



# EAGLE RIVER Revitalization Program

Fall, 2011

## Thoughts from the President

Summer is behind us and we are well into the fall season. This first part of October was amazing. I'm hoping everyone got outside to enjoy it and the beautiful fall color display.

Judging from the number of people in town and from discussions with local businesses, it seems the summer tourist season was good. All of the community events seemed to be well attended.

The ERRP's biggest event, the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Festival of Flavors was again a huge success. There were many good comments from our guests. A huge thank you to all our sponsors,

exhibitors, donors, committee members and volunteers. Without each and every one of you, this event would not be possible.

The ERRP Board is presently working on the 2012 budget. If you have any suggestions on items our group should be doing to revitalize the community, please let us know.

If anyone is interested in volunteering with our group, please contact Rita at the ERRP office.

In closing, I hope everyone has a great fall season and enjoys the holidays with family and friends.

Al Pittelko

## Eagle River circa 1908



If you haven't been downtown in the past couple months, you will want to take a trip just to see the new mural on the corner of Wall & Railroad Streets. We have already received rave reviews on the quality of the mural and it has become a picture opportunity downtown.

Local artist Mark (Mugsy) DePuydt was commissioned by the ERRP to paint this outstanding piece of art. Before setting out to depict Eagle River's railroad history, Mugsy did a lot of research and talked with members of the Eagle River Historical Society so that the mural would be historically accurate. The railroad was key to the development of Eagle River and the

tourism industry and the mural preserves that piece of history, second only to the existing 1920s Railroad Depot which houses the Eagle River Historical Society.

You'll find Mugsy's signature on the mural, but your name can be placed on it too. To get a plaque on the mural, you can sponsor a full panel for \$1,000 or half of a panel for \$500. Any and all contributions would be welcome and greatly appreciated.

This is the first of several murals that could grace the community, but we need your help to make it happen. If you have any questions, would like to make a tax-deductible donation, or know someone who might consider contributing, please contact Rita at 715-477-0645.

## 8th Annual Winter Wonderland Promotion to "WOW" Visitors and Shoppers

*Are you ready to "WOW" your customers?* Consider decorating for the holidays and you could win the First Prize of \$250 in advertising donated by the Vilas County News Review AND a \$500 live broadcast from WERL/WRJO; second Prize is \$250 in cash donated by Peoples State Bank; and third Prize is \$100 in Eagle River Bucks that can be spent at any Eagle River business. Contributions from these local businesses is greatly appreciated and it is only with their support that this contest is made possible.

The contest is open to all businesses located in the immediate Eagle River area. Displays must stay up through January 8<sup>th</sup> as judging will take place during the holiday season.

Judging will be based on the "most creative, temporary winter display," must include some form of lighting, and utilize the space you have available. Your display does not need to be as elaborate



as last years 1st place winner, Design/Build by Visner. It should just enhance the community for the holidays.

Call Rita to register for this year's Winter Wonderland Contest at 715-477-0645.

**NOTE:** The first prize winner will only be eligible once every five years. Good Luck!



“Celebrate the Taste of Wisconsin” is the theme of the Eagle River Area Festival of Flavors, and the 2010 event took the State’s “Best Special Event” award. The 2011 event lived up to that reputation, bringing even more people into the area to enjoy a fun-filled family weekend. There

was a lot of great food from area restaurants, cheeses, wines, and product sampling.

Fitness demos in the Discover Wisconsin Theatre may have helped with how to work



Who says you can't have fun while you're working! After spending countless hours as Chair of the event, Cindy Meinholz, took even more time to help prepare "Street Food," a new addition to the 2011 Festival.

off all the tasty treats you could enjoy. It was such a beautiful weekend and many people just relaxed in the park while listening to the music by Patchouli. The Northwoods Children's Museum provided

games for kids of all ages and a stroll across the bridge brought you to a wonderful art show and even more musical entertainment.

All in all it was a great event and one we look forward to repeating August 25th & 26th, 2012.

Our sincere appreciation goes out to the Festival of Flavors Committee, our many generous sponsors and the selfless volunteers who worked hard to make this another successful Eagle River event. Thank you to all of you!



A special thank you to Jerry Burkett who ran the sound system and Chris Oatman, MC of the event.

## RIVERVIEW PARK IMPROVMENTS

The Eagle River Area Festival of Flavors was created to raise funds for Riverview Park improvements. Thanks to additional contributions from the Rotary Club, Lion's Club, Jaycees, Light & Water Utility, Department of Public Works, and a great many volunteers, improvements are off to a great start. Riverview Park has a new restroom facility that is the first of many improvements to come.

Before Highway 45 was reconstructed it was easy to see and access Riverview Park. Now many can drive by and not realize what a beautiful spot exists along the Eagle River. The park is underutilized. The ERRP has purchased new signs for the park to let people know it is a great place to spend time with family and friends. The new signs also have the capacity to advertise events taking place in the park.

ERRP Board member Barry McLeane (the one in red) helped load one of the new Riverview park signs for the trip from Stevens Point to Eagle River. The signs were constructed at the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point Schmeckle Reserve. Assisting is Director Ron Zimmerman and UWSP students who



worked on the signs. The Schmeckle Reserve uses the profits from this business as well as several others to maintain and support a system of silent sports trails in the Stevens Point area. Not only could the ERRP purchase the signs at a 50% savings, the proceeds go to help another non-profit organization.

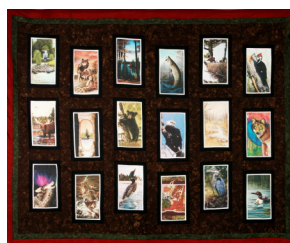
## Additional ERRP Projects

The Farmer's Market had another great year. More area vendors have been joining the market each year with a variety of products.

Forty Artscape banners once again hung on Wall and Railroad Streets. This program is thanks to all of the local artists and the 40 area businesses who sponsor them.

The hanging flower baskets and pots were beautiful through the efforts of the Master Gardeners, Northern Lakes Landscaping, and Custom Landscaping. Funding was provided by the ERRP, area businesses and individual donors.

The Artscape Quilt raffle was won by Pam Rosa of Crandon, WI.



### Mark your Calendar

**The ERRP Annual Dinner will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at which time the 2011 Artscape banners will be auctioned.**

**More information to come!**

**If you have a little time to volunteer, the ERRP is continually looking for help with the many other projects we work on throughout the year, especially the Festival of Flavors.**