



#### **Unleash Your Inner Explorer: Discover Fergus Falls and Beyond**

ergus Falls beckons adventurous souls seeking unforgettable experiences. As the vibrant hub of this "Land of 1,048 Lakes," Fergus Falls offers the perfect base for exploring the region's natural and cultural wonders.

Immerse yourself in the vastness of Otter Tail County. Delve into the lush greenery on numerous hiking and biking trails, including the 55-mile paved Central Lakes Trail. Embark on a scenic drive to discover breathtaking natural vistas.

But Fergus Falls has much more to offer. Discover the vibrant culture and entertainment scene, indulge in delicious cuisine at diverse restaurants, and find the perfect lodging to suit your needs.

Pack your bags for an unforgettable adventure in Fergus Falls. With its convenient location, diverse attractions, and warm hospitality, Fergus Falls is the perfect gateway to discovering the magic of Otter Tail County and beyond.



112 N Union Avenue, Unit B Fergus Falls, MN 56537

f Facebook.com/Fergusfalls.MN

Instagram: @fergusfallsmn

#### **2024 EVENTS**

Feb. 24	James Wedgewood Ventriloquist
March 16	The Life and Times of A. Einstein
March 19	Jess Torgerson & Erika Frikken
to April 27	Installation
March 19	Laura Youngbird Solo Exhibition
to April 27	
April 12	Artrageous
April 20-21	Razzle Dazzle
April 25	What's Going On?
	A Vietnam Era Music Tribute
May 3	Michael Martin Murphey
May 14	Artful Women Group Exhibition
to June 22	
May 14	BFA Group Exhibition
to June 22	
May 25	Lake Region Run
June 7-8	Summerfest
July 14	The Guess Who Alumni, Concert
July 21	Toby: A Tribute to Toby Keith
July 26	Pebble Lake Youth Triathlon
Aug. 4	Buffett's Margaritaville, Concert
Aug. 4	Classic Car Show
Aug. 5-13	Woodie Camp
Aug. 15-31	Monarch Butterfly Tagging
Aug. 18	Rumors and Dreams,
	A Fleetwood Mac Tribute
Aug. 26	Duck Banding
Sept.3	Scott Gunvaldson Solo Exhibition
to Oct. 19	
Sept. 12-16	Speedway Motors
C1 00	WISSOTA 100
Sept. 23	National Public Lands Day
Sept. 30	Otter Cove Children's
Nov.5	Museum Color Romp
to Dec. 21	Carla Benjamin Solo Exhibition
Nov.5	Blayze Buseth Solo Exhibition
to Dec. 21	Blayze Busetti 3010 Extilibition
Dec. 2	Over the River Holiday Festival
JUL. 2	Over the River Floriday i estival
•••••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
\ (! - ! ±	

Visit our website for event details and to learn more

VisitFergusFalls.com 218-446-0002





## Fergus Falls Powers Up Its Identity: A New Brand for an Unforgettable Adventure

By Rolando Felizola, Photo by Marie Noplos

estled amidst the breathtaking landscape of Otter Tail County, Fergus Falls has always been a vibrant hub for exploration. However, previously, its brand identity lacked the unique voice needed to stand out from its lake-centric neighbors. Recognizing this opportunity, Visit Fergus Falls embarked on a bold rebranding initiative, unveiling a fresh new look and a powerful message: "Power On Your Adventure."

#### More Than Just a Pretty Face:

The transformation goes beyond mere aesthetics. The new brand is built upon a deep understanding of Fergus Falls unique strengths, offering visitors:

A Thriving Downtown: Fergus Falls boasts a vibrant cityscape brimming with diverse lodging, delectable restaurants, and a flourishing entertainment and cultural scene. This provides a convenient base for exploring the surrounding natural treasures.

...a bold rebranding initiative, unveiling a fresh new look and a powerful message:

"Power On Your Adventure."

**Gateway to Adventure:** Within a 20-minute drive, visitors can find themselves in the breathtaking landscapes of Maplewood and Glendalough State Parks, for activities like hiking, boating, birding, canoeing, swimming, snow shoeing and much more. Additionally, the 55-mile Central Lakes Trail, a paved paradise for cyclists and families, begins in Fergus Falls.

**Beyond Borders:** Fergus Falls proximity to North Dakota expands the horizons of exploration. Wahpeton's zoo and Fargo's city life are just a short drive away, adding another layer of diversity to the region's offerings.

#### **Powering Up Your Inner Explorer:**

The new logo features a bold power button, symbolizing the spark that ignites the spirit of adventure within visitors. It represents the endless possibilities that await.

#### A Message of Empowerment:

The slogan "Power On Your Adventure" is a call to action, inviting visitors to embrace their inner explorer and embark on unforgettable journeys. It signifies

the belief that Fergus Falls holds the key to unlocking a world of discovery and wonder.

#### The Future of Exploration:

With its revitalized brand, Visit Fergus Falls is poised to attract a new wave of visitors eager to explore the hidden gems of West Central Minnesota. The new Visit

Fergus Falls website has been designed to make it easier than ever to plan your next adventure. With a clean and user-friendly interface, the website features high-quality visuals, engaging videos, and detailed information about everything Fergus Falls has to offer.

So, come experience the power of Fergus Falls for yourself. Let this vibrant city be your launchpad for unforgettable explorations. Power On Your Adventure and discover the magic that awaits!



BUY | SELL | INVEST

## TRILOGY

——REAL ESTATE—



# BUYING? SELLING?

CALL, TEXT OR EMAIL!





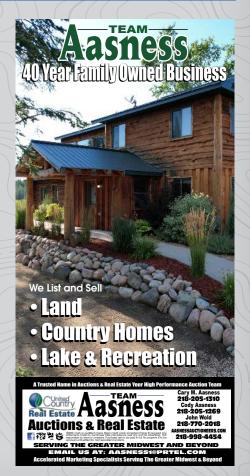


HANNAH CARLSON
218-205-0714
HCARLSONREALTOR@GMAIL.COM

MARY PETTIT
218-205-7086
MSPETTIT04@GMAIL.COM













#### Fergus Falls - Making a Splash

By Jean Bowman, Photos provided

oon, Fergus Falls visitors will soon be able to take advantage of two new water projects underway! Opening in Spring 2024, the Splash Pad, located downtown along the Otter Tail riverfront, is a free, outdoor park with jets, spray features, wading pools, fountains, and public art. A pergola protects visitors from the sun and there is ample seating providing spots to watch kids play, enjoy outdoor coffee, ice cream or lunch and take in the vista of historic City Hall and the river.

Two sculptures provide whimsical and engaging art at the splash pad. The Wind Sculpture by Carl Zachmann mesmerizes visitors with six giant butterflies fluttering around its axis. The second sculpture is a creation of Jeffrey Zachmann (Carl's dad) and features three bison rocking up and down on a pedestal as though roaming the prairies of west central Minnesota. The wind-powered sculpture will draw visitors into the splash pad, providing an engaging and delightful visitor experience.

Free parking is provided and a sidewalk from the splash pad to downtown businesses keep access safe and convenient for park users. A restroom/changing structure completes this site, which is Phase 2 of downtown riverfront redevelopment in Fergus Falls.

Phase 1 saw the development of Spies Riverfront Park and Market Pavilion. It is a fantastic draw to downtown with a vibrant farmers market and event space.

The second new water project in development is the new outdoor Fergus Falls Aquatic Center in Roosevelt Park. Approved by voters in 2022, the design and bids are approved and 2024 will largely be a construction year. The aquatic center features a zero-depth entry pool, water slide, four lane lap swimming pool, changing rooms, showers, lockers, and a concession area. The City of Fergus Falls anticipates a spring 2025 grand opening.



218-739-4406

3401 Highway 210 West Fergus Falls mabelmurphys@live.com



mabelmurphysmn.com

### Enjoy the finest Old World Style restaurant in Fergus Falls



#### Make Our Store Your Store For...

Gifts & Greeting Cards for all ages
Books, Bibles & Devotionals
Office Supplies
Printed Business Forms & Checks
Promotional Products

126 West Lincoln Avenue, Downtown Fergus Falls



(218) 736-5433



## SHOP TODAY! BUY TODAY! TAKE IT HOME TODAY!

All in-stock inventory is available, NO WAITING.

## JOSE Funiture

1924 State Hwy 210 E. Fergus Falls, MN 56537 218-739-4675

jaegerfurniture.com

#### CORA'S CLOSET & HOME

Upscale Consignment Boutique

Wednesday–Saturday • 10:00am – 5:00pm 221 W. Lincoln Avenue Downtown Fergus Falls, MN in Riverfront Square

218-998-2640







## Why Fergus Falls is the Perfect Base Camp for Minnesota's Majestic State Parks

Article and Photos by Rolando Felizola

ergus Falls beckons travelers with its vibrant culture, and stunning natural beauty. But for outdoor enthusiasts, the city's true charm lies in its proximity to two of the state's most majestic parks: Maplewood State Park and Glendalough State Park.

#### **Maplewood State Park**

Just a 25-minute drive from Fergus Falls, Maplewood State Park unfolds like a breathtaking watercolor painting. Eight sparkling lakes, including the picturesque Lake Lida with its sandy beach, shimmer amidst rolling hills. Hikers, bikers, and horseback riders can lose themselves on over 50 miles of trails, while anglers cast their lines for a successful fishing day. In fall, the park transforms into a fiery canvas, with sugar maples, oaks, and elms ablaze in shades of crimson, gold, and amber.

#### **Glendalough State Park**

A 20-minute drive from Fergus Falls, Glendalough State Park offers a serene escape from the everyday hustle. The park's crown jewel is Annie Battle Lake, a 335-acre "Heritage Fishery" renowned for its abundant sunfish, crappie, and the occasional walleye.

Canoe across the glassy waters, cast a line for a lazy afternoon picnic, or simply soak in the tranquility of the pristine shoreline. Hikers can meander along the scenic Beaver Pond Interpretive Trail, learning about the area's natural history, while the paved Glendalough Trail is perfect for a leisurely bike ride amidst the whispering pines.

#### Your Home Away from Home

After a day of exploring the wilds, return to the warm embrace of Fergus Falls. The city offers a range of accommodations within walking distance of charming shops and delicious restaurants. Refuel with a hearty meal at a local diner, browse unique souvenirs at Kaddatz Gallery, or catch a live music performance at a cozy brewery.

#### **Unforgettable Experiences Await**

Whether you're seeking an adrenaline-pumping hike, a peaceful paddle on a glassy lake, or a cozy evening exploring a charming town, Fergus Falls and its surrounding state parks offer an unforgettable escape. So, pack your bags, lace up your boots, and get ready to discover the magic of West Central Minnesota.





00000

00000

Perks Coffee and Tea is a locally owned drive thru, serving you a huge selection of coffee, tea, and food.



FERGUS FALLS LOCATIONS 202 W Washington Ave 1311 East Fir Ave 111 W Vernon Ave (Clinic)



#### **FULL SERVICE GROCERY STORE**



321 Lincoln Ave. Fergus Falls, MN

- Ask about our Deli!
- Custom Meat Cutting!
- Fresh Baked Goods Daily!

www.servicefood.com servicefoodmarket@gmail.com

facebook.

218-998-9000



Championship golf with rolling terrain, tree-lined fairways & some of the best & fastest greens around.

- ★ 18 Holes, 6,757 yards, Par 72
- Course Rating 72.8 & Slope Rating 134
- Pro Shop, Practice Facilities & Lessons
- Dining Room & Full Service Bar
- Wedding, Reunion & Party Hosting

1918 Pebble Lake Golf Drive County Highway 82 • Fergus Falls, MN 218-736-7404 playpebblelake.com



#### **AUTHENTIC &** HOMEMADE MEXICAN **CUISINE**

#### **Mexican Dishes**

burritos • enchiladas, quesadillas • tacos • fajitas

#### Full Bar

beers · specialty cocktails tequila • margaritas

524 Western Ave, Fergus Falls (218) 531-1219

**A** 0

elloromn.com



Home cooked favorites, breakfast served all day & home to the

"Best Omelet in Minnesota"

Mon-Fri 5:30am-2:00pm Sat-Sun 7:00am-2:00pm

203 W Lincoln Ave | Fergus Falls, MN 56537 (218) 736-6660 (f)





Kitchenware • Toys & Games Bath & Body • Home Accents **Specialty Groceries** 

Something for everyone... *Including yourself!* 

Fergus Falls 120 S. Ŭnion Avenue 218-998-3663





marketfergusfalls.com





#### **Phelps Mill: A Timeless Treasure Restored**

Article and Photos by Rolando Felizola

Standing along the scenic Otter Tail River is a monument to a bygone era: Phelps Mill. This grand old structure, once a bustling center of rural life, has recently undergone a much-needed restoration, breathing new life into its weathered walls and preserving its legacy for generations to come.

#### **A Flourishing Past**

Built in 1889, Phelps Mill was a beacon of prosperity during the wheat boom of the late 19th century. Its massive turbines ground wheat into golden flour that fed countless families. The mill's success spurred the growth of the surrounding village, creating a thriving community.

However, the 20th century brought changes. The rise of steam and electric mills, coupled with improved transportation, rendered small, water-powered mills like Phelps obsolete. The mill closed its doors in 1939, leaving behind a silent sentinel to a forgotten era.

#### **A Community Rallies**

The story of Phelps Mill was not over yet. In the 1960s, local preservationist Geneva Tweten spearheaded a campaign to save the deteriorating structure. Her efforts led Otter Tail County to acquire the mill and surrounding land, establishing Phelps Mill Park.

For decades, the mill stood as a picturesque but neglected landmark. However, in 2023, a new chapter began.

Recognizing the mill's historical significance and potential, the county embarked on a major restoration project.

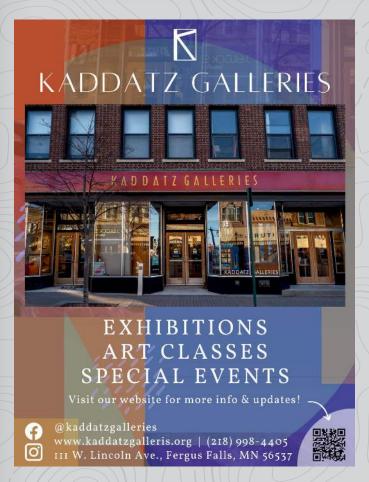
The foundation, eroded by time and the relentless river, was painstakingly rebuilt. The basement, was reopened, revealing the intricate machinery that once hummed with life. The iconic red roof was repaired, and the entire structure was carefully stabilized and refurbished.

#### A Grand Reopening and a Bright Future

In May 2023, Phelps Mill proudly reopened its doors to the public. A ribbon-cutting ceremony marked this momentous occasion, celebrating the culmination of hard work and dedication. The restoration of Phelps Mill is a testament to the power of community and the importance of preserving our heritage.

Today, Phelps Mill stands as a vibrant symbol of resilience and community spirit. Visitors can explore the mill's interior, marveling at the preserved machinery and learning about its fascinating history.

Hikers and bikers can explore scenic trails that winds through the woods and along the riverbank. Families can enjoy picnics on the grassy knolls or cast a line in the Otter Tail River, teeming with fish. Step back in time and witness the enduring spirit of a community that refused to let its history fade away. And of course don't miss the Phelps Mills Festival on July 13 and 14.







Monday-Friday: 7am - 6pm | Saturday 8am - 4pm









#### A Center for the Arts: A Fergus Falls Gem

By Rolando Felizola, Photos provided

Center for the Arts stands in downtown Fergus Falls as a testament to the vibrant

cultural life of the community. Since its humble beginnings, the Center has transformed into a thriving hub for music, theater, dance, and more.

#### A Legacy of Entertainment:

The Center's history is intertwined with the evolution of entertainment in Fergus Falls. Initially a famous movie theater, it fell victim to the rise of television in the 1970s. However, a dedicated group of individuals recognized its potential and began using the space for their performances. This eventually led to the formation of the Center for the Arts in 1982.

Through tireless efforts and generous community support, the Center underwent renovations in the 1990s and 2010s. Today, it boasts a state-of-the-art auditorium with comfortable seating for 412 patrons, making it the perfect venue for diverse performances.

#### A Glimpse into the Upcoming Season:

The 2024 season at A Center for the Arts promises to be captivating. From the soulful melodies of

"Memories of the Mills Brothers" to the electrifying energy of "Razzle Dazzle," there is something for everyone.

## SUMMER SUNDAY CONCERTS 2024

July 14 The Guess Who Alumni

**July 21 TOBY:** A tribute to country music superstar Toby Keith.

**July 28 Aeromyth:** The ultimate Aerosmith tribute experience.

Aug. 4 Buffet's Margaritaville

Aug. 18 Rumors and Dreams: A tribute to the legendary band Fleetwood Mac.

izzie Dazzie, triere is sometriing for everyone.

## Don't Miss the Amazing Summer Concerts at the Park:

Every summer, A Center for the Arts brings the magic of music to the majestic Kirkbride Park. Every concert brings around 2,000 people, making it one of the most popular events in the area.

## Unforgettable Fergus Falls Getaway:

Enhance your summer experience with the exclusive VIP Pass at VisitFergusFalls.com

#### This pass includes:

- · One night stay at a local hotel
- · Concert passes for one summer concert
- · Discounts at local restaurants and stores
- · And much more!

This summer, make unforgettable memories in Fergus Falls. Enjoy the vibrant arts scene, explore the charming downtown, and experience the warm hospitality of the community. A Center for the Arts awaits you!



## INDOOR PLAY STRUCTURE MINIATURE DOWNTOWN ART & MAKER SHOP BIRTHDAY PARTY ROOM







A state-of-the art indoor play experience! • 218-998-KIDS • ottercoveff.org









Fergus Falls

JK-OUTDOORS.COM



Largest selection of guns and ammo in the area.

Firearms | Ammunition | Optics Knives | Hunting Gear | Accessories

(218) 739-5299

Mention this ad to receive a FREE gift with a \$50 purchase.





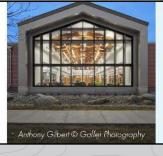
## Caring for you where you live, work and play

Ashby | Barnesville | Battle Lake | Elbow Lake Evansville | Fergus Falls | Herman | Hoffman | Morris

### Welcome to the library

Fireplace Reading Lounge Children's Play Space Makerspace Meeting & Study Rooms Internet Access
WiFi Hotspot
Online Programming
Digital Collections

Mon-Tue 9:00am-8:00pm • Fri 9:00am-6:00pm • Sat 9:00am-1:00pm • Sun Closed A department of the City of Fergus Falls and a member of the Viking Library System.



## Fergus Falls PUBLIC LIBRARY

205 E. Hampden Ave. Fergus Falls, MN 56537 218-739-9387

ffpubliclibrary.org





#### Fergus Falls: A Dream for Antique Hunters

Article and Photos by Rolando Felizola

ergus Falls is a charming city with a hidden treasure trove waiting to be discovered by antique enthusiasts. For seasoned collectors or a curious novice, there's a unique antique hunting experience here.

#### **A Treasure Trove Awaits:**

From the moment you step into **Exit 55 Antiques**, housed in a converted KFC, you're transported back in time. With its diverse selection of wares, spanning from furniture and household goods to vintage toys and advertising signs, this Co-Op shop is a paradise for treasure seekers.

Venture further and discover **Lincoln Avenue Antiques**, a haven for history buffs and antique connoisseurs. Located in the heart of downtown, this shop boasts a curated collection from across different eras, ensuring you find something truly special for your collection.

**Collectors Corner**, established in 1982, is a local institution for antique aficionados. Located in the

lower level of Riverfront Square, this shop specializes in American and European antiques, offering a diverse range of treasures for discerning collectors.

For those seeking the truly extraordinary, **FFOA Antiques** is a must-visit. This shop specializes in

hard-to-find antiques and boasts a fascinating collection of advertising signs, railroad memorabilia, and vintage toys, sure to ignite the spark of curiosity in every visitor.

### TIPS FOR THE TREASURE HUNT

#### Patience ·····

Finding the perfect antique requires time and dedication. Don't be discouraged if you don't find your treasure immediately. Take your time browsing and explore different shops.

#### Curiosity ·····

Ask questions! The knowledgeable and passionate antique dealers are happy to share their expertise and help you uncover the stories behind their wares.

#### Negotiation .....

Remember, most prices are negotiable, especially when purchasing multiple items. Don't hesitate to make an offer and see where it leads.

#### **Beyond the Shops:**

The true treasure hunt extends beyond the confines of antique stores. Explore the local thrift stores and garage sales, where hidden gems await discovery. With a bit of luck and a keen eye, you might unearth a one-of-a-kind piece that no antique shop could match.

Whether you are seeking exquisite furniture, stunning jewelry, or vintage collectibles, Fergus Falls offers a treasure trove of antiques waiting to be discovered. Pack your adventurous

spirit, don your explorer's hat, and embark on an unforgettable antique hunting journey in Fergus Falls, a city where history whispers through every piece.



## Fergus Falls – Your Hospitality Headquarters













Almost 3,300 varieties of wine, over 1,500 types of beer and more than 2,700 types of liquor.

Beautifully renovated facility with state of the art technology upgrades.

Weddings • Meetings Conferences • Parties • Events knowledgeable staff and everyday low prices, we are sure you won't be disappointed.

Combing our great selection,

Tuesday-Saturday 9am-10pm

Open 7 days a week

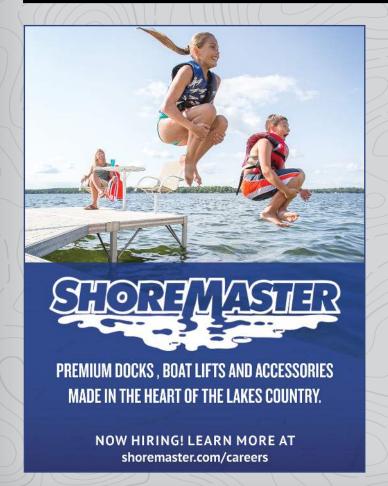
Monday–Saturday 9am-10pm Sunday 11am-5pm

2010 W Lincoln Avenue 921 Western Fergus Falls, MN 218

227 W Washington Avenue Fergus Falls, MN

921 Western Avenue | Fergus Falls 218-332-5700

LEARN MORE FERGUSFALLSMN.GOV





# We make a career out of making lives better.



Good hearted, socially committed people at Pioneer have changed the world one person at a time for over 95 years. We seek mission-driven individuals who wish to make such a difference, right here in Otter Tail Lakes Country.

Learn more details about life with us online.





218.998.1500 | www.pioneercare.org

An equal opportunity provider and employer



**FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES** 

Serving families in Fergus Falls, Ashby, Battle Lake, Evansville, and the surrounding area. Phone: 218-736-7064 www.GlendeNilson.com



## Olson FUNERAL & CREMATION

711 Pebble Lake Road Fergus Falls, MN 56537 Phone: 218-736-7586 www.OlsonFuneralHome.com

Two funeral homes. Dedicated and professional staff. One common mission.

#### WE'RE PROUD TO OFFER:

- •FLOWER BED & CONTAINER PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE
- •SHRUB & PERENNIAL PLANTING AND MAINTENANCE
- •MULCH & ROCK INSTALLATION
- .WEED REMOVAL
- .BUSH, HEDGE AND TREE TRIMMING

















minnesota.edu • 877.450.3322



