

Scenic Amery in the

Fall

AMERY FREE PRESS

215 S. Keller Ave.

Amery, WI 54001

Phone 715-268-8101

Fax 715-268-5300

Email: ameryfreepress@yahoo.com

Tuesday, Oct. 9, 2012

Amery Fall Color Hot Spots

by Breanna Draxler
Contributing writer

It's that time of year again. The mercury requires a little more solar coaxing to move up the thermometer, winged things have begun their journeys to the South, and the root vegetables are making their way into the crock-pot. As a backdrop to all this seasonal change, the leaves are just beginning to blush on their branches.

The Midwest is known for its fall colors, and Amery's display promises to be particularly spectacular this year.

"This year we're actually having a fall," said local vegetable grower Val Burke. "Last year it went straight from summer to winter."

Take advantage of the season's warm sun to check out the best local spots for fall colors--in leaf, flower, or vegetable form. Whether you prefer to travel by bike, ATV, horse, car or foot, Amery offers a whole host of recreational opportunities to see the fall colors at their best. See for yourself how brilliant the Amery area can be; let the annual autumn color show begin!

Stower Seven Lakes Trail

The Stower Seven Lakes Trail is recognized throughout the state for its fall colors. In fact, a popular vote earned it the "Best Fall Colors" award last year from the Friends of Wisconsin State Parks. The proof is in the rainbow of trees that line the nearly 14-mile trail that runs from Soo Line Park in downtown Amery to Dresser's Lotus Lake Park.

Joan Fogelberg is a volunteer with the Friends of the Stower Seven Lakes Trail, and her

husband is the secretary of the board. The two live in Osceola township, just a stone's throw from the crushed limestone trail's west end.

"It's amazing how many bike riders and walkers go by. I just love hearing the voices of the children," Fogelberg said.

Aside from recreational trail users, the trail's most visible users are the birds. Fogelberg reports seeing eagles near the trail's end, along with songbirds, red and yellow-bellied woodpeckers, and a whole host of ducks. She often bikes the trail and is particularly fond of the



WINDOW COVERING SALE

HunterDouglas
holiday
style
event

FREE
Child Safety Cordless
Lifting System
Upgrades On Many Of
Hunter Douglas's Most
Popular Styles



Comfort and Joy,
Now at a Savings.

Save September 15 - December 15
on select Hunter Douglas window fashions.*
What a wonderful way to fill your home with the
beauty and warmth of the season.

SAVE \$100* WHEN YOU BUY:

4 Duette® Architella® Honeycomb Shades

Plus \$25 off each additional unit

2 Duette® Duolite™ Honeycomb Shades,

2 Pirouette® Window Shadings,

2 Silhouette® Window Shadings or

2 Vignette® Modern Roman Shades

Plus \$50 off each additional unit

1 Luminette® Privacy Sheers or Modern Draperies

or 1 Skyline® Gliding Window Panels

Plus \$100 off each additional unit

FREE Measure &
Installation

FREE Art Of Window
Dressing Ideas Book

**We Specialize In Hard
To REACH Windows**

HunterDouglas Gallery

OUR
56th YEAR
ON
MAIN STREET
LUCK

Since 1956...Find Out Why

**JENSEN
FURNITURE**
101 MAIN STREET
LUCK, WI • 715-472-2487

www.jensenfurnitureluck.com
Custom Draperies • Floor Covering • Complete Home Furnishings

**INTEREST-FREE
FINANCING
AVAILABLE***
*With Approved Credit.

Hours:
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.;
Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



*Manufacturer's rebate offer valid for qualifying purchases made 9/15/12 - 12/15/12. A qualifying purchase is defined as a purchase of any of the product models set forth above in the quantities set forth above. If you purchase less than the specified quantity, you will not be entitled to a rebate. All rebates will be issued in U.S. dollars, in the form of an American Express® Prepaid Reward Card. This rebate offer may not be combined with any other Hunter Douglas offer or promotion. ©2012 Hunter Douglas. All rights reserved. All trademarks used herein are the property of their respective owners.

area near County Road Y and the Nye store.

“The stretch that goes by Dwight [also known as Round] Lake is very beautiful. From my perspective, I would say that has got to be one of the most beautiful segments of the trail,” Fogelberg said.

Bill Zager lives near the other end of the trail, and serves as the president of the Friends of the Stower Seven Lakes Trail. He rides the trail almost daily for upkeep and input from users.

Zager, too, has seen his fair share of birds along the trail. He noted nesting swans on Kinney Lake, just past mile marker two, and often sees sandhill cranes in a farm pasture near mile marker six.

“One night I came past there and there was a coyote stalking the sandhill cranes. The sandhill cranes were just screaming up a storm,” Zager said.

The other form of wildlife Zager often encounters is more problematic for trail maintenance.

“We’ve been having a battle with a beaver,” Zager said. “He keeps cutting trees down across the trail.”

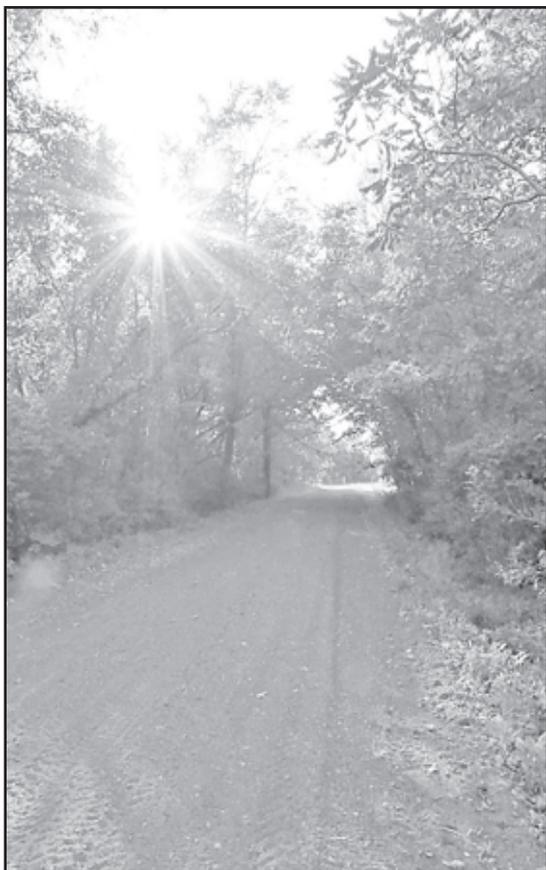
Zager has no shortage of stories from his time on the trail, but choosing a favorite spot is trickier. Every area has its own unique colors and characteristics. Zager said the maples are really yellow now and the birch are turning too, but he is partial to the stunning color display put on by the tamaracks. One particularly good view of their rusty orange needles runs from Wanderoos to mile marker nine. Here the trail weaves through low-lying swamps, hardwood forest, and a 177-acre floating bog.

Last year Zager was named the Wisconsin volunteer of the year award by the Friends of Wisconsin State Parks for his hard work on the trail. He said his favorite part is meeting and visiting with trail users to see where they’re from and how they found out about the trail.

“I don’t need any recognition. When you meet all these people, that’s good enough for me,” Zager said.

Cattail State Trail

The Cattail Trail kicks off its 18-mile course in downtown Amery. At the trailhead, a wooden bridge spans the Apple River, just north of Michael Park and the dam site. The multi-use trail runs through forests, farmlands and wetlands before reaches its final destination in the town of Almena, in neighboring Barron County. Since its days as a railroad grade, the flat course has been resurfaced with a loose-packed material that is ideal for ATVers, mountain bikers, and horseback riders. Since the trail is open to all uses, be aware and respectful of other users at all



WINDOW GENIE
We Clean Windows and a Whole Lot More!

Our Menu of Quality Services Includes:

- Window Cleaning
- Window Tinting
- Safety & Security Film
- Pressure Washing
- Deck Clean/Seal
- Gutter Protection
- Gutter Clean-out
- Concrete Clean/Seal
- Tile & Grout Cleaning

Terry Forrest • Amery, WI
715-268-7044 • Cell 715-338-0647
 tforrest@windowgenie.com • www.windowgenie.com

www.ComfortByDesign.net

www.ComfortByDesign.net

FREIER'S

ComfortByDesign.net

ONE CALL DOES IT ALL!

We Service All Makes & Models

Residential • Commercial

Industrial

- Geothermal Heating & Cooling
- Furnaces
- Air Conditioning
- In-Floor Heating
- Boilers
- Plumbing
- Fireplaces
- Duct Cleaning
- Pellet & Corn Stoves
- Solar Electric & Solar Hot Water

715-273-3658
240 N. Broadway,
Ellsworth WI

651-345-5171
120 S. Lakeshore Dr. Lake City MN

715-377-0193
1600 Maxwell Dr.
Hudson WI

times. For most of its length, the trail meanders in tandem with the Beaver Brook's South Branch. The halfway point runs along the Joel Marsh State Wildlife Area. In the wooded portions at the outset and final stretches of the trail, the trees form a colorful canopy. Wildlife rustle in the brush at the trail's edge, sometimes brave enough to come out onto the trail, and sometimes rushing back into the cover of the woods.

Amery Golf Course

Golfers grab your clubs. The Amery Golf Course is gearing up for its fall colors and Kevin Maupin, the Club House Manager, has shared the best spots to

see the colors. For those who are only up for nine holes, fear not. Some of the best colors are on holes four, five and six, according to Maupin.

"On the golf course, one of the best spots is looking down number six," Maupin said.

The rolling green hills are framed by rows of maples. At this point the colors are just starting to creep into the edges of the trees, but the much-anticipated burst of yellows, oranges and reds will soon be here.

For those in it for the long haul, the trip to hole number 11 is worth the hike.

"That's our signature hole," Maupin said. The spot looks out across a small pond and is surrounded by poplar and white

birch trees. In full color, the yellow leaves contrast sharply with the white bark of the trunks, but at this point the crescendo of color is still building.

Amery Regional Medical Center Trail and River Overlook

For a shorter jaunt with stunning views, check out the path behind the Amery Regional Medical Center. This paved trail runs only a fraction of a mile, but parallels the river and is heavily wooded. The slow flow of the Apple River is visible through the branches, and the view can be enjoyed from the benches and scenic overlook along the

way. Eagles, osprey, ducks and songbirds are common sightings along the trail.

Many of these birds are drawn to the flowers in the Medical Center's rain gardens. The Medical Center constructed its new facility in 2007, and its proximity to the Apple River meant that controlling stormwater was of paramount importance. A green roof and a series of rain gardens divert and infiltrate stormwater before it reaches the river.

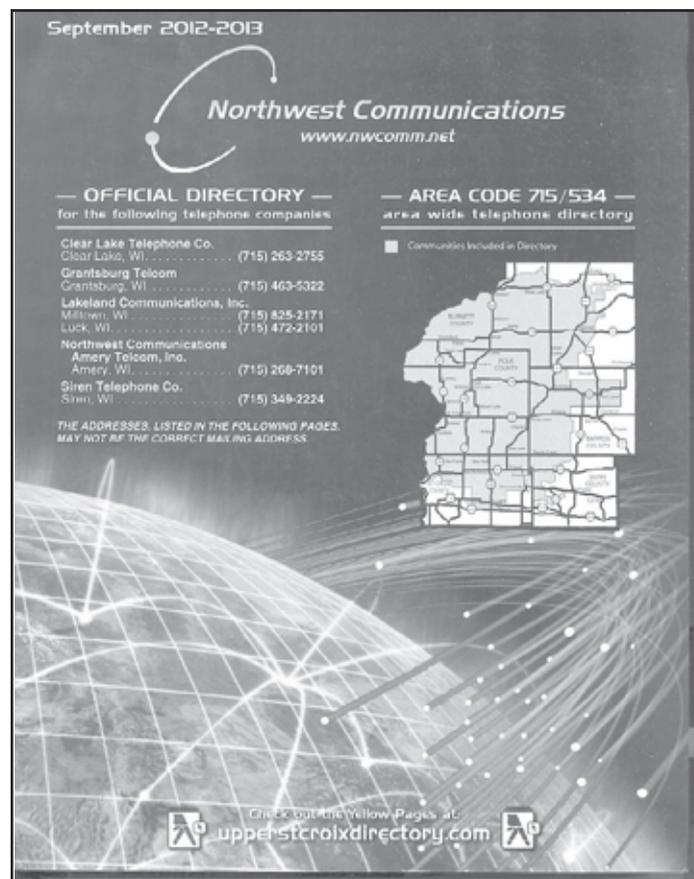
For rainfalls up to 3 inches, the green roof is able to retain its own stormwater. The plants' roots soak up the water,

where it can be stored for months at a time. Any water that exceeds the plants' storage capacity flows down leaders to an underground storage system, where it is then directed into the rain gardens.

A rain garden is much like



New Directory Available



The new 2012-2013 directories have been delivered. If you need additional books, please stop by our office

Also, be sure to check out the Yellow Pages online at www.upperstcroixdirectory.com



116 Harriman Ave. N
Amery, WI 54001
715-268-7101

PartsCity
AUTO PARTS

Check our
"Fall Tune-Up
flyer for great
savings

Now is the time to get
your car or truck ready for
the change of season

**Amery Auto Supply
Parts City Auto Parts**

334 S. Keller Ave., Amery
Phone 715-268-7734

"Your Automotive Needs Headquarters"

a regular perennial garden, except the base is dug below the ground surface like an empty pool. Rain gardens are planted with native perennial flowers whose deep root systems anchor the soil in place and create channels through which water can percolate into the soil. Since the plants are native--adjusted to the climate and weather of this region--they should not require weeding, watering or chemical applications once established.

The three to five-year establishment period is coming to an end at ARMC, and thanks to the hospital's hard work, the plants seem to have made themselves at home. The Medical Center's seven rain gardens are thriving. Many species are past their peak bloom at this point, but bursts of purple and yellow are still visible among the earth tones. As the prairie species go to seed, the gardens are also alive with colorful birds and butterflies.

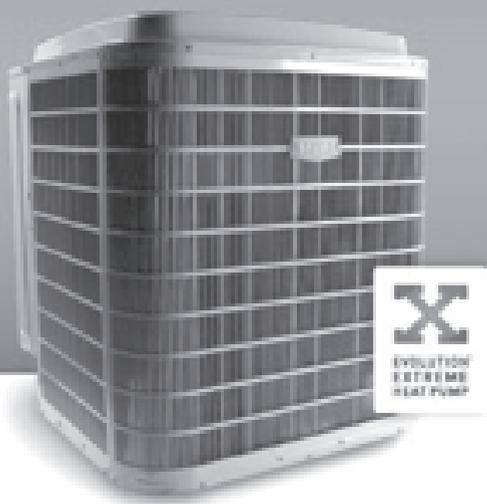


Apple River County Park

Located off of Main's Crossing, one of Wisconsin's rustic roads, the drive to Apple River Park boasts as many stunning fall colors as the destination. This is the perfect spot for a late-season camping trip. The rustic campground comes complete with a water pump, picnic shelters and restrooms. Trails snake through the park's 18 acres for use by hikers. After working up an appetite, enjoy a grill-out in the park's picnic area and cool down by wading in the tree-lined river's gentle flow.



THE COOLEST THING IN HEATING
The Evolution[®] Extreme heat pump.



Gas and oil bills for heating can be costly. But with the best-in-class performance of the Evolution[®] Extreme heat pump, you can enjoy incredible electric heating efficiency and comfort even when temperatures drop into the teens. It can also provide amazing cooling efficiency in summer to keep you and your budget comfortable season after season.

Countryside
PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.

321 Wisconsin Drive • New Richmond, WI

715-246-2660

1-800-542-4243

www.countrysideplumbing.com

M.P. #664713

For a limited time, get up to \$1250 back with Bryant Bonus rebates.* Call for details.



Whatever it takes!

RELIABLE. PROVEN. HONEST. AND SAFE.

October Fitness Specials

We offer over 25 Exercise Stations, Free Weights, Locker & Shower Rooms, Fitness Classes, and Personal Training Services... it's everything you're looking for.

We make it easy for you to become a member. We offer daily, month-to-month, and yearly options. You decide what works and what is best for you. Plus, there is **no enrollment fee** at the Fitness Center.

CHECK IT OUT: The Fitness Center is now offering tons of **NEW FITNESS CLASSES**, day and evening. Stop by today to find out more!

20% Off

on 12 month memberships

10% Off

on 4 month memberships

(The special is for the month of October only, so hurry and sign up today!)

These special discounted packages must be paid in full at time of purchase. No additional coupons may be added to these specials. Offer good from 10/01/2012 through 10/31/2012. Offer valid at the Fitness Center in Amery and in Luck at Luck PT & Fitness.

JOIN TODAY!

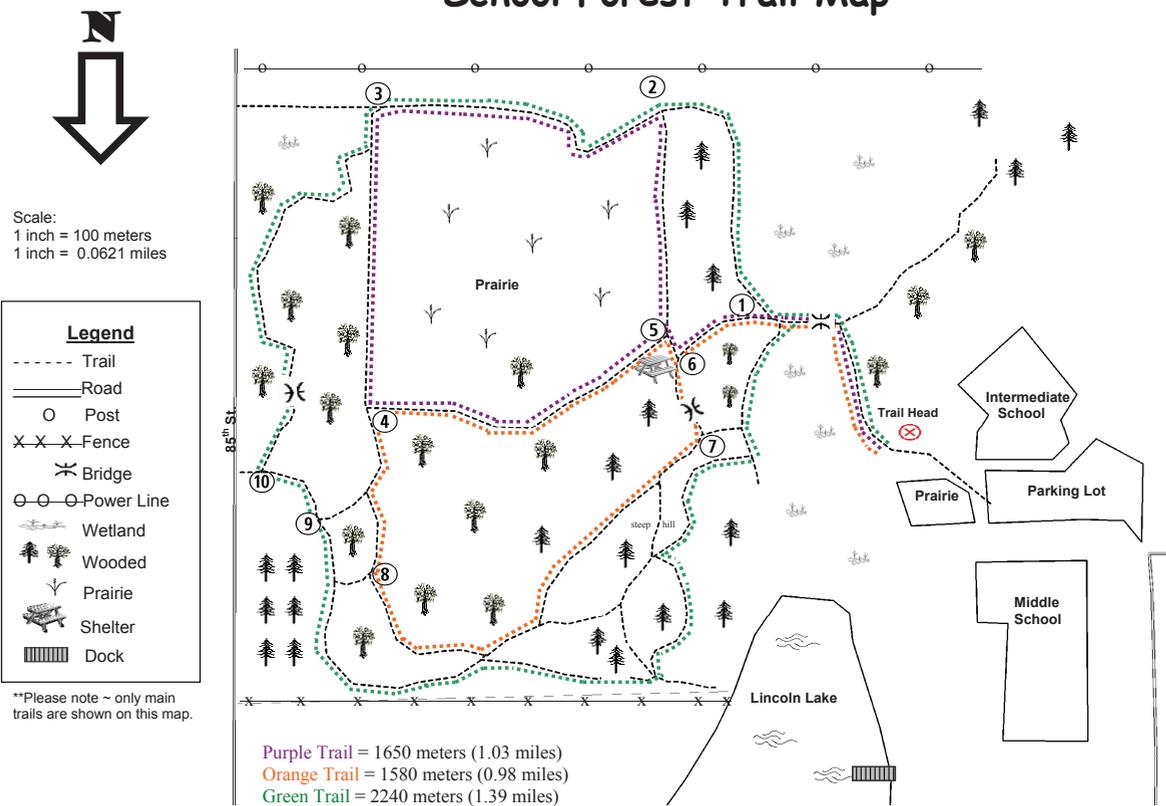
Call 715-268-1008 to join the Fitness Center or 715-472-5225 to join Luck PT & Fitness

Check it out: 24-Hour Access in Amery & Luck



220 N Keller Avenue, Amery, WI 54001 | 2547 State Rd 35, Suite 5, Luck, WI 54853

School District of Amery School Forest Trail Map



Amery School Forest

During the fall, Amery resident Kirsten Hansen walks the trails in the School Forest a few times a week. In addition to the

draw of the fall colors, Hansen says she is particularly appreciative of the lack of bugs and ticks on the trails this time of year. The cool weather conditions make fall the perfect time to visit

the School Forest.

Hansen brings her dog, Joey, for walks in the late afternoon or early evening as a means to unwind.

“Joey loves it. It’s her favorite place in the whole world,” Hansen said.

Hansen is a fan of both the prairie and forest environments offered by the 40-acre environmental area. Her favorite view is from the elevated east end of the prairie which overlooks the school grounds and the fields beyond. The most magical spot, though, is in the trees just behind that where the maple trees illuminate the dark forest in red and yellow light. The setting’s

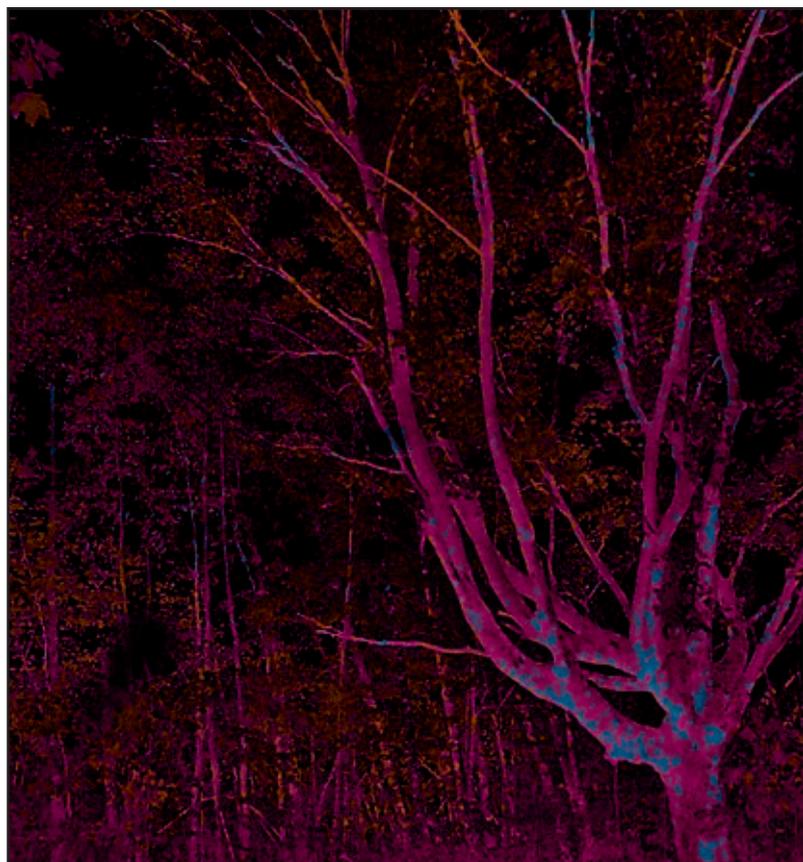
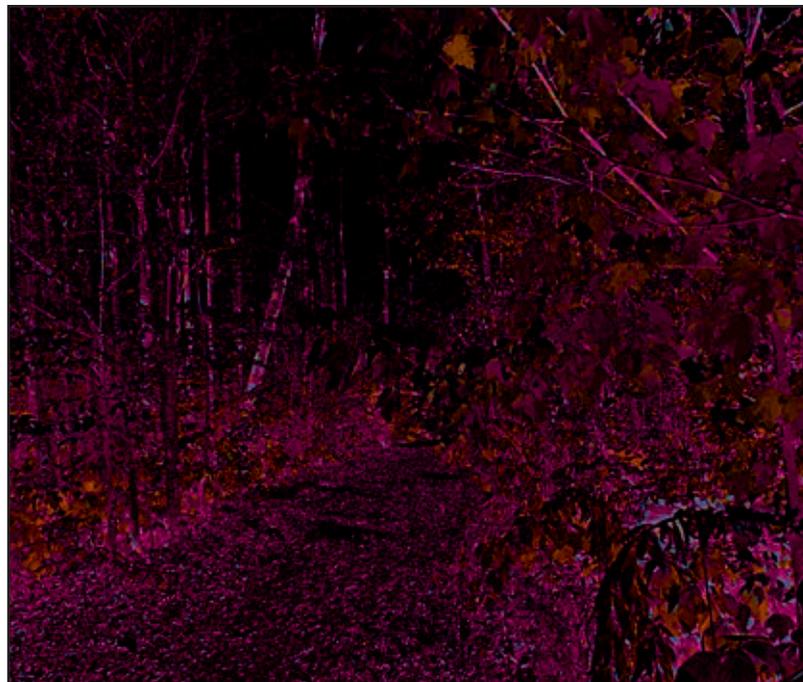
soundtrack includes birds and cheers from the school’s ball-games in the distance.

For Hansen, the Amery School Forest provides an opportunity to interact directly with local ecosystems, without the risk of poison ivy or other typical barriers to exploration. She also appreciates the few miles’ worth of groomed grass paths, which she said allow a much more natural experience than paved.

“It’s kind of like a sanctuary,” Hansen said.

York Park

York Park is tucked into the thick woods north of Amery, between highway 46 and Pike Lake--arguably Polk County’s cleanest. The park’s four paths weave through the many landscapes contained within its 40 acres. The North Summit Trail offers direct, paved access to the railed fishing pier. This spot is handicap accessible and ideal for family picnics and panfishing. The three remaining trails offer a few miles of narrow, packed dirt



Clear Lake Iron Company

- *Spiral Stairways and Wrought Iron Railings
- *Welding and Repair

Located at 385 Hwy. 63, Clear Lake, WI
Phone 715-263-2816

Visit Our Showroom Downtown Amery for One Stop Shopping

Cabinetry
Countertops
Flooring
Window Treatments

715-268-HOME
(4663)

Contact: Dena Cress or Darren Booth Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9:00-5:00
110 Keller Ave N Amery, WI 54001 info@stonecreekcustominteriors.com Saturday 9:00-12:00

TOGETHER WE SAVE

Rebates | Energy Savers | e-Bill
www.PolkBurnett.com
800-421-0283



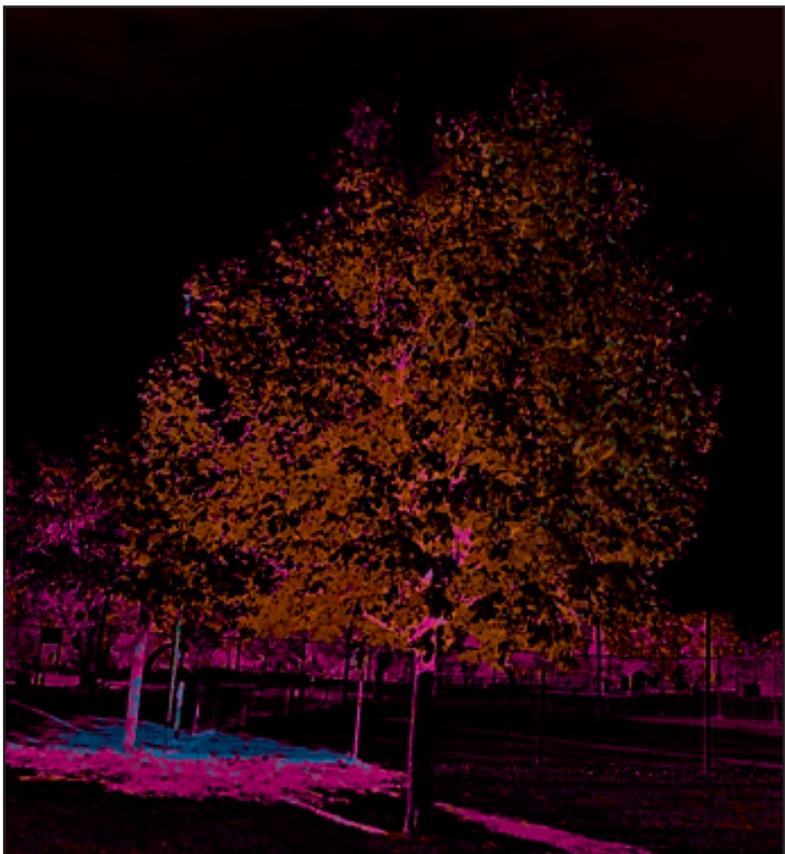
October is National Co-op Month



hiking.

York Park is known for its colorful bird watching opportunities. Walk along the undulating hill paths and to seek out any one of a number of warblers,

grosbeaks, or vireos. Take the path along the park's ¼ mile of undeveloped lakeshore to catch a glimpse of a loon, bald eagle, osprey or heron.



North Park

North Park is the place for the more activity-oriented among us. For the youngest park-goers, North Park offers a paradise of playground equipment. It also boasts a baseball backstop, horseshoes, a full basketball court, and the only skate park in town. There are many colorful trees in and around the park, along with large open spaces.

After a rousing game of ulti-

mate frisbee, the whole team can take advantage of the park's two covered picnic shelters for a celebratory potluck. With two lighted tennis courts the park can be enjoyed even after the sun has put its colors to bed.

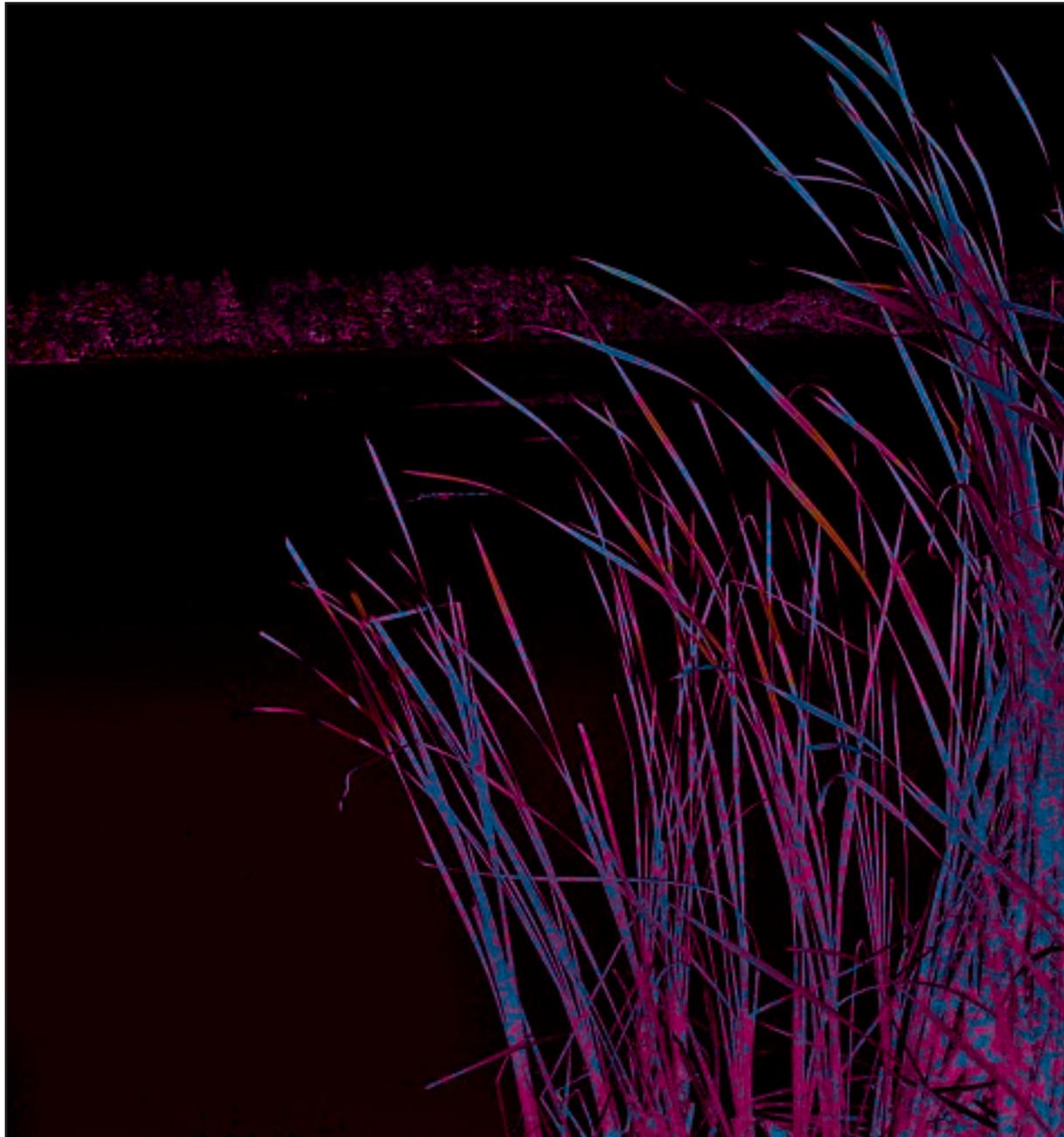
The frisbee golf course is also purported to be a good one, as long as the newspaper's roving reporter doesn't get in the way on her quest for fall color photos.

Apple River Flowage

Despite this summer's dry conditions, the Apple River is still open for paddling business

this fall. Load up a canoe or kayaks to get a view of the riverside foliage as well as its reflection in the water. Try the stretch from

the bridge north of Amery on highway 46 to North Park, or put in below Beaver Brook Dam.



**Support Our Local Economy
and Its Families . . .**

SHOP AND BUY LOCALLY

**Larsen Auto Amery for all your
automotive needs**



Shop 24-7 at larsenautoamery.com

715-268-7676 888-257-7989



D.D. Kennedy Environmental Area

A sun-seeking turtle slipped under the water's surface at the sound of footsteps. The only other noises were the rustle of dry leaves in the breeze and rush of water over the nearby dam. D.D. Kennedy Park is named for Dougald Duncan Kennedy, a Wisconsin legislator who graduated from Amery High School around

the turn of the twentieth century. Kennedy operated grist and sawmills with the hydropower supplied by the dam. Today the park is home to the historic Kennedy Mill site and a newly-constructed environmental center. It is located just north of the Garfield Recreation Area, on both sides of Kennedy Mill Avenue.

Bud Nelson lives on nearby Lake Wapogasset. He had been sorting his recyclables at home

before he decided to relocate the task to the D.D. Kennedy parking lot.

"I thought, 'I'll do it out here in the sunshine and the breeze,'" Nelson said, as he carefully folded paper bags and placed them in the backseat of his car.

Nelson also enjoys the D.D. Kennedy trail when he has the energy.

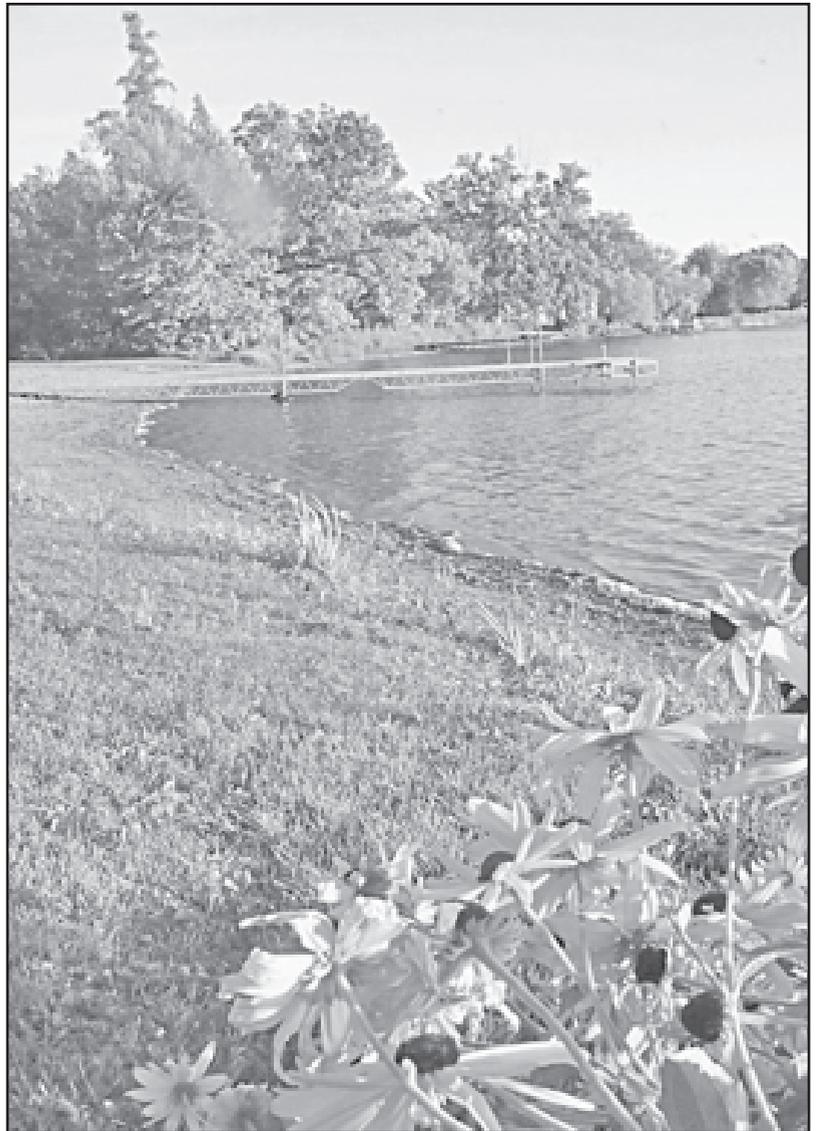
"I like to walk the trail. It goes in a circle so I can't get lost," Nelson joked. The paved loop begins at the dam and skirts the flowage from the Balsam Branch. The path continues through the prairie, forest and wetland areas of the park's 106 acres. Nelson's yellow cap blended in with the yellow-leaved trees around him, and he used it to tip a hearty farewell before heading on his way.



South Twin Beach

Amery has no shortage of lakes to enjoy in the fall. Take a dip at the South Twin swimming beach, or enjoy a few evening casts from the new fishing pier. Both were reopened in 2012. Afterward, meander down shore to

the sheltered benches at South Twin Park. This is arguably the best spot in town to watch an autumnal sunset. The view includes the open water, wildlife and wooded shoreline of South Twin Lake.



BILL'S PUMP SERVICE



Time to schedule your annual water well checkup! Just as periodic checks of furnaces and smoke detectors are recommended, so is an annual water well checkup. The National Ground Water Association stresses the importance of yearly water testing and well maintenance.

Why is it a good idea to have my water well checked annually?

- An annual checkup by a licensed or certified water well contractor is the best way to ensure problem-free service and quality water.
- Preventative maintenance usually is less costly than emergency maintenance.
- Good well maintenance, like good car maintenance, can prolong the life of your well and related equipment.

You can obtain more well and consumer information by going to NGWA's website for well owners at www.wellowner.org.

Call **BILL'S PUMP SERVICE** today for information on our specials on water testing and well inspections.

715-248-3442

715-269-5271

or email us at billspumpsrv@msn.com



Box Elders? Wasps?



Asian Lady Beetles?

We eliminate them....Guaranteed!

One exterior treatment works inside & out all year.

• \$25 OFF to new customers and for every referral.

- No appointment necessary.
- Visit our website or call **NOW**.

BugMeisters

Locally Owned
Lic. #213044-CA

715-554-7051

bugmeisters.com

- FREE ESTIMATES
- FRIENDLY SERVICE
- LOW COST



Farmers Market

If colorful leaves, flowers and sunsets aren't enough, get your color fix at the Amery Farmers Market. The Monday night market features live music, hot food, and local vendors. The festivities continue through the end of October, which leaves four more chances to take it in.

Val Burke held up a jar of her pickled peppers--a gleaming glass case of red, yellow and orange. If this doesn't say fall, Burke doesn't know what does.

"The orange is just so brilliant this year," she said, pointing to one particularly bright habañero pepper. Baskets of smooth tomatoes seemed to radiate red in the late afternoon sun. The Burkes, like most vendors, have transitioned from the green vegetables of midsummer to the bright tones of fall produce.

The Burkes' table at the farmers market was filled to bursting with colorful produce from their farm near Little Falls. Val and her husband Brad, along with their sons

Bryan and Brendan, supplement and preserve their fresh produce supply with canned goods. Their jars of kosher dill pickles and tomato sauce were fast sellers.

"Once the weather cools off people don't mind firing up the oven," said Brad Burke. For this reason the Burke's have no trouble selling their cream-colored butternut squash, their smooth orange pumpkins and Brad's favorite shade of fall: eggplant.

"I mean, heck, they even

named a color after them!"



berghammerbuilders.com

In the fast-paced and ever-changing world of commercial construction, speed, quality and cost make all the difference.



ARROW BUILDING CENTER



DESIGN • COMMERCIAL • REMODEL • ADDITIONS

Experience The Berghammer Difference

LICENSED
INSURED
BONDED

715-948-2811
Clayton, WI

BUILDING
FOR OVER
30 YEARS

Welcome to stop in and browse . . .



COUPON

FREE bed frame with purchase of any mattress and box spring set (\$599 or more)

(Coupon good Oct. 9-20, 2012, at Slumberland Furniture, Amery)

COUPON

Take an additional 10% off all closeout merchandise

(Coupon good Oct. 9-20, 2012, at Slumberland Clearance Center, Amery)



Hwy. 46 and Griffin St. (near River Place Mall), Amery
Phone 715-268-8149



Clearance Center

201 Keller Ave. N, Amery
Phone 715-268-2131



Garfield Recreation Area and Balsam Branch State Wildlife Area

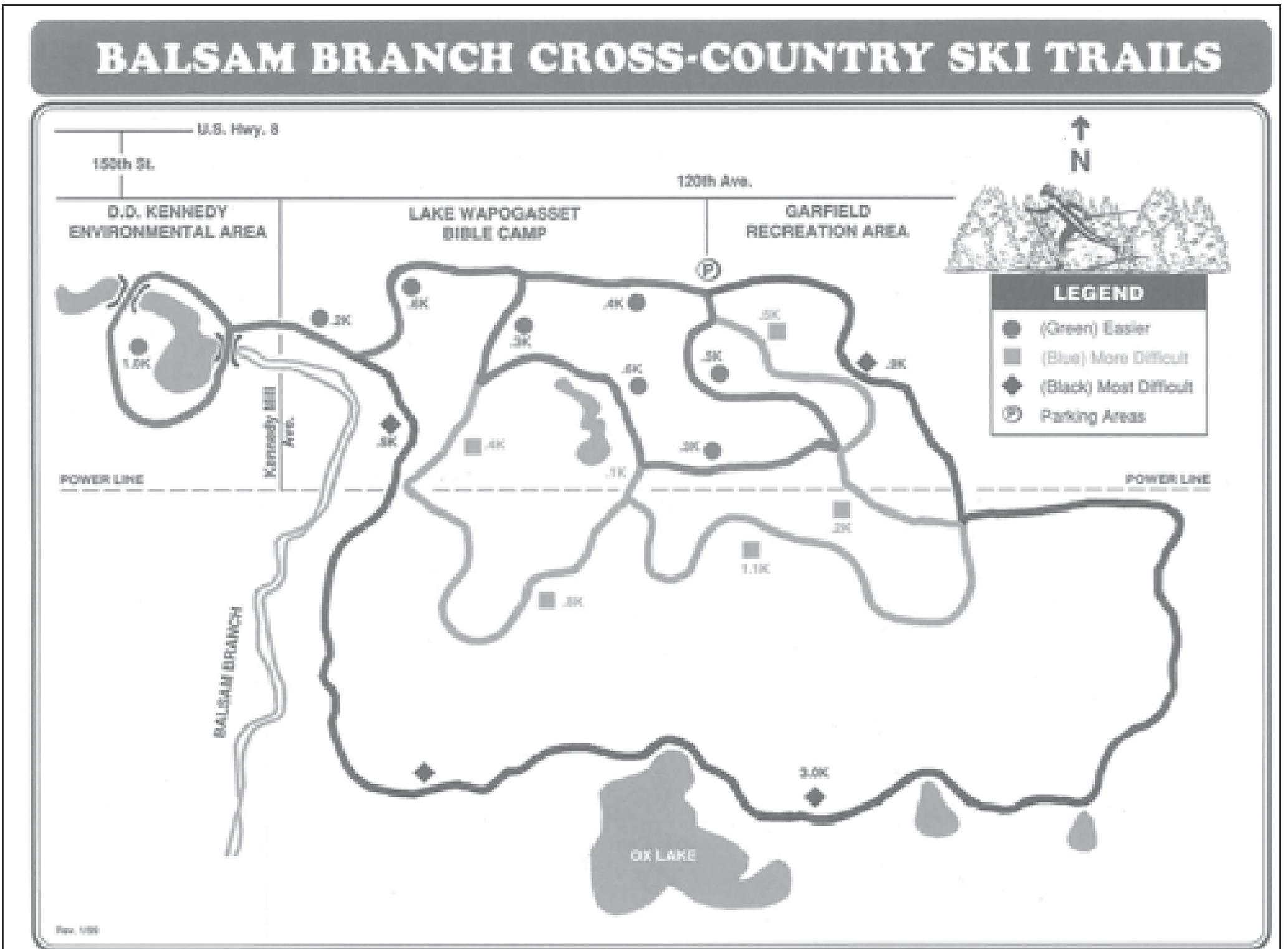
The entrance to the Garfield Recreation Area is burning with the brick-red glow of oak leaves right now, and the sumac are working hard to catch up with the color. The brilliant red is set against a backdrop of yellow birch and maple foliage.

The 11-kilometer Balsam Branch trail system sees the majority of its use during the winter ski season, but fall gives the snowy scenery a run for its money. The wide, mowed paths chatter with the sound of crispy leaves underfoot. The sun shines through curtains of color as the

leaves drain from green to yellow. An iridescent green beetle paused in the middle of the trail, as if he, too, was transfixed by the color show.

These trails are ideal for hikers and horseback riders. Each trail is identified by the difficulty of its terrain: easy, moderate, or difficult. Benches along the way provide opportunities to take a breather and soak in the view. The area encompasses 133 acres, every one a unique assemblage of vegetation and wildlife waiting to be discovered.

All photos by Breanna Draxler





Favorite Holiday Recipe Contest

Sponsored by the Amery Free Press

**SHARE YOUR FAVORITE RECIPES
WITH US . . .**

Categories:

Desserts • Main Dishes • Brunch • Salads

Winners will receive \$25 Amery Scrip Money

JUDGES DECISION ARE FINAL

**Please submit your Favorite Holiday Recipe on an 8-1/2 x 11”
sheet of paper, along with your name, address and phone number
to the Amery Free Press office by Friday, Nov. 2.
(A limit of 5 recipes per entrant please)**

**Our mailing address is:
P.O. Box 424, Amery, WI 54001**

All of the recipes submitted for the AFP Favorite Holiday Recipe Contest will
be published in the “Holiday Shopping Directory” on Tuesday, Nov. 13.



SAFETY TIPS

- »»» MAKE a home escape plan. Draw a map of your home showing all doors and windows. Discuss the plan with everyone in your home.
- »»» KNOW at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily.
- »»» HAVE an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole or mailbox) a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet.
- »»» PRACTICE your home fire drill at night and during the day with everyone in your home, twice a year.
- »»» PRACTICE using different ways out.
- »»» TEACH children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- »»» CLOSE doors behind you as you leave.

IF THE ALARM SOUNDS...

- »»» If the smoke alarm sounds, GET OUT AND STAY OUT. Never go back inside for people or pets.
- »»» If you have to escape through smoke, GET LOW AND GO under the smoke to your way out.
- »»» CALL the fire department from outside your home.

NOAH
INSURANCE
GROUP

•Amery • Cumberland • Osceola
•Stillwater • Forest Lake
1-800-580-NOAH (6624)

**Leadholm
& LaMere**
Insurance Agency



212 Keller Ave. N
Amery
Phone 715-268-7188

 **Bremer**
Insurance

104 Maple St. W
Amery • 268-7161
1-800-908-BANK
Bremer.com