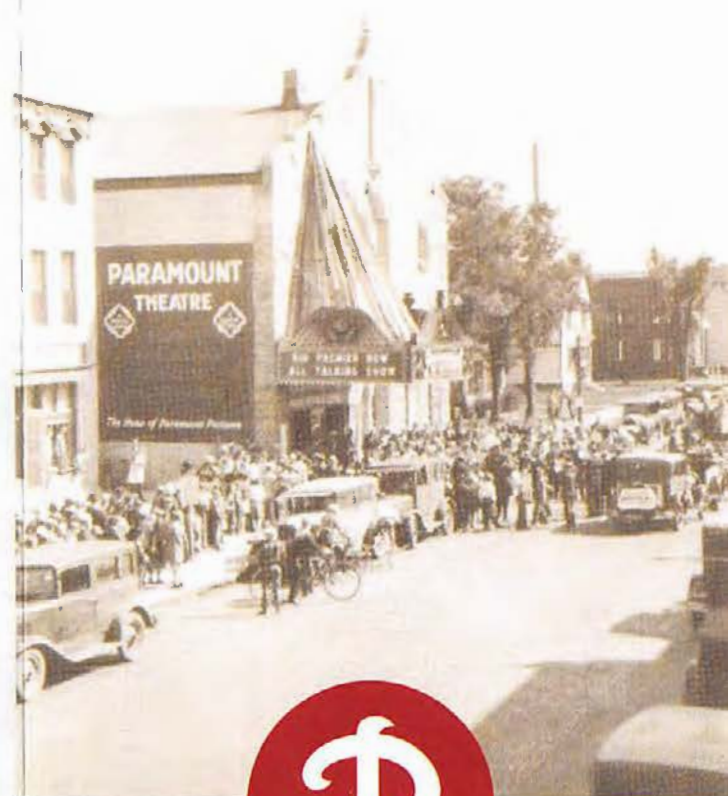
— 2007 —

Replicated spire installed on the exterior of the building.

— 2010 —

Neon lights installed in the main theatre.

THE HEART OF AUSTIN'S ART SINCE 1929.



Historic Paramount Theatre
125 4th Avenue NE | Austin, MN 55912
507-434-0934 | austinareaarts.org

History

The Paramount Theatre was the site of the Park Theatre until August 21st of 1928, when a tornado destroyed the building. Wagner Construction completed the Paramount in 1929, which then served as a "first run" movie house until 1975. While it had closed its doors as a theatre, the Paramount served as a nightclub, comedy club and teen club before closing again in 1987 – this time, it seemed, for good. But shortly after the theatre was named to the National Register of Historic Places, a group of forward-thinking folks formed a local nonprofit – the Austin Area Commission for the Arts – and began fundraising in an effort to restore the now-historic Paramount. That same 501(c)3 organization, which continues to strive for a vibrant community enriched by the arts, owns and operates the Paramount today.

Architecture

The Paramount is the only Spanish Colonial Revival-style commercial building in Mower County, and is host to a number of unique architectural features. The exterior facade of the building was built in a pseudo-Baroque style and includes ornamental features such as a stone spire and ceramic tiles encasing a central window. Below this window is a triple arched stone arcade and a trio of stained glass windows, across the top of which run two bands of decorative tile. The replication of the original 1929 marquee marked a milestone in the restoration and was celebrated with its inaugural lighting after the fireworks on July 4, 2001. The stone spire atop the theatre, which was installed on July 18th of 2007, was the crowning touch of the exterior restoration and marked the project's completion.

Atmosphere

Atmospheric theaters, named so for their ability to transport the viewer to an exotic setting or atmosphere, were popular during the early 1900s. However, very few still stand today – according to the Minnesota Historical Society, there are just four remaining in the state, two of which are being used as originally intended.

The Paramount nearly became one of the many atmospheric theaters that met their demise in the late 20th century. Instead, its interior was restored to the splendor of its original Spanish motif thanks to John Durfey, who led the years-long, painstaking process of restoration. Because of the efforts of Durfey and many others, our audiences can once again enjoy their experience while sitting in a Spanish garden under a starry night sky.



Interpretive Center

Monday-Saturday

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday

1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Closed all City of Austin holidays

Fun and interactive exhibits with live animals, touch tables, puzzles and games, a play area, and more! Learn about the local history, the wildlife, and the story of the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center.

School Programs: Hands-on environmental education programs are offered to preschool through high school students.

Summer Adventure Classes: Course offerings throughout the summer provide students of all ages opportunities to learn about everything from water conservation to the monarch butterfly.

Bus Tours: Fun, interactive educational programs, including seasonal offerings such as maple syruping and apple cidering.



- No pets or bikes are allowed at the Nature Center.
- Hike or cross-country ski on over 10 miles of trails spanning more than 500 acres, and enjoy the beauty of Southern Minnesota!
- Trails open daily 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. year-round.
- Parking lot features an electric car charging station with a small fee.
- Sola Fide Observatory, located nearby, is open two Saturday nights per month.
- **Rentals Available:**
 - Canoes and kayaks
 - Cross country skis and snowshoes
 - Ruby Rupner Auditorium
- **Free Programs:** World-class programs open to the general public at no cost to participants. Check the website to see what's coming up!

Check us out!



Jay C. Hormel Nature Center

City of Austin



1304 21st Street NE
Austin, MN 55912

Phone: 507-437-7519

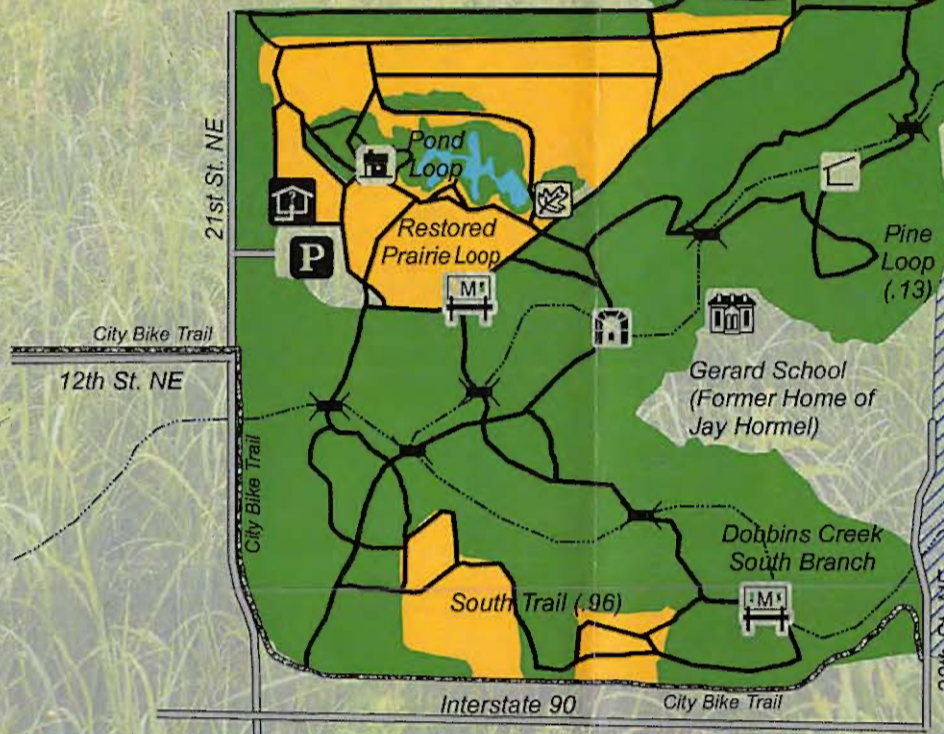
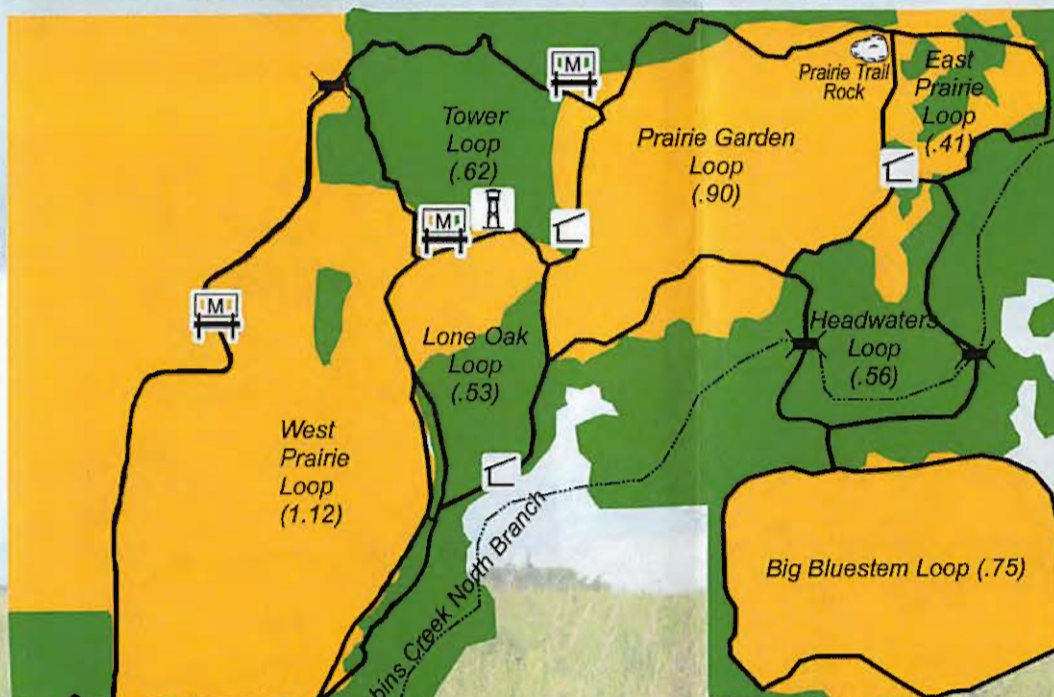
www.hormelnaturecenter.org



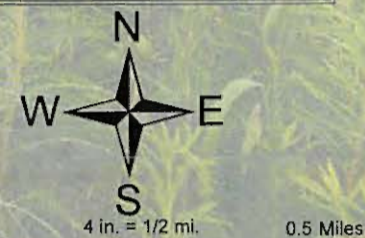
Jay C.
HORMEL
NATURE
CENTER

Trail Map

Jay C. Hormel Nature Center
1304 21st St. NE
Austin, MN 55912
(507) 437-7519
info@hormelnaturecenter.org



	Forest		Log Cabin
	Prairie		Memorial Bench
	Pond		Parking Lot
	Trails		Sugar Shack
	Bridges		Tower (.90)
	Roads		Trail Shelter
	Covered Bridge (.27)		Interpretive Center
	Gerard School		

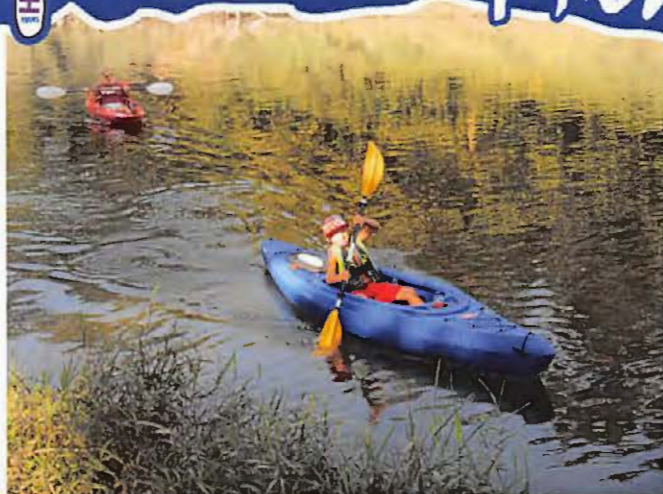


Discover

Austin Minnesota

FREE

VISITORS 2017 GUIDE



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AUSTIN CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU
301 NORTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 101 • AUSTIN, MINNESOTA • 507-437-4563 • WWW.AUSTINMN.COM

WELCOME TO AUSTIN, MINNESOTA



We truly are proud of our town, and want you to find out what makes it special in so many ways. Take your time visiting and enjoying our attractions, relish the varied tasty offerings in our many restaurants, relax and appreciate the great music, theatre and art that abounds here - explore and experience these and all the other pieces that make up our community. Looked at from any perspective, Austin has an astonishing amount to offer. We think you will be surprised and more than satisfied at what you see and do. Be sure to stop by the Discover Austin, Minnesota office at 301 N Main Street, Suite 101 for additional information and assistance.

AUSTIN STATS

Established 1853, incorporated 1856
 County Seat of Mower County
 Area: 11.9 square miles (11.79 square miles land, .11 square miles water)
 Population: 24,563 (2015 est) or 24,718 (2010 census)
 Average temperature: 44.1° F
 Hottest month: July
 Average high temperature: 53.8° F
 Coldest month: January
 Average low temperature: 34.4° F
 Average annual precipitation: 34.52 inches
 Average annual snowfall: 38.7 inches
 Elevation: 1,184 ft (360 m)
 Longitude: -92.9739, Latitude: 43.6542

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SPAM MUSEUM Free Admission

101 3rd Ave. NE. Austin, MN 55912 507.437.5100

JAY C. HORMEL NATURE CENTER

The Jay C. Hormel Nature Center has 518 acres, 10 miles of trails and an Interpretive Center. We also provide grade level environmental education and public nature programs.

Seasonal activities:

- hiking
- snowshoeing
- geocaching
- canoeing
- cross-country skiing
- nature observation
- bird watching
- nature photography

Visit our new Interpretive Center opening in April 2017

Email: info@hormelnaturecenter.org or call 507-437-7519 for more information.

WWW.HORMELNATURECENTER.ORG

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



January 21 • VEX Robotics Tournament



January 30 - February 12
Paint the Town Pink



April 8 • SPAM® Kids Fest



May 5 - 7 • Austi-Con



June 17 - 18
Twister Softball Tournament



June 22 - 26 • SPAM®Town Challenge



June 30 - July 4 • FreedomFest



July 10 - 15 • Clean Water Festival



August 8 - 13 • Mower County Free Fair



August 26 - 27
Austin ArtWorks Festival



August 26 - 27 • Minnesota Cycling
League Mountain Bike Race



September 9 - 13
National Barrow Show



September 23 • Fall Harvest Celebration



November 17 - 18
Hormel Historic Home Holiday Events



December 2
Merry TubaChristmas Concert

For a complete list and most current information, go to WWW.AUSTINMN.COM

Sign up for a weekly email of events by calling 507-437-4563.

For more specific events, refer to MORE TO EXPLORE pages 6-9 and 12-15

REST, RELAX AND REJUVENATE

HOTELS

AmericInn Lodge and Suites

1700 8th St NW, Austin, MN (Exit 178A)

www.americinn.com

507-437-7337

53 rooms including deluxe, double and business king rooms, two-room suites and extended stay suites with kitchenettes. Spacious lobby with fireside conversation area and beautiful indoor recreation room with swimming pool, whirlpool and game area, guest laundry. Free continental breakfast. Close to restaurants, shopping and bike trails.



Days Inn

700 16th Ave NW, Austin, MN (Exit 178A)

www.daysinnatx.com

507-433-8600

Five Sunburst Awards Winner for Quality. 59 rooms, 3 suites. Features expanded cable and individually air conditioned and heated rooms. Free Continental breakfast. High speed internet and 24 hour business center. Located close to Austin Conference Center, shopping, restaurants and bike trails.



EconoLodge

3303 W Oakland Ave, Austin, MN (Exit 175)

www.econolodge.com

507-437-7774

55 units, with interior corridors, free continental breakfast. All rooms with microwave & refrigerator. Non-Smoking rooms, pets allowed with permission. Coin operated guest laundry. Truck parking.



Holiday Inn and Conference Center

1701 4th St NW, Austin, MN (Exit 178A)

www.hiaustin.com

507-433-1000

Quality of Excellence Award Winner. 118 Guest rooms, 11 suites. Complete conference center with nine meeting rooms and seating up to 500 people; indoor pool, whirlpool, kid's pool and full exercise facility. High Speed internet, and 24 hour business center. Torge's Live features food and entertainment. Close to shopping, restaurants and bike trails.



Rodeway Inn and Suites

805 21st St NE, Austin, MN (Exit 180B)

www.rodewayinn.com

507-433-9254

41 spacious rooms with king or queen beds, large family suites, king Whirlpool & kitchenette suites. All rooms with flat screen TV, microwave & refrigerator, selected pet friendly rooms, RV & truck parking. Complimentary breakfast, WiFi internet access, guest laundry and winter plug-ins. Close to bike trails.



Sterling Motel

1507 Oakland Ave W, Austin, MN (Exit 177)

507-433-1858

30 units, king and queen beds. All rooms with microwave and refrigerator. Conveniently located by shopping and restaurants.



Super 8

1401 14th St NW, Austin, MN (Exit 177)

www.Super8.com

507-433-1801

30 rooms. Located just off Interstate 90 close to Riverland Community College. Large-vehicle parking, pet-friendly rooms. All rooms with microwave and refrigerator. Free SuperStart continental breakfast. Close to bike trails.



CAMPING

Austin KOA

84259 County Road 46

Hayward, MN 56043

507-373-5170

www.koa.com

Enjoy the pool, playground, crafts and other activities. Huge spaces available for tents, campers and RV's. Meeting hall that seats up to 90, camping cabins and deluxe cabins, free WIFI, restrooms, showers, dump station, pet walk, race car track.

Brookside Campground

52482 320th St

Bloomington, MN

507-583-2979

www.campatbrookside.com

RV and tent camping sites with 30 and 50 amp pull-through sites. Amenities include fishing in the river, picnic shelters, showers, restrooms, convenience store, hiking trails, swimming pool, playground, game room, volleyball and basketball courts, horseshoe pits, wagon rides and themed weekends, telephones, electric hook-up and free WIFI to most sites, and more. Handicapped accessible. Quiet and safe, pet-friendly

Lake Louise State Park

12385 766th Ave, Le Roy, MN

507-352-5111

www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/lake_louise

20 drive-in and 11 electric sites, along with Horse camp (36 person capacity) and 2 group camps (30 person capacity each), swimming beaches, hike and bike trails, horse trails and more.

Oakwoods Trails Campground

23614 890th Ave, Austin, MN

507-437-6165

www.Oakwoodstrails.com

20 sites- 50 amp electric and water hook up sites, tent sites, RV Sites, showers, bathrooms, and children's play area along with horseshoes, basketball, volleyball, fishing, and 6 miles of trails.

River Bend Campground

13380 State Hwy 105, Austin, MN

507-325-4637

50 Wooded sites along the river. Electricity, restrooms, showers, firewood, dumping station, playground and telephones. Recreational activities.

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park Camp-Resort at Beaver Trails

21943 630th Ave, Austin, MN

507-584-6611

www.Beavertrailsjellystone.com

320 sites, 200 drive-thru shaded and open sites, from primitive tent sites to those with 50-amp; sewer and handicapped accessible. Adult and baby swimming pools, mini-golf, fun cycles, volleyball court, bean bags, horse shoes, paddle boats, train rides, fishing, hayrides, waterslides and jumping pillows. Free WIFI, laundry, snack shack store, fun themed weekends and much more.

GUEST HOUSE



The Elam House - Frank Lloyd Wright Home

309 21st St SW, Austin, MN

507-438-9503

www.theelamhouse.com

Frank Lloyd Wright designed this beautiful structure, one of only 13 FLW buildings in Minnesota, for S. P. "Pearl" Elam in 1951. The guest portion of the Elam House is available for overnight rental. Accommodates up to 3 people, and includes a private entry, living room, kitchenette, and a bedroom with private bath. Overnight guests are also provided with a tour of the entire house as part of their stay. Public tours are not available.

Jessie's House

27030 Hwy 56, Brownsdale, MN

507-396-4705

www.jessiesguesthouse.com

Two bedroom, two bath guest house to escape from the daily grind and recharge. Full gourmet kitchen, backyard patio and outdoor grill.

Jim's Farm House (Opening in 2017)

27241 Hwy 56, Brownsdale, MN

507-396-4705

Two bedroom, one bath farm house. Full kitchen and patio. Perfect for a couples getaway to relax and unwind.

Josie's House

27084 Hwy 56, Brownsdale, MN

507-396-4705

www.josiesguesthouse.com

Three bedroom house with two complete kitchens. Outside deck and patio. Can sleep up to 11 people. Perfect for family gatherings.

Rose Pedaler Log Cabin

16931 Hwy 56, Rose Creek, MN

507-434-0500

www.rosepedaler.com

Enjoy a relaxing stay at this beautifully handcrafted log cabin with three bedrooms, each with its own theme, located along the Shooting Star Recreation Trail and Scenic Byway. Gas fireplace, fully-equipped kitchen, full deck and fire pit.

AMERICAN

Applebee's
www.applebees.com
1404 18th Ave NW
507-433-4240

Barley's Family Restaurant **SPAM**
1207 N. Main Street
507-396-8400

Hy-Vee **SPAM**
www.hy-vee.com
1001 18th Ave NW
507-437-7625

Johnny's Skillet **SPAM**
107 11th Ave NE
507-433-8875

Kenny's Oak Grill **SPAM**
www.kennysoakgrill.com
307 W Oakland Ave
507-437-4135

Perkins **SPAM**
www.perkinsaustin.com
701 17th Ave NW
507-433-6720

Piggy Blues Bar-B-Que **SPAM**
www.piggybluesbbq.com
323 North Main
507-434-8485

Sterling Café **SPAM**
1426 1st Ave SW, Suite 3
507-433-6000

The Old Mill **SPAM**
www.oldmill.net
54446 244th St
507-437-2076

The Tendermaid
217 4th Ave NE
507-437-7907

BAR & GRILL

American Legion Post 91
www.austinp91.com
809 12th St SW
507-437-1151

B&J Bar & Grill **SPAM**
www.bandjbarandgrill.com
114 4th Ave NE
507-433-9830

Bobee Jo's Bar
www.bobeejos.com
435 10th St NE
507-437-7897

Dusty's Bar and Lounge
422 N Main St
507-396-8446

Eagles Aerie 703
107 11th St NE
507-433-8675

Hiawatha Bar
433 10th St NE
507-433-7023

Hoot & Ole's Tavern
105 11th St SE
507-434-7102

The Bakery II Lounge
113 2nd Ave NE
507-438-6978

Torge's Live Sports Pub & Grill **SPAM**
www.torgeslive.com
1701 4th St NW
507-433-1000

Twister Lounge/Echo Lanes
www.echolanesaustin.com
1600 10th Dr SE
507-437-8241

The Windrift Lounge
www.thewindriftlounge.com
2511 11th St NE
507-437-7132

VFW Post 1216 **SPAM**
300 4th Ave NE
507-433-6039

COFFEE SHOP

Caribou Coffee
www.cariboucoffee.com
1001 18th Ave NW
507-433-1063

Coffee House on Main
www.coffeehouseonmain.com
329 N Main St
507-433-1200

The Bistro
1701 4th St NW
507-433-1000

The Green Ranch
507 1st St NW
507-433-1115

ETHNIC

Alicia Bakery
1017 2nd Ave NE
507-437-4860

China Star
www.chinastarbuffetaustin.com
1906 8th St NW
507-355-5888

El Mariachi Mexican
227 N Main St
507-434-5975

El Patron
www.elpatronmexicangrillmn.com
1906 8th St NW, Suite F
507-355-2045

Japan Panda **SPAM**
www.japan-panda.com
100 14th St SW
507-437-0033

Maya Taqueria and Restaurante
501 W Oakland Ave
507-396-8081

Tienda Y Taqueria Guerrero
301 4th Ave NE
507-437-4106

Top Noodle
501 1st Ave NW
507-355-2267

FAST FOOD

Arby's
www.arbys.com
1305 18th Ave NW
507-433-2722

Burger King
www.bk.com
1409 4th St NW
507-433-1505

Culver's **SPAM**
www.culvers.com
1800 8th St NW
507-434-0100

Dairy Queen
www.dairyqueen.com
1200 Oakland Ave W
507-433-1369

Grinders Deli
604 3rd Ave NW
507-433-6808

Hardee's
www.hardees.com
1406 4th St NW
507-396-8470

Jimmy John's
www.jimmyjohns.com
803 18th Ave NW, Suite A
507-396-8300

McDonald's
www.mcdonalds.com
2 locations:
1009 N Oakland Ave
1402 14th St NW

Subway
www.subway.com
3 locations:
1000 18th Ave NW
910 Oakland Ave
1309 4th St NW

Taco John's
www.tacjohns.com
308 W Oakland Ave
507-433-3870

Wendy's
www.wendys.com
1401 18th Ave NW
507-434-4183

PIZZA

Domino's Pizza
www.dominos.com
106 Main St S
507-437-3030

George's Pizza
209 N Main St
507-437-6677

Godfather's Pizza **SPAM**
www.godfathers.com
600 Oakland Ave W
507-437-8269

Papa Murphy's
www.papamurphys.com
402 1st Ave SW #1
507-433-3333

Pizza Hut
www.pizzahut.com
1004 18th Ave NW, Suite E
507-433-0333

Pizza Ranch **SPAM**
www.pizzaranch.com
1300 18th Ave NW
507-396-2677

Steve's Pizza **SPAM**
www.pizzaaustinnm.com
421 N Main St
507-437-3249

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1305 18th Avenue NW, Austin, MN 55912
507-433-2722

MORE TO EXPLORE

AGRICULTURE

Buffy the Cow

700 12th St SW
Long an Austin landmark, this 20 foot long, 15 foot tall fiberglass Guernsey cow stood atop a dairy building owned by the Ankeny family in the south-east part of town since 1965. A "name the cow" contest in 1966 elicited 5000 entries, from which Buffy was selected as the winner. She was "moo-ved" to stand outside the Mower County Fairgrounds in 2012 where she continues to serve as a local icon and photo-opportunity.



Cedar River Horse Logging & Wood Products Farm

51127 130th St, Lyle
507-325-4197
www.cedarriverhorselogging.com
Owner Tim Carroll, known as "The Horse Whisperer," provides an interesting tour of his horse logging and training operation, along with sawmill operation.

Wind Farms

LeRoy
507-437-4563
The Austin area is well known for being a major player in the Wind Industry. There are multiple wind farms in the area with over 1,000 wind turbines total. Visit a farm and learn why wind power is currently the fastest-growing source of electricity production in the world.

ANTIQUES

Olde Tyme Antiques

50422 262nd St
507-437-3343
www.oldetymeantiques.com

Twice is Nice

417 N Main St
507-433-5353

A2Z Treasures

311 4th St SE
507-433-7443



ARCHERY

Cedar River Archery Club

54691 270 St
507-437-6733
Cedar River Archery Club provides a safe, fun and family oriented place where people can come and shoot with others that share their passion. Open to the public for 3D target shoots. For event dates go to <https://www.facebook.com/CedarRiverArcheryClub>

ARTS

ArtWorks Center

300 Main St N
507-434-0934
www.austinarearts.org
Enjoy an art gallery space on the second floor, clay cavern complete with wheels and kiln in the basement, plenty of classroom space for all kinds of art activities with plenty of classes scheduled throughout the year for all ages and skill levels, and a retail section with lots of unique and beautiful items for yourself or for gifts. The ArtWorks Center also hosts book signings, concerts, open jam sessions, and more, and is open to groups looking for meeting space or special craft sessions.

ASTRONOMY

Sola Fide Observatory

180th St, 5 miles south of Austin
507-437-7519
www.hormelnaturecenter.org/sola-fide-observatory
Inside the 12-foot ash dome is a 10-inch refractor telescope with a 5-inch refractor mounted on the top. Visitors can view planets, stars and constellations. Open to the public on selected dates; go to www.hormelnaturecenter.org for more information.

BASEBALL

Austin Blue Sox Baseball Team

901 South Main St (Marcusen Park)
www.austinbluesox.com

Austin Greyhounds Baseball Team

901 South Main St (Marcusen Park)
www.austingreyhoundsbaseball.com

Austin All Star Baseball

641-660-0473
austinallstarsbaseball.com
14 Under AAA/AA Tournament - June 9th-11, 2017 at the Riverland Baseball Fields
10U, 11U, 12U, 13U AA Tournament - June 23rd-25th at the Todd Park North Complex

BIKING

Shooting Star Trail: An asphalt trail laid mostly on top of abandoned railway. Bike-friendly for all ages and abilities. Funding has been secured to expand the trail to connect to the Austin City trails for a total of over 40 miles.
★ Shooting Star Trail Ride June 24, 2017

City Trails:

Austin is getting to be a well known destination for biking enthusiasts. We offer over 13 miles of hard surfaced trails that will connect you to many locations in the city.

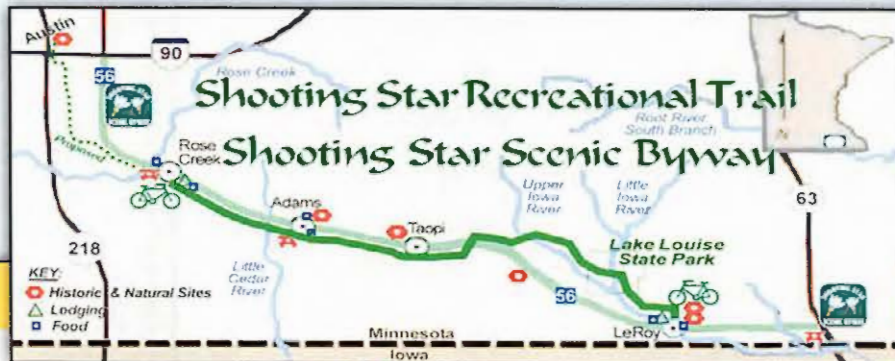
★ Austin has been awarded Honorable Mention for being a Bike Friendly Community.

Red Bike

507-437-4563
Over 60 bikes are stationed throughout Austin for FREE public use to ride, respect and return.

Rydor Bike Museum

219 Main St N
507-433-7571
www.rydor.com
View the history of bicycles displayed on the 16-foot walls inside the shop. Each of the 84 bicycles has its own story, beginning with the 1868 "Boneshaker." View the evolution of bicycles up to the most current styles.



CITY OF AUSTIN TRAIL SYSTEM

Total Miles in Red = 14.4 Miles

LEGEND

- EXISTING TRAIL
- PROPOSED TRAIL
- BIKEWAY
- CITY PARKS
- PARKS

Please be courteous and use hand signals



BASKETBALL

507-433-1881
www.ci.austin.mn.us

Outdoor Basketball courts are located:

Riverside Arena Parking 501 2 Ave NE
Rotary Centennial Park South Main & 8 Ave SE
Sherman Park 14 St & 6 Ave NW
South Grove Park 21 Ave & 4 Drive SW

Austin Youth Basketball

Austinyouthbasketball.org
Girls Tournament - Jan. 28-29
Boys Tournament - Feb. 25-26
Tournaments are played at Ellis, U Holton, and Austin High School

BIRDING

507-433-7527
www.dnr.state.mn.us

The Austin area is now one of the few places where Oak Savanna, an important wildlife habitat, can still be seen.

Mower County has 7 designated birding sites: Jay C. Hormel Nature Center, Lyle Sewage Ponds, Rose Creek Sewage Ponds, Adams Sewage Ponds, Taopi Native Prairie, Lake Louise State Park, LeRoy Sewage Ponds.

Also be sure to check out the 2 scientific and natural areas: Shooting Star Prairie and Wild Indigo Prairie.

BOWLING

Echo Lanes

1600 10th Dr SE
507-437-8241
www.echolanesaustin.com

This 34 wood-lane bowling alley features daily special events, including moonlight, casino and rock & roll bowling.



CANOEING / KAYAKING

Cedar River Canoe and Kayak Rental

309 11th Ave SW
507-438-7755
Get out and enjoy the Cedar River State Water Trail – by canoe, kayak or paddle boat. Great way to view the scenic waterway and area wildlife – cranes, eagles, deer, and more. Routes up to 20 miles. Convenient drop-off and pick-up service, with hourly, overnight and weekend rates. Must be at least 18 years and have a valid Driver's License to rent a watercraft.

Jay C. Hormel Nature Center

1304 21st St NE
507-437-7519
www.hormelnaturecenter.org
The Jay C. Hormel Nature Center rents canoes for use on its pond and on Dobbins Creek to East Side Lake.

If you have your own canoe/kayak you can launch at:

Driesner Park 8th St. SE
Ramsey Dam 3504 11th Pl NE
Marcusen Park 901 South Main St
Austin Mill Pond 600 North Main St
Riverwood Landing Intersection of 180th St and 536th Ave, 5 miles south of Austin (across from the Sola Fide Observatory)

CLIMBING WALL

Austin Municipal Swimming Pool

700 Main St N
507-433-1881
www.ci.austin.mn.us
A 16ft Climbing wall is located within an outdoor Olympic size swimming pool.



GOLF

Austin Country Club

1-90 at 1202 28th St NE
507-437-7631
www.austincountryclub.net
18-holes/driving range

Cedar River Country Club

18 miles Southeast of Austin Hwy 56, Adams
507-582-3595
www.cedarrivercountryclub.com
18-holes/ driving range

Meadow Greens

25239 540th Ave
507-433-4878
www.meadowgreensgc.com
27-holes/driving range

AUSTIN AREA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS

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AUSTIN ARTWORKS CENTER

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Hours:
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Sat 10a-3p

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A free, annual celebration of visual, literary, and performing arts.

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August 26-27, 2017



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austinareaarts.org

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507.433.7571

MORE TO EXPLORE

DISK GOLF

Driesner Park South

8th St SE
507-433-1881
www.ci.austin.mn.us
Rigorous 18 chain-basket course. Course maps are available at Austin Park and Recreation. No fees.

Todd Park

11th St NE
507-433-1881
www.ci.austin.mn.us
27 chain-basket course located throughout the wooded and rolling terrain of the park. Course maps are available at Austin Park and Recreation. No fees.



FOOTBALL

SE MN Warhawks

507-399-1120
www.myspfl.com
Austin's own adult 9-Man full contact amateur football team plays home games at Wescott Field in Austin. Part of the Southern Plains Football League.

HISTORIC

Austin High School

301 3rd St NW
507-460-1800
The oldest part, the north section, was built in 1921. The center section was completed in 1940 and, at the time, was the largest high school in MN. Exterior design is English Gothic with castellated turrets and parapets, towers, pilasters, and narrow windows.



First United Methodist Church

204 1st Ave NW
507-433-8839
This church, built in 1908, is a great example of the Beaux Arts style. This style had a raised first floor with a grand staircase and classical roman details and arches. The sanctuary's stained glass windows were created and hand-painted by the Ford Bro. Glass Studio in Minneapolis. The three large oval windows depict the cities in the life of Jesus - Bethlehem, Galilee, and Golgotha. Enjoy the majesty of the light streaming through these windows any time of day.

Grand Army of the Republic Hall Post #130

207 South Main Street, Grand Meadow
507-437-6082
www.mowercountyhistory.org
Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the GAR Hall is one of only two remaining in Minnesota. Booth Post 130 was organized January 23, 1885, with 16 charter members. The building was constructed in 1891. The Hall houses Civil War memorabilia from the post as well as items from Grand Meadow.

Hormel Historic Home

208 4th Ave NW
507-433-4243
www.hormelhistorichome.org
The stately Hormel Historic Home, built in 1871 by then-mayor John Cook, was the residence of the George A. Hormel family from 1901 to 1927. The home was extensively remodeled and modernized by Hormel in 1902, including the installation of stained glass windows, leaded glass beautifully accenting the decorative woodwork, and the front pillars, imported from Italy. Now restored to early 1900s décor (including Tiffany light fixtures and Greek marble fireplace), the 14-room home is open for guided and self-guided tours. For those looking for a special venue for a meeting, reunion, reception or other event, the Hormel Historic Home manages a banquet facility with a full range of amenities.

Knauer's Meat Market

121 1st Ave NW
507-433-2575
The building was built in 1886 and purchased by the Knauer family around 1906. They sold meat exclusively for many years, but eventually added other grocery items. The smokehouse still stands behind the building but tipped to one side when the trees were chopped down. This unique market continues to serve many loyal customers.

Mower County Historical Society

1303 6th Ave SW
507-437-6082
www.mowercountyhistory.org
The Mower County Historical Society preserves the history of Mower County using 17 buildings and 11 outdoor themed exhibits. Take a tour of an original building from the early days of George A. Hormel & Co., explore a 1004 steam engine locomotive, or search for your ancestors in the Research Library. The Administration Building and Research Library are open year round. The Historical Society is perfect for family outings, student groups, and those who just want to see what it was like "in the good old days."

St. Augustine Catholic Church

407 4th St NW
507-437-4537
The parish was established in 1857 and the cornerstone of the Neo-Gothic building was laid in 1894. The beautiful, distinctive stained glass windows enhance the aerial ceiling arches and the focal point of the tabernacle. The statue of Jesus is made of Carrara marble from Carrara in Tuscany, Italy, in the art deco style.

HOCKEY

Austin Bruins Hockey Team

501 2nd Ave NE, PO Box 451
507-434-4978
www.austinbruins.com
Austin's own Junior League Hockey plays 29 home games at Riverside arena. Robertson Cup finalist in 2014 and 2015. "Our Team, Our Town, Our Time in 2017."

Austin Youth Hockey

507-438-6777
Austin.pucksystems2.com
Austin Packer Classic Tournament dates:
January 13-15, 2017 (Tyler Brady Memorial)
- PeeWee A, B & C
January 20-22, 2017 - Girls 12U/10U B
February 3-5, 2017 - Bantam A & B
** Tournaments are held at Riverside Arena or Packer Arena


HUNTING


Mower County has 14 Wildlife Management Areas

507-359-6200
www.dnr.state.mn.us
Cartney: Deer, Small Game, Pheasants, Waterfowl
Cary Creek: Deer, Small Game, Pheasants
Deer Creek: Deer, Small Game, Pheasants
Lena Larson: Deer, Small Game, Pheasants
Leroy: Small Game, Pheasants
Lyle-Austin: Deer, Small Game, Pheasants
Mentel: Deer, Small Games, Pheasants, Turkey
(Closed to all firearms hunting but is open to archery hunting and trapping)
Ramsey Mill Pond: Deer, Small Game, Pheasants, Waterfowl, Turkey
Red Cedar River: Deer, Small Game, Forest Birds, Pheasants, Waterfowls, Turkey
Rose: Deer, Small Games, Pheasants, Turkey
Rustic Retreat: Pheasants
Schottler: Deer, Small Game, Doves
Schrafel: Deer
(Restrictions: This area is closed to trapping and firearms hunting.)
Schwerin Creek: Deer, Small Game, Pheasants

3 Arrows Hunting Preserve

507-438-3313
78590 125th St
LeRoy, MN 55951
www.huntthreearrows.com





Hormel Historic Home

208 4th Ave N.W., Austin • 507-433-4243

Tour the 1871 home dedicated to preserving the lifestyle of George and Lillian Hormel

A classic setting for all your event needs
Historic Home • Carriage Hall • Peace Garden

Special events scheduled throughout the year, visit
www.hormelhistorichome.org

Mower County Historical Society

Preserving Today for Tomorrow's History





Open Tuesday-Friday, 10am-4pm
Reserach Library All Year
Tours available May 1 - Sept. 30
1303 6th Ave. SW, Austin
507-437-6082
info@mowercountyhistory.org
www.mowercountyhistory.org

2017 Special Events

Mower County Fair Aug. 8-13
Fall Harvest Celebration Sept. 23
Christmas in the County Dec. 8 & 9



ICE SKATING

507-433-1881
www.ci.austin.mn.us

Kaufman (Outdoor) Bring your own Skates
Sherman (Outdoor) Bring your own Skates
Galloway (Outdoor) Bring your own Skates
Riverside Area (Indoor) Rental on specific dates
Packer Area (Indoor) Rental on specific dates



LIBRARY

Austin Public Library

323 4th Ave NE
507-433-2391

www.austinpulibrary.org

A beautiful, full service library, the Austin Public Library is fortunate to be the only public library with a copy of the Heritage Edition of the Saint John's Bible, thanks to a donation from the Hodapp family. This special 7-volume set is on display in its case during regular library hours.

LOCAL FLAVOR

Farmer John's

90537 273rd St
507-437-9180

Minnesota's Hidden Treasure where kids can be kids! Come for the pumpkins, stay for the fun. Free admission, free wagon rides. Pick your own pumpkins, raspberries and more. Free pumpkin for your baby born after 10/15/16. Beautiful fall harvest decorations and great photo opportunities.



SPAM® Museum

101 3rd Ave NE
www.spam.com

The SPAM® Museum – in a brand-new building downtown Austin – tells the amazing story of the Hormel Foods Corporation, the only Minnesota Fortune 500 company outside of the metro area, featuring the famous, versatile, and historic SPAM®. Enjoy audio, video, traditional and interactive displays that are educational and fun for all ages. The on-site SPAM® Gift shop offers all varieties of SPAM® and over 400 SPAM® themed items. FREE admission!



SuperFresh Produce, Bakery and Garden Center
2101 4th St NW
507-437-6554
SuperFresh Garden and Produce is a family-owned business providing a garden center, bakery and gifts galore. Famous for serving the state's largest donuts.

SuperFresh Produce, Bakery and Garden Center

2101 4th St NW
507-437-6554

SuperFresh Garden and Produce is a family-owned business providing a garden center, bakery and gifts galore. Famous for serving the state's largest donuts.

The Nativity House

606 Oakland Pl NE
507-433-2643

A local family displays nearly 900 complete nativity scenes during the holiday season. Visit this one-of-a-kind home and hear from the home owners how they have lovingly collected crèches from 42 countries. Seasonal tours by pre-arrangement through the Austin CVB, 507-437-4563.

MEMORIALS

Mower County Veterans Memorial

Mower County courthouse lawn
201 Main St N

Located in the northwest corner of the Mower County Courthouse lawn, this memorial honors local community members serving in the Armed Forces who gave their lives so others could live in freedom.

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

Driller MMA Cage Fights

1707 4th St NW
507-433-8000

Returning to Austin March 4, 2017; May 27, 2017; and December 16, 2017 at the Holiday Inn and Austin Conference Center.

MUSIC

Austin Artist Series

Knowlton Auditorium, Austin High School
507-433-9387

www.austinartistsseries.org

2017 Performances

February 10: *Stride Piano w/Paul Asaro*

March 11: *Acoustic Eidolon*

April 26: *Wylie and the Wild West*

Austin Community Band

Concerts are June 8, 22, 29 and July 13

The June 29th date the concert will be at the Hormel Historic Home. The June 8, 22nd and July 13th concerts at Bandshell Park. Concerts are at 7pm. For more information call 507-437-4563.

Austin Symphony Orchestra *60th Year

www.austinsymphony.org

Thoughts and dreams of a symphony orchestra in Austin date back to 1946. With the symphony being incorporated in 1957, Austin remains grateful to continue enjoying its own symphony orchestra!

2017 Performances

February 26: *Remembrance (St. Olaf Lutheran Church)*

May 7: *Homecoming (Austin High School)*

Northwestern Singers

Historic Paramount Theatre

www.northwesternsingers.org

Austin Minnesota's premier choral and show choir.

2017 Performance

March 4-5: *Winter Show*

PAINTBALL

Splat!

17722 U.S. 218
507-279-1096

www.splatpaintballfield.net

The paintball field consists of four forts, two buildings, a maze, the tower and a creek with five bridges. Trees are located throughout with many great areas for cover.

SWEET READS

- New and Used Books
- Special Local Authors of Many Genres
- Nostalgic and Fun Candies
- Gift Certificates
- Minnesota / Local Gifts
 - Painted Rocks
 - Minnesota Soaps
 - Jasmín Coasters
 - Artistic Cards
 - Hedgehog Mittens
 - Much More!

407 N. Main St. • Austin
507-396-8660
 Open Monday-Saturday 11-6 p.m.
 Most Sundays 12-4 p.m.

View the **Berenstain Bears Collection!**
 The Largest Known Collection in the World!!!

Watch for 2017 author visits, Bruins story times and club schedules on Facebook (www.facebook.com/sweetreadsbooks) and the website (www.sweetreadsbooks.com)

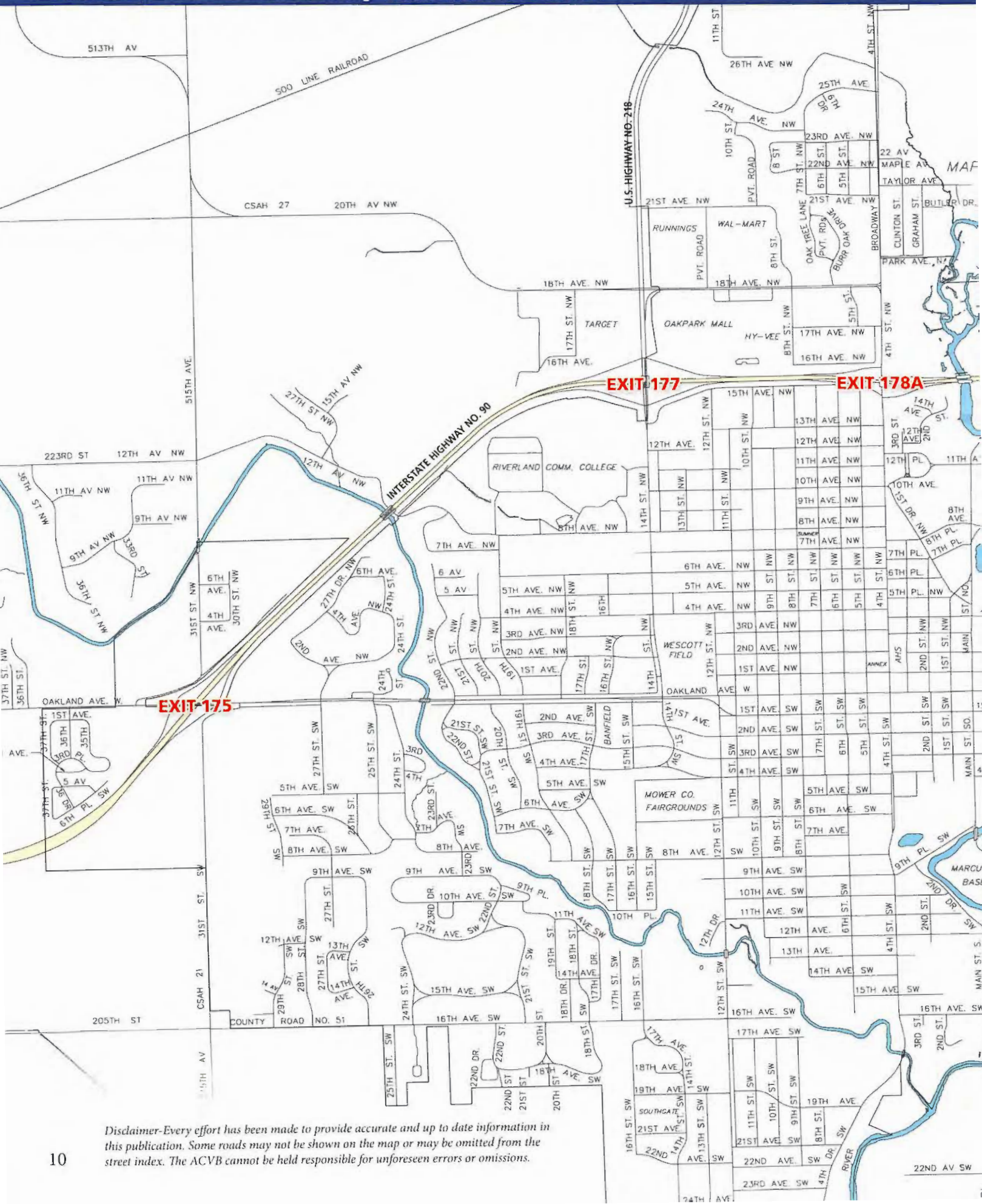
Austin Bruins Hockey

Our Team. Our Town. Our Time.

Riverside Arena
501 2nd St. NE - Austin, MN
(507) 434-4978

Austin Bruins Hockey
 @theaustinbruins
 AustinBruinsNAHL
AustinBruins.com

DISCOVER AUSTIN, MINNESOTA



Disclaimer-Every effort has been made to provide accurate and up to date information in this publication. Some roads may not be shown on the map or may be omitted from the street index. The ACVB cannot be held responsible for unforeseen errors or omissions.

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MORE TO EXPLORE



PADDLE BOAT

SPAM™ Town Belle

East Side Lake
8th & Oakland Place NE
507-433-1881

Imagine days gone by as you cruise East Side Lake on this unique paddleboat. Create memories with family and friends on this boat. Eighteen passengers can share the fun on every cruise, from June to September, weather permitting. Free will donation.



QUILTING

Quilting Retreats

calicohutchquiltshop.com
507.377.1163

Fun-filled days of quilting with friends plus... free demos, massage therapists, etc.

Attend a quilting retreat in Austin

February 10-12, April 7-9, April 10-12, and November 3-8 at the Austin Holiday Inn and Conference Center

RACING

56 Speedway

25707 St Hwy 56, Brownsdale
507-440-3824
www.56speedway.com

Chateau Speedway

54219 266th St, Lansing
507-433-4578
www.chateauraceway.net

Deer Creek Speedway

25262 US 63, Spring Valley
507-346-2342
www.deercreekspeedway.com



ROLLER DERBY

Minnesota Southbound Rollers

www.facebook.com/SouthernMNRollerDerbyGirls
Minnesota Southbound Rollers, the local women's flat-track roller derby league, offers action-packed, family-friendly sporting events while supporting the area with charitable donations and service projects.

ROLLERSKATING

Rohrer Rink

316 Market St SE, Brownsdale, MN 55918
507-567-2133
www.rohlerrink.com

Midwest's largest Roller Rink, 216 feet long x 50 feet wide! Built back in 1960 and remained true to the motif of that age. The floor has a Tempered Masonite surface. Skate or blade to your favorite songs or music videos with our modern sound, light and video system!



SCIENCE

Hormel Institute

801 16th Ave. NE
507-433-8804
www.hi.umn.edu

The Hormel Institute, University of Minnesota was established in 1942 by Jay C. Hormel as a philanthropic gesture to help the health of the world through medical research. Today, The Hormel Institute is a world leader in cancer research prevention through the study of food agents and cell functions. The recent expansion doubles the lab space and includes a state-of-the-art Live Learning Center.

Public Open Houses on June 30, July 1, and July 28-29

PARKS & TRAILS



Austin City Parks

Austin Park and Recreation
507-433-1881
www.ci.austin.mn.us

Austin maintains 28 city parks which provide venues for picnics, hiking, sports, reunions and more.

Bustad	8th Street & 14th Avenue SW
Bandshell Community	Fourth Street & Ninth Place SW
Crane	Eighth Street and 16th Avenue NE
Cullen	Between 10-12th Street & 11th Avenue SW
Decker	19th Street & Sixth Avenue NE
Early Morning Lions	Oakland Place NE
East Side Lake	Eighth Avenue & Oakland Place NE
Galloway	Eighth Street & Second Avenue SW
Honor Guard	Eighth Street NE
Horace Austin	North Main Street
Kaufman	Eighth Street & 11th Avenue SE
Lafayette	South Main Street & Eighth Avenue SE
Lafayette East	South Main Street & Seventh Place SE
Murphy's Creek	Seventh Street & 24th Avenue NW
North Driesner	Eighth Street & Oakland Place SE
Northwest	12th Street & 13th Avenue NW
Orchard Creek	16th Avenue SW
Rotary Centennial	Main Street & Eighth Avenue SE
Sherman	14th Street & Sixth Avenue NW
Shirley Theel Memorial	400 25th St. SW
South Driesner	Oakland Place SE
South Grove	21st Avenue & 4th Drive SW
Sterling	17th Street & Fifth Avenue SW
Sutton	12th Street & Oakland Place SE
Todd	11th Street & 21st Avenue NE
Whittier	Seventh Street & Third Avenue SE
Wildwood	10th Street & 16th Avenue NE
Worlein	606 1st Drive NW

Austin Dog Park

500 block of 2nd St SE
Fenced in, off-leash dog park where canines can exercise in a clean, safe, dog friendly environment. Separate areas for large and small dogs.

Jay C. Hormel Nature Center

1304 21st St. NE
507-437-7519
www.hormelnaturecenter.org

New Interpretive Center in 2017 with many new exhibits. This 518-acre center features hardwoods, pine forest, restored prairie, Dobbins Creek and ponds, a three-story observation tower, ten miles of hiking, cross-country ski and snowshoeing trails, and a one-third mile paved trail that is handicapped-accessible. The Nature Center's interpretive building provides hands-on activities that encourage individuals to test their skills identifying skulls, flowers, animal tracks and birds. Living displays include snakes and salamanders. The Naturalist staff gives programs that include wildflower hikes, cider pressing, maple syruping, monarch tagging, hawk and owl talks, bird banding and more.

Lake Louise State Park

12385 766th Ave, Mower County Rd 14, LeRoy
507-324-5249
www.dnr.state.mn.us

1,168-acre park contains two spring-fed streams forming the headwaters of the Upper Iowa River. Enjoy hiking, horseback riding, snowmobile, cross-country skiing and interpretive trails. Features wildflowers, picnic shelters, recreation vehicle dumping station, horse campground, regular campground, sandy swimming beach and carry-in boat or canoe access. The park is noted as being the oldest recreational site in Minnesota.

Spruce Up Austin Tree Trek

East Side Lake at intersection of 5th Ave and Oakland Place NE
www.spruceupaustin.org/tree-trek
This half-mile Tree Trek was complete in 2014, and features 52 trees and spruce recommended for Minnesota. Each species is identified with a marker that provides additional information.

A2Z TREASURES AND THRIFT STORE

**Bring this ad in and receive
20% off any one non sale
item in our store!**

**311 4th St. SE ~ Austin, MN
507-433-7443**

FUN FACTS

★ The first permanent European settlers came in 1853, attracted by the rich soil and bountiful wildlife; Austin Nichols, for whom the city was named, was in this group. Austin became incorporated in April 1856, two years before Minnesota became a state and five years before the American Civil War. Thus, Austin is one of the oldest cities in the state.

★ General Custer came to Austin, but not while he was alive... In July 1877, an east-bound train stopped in Austin. In one of the baggage cars, in care of the U.S. Express Company, were nine "elegant burial caskets." Those caskets contained the remains of Lt. Col George Armstrong Custer and eight other soldiers of the U.S. 7th Cavalry, who had been killed at the Battle of Little Big Horn a year earlier. The bodies had been exhumed from the battlefield graves and were being returned for permanent burial back east.

★ The most indicted traitor in U.S. history was from Austin, MN and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Dr. Herbert Burgman was indicted on 69 separate counts of treason in 1945, after having produced propaganda broadcast for the Nazis during the Second World War. He died in a federal penitentiary in 1953.

★ John Earl Madden, born April 10, 1936 in Austin, MN is a former American football player in the National Football League, a former Super Bowl-winning head coach with the Oakland Raiders in the American Football Conference of the NFL, and a former color commentator for NFL telecasts. In 2006, he was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in recognition of his coaching career.

★ Jackie Graves (September 12, 1922 – November 15, 2005), alias "The Austin Atom," was a featherweight boxer from Austin, Minnesota. From 1944 to 1956 Graves compiled a career record of 82 wins (48 KOs) and 11 losses with 2 draws. He won the Minnesota State Featherweight Title in only his seventh professional fight. Graves is buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Austin, MN.

★ Richard Ghormley Eberhart (April 5, 1904 – June 9, 2005) was an American poet who published more than a dozen books of poetry and approximately twenty works in total. He won the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry for Selected Poems, 1930–1965 and the 1977 National Book Award for Poetry for Collected Poems, 1930–1976. Eberhart was born in 1904 in Austin, Minnesota. He grew up on an estate of 40 acres called Burr Oaks, since partitioned into hundreds of residential lots. He published a volume of poetry called Burr Oaks in 1947, and many of his poems reflect his youth in rural America.

Olde Tyme Antiques



There is something for everyone!

How do you get there? 4 miles north of Austin on Highway 218 to 262nd Street, then 2.5 miles west. Watch for signs for Old Tyme Antiques.

www.OLDTymeAntiques.com

**50422 262nd Street • Austin
437-3343 or 438-7070**

Call Judy or Dave to make sure we're open!

Mention this ad for 15% Discount!



Hormel Historic Home

208 4th Ave N.W., Austin • 507-433-4243

COUPON

Buy one tour at \$5 get one free.

www.hormelhistorichome.org

701 18th Ave. NW | 507-433-7593 | www.gppaustin.com

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY



Your
**AUSTIN
BRUINS**
apparel headquarters!



- SCREENPRINTING -

- EMBROIDERY -

- ADVERTISING SPECIALTIES -

BRING IN THIS AD TO RECIEVE

**25% OFF
ONE ITEM**

*Excludes Bruins. Not valid with any other offer. Exp. 12/31/17



ALWAYS
FUN TIMES
AT



**HOOT and JUDY too
AND
OLE'S
TAVERN**

**"Ya, You Betcha!!"
Food & On-Off Sale**

**SAVE
\$1.00**

on any basket

ONE COUPON PER PERSON PER DAY
NO PHOTOCOPIES
COUPON EXPIRES 12/31/2017



105 11th Street SE • Austin, MN • 507-434-7102
HOURS SUNDAY-WEDNESDAY 11:30AM-10PM • THURSDAY-SATURDAY 11:30AM-1AM

MORE TO EXPLORE

SERVICE CLUBS

American Legion Post 91.....	507-437-1151
Audubon Society.....	507-433-7527
Austin Jaycees.....	507-440-6147
Austin Shrine Club.....	507-437-7292
Eagles Aerie 703.....	507-433-8777
Izaak Walton League.....	507-437-2065
Kiwanis Club Golden.....	507-433-8902
Kiwanis Club Noon.....	507-567-2219

Kiwanis Club Early Risers.....	507-437-3523
Knights of Columbus.....	507-433-1492
Lion's Club Morning.....	507-434-0080
Lion's Club Noon.....	507-437-4277
Masonic Lodge.....	507-433-2533
Moose Lodge 1180.....	507-437-1234
Rotary Club.....	507-993-7817
Toastmasters.....	507-433-2701
VFW, Post 1216.....	507-433-6039
Zonta International.....	507-433-7325

SCULPTURES

A complete Austin, Minnesota Statues guide is available at the Discover Austin, MN office.

"Once Upon a Time"

323 4th Ave NE, by artist Dennis Smith

"The Protector"

201 1st St NE, by artist Roger Brodin

"George Washington"

Corner of Main St & 2nd Ave NE, by artist John K Daniels

"The Burning Bush"

1700 4th Ave SE, by artist John Rood

"Fallen Soldier"

2nd Street NE and 3rd Avenue NE, by Artist Neil Brodin

"Me Too"

1000 1st Drive NW, by artist Natalie Krol

"Farmer and the Pigs"

1101 N Main St, by artist Mike Capser

"Nature and Family"

Intersection of 1st Ave & 1st Dr NW, by artist Mike Capser

"Hands of Humanity, Hands of Peace"

1st Street NE & 2nd Ave NE, by artist Jeff Anderson

SHOPPING

Exit 177 North

Where you will find a myriad of shopping opportunities including traditional department store, a shopping center and strip malls, a wide variety of local and chain restaurants, multi-screen cinema, specialty shops, grocery stores, auto part store, salons and so much more.

Exit 177 South

Explore one of the original strip malls in Minnesota, about 3 miles from the exit. A truly unique experience with a distinctive blend of "just-what-you're-looking-for" gifts, eateries, shops, hardware store, fast care clinic, pharmacy, and those needed essential items.

Exit 178A

Located about 1/3 mile from the exit you will find the downtown, a historic, charming and picturesque area which includes quaint shops and boutiques offering one-of-a-kind specialty products. Indulge in local flavors at a variety of restaurants. Refresh and rejuvenate at one of our revitalizing salons or spas. Take a relaxing stroll around the Mill Pond and enjoy some coffee or ice cream from one of the local shops.

Exit 179

Convenient shopping for groceries, household items and beyond.

THEATRE

CineMagic 7

1302 18th Ave NW

507-433-9191

www.cinemagictheatres.com

Frank W. Bridges Theatre

1900 8th Ave NW

507-433-0595

www.riverland.edu/theatre

This beautiful, modern theatre is located on the Austin Riverland Community College Campus East Building, and comfortably seats 330 people with prime views from every row. Check out the website for the season schedule and ticketing information.

Performances

February 22 - 26: *The Language Archive*

April 21 - 23, 27 - 30: *Seussical*



Matchbox Children's Theatre

909 W Oakland Ave

507-437-9078

www.matchboxchildrenstheatre.org

Theatre shows designed and performed for children.

Performances at the Paramount Theatre

January 27 - 29: *Cinderella*

April 7 - 9: *Charlotte's Web*



Historic Paramount Theatre

125 4th Ave NE

507-434-0934

www.austinareaarts.org

The Historic Paramount Theatre, one of only a few "Atmospheric Theatres" remaining in Minnesota, originally opened September 14, 1929 and was designed for stage theatre and first run movies.

The Paramount was designed to represent being in the courtyard of a quaint Spanish village with twinkling stars and rolling clouds overhead.

In 1990, the Austin Area Commission for the Arts (AACA) purchased the vacant theatre and restored it to its original 1929 grandeur. Fully functioning with capacity of 622 people.

Performances

February 3: *Tonic Sol Fa*

February 11: 2017 Harris Piano Competition

Summerset Theatre - 50th Year Anniversary

1900 8th Ave NW

507-433-0595

www.summersetaustin.org

Since 1968, Summerset Theatre has presented high-quality plays and musicals on the campus of Riverland Community College. Shows range from classic musicals, to contemporary dramas, to fast paced comedies.

Performances • 50th Year Anniversary

June 14 - 18: *Peter and the Starcatcher*

July 5 - 9: *On Golden Pond*

July 28 - 30, Aug 2 - 5: *Sweeney Todd, The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*



CELEBRATING OUR
50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

PETER AND
THE STARCATCHER
June 14-18

ON GOLDEN POND
July 5-9

SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON
BARBER OF FLEET STREET
July 28 - August 5

Frank W. Bridges Theatre
1900 8th Ave NW, Austin, MN
507-433-0595 | summersettheatre.org

VISITING AUSTIN?

Look to the leading source of news and sports coverage to get caught up on what's going on in Austin.

austindailyherald.com

Austin Daily
Herald

310 2ND STREET NE - AUSTIN, MINNESOTA - 507.433.8851

SKATE PARK

Austin Skate Park

2-840 Hormel Century Parkway

www.ci.austin.mn.us

In-line skaters and skate boarders can enjoy a free outdoor Tier 1 park.

SKIING

Jay C. Hormel Nature Center

1304 21st St NE

507-437-7519

www.hormelnaturecenter.org

Cross Country Ski rentals available to enjoy 10 miles of ski trails. No MN ski pass required.



SNOWMOBILE

Snowmobile Trails

Mower County has approximately 200 miles of state grant-in-aid 12 foot wide snowmobile trails that are groomed regularly. These trails connect with more than 800 miles of trails in Southern Minnesota.

To view a map of area trails visit

<http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/maps/snowmobiling/map4.pdf>

SNOWSHOE

Jay C. Hormel Nature Center

1304 21st St NE

507-437-7519

www.hormelnaturecenter.org

518 acres of woodland and prairies to enjoy.

SPAS

Golden Tress Salon & Day Spa

104 11th Ave NW

507-433-2291

www.goldentress.com

Essential Life Spa

610 1st Ave SW

507-433-8266

Healing Palms Spa

313 Main St N

507-434-4046

www.healingpalmspa.com



SWIMMING

Austin Municipal Swimming Pool

700 Main St N

507-433-1881

www.ci.austin.mn.us

This outdoor, Olympic-size pool features a 104-foot long waterslide with "S" curve, a wading pool, Splash Pad, and climbing wall.

Atlantis Swimming Federation hosts swimming meets at the Austin Municipal Swimming Pool. Minnesota Championship, July 21-23, 2017

YMCA of Austin

704 1st Dr NW

507-433-1804

www.ymca-austin.org

An indoor, 6-lane, 25 yard pool for lap and open swimming.

TRANSPORTATION

AB Taxi

1015 4th Ave NE

507-434-9689

Austin Municipal Airport

710 21st St NE

507-433-1813

Austin Municipal Airport is a public-owned, public-use airport with a mile-long paved runway. Heated hangar protects the aircraft in all weather conditions.

Austin Aeroflight

710 21st St NE

507-433-1813

A full service FBO offering both Jet A and 100LL fuel services, flight training, ground instruction and air rides.

Austin Shuttle Service

702 36th Dr SW

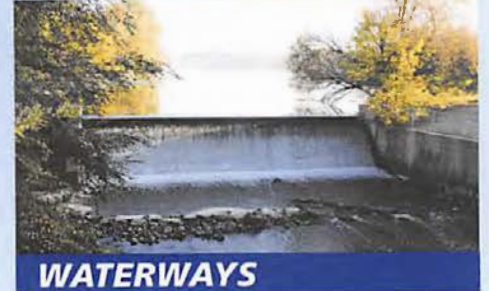
507-279-3240

S.M.A.R.T. (Southern Minnesota Area Rural Transit)

2801 Oakland Ave W

1-855-762-7821

www.smartbusmn.org



WATERWAYS

Cedar River State Water Trail

1408 21st Ave NW

www.dnr.state.mn.us/watertrails/cedarriver/index.html

Part of Minnesota DNR's state water trail program, the Cedar River Trail runs for about 25 miles from the village of Lansing (north of Austin at County Road 2) to the Minnesota-Iowa border, providing opportunities for fishing, canoeists and kayakers.

East Side Lake

8th Ave and Oakland Place NE

Located along Oakland Place East, this lake created by a historic dam features a public boat launch, playground equipment, shelters, picnic area, gazebo and walking path.

Austin Mill Pond

700 Main St N.

A .88 mile bike/walking trail circles the beautiful pond. Interpretive signs along the path explain some of the history this part of Austin played in the growth of the city.

Lake Louise State Park in LeRoy

www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/lake_louise/index.html



WINERY

Four Daughters Vineyard & Winery

78757 State Hwy 16, Spring Valley

507-346-7300

www.fourdaughtersvineyard.com

Enjoy beautiful views, award-winning wines.

Providing Austin with best-in-class
higher education since 1940.



RIVERLAND
Community College

A member of Minnesota State | riverland.edu

Cedar River State Water Trail

— 25 river miles in MN —

Help protect Minnesota's waters by preventing
the spread of aquatic invasive species:

✓ **CLEAN** aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species off watercraft, trailers, and equipment before leaving the water access.

✓ **DRAIN** water from boat, ballast tanks, portable bait container, and motor before leaving a water access – and drain bilge, livewell, and baitwell by removing drain plugs. Keep drain plugs out while transporting boats.

✓ **DISPOSE** of unwanted bait in the trash. It is illegal to release live bait into the water, or to dump worms on the ground.

— FOR MORE, GO TO —
www.cedarriverwd.org



Cedar River south of Austin

HOST YOUR GATHERING IN AUSTIN

Austin has an abundance of awesome attributes that make it a unique place to host your future gatherings.

Ideally located in southern Minnesota at the junction of Interstate 90 and State Highway 218, Austin is easily accessible from almost anywhere. We excel at conventions, conferences, district or regional meetings, training seminars, family reunions, class reunions, military reunions, weddings or any other occasion you might have in mind. Austin has numerous modern facilities that can be set up in a variety of ways.



American Legion

809 12th St SW
507-437-1151
Seating Capacity: 150

Austin Country Club

1202 28th St NE
507-437-7631
Seating Capacity: 475
www.austincountryclub.net

Austin Public Library

323 4th Ave NE
507-433-2391
Seating Capacity: 125
www.austinpubliclibrary.org

Austin Public Schools

Knowlton and Christgau Auditoriums, gymnasiums
301 3rd Street NW
507-460-1800
Seating Capacity: 1400 - 2000
www.austin.k12.mn.us

Eagles Aerie 703

107 11th St NE
507-433-8675
Seating Capacity: 180
www.foe.com

El Caporal

210 4th St NE
507-460-0128
Seating Capacity: 800

Historic Paramount Theatre

125 4th Ave NE
507-434-0934
Seating Capacity: 620
www.paramounttheatre.org

Holiday Inn & Austin Convention Center

1701 4th St NW
507-433-1000
Seating Capacity: 500
www.hiaustin.com

Hormel Historic Home

208 4th Ave NW
507-433-4243
Seating Capacity: 200
www.hormelhistorichome.org

Izaak Walton Cabin, Todd Park

11th St NE
507-433-1881
Seating Capacity: 109
www.ci.austin.mn.us

Jay C. Hormel Nature Center Ruby Rupner Auditorium

1304 21st St NE
507-437-7519
Seating Capacity: 150
www.hormelnaturecenter.org

Minnesota Army National Guard

800 21st St NE
(507) 434-2757
Seating Capacity: 320
www.minnesotanationalguard.org

Mower County Fairgrounds

700 12th St SW
507-433-1868
Seating Capacity: varies
www.mowercountyfair.com

Mower County Historical Society Pioneer Bldg.

1303 6th Ave SW
507-437-6082
Seating Capacity: 100
www.mowercountyhistory.org

Mower County Senior Center

400 3rd Ave NE
507-433-2370
Seating Capacity: 290
www.mcs-inc.org

Pacelli Catholic Schools Auditorium

511 4th Ave NW
507-433-8859
Seating Capacity: 209
www.pacellschools.org

Riverland Community College

1900 8th Ave NW
507-433-0528
Seating capacity up to 150
www.riverland.edu

Salvation Army - Austin

409 1st Ave NE
507-437-4566
Seating Capacity: 140
www.salvationarmynorth.org/community/austin/

The Hormel Institute Live Learning Center

801 16th Ave NE
507-433-8804
Seating Capacity: 250
www.hi.umn.edu

Veteran's Pavilion, Band Shell Community Park

104 9th Pl SW
507-433-1881
Seating Capacity: 250
www.ci.austin.mn.us

VFW Post 1216

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www.austin.k12.mn.us

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• Snowshoeing
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www.marcusenpark.com

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www.meadowgreensgc.com

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507-437-2473

CATHOLIC

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1001 Oakland Ave E
507-433-1888

St. Augustine's
405 4th St NW
507-437-4537

CATHOLIC (CONTINUED)

St. Edward's
2000 Oakland Ave W
507-433-1841

CHRISTIAN

International Word
Fellowship Church
1701 4th St (Inside Holiday Inn)
507-481-6967

Lighthouse of Hope
2909 Oakland Ave W

Living Bible Church
301 4th St SW
507-481-0221

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Austin Church of Christ
103 2nd St SW
507-433-2894

Cedar River Church
of Christ
1006 12th St SW
507-437-4927

EPISCOPAL

Christ Episcopal Church
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Faith Evangelical Free
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507-437-1000

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507-437-2107

Our Savior's – ELCA
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507-437-4516

Red Oak Grove
30456 Mower Freeborn Rd
507-437-3000

St. John's – LCMS
1200 13th Ave NW
507-433-2642

St. Olaf's – ELCA
306 2nd St NW
507-433-8857

St. Paul's Evangelical – CLC
2100 16th St SW
507-433-8191

St. Peter's Evangelical
56937 220th St
507-433-6709

Trinity Evangelical – WELS
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Keys to Life
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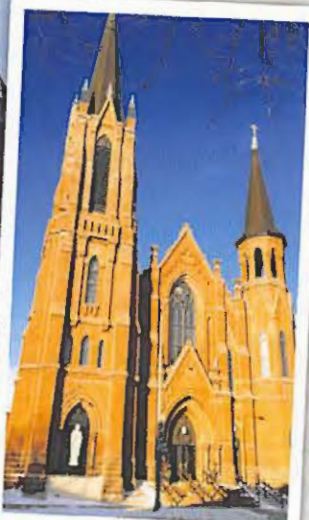
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GROUP TOURS



HORMEL LEGACY TOUR

- ★ **The Hormel Institute:** A world-class cancer research facility.
- ★ **Mower County Historical Society:** Unique artifacts and historical items in 16 buildings and 11 outdoor themed exhibits.
- ★ **Jay C. Hormel Nature Center:** New exhibits in 2017 include Creatures of the Night, Renewable Energy, Climate Change, Forest Ecology, Live Birds of Prey, Soil is Habitat / Prairie Exhibit, Pond Ecology & Macroinvertebrates, Early Childhood Room and the Bison Exhibit.
- ★ **Austin City Tour:** Learn about the quirky sites that might merit further attention and receive a SPAM® cookbook.
- ★ **Hormel Historic Home:** Discover the stately 14-room home of the George A. Hormel family (founder of Hormel Foods Corp).
- ★ **SPAM® Museum:** FREE admission, with exhibits displaying a World Market, Can Central, Supporting Our Troops, 1891 and Beyond, Hormel Foods today, SPAM® Brand 101, the SPAM® Brand Today, and lots more.



HAPPY HOLIDAY TOUR

- ★ **Nativity House:** Enjoy exploring over 950 complete nativity scenes from over 42 countries.
- ★ **Historic Paramount Theatre:** Tour one of only four "Atmospheric Theatres" remaining in Minnesota.
- ★ **Austin ArtWorks Center:** Make it memorable by creating your own holiday ornament.
- ★ **Sterling Shopping Center:** Sterling Shopping Center was one of the original strip malls in Minnesota. A truly unique experience with a distinctive blend of "just-what-you're looking-for" shops, gifts and more.
- ★ **Hormel Home Holiday Tea and Tour:** Experience a holiday tea menu along with holiday entertainment in a 1871 Historic Home stylishly decorated for the holidays.
- ★ **SuperFresh Produce, Bakery and Garden Center:** Design a Holiday swag to take home and display.

Our knowledge of the local area and partnerships with local vendors can easily create a fun and memorable trip for your guests. Let our tourism staff create a custom itinerary for your group for FREE!!!



AGRICULTURE TOUR

- ★ **Al-Corn Clean Fuel Ethanol Plant:** Annually Al-Corn grinds 17.5 million bushels of corn.
- ★ **Four Daughters Vineyard:** The focus is on education for both new tasters and wine connoisseurs alike.
- ★ **Wind Farm Tour:** Learn about multiple wind farms in the area with over 1,500 wind turbines total.
- ★ **Austin City Tour:** Buffy the Cow.
- ★ **Farmer John's:** Tour a working fruit and vegetable farm.
- ★ **Alpacas Of Oak Knoll Farms:** View over 60 alpacas as they graze the lawn.
- ★ **SuperFresh Produce, Bakery and Garden Center:** A family owned business providing a bakery, local goods, gifts galore and a fabulous garden center. Also famous for serving the state's largest donuts.
- ★ **SPAM® Museum:** FREE admission, with exhibits displaying a World Market, Can Central, Supporting Our Troops, 1891 and Beyond, Hormel Foods today, SPAM® Brand 101, the SPAM® Brand Today, and lots more.



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Austin, Minnesota Statues

Northeast Austin

Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave NE:

① **Once Upon A Time** – a charming depiction of a young girl reading to her brother. Commissioned in 1999 in memory of Walter Wienke, library patron and donor, by sculptor Dennis Smith. The statues are mounted on boulders from the local area and surrounded by wild grasses and flowers to recall the prairie surrounding Wienke's home.



Austin Law Enforcement Center, 201 1st St NE (near the entrance):

② **The Protector** – an emotion-filled representation of our law enforcement servants in action. Dedicated in May 2000, artist Roger Brodin.



Bandshell Park, 8th Ave NE:

③ **Come Sit With Us** – dedicated in 2007 to the children of Austin. Crafted and donated by Anderson Memorials; Austin Area Zonta members paid for the granite base and engraving.



Courthouse Square/Government Center, corner of Main St and 2nd Ave NE:

④ **George Washington** – bronze statue dedicated to the children of Austin on September 1937 as a gift from Judge and Mrs. Henry Weber; by artist-sculptor John K. Daniel. Part of the inscription states, "Only Wisdom Can Bring About Universal Peace to All Mankind."



⑤ **Mower County Veterans Memorial**

– dedicated Nov 1992 to honor those who died in service from the Civil War to the present; by artists Jeff Anderson (local) and Tom Hunt. The Mower County Veterans Association added the eagle sculpture, also by Jeff Anderson, in 2011. Over 1600 pavers have been placed around the sculpture, with flags flying over the memorial to honor and represent all 6 branches of service, as well as a POW/MIA flag.



Justice Center, 1st St NE and 2nd Ave NE:

⑥ **Hands of Humanity, Hands of Peace** – commissioned by the Austin Zonta Club in celebration of their 50 plus years of service. Designed and crafted by Austin's Jeff Anderson, Anderson Memorials. The dove was created and cast in collaboration with Jeff Barber, Hader, MN. The hands represent service and depict various ideals of the Zonta members – communication, education, forgiveness, compassion, world friendship, equality, and justice. The dove is the universal symbol of peace.



SPAM* Museum, 101 3rd Ave NE:

⑦ **Farmer and Pigs** – by artist Mike Capser, a life-sized statue of a farmer driving his pigs to market. This 1000 pound sculpture was created for the SPAM* Museum in 2001, to represent "not only Hormel Foods Corp's roots, but also an artist's appreciation for the family farm" (Austin Post Bulletin, August 10, 2001).



The Hormel Institute, 801 16th Ave NE:

⑧ **Ray of Hope** – designed by Steve Carpenter in Minneapolis, donated by Gary and Pat Ray. The colorful sculpture is a representation of the results of research into the prevention and treatment of cancer by natural compounds.



VFW Post 1216, 2nd St NE and 3rd Ave NE:

⑨ **Fallen Soldier** – by artist Neil Brodin. Presented to the City of Austin as the culmination of a Boy Scout Eagle project by a 13 year-old, this somber memorial recognizes the sacrifices of our military members. Dedicated in November 2014.



Southeast Austin

LaFayette Park East, S Main St and 7th Pl SE:

⑩ **Kids Playing** – part of a project between Spruce Up Austin and the City of Austin as a result of the Lydia Lien bequest to Austin Park and Recreation for city beautification and art projects. The sculpture is by Anderson Memorials, which generously covered much of the construction and installation costs, and the landscaping is maintained by the Windom 4-H Club.



Ellis Middle School, 1700 4th Ave SE (inside):

⑪ **The Burning Bush** – created by artist John Rood in 1958 to honor the family who sold the school's land to Austin Public Schools. The sculpture symbolizes education as the flame never extinguished. The statue was restored, relocated inside Ellis, and rededicated in 2012.



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Southwest Austin

Mower County Fairgrounds,
700 12th St SW:

12 Buffy the Cow – a 20 foot long, 15 foot tall fiberglass Guernsey cow which stood as a landmark over a family-owned business since 1965 before being moved to its current location in 2011. A “name the cow” contest in 1966 elicited over 5000 entries, from which Buffy was selected.



Mower County
Historical Society,
1303 6th Ave SW:

13 M4 Sherman Tank – this 32-ton WWII veteran came from Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, IL in June/July 1958 through the efforts of Congressman Ed Thyne, as a centennial monument to war veterans. The move was funded in part by a “tank club” for 25 cents for children and 50 cents for adults.



14 Vermont Granite Fountain – once an early landmark that stood at the head of Main Street in Austin to quench the thirst of horses, birds, and dogs.

The fountain came to Austin as part of a bequest from a Vermont man who had these fountains erected in cities of a particular size; although not meeting the requirements at the time, the trustees made an exception for Austin and the fountain was erected in 1900. The VFW later had it moved to Horace Austin State Park, and now it is at the Mower County Historical Society.



15 Red Cedar Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution Memorial Stone – bronze tablet listing the 64 Mower County soldiers who lost their lives in WWI, originally erected in 1922. Moved to the Mower County Historical Society grounds and rededicated in October 2015, after having been located at Todd Park, Courthouse



Square, near the Municipal Swimming Pool, and then near the flagpole at the pool.

Northwest Austin

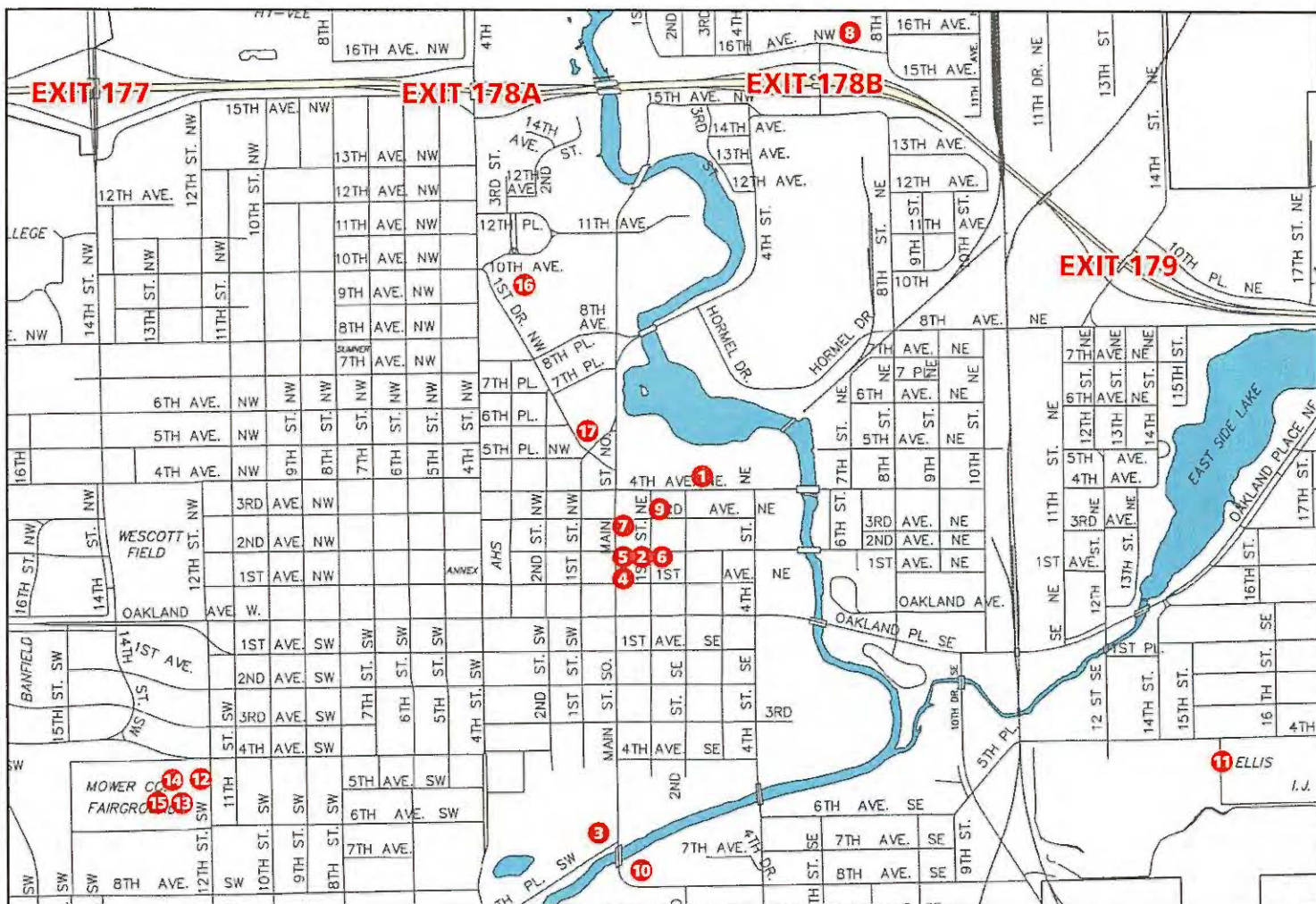
Mayo Clinic Health
System – Austin,
1000 1st Dr NW:

16 Me Too – by artist Natalie Krol, a touching sculpture reminding the viewer of the importance of family and togetherness.



Worlein Park, 1st Ave and 1st Dr NW:

17 Nature and Family – a delightful representation of a young family—dog included—enjoying a day out among nature. Laid out over several landscaped levels. Property and statues were donated to the city by the Worlein family, and it was dedicated officially on July 2, 1999. The artist is Michael Capser.



Jay C. Hormel

Nature Center News

Spring & Summer 2017

Volume 36, Issue 1



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Director's Desk

Luke Reese, Jay C. Hormel Nature Center Director/Naturalist

As an Austin kid, my family and I frequented the Hormel Nature Center's forests and prairies. We might hike to the tower, identify trees, or ski the trails, but we *never* missed a chance to say "Hello" to the Old Oak Tree. The tree was a large, gnarled, and grandfatherly presence at the Nature Center. It was a sad day when that tree was struck by lightning and came down. The Nature Center seemed forever changed.

As a kid, I saw and loved nature for its enduring qualities. My thinking changed after taking forest ecology in college. I learned that forests, as well as the rest of the natural world, are dynamic and constantly changing, which is a good thing. I began to notice the young trees being recruited into the canopy instead of just looking for big trees. Now, I love nature for its dynamism *and* its constancy.

The Hormel Nature Center has recently experienced a lot of change of which I am excited to be a part. Our new Interpretive Center is opening in April and the old one will come down shortly after. We are beginning to reimagine the space where the old building stood. We are restoring another 50 acres of prairie while working to remove buckthorn. We are bringing honey bees back to the Nature Center.

Through this change, we remain committed to providing youth an environmental education that will prepare them to be stewards of the Earth. Families will continue to find the Nature Center a welcoming place to recreate. We continue to manage this land so that this community may easily find nature.

Please join us on Earth Day, April 22, at 1:00 p.m. to celebrate the new Interpretive Center that continues Jay C. Hormel's legacy on this land with a ribbon-cutting and dedication with self-guided tours open to the public.

Sincerely,

J. Luke Reese



Who is that New Intern?

Savanna Dahl, Naturalist Intern

Born and raised on a dirt road in central Wisconsin, I have been immersed in the outdoors since day one. During high school, I took every opportunity to get outside and learn something new, whether that meant stumbling through the dark helping graduate students with radio telemetry or wearing a giant greater prairie-chicken costume for grassland outreach programs. This led me to Lawrence University, graduating in 2015 with a Bachelor

of Arts in biology and a Bachelor of Music in instrumental music performance. During my university years and since, aquatic invasive species (AIS) became my passion. What started as two five-month terms of service with AmeriCorps doing AIS education led to AIS research for Lawrence University, a senior thesis on Eurasian Watermilfoil, and then four months in Michigan's Upper Peninsula with the U.S. Forest Service conducting invasive species management on national forest lands and lakes. All of these adventures have been incredible, but in order to make a bigger difference, I knew I was going to have to focus more closely on environmental education. I began to gain this experience by spending nine months at the International Crane Foundation teaching the public and school groups about the world's crane species. I am, now, so excited that I get to spend 2017 here at the Hormel Nature Center!

I am looking forward to all that this year brings: meeting new people and animals, educating all ages, seeing the beginning of a new era in the new Interpretive Center, and creating curriculum that will get children excited about being outside and making a difference. Aside from the professional goals I have for myself this year, I am thrilled to be able to explore the community by kayaking, hiking, and biking—and using that inspiration in my music composition and performance and conservation activism-based art.

I would like to thank the Friends of the Hormel Nature Center for supporting my position and Luke Reese and Maria Anderson for choosing me for this amazing opportunity. Thank you!

—Savanna

Friends of the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center's Mission Statement:

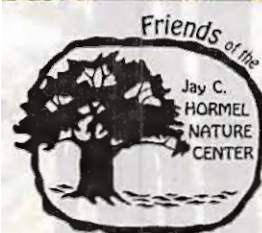
To enhance and encourage environmental education, scientific opportunities, and the enjoyment of nature at the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center.

From the Front Desk

The best things in life come out of change! We are headed into an exciting new chapter in the history of the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center. Here are some of the changes happening at the Nature Center:

- Our new building hours are **9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday** (we are no longer closed over the lunch hour) and **Sunday from 1:00-5:00 p.m.** when volunteers are available to staff the new center.
- The snakes and salamanders will be taken out by staff for holding and touching only at **10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.**
- Two new red-tailed hawks have joined our staff: male, **Sha**, which means *red* in the Lakota language, and female, **Wiyaka**, which means *feather*. Learn about their journey from the Indiana Raptor Center to the Hormel Nature Center on August 3 during the 10:00 a.m. Senior Special program and the 1:00 p.m. Nature Play program. You can see Sha, Wiyaka, and Guka (our barred owl) inside in our new raptor exhibit and outside on the southwest corner of our new building.
- We will have painted turtles on display in the new exhibit space alongside our current fox snakes and tiger salamanders.
- We have a new in-person registration system for summer classes that will be implemented on April 24 at 9:00 am. This will be far more efficient, with less wait time than in the past. (We can still only except cash or check.)
- We have been blessed with many summer scholarship donations this year. Scholarship essays must be turned in at the time you register for the class to receive the discount. See page 6 for more information.
- The number of program registrants will determine in which building the program will be held (please look for signs the day of to determine if the program is in the new classrooms or in the Ruby Rupner auditorium).

Please remember you are never too young or too old to change the world for the better! —Julie Champlin



President's Letter

February 27, 2017

Peter Mattson, President of the Friends of the Hormel Nature Center

We had our nice annual meeting on the beautiful Saturday afternoon of February 18. In addition to getting our business taken care of, we were able to enjoy a chili lunch with entertainment and get a look at the almost-finished new Interpretive Center. You will like it.

It was the last business meeting for board members Ron Walth and Chris Anderson. Ron was treasurer for seven years and improved our financial and budgeting procedures during that time. Chris was president for three years and has volunteered for all kinds of work, such as loading the new member/volunteer software and recapturing Guka the barred owl with the aid of a super soaker squirt gun. Thanks to Ron and Chris.

We elected two new board members. Rhonda Alberts teaches Spanish at the high school (Luke Reese was her student and still speaks Spanish, although I can't say I've heard him speak any). Lee Bjorndal is an attorney with a long-time interest in the Nature Center.

As I write this, the contractors are arriving to start our ecological restoration project on the north end. Last year we applied for a Conservation Partners Legacy grant through the DNR, and in November we learned that we got it. (The money comes from the state sales tax.) A state government group called the Lessard Sams Commission selects the projects, and the DNR administers the grants. The total for the three-year project is \$162,000. Friends will pay for the work, and the state will reimburse 90% of the cost. It's a great way to leverage the funds you've given us for restoration and land management.

We will plant 50 acres of native prairie. Friends bought this land and turned it over to the city some years ago. It has been rented out as cropland, and that rental period has now ended. We'll remove buckthorn, honeysuckle, and other invasives from

about 20 wooded acres north and east of the tower and along the north edge of the big bluestem loop. We'll start work to convert the former home site in the northwest to a more natural savannah environment. The project includes three years of follow-up and maintenance. Longer term, we'd like to continue this approach and each year take more of the land back to its pre-buckthorn state.

With all the big things happening at the Nature Center this spring, I'm sure you're wondering how you can be a part of it. Well, it's easy. That new Interpretive Center will be busy, and the staff will be happy to have help. Think of how much fun the kids will have in there. Call the office at (507)437-7519. Tell them you'd like to volunteer. —Pete



Shredded Buckthorn Stems

Spring Special Events

Please RSVP by phone (507-437-7519), email (info@hormelnaturecenter.org), or in person at the Nature Center.

Stan Tekiela: "Bird Nests: Amazingly Ingenious and Intricate"

Tuesday, April 18; 7:00 p.m.

From holes drilled into trees to intricately woven cups, birds build magnificent homes worthy of our admiration. This talk is full of fun details told with Stan's great sense of humor. RSVP by Monday, April 17.

Bird Nests



Earth Day Celebration: Dedication of the New Interpretive Center

Saturday, April 22; 1:00 p.m.

Come and watch the ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony before going on a self-guided tour of the new building! Building closed prior to 1:00 p.m.

Spring Bird Watching

Thursday evenings, May 4, 11, & 18; 6:30-8:00 p.m. • Tuesday mornings, May 9 & 16; 6:30-8:00 a.m.

Meet in the Nature Center parking lot on a Thursday evening or Tuesday morning and join fellow birders for a hike on the Nature Center trails. Binoculars will be provided upon request. *Cosponsored with Austin Audubon.*



Summer Senior Specials

Patrons age 55 and older are invited to join us for FREE coffee or tea and a cookie, a nature program, and an optional opportunity to take a 45-60 minute guided tour of the Nature Center trails on one of our two access vehicles.

Preregistration is **REQUIRED** for all of the programs, with a separate access vehicle signup. Call 507-437-7519 or email info@hormelnaturecenter.org to reserve your seats for the programs and/or trail tours.

Thursday, June 15; 10:00 a.m.: Photographer **John Duren** will take you through his winter travels at Yellowstone National Park and explain the story behind the photographs.

Thursday, June 22; 10:00 a.m.: Discover the joys of nature with naturalist and entertainer, **David Stokes**. Audiences of all ages will enjoy David's amazing energy, live critters, and songs & stories about the natural world around us. He's back by popular demand!

Thursday, July 13; 10:00 a.m.: As part of the Nature Center's annual Water Festival, **Bill Thompson** will explain water quality using a hands-on stream model activity.

Thursday, July 27; 10:00 a.m.: Come learn about some fascinating critters from the **Minnesota Zoomobile**.

Thursday, August 3; 10:00 a.m.: We will introduce you to the Nature Center's two newest staff members—Red-tailed hawks, **Sha** and **Wiyaka**.

Thursday, August 24; 10:00 a.m.: Come and meet the U of M Raptor Center's winged ambassador birds which will give you a close-up educational experience you'll never forget.



Trail Access Tours

We want everyone to be able to enjoy our beautiful trails! Trail access tours are designed for patrons who need some assistance getting out on the trails. In addition to the themed tours, lasting about 45 to 60 minutes, following each scheduled Senior Special program, private tours on our trail access vehicles can be scheduled with advance notice (a minimum of four days), seven days a week, spring through fall (based on trail conditions and the availability of volunteer drivers). **Please call 507-437-7519 for more information or to schedule a tour.** This is a free service funded and provided by the Friends of the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center. *The Interpretive Center also has two wheelchairs for use on the trails at no charge.*

Are you interested in joining our team of volunteer trail drivers? We provide training for the vehicles and tours!

Water Festival Week—July 10-15

Enjoy activities and guest presenters throughout the week and have fun learning about—and playing in—water!

Monday, July 10 through Wednesday, July 12: Water, Water Everywhere! class (ages 8-9)—*details on page 7*

Monday, July 10; 7:00 p.m.: Steve Lawler, Mower SWCD—*Farmers: Cover Crop Champions*

Thursday, July 13; 10:00 a.m.: Bill Thompson—Model Stream Senior Special

Thursday, July 13; 1:00 p.m.: Bill Thompson—Model Stream Nature Play Program

Clean Water ~

Thursday, July 13; 1:00-4:00 p.m.: Water-themed Nature Play—kayaking, pond scooping, water quality testing, water survival game, crayfish hunting

Friday, July 14; 1:00 p.m.: Take a tour through the Austin Sewage Treatment Plant to see where your waste water goes. *Sign up at the Nature Center.*

Saturday, July 15: Clean Water Service Day—river cleanup, water quality testing, and storm drain labeling. Earn a free kayak or canoe rental for your participation! Contact the Nature Center for details on how to get involved (507-437-7519, info@hormelnaturecenter.org).

We all
live
downstream.



Summer & Fall Special Events

Please RSVP by phone (507-437-7519), email (info@hormelnaturecenter.org), or in person at the Nature Center.

All About Bees—Friends Members Only

Thursday, August 17; 7:00 p.m.

Come learn about the Nature Center's new resident bees and the hive-to-bottle program from keeper Paul Hanson. RSVP by August 16. You must be a 2017 Friends Member to register for this FREE event. If you aren't a member, now is the time to join!

Nature Art Show

Saturday, August 19; 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Stop in to see nature inspired artwork by artists of all ages in the community. Each room of the Interpretive Center will have a different theme. Interested in submitting a piece? Visit the website to learn more!

Natural Community Talent Show

Saturday, August 19; 7:00 p.m.

Local acts will get the chance to share their talent in a one-night-only show outside at the Nature Center. Interested in being one of those lucky few acts? Visit the website to learn more. Limited to the first 12 replies!

Laura Merten—Quality Homes for Wildlife

Monday, September 11; 7:00 p.m.

Every creature needs a place to live. Join us as Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist Laura Merten talks about the relationship between quality habitat and its importance to wildlife populations!

Fall Bus Trip—Friends Members Only

Saturday, September 16; 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Take a trip to the Minnesota Zoo with other Friends of the Hormel Nature Center Members and tour leader Savanna Dahl. Space is limited to 50 people. Friends Members will receive a direct mailing closer to the date.

Summer Nature Play Afternoons

Six *select* Thursdays from 1:00-4:00 p.m., starting June 15.

Get outside and discover nature with your child! Enjoy FREE canoe or kayak rentals, pond scooping for aquatic critters, archery, netting dragonflies & butterflies, crayfish hunting, survival games, and/or self-guided nature trail activities. Canoe and kayak availability is first-come, first-served, for an adult (18 & over) and child (adults must accompany children) with a signed liability waiver. Please call 507-437-7519 or email info@hormelnaturecenter.org for more information and a detailed schedule of activities, or visit the website: www.hormelnaturecenter.org.



FREE FAMILY Nature Programs during Nature Play Afternoons—Please RVSP no later than 24 hours before

Thursday, June 15; 1:00 p.m.: Photographer **John Duren** will take you through his winter travels at Yellowstone National Park and explain the story behind the photographs.

Thursday, June 22; 1:00 p.m.: Discover the joys of nature with naturalist and entertainer, **David Stokes**. Audiences of all ages will enjoy David's amazing energy, live critters, and songs & stories about the natural world around us. He's back by popular demand!

Thursday, July 13; 1:00 p.m.: As part of the Nature Center's Water Festival, **Bill Thompson** will explain water quality using a hands-on stream model activity.

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Thursday, August 3; 1:00 p.m.: We will introduce you to our two newest staff members—**Red-tailed hawks**, Sha and Wiyaka.

Thursday, August 24; 1:00 p.m.: Come and meet the **U of M Raptor Center's** winged ambassador birds which will give you a close-up educational experience you'll never forget.

Summer Adventure Scholarships

Full scholarships are available for the two-day Nature Photography classes, the Youth River Canoe Trip, and Monarch Tagging classes. Half scholarships are available for the Water, Water Everywhere! class, Radical Raptors, Survival Week, and the Exploring the Blufflands/Root River Canoe Trip. To receive a scholarship, students must write three to five complete sentences about why they want to attend a specific summer adventure class, and thank the donors who provide funds for the scholarships.

Please submit your request and paragraph at the Interpretive Center **at time of registration**. Include name, address, phone number, and age. Scholarships will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis (**one scholarship per child**). If you have any questions, please call 507-437-7519 or email info@hormelnaturecenter.org.



Scholarship Donors

Izaak Walton League Chapter 10

Austin Audubon

Friends of the Nature Center

Mable Hjelman

and other individual donors

In Honor of George Hartson

Memorials from the Family & Friends of:

Betty Oelkers

Donald Cerny

Dorothy Knorr

Maureen Momsen

Hannah Lees

Harriet DeBoer

Gene Sammon

Beverly Smith

2017 Youth Photography Contest

Sponsored by Friends of the Hormel Nature Center and Walgreens of Austin

The 2017 Jay C. Hormel Nature Center Nature Photography Contest is open to any participant who was 14 years of age or younger when they took one of the 2017 Nature Photography classes.

To Enter: Upon completion of any of the 2017 Nature Photography classes, students may choose **ONE** image to enter into the contest. *Only images taken during the 2017 classes are eligible.*

Judging: Judging will take place at the Nature Center's 2017 Thanksgiving Feast in November, where the photo entries will be displayed in a gallery. All patrons in attendance at the Thanksgiving Feast are eligible to vote. We will offer first, second, and third place prizes. For more information, contact the JCHNC staff.

Deadline: The deadline for submission is August 4, 2017.

Summer Adventure Classes for Youth & Families

Registration for all summer programs begins at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, April 24, 2017

Parents: if you are a 2017 member of the Friends of the Hormel Nature Center, you get \$5.00 off each summer class!

6 months-2 years (with adult)

Nature's Color Walk with Billie Jo Wicks \$8.00 (\$3.00 for Friends Members)

Tuesday, June 27; 6:00-7:15 p.m.

Join us as we create active and playful ways to make learning colors a lot of fun at the Nature Center. Bring strollers to enjoy this special color walk on the trails. Space is limited to 10 children and accompanying adult.

In Our Big, Big Pond with Billie Jo Wicks \$8.00 (\$3.00 for Friends Members)

Thursday, July 27; 6:00-7:15 p.m.

Explore the big pond at the Nature Center as we learn about the aquatic critters that inhabit it. Space is limited to 10 children and accompanying adult.



3-4 years (with adult)

Nature's Color Walk with Billie Jo Wicks \$8.00 (\$3.00 for Friends Members)

Wednesday, June 28; 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Join us as we create active and playful ways to make learning colors a lot of fun at the Nature Center. Bring strollers to enjoy this special color walk on the trails. Space is limited to 10 children and accompanying adult.

In Our Big, Big Pond with Billie Jo Wicks \$8.00 (\$3.00 for Friends Members)

Wednesday, July 26; 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Explore the big pond at the Nature Center as we learn about the aquatic critters that inhabit it. Space is limited to 10 children and accompanying adult.

4-5 years (with adult)

Little Explorers: Hand in Hand in Nature with David Stokes \$20.00 (\$15.00 for Friends Members)

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, June 19, 20, & 21; 9:30-11:30 a.m.

As an educator and entertainer, David will keep you laughing and learning about nature. Please dress for the weather. Space is limited to 12 children and their accompanying adult.



5-6 years (with adult)

The Zoo in My Backyard with Billie Jo Wicks \$10.00 (\$5.00 for Friends Members)

Tuesday & Wednesday, July 18 & 19; 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Come and explore the amazing creatures that can be found at the Nature Center and in your backyard. Please join us dressed in outdoor play clothes as we explore with stories, crafts, songs and fun! Space is limited to 10 children and accompanying adult.

6-7 years

Nature Detectives with David Stokes \$20.00 (\$15.00 for Friends Members)

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, June 19, 20, & 21; 1:30-3:30 p.m.

As an educator and entertainer, David will keep you laughing and learning about nature. Please dress for the weather. Space is limited to 12 children. Parents are welcome.

Junior Ranger Rick: Plant Friends and Foes with Savanna Dahl \$15.00 (\$10.00 for Friends Members)

Session 1: *Tuesday & Wednesday, July 18 & 19; 9:30-11:30 a.m.* • Session 2: *Tuesday & Wednesday, July 18 & 19; 1:30-3:30 p.m.*

Through games, art, and other outdoor adventures, learn what plants belong at the Nature Center and which ones are invading our ecosystem! Space is limited to 10 children.

7-9 years

Monarch Magic \$8.00 (\$3.00 for Friends Members)

Session 1: *Friday, July 21; 1:30-3:30 p.m.* • Session 2: *Friday, July 28; 1:30-3:30 p.m.*

Come learn about the amazing life of the Monarch butterfly and search for Monarch eggs and caterpillars around the Nature Center! Space is limited to 10 children.



8-9 years

Junior Naturalists: Plant Friends and Foes with Savanna Dahl \$15.00 (\$10.00 for Friends Members)

Session 1: *Tuesday & Wednesday, June 27 & 28; 9:00-11:30 a.m.* • Session 2: *Tuesday & Wednesday, June 27 & 28; 1:30-4:00 p.m.*

Through games, art, and other outdoor adventures, learn what plants belong at the Nature Center and which ones are invading our ecosystem! Space is limited to 10 children.

Water, Water Everywhere! with Maria Anderson \$25.00 (\$20.00 for Members), half scholarships available

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, July 10, 11, & 12; 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Through activities, experiments, and exploration, we'll discover the who, what, why, when, and how of water and water preservation. Space is limited to 10 children.



Summer Adventure Classes (continued)

9-11 years

Radical Raptors \$40.00 (\$35.00 for Friends Members), half scholarships available

Tuesday, August 15; 8:30-9:30 p.m.: Owl talk and calling class for participant and family

Wednesday, August 16; 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.: Day trip to Whitewater State Park and the National Eagle Center

Discover the raptors of Minnesota here at the Nature Center and at the National Eagle Center in Wabasha, Minnesota! Please bring a lunch on August 16. Space is limited to 10 children.

Nature Photography with John Duren \$20.00 (\$15.00 for Friends Members), full scholarships available

Session 1: *Tuesday & Wednesday, June 13 & 14; 8:00-11:00 a.m.* • Session 2: *Monday & Tuesday, July 24 & 25; 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon*

Come learn the basics of nature photography! Gain knowledge about cameras and the techniques for an awesome picture. Cameras will be provided (bring a disc or flash drive to take photos home) or bring your own. Space is limited to 10 children.

10-11 years

Nature Bicycling with Jacob Burkhart \$15.00 (\$10.00 for Friends Members)

Wednesday, July 19; 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Exercise, explore, and study nature on Austin's bike trails. Children must provide a bike and helmet and be prepared to bike 5-10 miles. Space is limited to 8 children.



10-12 years

Survival Week with Derek Barkeim & Dan Block \$70.00 (\$65.00 for Friends Members), half scholarships available

Monday through Friday, June 12-16; 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Spend five days learning wilderness survival and awareness skills to prepare you for your next adventure. Space is limited to 16 children.

Monarch Tagging \$8.00 (\$3.00 for Friends Members), full scholarships available

Session 1: *Tuesday, August 29; 1:30-4:00 p.m.*

Session 3: *Tuesday, September 12; 4:00-6:00 p.m.* (after-school program)

Session 2: *Thursday, August 31; 1:30-4:00 p.m.*

Session 4: *Sunday, September 17; 1:30-4:00 p.m.* (families welcome)

Help with research and learn to catch, tag, record, and release monarchs before they start their 2,000-mile migration.

Space is limited to 10 children.



11-12 years

Canoeing the Root River & Exploring the Blufflands \$100.00 (\$95.00 for Friends Members), half scholarships available

Monday, July 31; 9:00-11:00 a.m.: Canoe practice at the Nature Center

Tuesday, August 1; 8:00 a.m.: Depart the Nature Center to explore Mystery Cave, Forestville State Park, and then travel to Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center for group challenges, high ropes courses, dinner, and a hike. Pack a lunch.

Wednesday, August 2: Breakfast at Eagle Bluff before canoeing part of the Root River; return to Nature Center by 4:30 p.m.

Fee includes lodging, admission fees, canoe equipment, high ropes course, and three meals (dinner August 1, breakfast and lunch August 2). Space is limited to 9 children.

12-14 years

Adventure Bicycling with Jacob Burkhart \$15.00 (\$10.00 for Friends Members)

Thursday, July 20; 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Explore Austin by bicycle and study nature as you go! Participants must provide a bike and helmet and be prepared to bike 10 or more miles. Space is limited to 8 participants.

Nature Photography with John Duren \$20.00 (\$15.00 for Friends Members), full scholarships available

Session 1: *Tuesday & Wednesday, June 13 & 14; 6:00-9:00 p.m.* • Session 2: *Monday & Tuesday, July 24 & 25; 5:30-8:30 p.m.*

Come learn the basics of nature photography! Gain knowledge about cameras and the techniques for an awesome picture. Cameras will be provided (bring a disc or flash drive to take photos home) or bring your own. Space is limited to 10 participants.

Youth River Canoe Trip \$20.00 (\$15.00 for Friends Members), full scholarships available

Monday, August 21; 9:00-11:00 a.m.: Canoe practice at the Nature Center

Tuesday, August 22; 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Note—Back-up Day: *Wednesday, August 23; 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.*

Enjoy canoeing the Root, Shell Rock or Straight River—weather and water levels will decide the trip and activities. 9-participant limit.

13-16+ years

Survival Week with Derek Barkeim & Dan Block \$70.00 (\$65.00 for Members), half scholarships available

Monday through Friday, June 12-June 16; 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Spend five days learning wilderness survival and awareness skills to prepare you for your next adventure. Space is limited to 16 participants.

Family

Family Nature Photography with John Duren \$10.00 per family (\$5.00 for Friends Members)

Sunday, July 23; 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Come learn the basics of nature photography! Gain new skills about cameras and the techniques for an awesome picture. Cameras will be provided (bring a disc or flash drive to take your photos home) or bring your own. Space is limited to 6 families.





Spring Event Schedule 2017

Please RSVP for any event at least one full day ahead of the scheduled time.

April

- 18 (Tue)**
7:00 p.m. Stan Tekiela: Bird Nests program
- 22 (Sat)**
1:00 p.m. Dedication of new Interpretive Center—*Building closed prior*
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 24 (Mon)**
9:00 a.m. Summer class registration begins

May

- 4 (Thur)**
6:30 p.m. Evening Birding Hike
- 6 (Sat)**
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 9 (Tue)**
6:30 a.m. Morning Bird Hike
- 11 (Thur)**
6:30 p.m. Evening Birding Hike
- 16 (Tue)**
6:30 a.m. Morning Bird Hike
- 18 (Thur)**
6:30 p.m. Evening Birding Hike
- 27 (Sat)**
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 29 (Mon)**
All day Interpretive Center closed—
Memorial Day

June

- 3 (Sat)**
9:00 a.m. Canoe & Kayak rental begins
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 12-16 (Mon-Fri)**
9:00 a.m. Survival Week (13-16+ yrs)
1:30 p.m. Survival Week (10-12 yrs)
- 13-14 (Tue-Wed)**
8:00 a.m. Photography Class (9-11 yrs)
6:00 p.m. Photography Class (12-14 yrs)
- 15 (Thur)**
10:00 a.m. Senior Special—Photography in Yellowstone by John Duren
1:00 p.m. Nature Play; Program by John Duren—Photography in Yellowstone

June (continued)

- 19-21 (Mon-Wed)**
9:30 a.m. David Stokes: Little Explorers (4-5 yrs)
1:30 p.m. David Stokes: Nature Detectives (6-7 yrs)
- 22 (Thur)**
10:00 a.m. Senior Special—David Stokes Program
1:00 p.m. Nature Play; David Stokes Program
- 24 (Sat)**
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 27-28 (Tue-Wed)**
9:00 a.m. Session 1—Junior Naturalists: Plant Friends and Foes (8-9 yrs)
1:30 p.m. Session 2—Junior Naturalists: Plant Friends and Foes (8-9 yrs)
- 27 (Tue)**
6:00 p.m. Nature's Color Walk (6 mo-2 yrs)
- 28 (Wed)**
6:00 p.m. Nature's Color Walk (3-4 yrs)

July

- 1 (Sat)**
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 4 (Tue)**
All day Interpretive Center closed—
Independence Day
- 10-15 (Mon-Sat)**
See pg. 5 Water Festival Week (activities below)
- 10-12 (Mon-Wed)**
9:00 a.m. Water, Water Everywhere! (8-9 yrs)
- 10 (Mon)**
7:00 p.m. Cover Crop Champions Program
- 13 (Thur)**
10:00 a.m. Senior Special—Model Stream
1:00 p.m. Nature Play; Model Stream Program
- 14 (Fri)**
1:00 p.m. Sewage Treatment Plant Tour
- 15 (Sat)**
a.m. or p.m. Clean Water Service Day
- 18-19 (Tue-Wed)**
9:30 a.m. Session 1—Junior Ranger Rick: Plant Friends and Foes (6-7 yrs)
1:30 p.m. Session 2—Junior Ranger Rick: Plant Friends and Foes (6-7 yrs)
6:00 p.m. The Zoo in My Backyard (5-6 yrs)

For more information, visit our website at www.hormelnaturecenter.org, contact the Nature Center directly by phone (507-437-7519) or email (info@hormelnaturecenter.org), or stop by in person.



Summer Event Schedule 2017



Please RSVP for any event at least one full day ahead of the scheduled time.

July (continued)

- 19 (Wed)**
1:30 p.m. Nature Bicycling Class (10-11 yrs)
- 20 (Thur)**
1:30 p.m. Adventure Bicycling Class (12-14 yrs)
- 21 (Fri)**
1:30 p.m. Monarch Magic Class (7-9 yrs)
- 23 (Sun)**
5:30 p.m. Family Photography Class
- 24-25 (Mon-Tue)**
9:00 a.m. Photography Class (9-11 yrs)
5:30 p.m. Photography Class (12-14 yrs)
- 26 (Wed)**
6:00 p.m. In Our Big, Big Pond (3-4 yrs)
- 27 (Thur)**
10:00 a.m. Senior Special—Zoomobile Program
1:00 p.m. Nature Play—Zoomobile and Archery
6:00 p.m. In Our Big, Big Pond (6 mo-2 yrs)
- 28 (Fri)**
1:30 p.m. Monarch Magic Class (7-9 yrs)
- 29 (Sat)**
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 31 (Mon)**
9:00 a.m. Canoe practice for Eagle Bluff/Root River trip (11-12 yrs)

August

- 1-2 (Tue-Wed)**
All day Canoeing the Root River & Exploring the Blufflands (11-12 yrs)
- 3 (Thur)**
10:00 a.m. Senior Special—Red-tailed Hawks
1:00 p.m. Nature Play—Red-tailed Hawks Program and Archery
- 4 (Fri)**
5:00 p.m. Photography contest deadline
- 8-11 (Tue-Fri)**
4:00 p.m. Mower County Fair Programs
- 12 (Sat)**
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 14-16 (Mon-Wed)**
All day Art Show Drop-off

August (continued)

- 15-16 (Tue-Wed)**
See pg. 8 Radical Raptors Class (9-11 yrs)
- 17 (Thur)**
7:00 p.m. Friends-Only Bee Program
- 19 (Sat)**
All day Nature Art Show Open House
7:00 p.m. Natural Community Talent Show
- 21 (Mon)**
9:00 a.m. Youth Canoe Trip Practice (12-14 yrs)
- 22 (Tue)**
8:00 a.m. Youth Canoe Trip (12-14 yrs) (backup 8/23)
- 24 (Thur)**
10:00 p.m. Senior Special—U of M Raptor Center
1:00 p.m. Nature Play; Program by U of M Raptor Center
- 26 (Sat)**
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 29 (Tue)**
1:30 p.m. Monarch Tagging (10-12 yrs)
- 31 (Thur)**
1:30 p.m. Monarch Tagging (10-12 yrs)

September

- 4 (Mon)**
All day Interpretive Center closed—Labor Day
- 9 (Sat)**
All day Tickets on sale for Halloween Warm-Up (Oct 13 & 14); \$8.00 at Super Fresh Produce & Bakery
9:00 p.m. Sola Fide Observatory
- 11 (Mon)**
7:00 p.m. Laura Merten—Quality Homes for Wildlife Program
- 12 (Tue)**
4:00 p.m. Monarch Tagging (10-12 yrs & family)
- 16 (Sat)**
8:00 a.m. Friends-Only Bus Trip to MN Zoo
- 17 (Sun)**
1:30 p.m. Monarch Tagging (10-12 yrs & family)
- 23 (Sat)**
8:00 a.m. 8k Trail Run—More information, visit www.hormelnaturecenter8k.org
5:00 p.m. Canoe & Kayak rental ends for season

For more information, visit our website at www.hormelnaturecenter.org, contact the Nature Center directly by phone (507-437-7519) or email (info@hormelnaturecenter.org), or stop by in person.

Become a Friends Member

If you love the Nature Center, help sustain all the programs you enjoy with a Friends of the Hormel Nature Center Membership! Becoming a Friends Member is a great way to support and promote environmental education programming in our community! Become a member for a full year for a contribution of \$25 or higher.

Individual & Family Membership Benefits

- **\$5.00 off** each child's fee for all Summer Adventure Programs (*parent must be a member*)
- **\$5.00 off** tickets to the annual Thanksgiving Feast fundraiser
- **Access** to members-only events and programs for youth and families
- **An invitation** to the annual members-only bus day trip
- **An invitation** to the Friends Annual Meeting
- **An opportunity** to give a one-year gift membership to a non-member
- **A subscription** to *Nature Center News*, to stay up-to-date on all that's going on at the Nature Center, special events, nature facts and more!
This publication will be delivered by post or email.

For more information:

visit www.hormelnaturecenter.org or call 507-437-7519.



The Essence of Place: The Story of the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center

Written by Douglas Wood,
Photography by John Duren

ALL profits go to the Friends of the Hormel Nature Center, whose support preserves the Nature Center for the future.

The book is available in the Interpretive Center, as well as these Austin locations:



Sweet Reads:

407 North Main Street

Super Fresh Produce:

2101 4th St NW

Jay C. Hormel Nature Center Staff:

Luke Reese, *Director/Naturalist*

Mike Goetz, *Land Manager*

Julie Champlin, *Office Manager*

Jill DeMoss, *Custodian & Event Staff*

Maria Anderson, *Naturalist/Teacher*

Savanna Dahl, *Naturalist Intern*

Jacob Burkhart, *Summer Intern*

Friends of the Nature Center Board Members:

Peter Mattson, *President*

Gary Zimmerman, *Vice President*

Greg Larson, *Treasurer*

Jill Merten, *Secretary*

Alice Tylutki

Darrell Ingvaldson

Jerry Ibberson

Joe Dolan

Arlen Schamber

Darlene Walth

Rhonda Alberts

Lee Bjorndal



Injured or Orphaned Raptors (Birds of Prey)

The Jay C. Hormel Nature Center **ONLY** takes in raptors—hawks, eagles, falcons, and owls—found in Mower County. (We do not have the facilities, extra staff, or expertise to provide care for mammals or other birds.) The JCHNC staff will provide primary care for the raptor and then make the best decision with our veterinarian, Dr. Mike Williams, regarding assessment and treatment for the raptor. Thank you to Dr. Mike and Jane for their many years of assistance.

The Nature Center assists 10-18 birds of prey on an annual basis. **If you find an injured or orphaned hawk, owl, or eagle in Mower County, call Nature Center staff at 507-437-7519 for assistance.** The raptors are often transported to the Raptor Center at the University of Minnesota, Saint Paul

Campus. We are always looking for volunteer drivers who are willing to transport an injured bird of prey to the Raptor Center. Contact the Nature Center staff for more information (507-437-7519 or info@hormelnaturecenter.org).

If you find an injured mammal or bird other than a raptor, the closest free Wildlife Rehabilitation Center is in Roseville, Minnesota. This facility is an emergency hospital and clinic that provides free medical care for more than 200 different species of injured and orphaned wild animals. You can transport the injured animal to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at 2530 Dale Street North, Roseville, MN, or contact them at 651-486-9453.

The Nature Center does not offer transportation to this facility.



Jay C. Hormel Nature Center
PO Box 673
1304 21st St NE
Austin, MN 55912
507.437.7519
www.hormelnaturecenter.org

Follow, Like, Review



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Canoe & Kayak Rentals

The Nature Center rents canoes and kayaks for use on Dobbins Creek to East Side Lake or on our pond, available Monday-Saturday (no rentals on Sundays or City of Austin holidays), June 3-Sept. 23, 2017. Life jackets, paddles, and canoe/kayak rollers are provided. Fee: \$10.00 for up to three hours. **Purchase a punch card for \$25.00 and receive five canoe or kayak rentals for half the fee!** Call 507-437-7519 for more information. A signed liability waiver must be on file at the Nature Center (children 17 and under must have waiver signed by an adult).

Ruby Rupner Auditorium Rental

If you are looking for a place to rent for a special occasion (graduation, wedding, holiday or birthday party, conference, reunion, anniversary, prom dinner, or memorial), consider renting the Ruby Rupner Auditorium!

The rental fee is \$41.00 per hour between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., with a \$100.00 deposit. We schedule events one year in advance. Your rental includes free use of our sound system. There is a \$25.00 additional fee for the use of our projector system. Smoking and alcohol are not permitted. The log cabin is also available for your use with the auditorium rental.

For more information regarding rentals, please call Julie or Nature Center staff at 507-437-7519, Monday through Saturday, or visit our website at www.hormelnaturecenter.org.

Sola Fide Observatory

Open to the public on specified Saturdays throughout the year (see event schedule on pages 9 & 10). Come out and discover fascinating facts about the night sky from our resident experts as they host free public programs for our community!

Directions: From Interstate 90, take Highway 218 south 2.5 miles to County Road 28. Turn right (west) one mile to the stop sign. Turn left (south) on County Road 29 for 1.5 miles to 180th Street. Turn right and go west for 1/4 mile. The driveway will be on your right. (*GPS Coordinates:* N43° 37.000', W092° 58.550')

For more information, call the Nature Center (507-437-7519) or volunteer Keith Snyder (507-440-1244).