



DISCOVER AKELEY



HEADWATERS OF THE CROW
WING CHAIN OF LAKES

DISCOVER

- Local businesses and the people who own them
- Find local happenings and hidden gems
- Explore things to do and where they are located



NORTH COUNTRY RADIATOR



North Country Radiator is owned and operated by Mike Duclos who retired to Akeley in July of 2007. Turns out, retirement isn't in Mike's blood so he continues to do what he enjoys and is good at. Mike has been in the cooling related business since Sept of 1978. He is currently one of the oldest true radiator men left in the area. He has built and serviced hundreds of radiators in these years keeping his customers and their cars happy. Custom-

ers come from many miles to use his services.

There are many street rods running around with his custom designed and built radiators. North Country Radiator provides radiator service to just about any vehicle you can find from tractors and heavy equipment to classic, antique and off-road vehicles. In addition, Mike has expertise in the field of gas tank restoration that will dramatically extend the life of a damaged gas tank. He has been providing air conditioning diagnosis, radiator repair and services since 1978 at a competitive price.

You are invited to check out North Country Radiator, and if

you have a special project or just an every day cooling system service, Mike will be there to fix you up. He loves his work and the people who bring it to him.

Propane fills, chainsaw/mower blade sharpening and dumpsters are also available.

218-652-4996

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 7:30-5

Fri.- 7:30-12

ncradiator.com



- 19 cabins and 2 campsites
- historic lodge built in 1898
- daily family activities in summer
- Couples Specials/Group Deals

(218) 652-3111

www.CrowWingCrestLodge.com

11th Crow Wing Lake

Crow Wing Crest Lodge was built in 1898 as one of 25 logging camps in the area for the **Red River Logging Company**. Our lodge is still used today as a gathering place and activity center for our guests. Crooked original wooden floors and wavy vintage glass paned windows add to our traditional Mom & Pop 'up north' resort setting.

We encourage you to increase your well being by hanging out with us at this peaceful family vacation retreat. Enjoy the lake, the long, sandy beach, on-site hiking trails, loons and chipmunks. Or really indulge in relaxation with a reflexology session or aromatherapy class with owners.

Drum circles on Wednesday evenings in summer have become a staple in the last 16 years since Kim & Big John have owned the resort. Neighbors join us to check it out every now and then. It's a hoot.

We welcome reunion groups or overflow from local area peeps if we can accommodate 'em. (Boat rentals, playground equipment, etc. for guest use only.)

Our website has an availability calendar. Call anytime!

In 2006 we were living in Minneapolis and contemplating raising livestock. We decided on Alpacas because

- they are docile animal
- they aren't very big
- they don't require a lot of land
- they are low maintenance
- they are cute and
- very relaxing to be around

We purchased two alpacas to start with because they are a herd animal and boarded them in LeSueur until moving to our current farm. We named our farm Foothills Alpaca Farm because it borders the Foot Hills State Forest in beautiful north central Minnesota. Our farm is 8 miles west of Backus.

We are open year around for visitors. You will be able to touch our alpacas and feel their fibers, which are comparable to cashmere for softness and seven times warmer than wool. Alpaca products and animals are available for purchase. Please call to arrange a tour.



218-947-3291

foothillsalpaca.com

lclmore@usfamily.net

The Birth of Paul

In 1984 local artist Dean Krotzer had a vision to create the world's largest Paul Bunyan statue in honor of Akeley's status as the official birthplace of Paul Bunyan. Using over 4.5 tons of welded steel, 180 gallons of resin, and 350 yards of fiberglass cloth Paul was reborn. His hair and beard are made up of over 6000 feet of baling twine saturated in fiberglass. Our legendary Paul kneels at 30.5 feet and if standing would be 56 feet tall.



Paul continues to be a friendly lumberjack as he holds out his hand for visitors to sit for photo ops.



Summer hours:

Sun. – Thurs. 6:30 AM – 8 PM

Fri. & Sat. 6:30 AM – 9 PM

Phone: 218-652-2233



Hometown pride, Zita Dippold Howard, nicknamed Zappy as a child is following in mother's footsteps. Carla Hanson Dippold saw this restaurant switch from owner to owner over the last 35+ years and cooked for many of them. I was her gopher, always following her in the kitchen wanting to help. At five I was washing dishes, cracking eggs, separating coffee filters and rolling silverware. After high school, I worked as a Sous-Chef and then for three years as an Executive Chef at Chase on the Lake, Walker. I'd always talked of eventually owning my own restaurant because I couldn't see myself doing anything else. I enjoy being on the floor interacting with my customers as well as creating delicious dishes. My husband, Kyle, is a great help. We were married in August, signed the papers for the restaurant Nov. 10 and opened Nov. 27, 2015. I'm putting my heart and soul into this. Our menu has something for everyone; try our mouthwatering burgers, sink your teeth into our broasted chicken, entice your taste buds with our daily specials, eat breakfast all day, dive into a homemade dessert, and a menu made just for kids. If there is something you are craving and don't see it, just ask, you just might be able to have it. This is family dining at its best!



A Brief History of Akeley

In the late 1800's a large amount of timber was to be harvested in north central Minnesota focusing mainly on Cass and Hubbard Counties. Most of this forest belonged to T.B. Walker. In order to set up the logging company two problems had to be solved. First, with no river in the area there was no way to move the logs to the mills. Second was cash flow, so Healy Akeley joined T.B. Walker as a financial partner, and together they built the largest logging operation in Minnesota history. Their first project was to build a railroad about 30 miles long in what is now known as the Paul Bunyan State Forest. With 2 Shay locomotives and 63 flat cars they delivered six trains of logs to the mill site on 11th Crow Wing lake. A town was built to supply the needs of the people who worked in the lumber industry. T.B. Walker named the town "Akeley" after his partner. It grew at a rapid pace and soon had two newspapers, 4

churches, and 17 hotels. At its peak in 1915-1916 it had 54 businesses and a population estimated at 5,000. The mill was ready to operate in 1897 but had to wait till 1899 because the railroad wasn't completed. The town and mill flourished for 17 years with 600 men working in the mill and another 1300 in the logging camps. Then in June of 1916 the mill was closed due to lack of timber. This left Akeley with no way to support its people, and by 1920 the population dropped to around 400 where it remains today. The Red River Lumber Company used Paul Bunyan in an advertisement in 1914. William B. Laughead created Paul and Babe the Blue Ox and the other characters to use in the Red River advertisements. This gives Akeley the claim as Paul Bunyan's birthplace.

By Nels Kramer



HAROLD HARRIS VFW POST 8508



Akeley is the proud home to a group of men and women who have given of themselves in service. The V.F.W. Post 8508 was named in honor of native resident Harold Harris who gave his life at Pearl Harbor. The Post has been very active since it was chartered with the Department of Minnesota Veterans of Foreign Wars in October 1946. Their members remain strongly

committed to delivering quality programs as well as serving members in need.

Commander Don Knowles along with a group of officers as well as over 150 members provide activities and economic support for community programs. Their motto is, "together we serve all".

Visit the V.F.W. for Bingo, meat raffle, ladies night, men's night, pool league, charitable gambling and pull tabs. The hall is available to rent for events at a great value. It's an excellent location for organizations because it maintains a commercial kitchen, a large room as well as the bar

and pool tables.

Members and Auxiliary serve the community in many ways. These worthy activities continue to be supported through new members learning from the seasoned veterans. It is simple to join if you are a Veteran of a Foreign War. As a member you can continue to enjoy the comradeship as well as continuing to serve our country.

Open Mon.-Wed. 3pm-close
Thurs.-Sun. noon-close

31075 State Hwy 34
www.akeleyvfw.com
218-652-9229

First National Bank North



The First National Bank North has been providing financial services to the area since 1902. First National expanded its service area to the Akeley residents in 1979. Our bank strives to exceed customer expectations by providing superior customer service and by offering a variety of quality products. We will continue to provide meaningful community service through direct financial support and the volunteer leadership of our staff. The Board of Directors and management are committed to encouraging growth while maintaining high standards of financial integrity to remain a safe and sound institution. With this commitment, it is our goal to build a relationship with you that lasts a lifetime.

218-652-3777

Lobby Hours: M-Th 9-4, F 9-4

Drive Up Hours: M-Th 9-5, F 9-6, S 9-12

On-line banking and complete list of services at:

fnbnorth.com

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY; THE LIONS CLUB



iversity of Minnesota providing eye care to members free of cost as well as a hearing clinic.

The Lions Club International was created by businessman Melvin Jones in 1917 to foster a spirit of good citizenship and humanitarian principles as well as creating partnerships between communities.

A Lion achieves success, loves human kind, gains the respect of peers and the love of children, does the work well, makes the world a better place than it was before, sees the best there is in everyone and gives the best of themselves.

The Akeley Lion's club welcomes new members; if you are interested in becoming a Lion please con-

tact president Jeff Lindstrom. Meetings are held at the Akeley VFW on the second Tuesday of the month with social hour at 6:00 and a dinner meeting at 6:30.

The Akeley Lions club was chartered in 1975 with 38 founding members sponsored by the Park Rapids Lions. The Lions club is an international organization with clubs worldwide dedicated to serving humanity. Monies earned by clubs help support local communities but also fund programs worldwide such as the eye banks, diabetes issues, leader dogs, youth outreach, food shelves and habitat for humanity. The Lions are very proud of their eye clinic at the Uni-



Contact: Jeff Lindstrom (218)652-2345
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the Month

ABIGAIL'S ATTIC



I am Ardelle McAlpine, owner of Abigail's Attic Antiques. I live near Minneapolis when not running my business in quaint

little Akeley. It's been very interesting meeting people from all corners of the world who visit my shop and appreciate the thousands of unique and interesting items that I collect.

I felt a spiritual calling to open a business here because Akeley is full of potential. I am surrounded by talented and cheerful neighbors and a lovely community that is dedicated to service. Patience, persistence and faith have kept me in business for 10 years.

Abigail's Attic is filled with treasures you will not find anywhere else because they are handmade locally, gathered from estate sales, antique dealers, or consigners.

Some days I come to work to be a blessing, to be a listener or utter a few words of encouragement. Other days it's all about business and I'm prepared to help customers find the perfect gift be it for them or someone else.

I value and appreciate the support of the community members, local business owners, and the Chamber of Commerce whom are extremely active and very progressive. I'm also thankful for my customers- the reason I'm here.

Abigail's Attic is a seasonal business, open from the first weekend in May through the first weekend in December. You'll find me open Wednesday-Saturday, 9:30-5:30. You can find me other days by chance. If the open sign is out, stop in.

You can find out more information at abigailsatticantiques.com.





THE AKELEY REGIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER

What do you do with a 1908 school building no longer being used? You turn it into the Akeley Regional Community Center (ARCC) and offer opportunities to the public which include a thrift store, a community library, gymnasium, archery club, food shelf and a community meeting room. The thrift store ("Akeley Mall") features men's, women's, and children's clothing of all sizes, toys, shoes, purses, holiday items, furniture, many misc. household items, and a book store.

Many new items are put out every day so check it out for a good deal. We welcome your visit.

The ARCC is a 501c3 non-profit organization that depends on volunteers and



donations. Contributions are always welcome for ongoing expenses, maintenance and improvements.

We desire to impact our community through personal development, mentorship and training. Check for ads and like us on facebook.



218-652-3508
Hours: Mon-Sat 10-5
210 Pleasant Ave.
akeleymn.com/arcc

The Akeley Community Library



In 2004 a group of teachers from the Akeley area developed the Akeley Community Library in the former home economics classroom of the old Akeley School. Grants were written, books were purchased and donated; soon the former school library bookshelves were overflowing with reading choices from preschool through adult, including recent best sellers. We are fortunate to

have dedicated community members serve as volunteer librarians and have the financial support of local organizations.

We offer summer reading programs and special activity days for kids; for more information watch for posted notices around town and at the library. An active book club meets once a month. There are VHS tapes, CDs, DVDs, mystery thrillers, romance, Minnesota authors, and many books available for all ages. We provide computer/printer access as well as Wi-Fi.

Library cards are available

for all, so check out this local treasure located on the south side of the ARCC, and enjoy a cup of coffee, a cookie and a good read.



Hours: Tues.-Fri. 1-5
At the ARCC
218-652-3508

This publication is Chamber sponsored as a cooperative effort to showcase our community.

The Akeley Chamber of Commerce is a volunteer organization made up of area business owners, non-profits and community members committed to growing our region. We accomplish this through education, community events, advertising and collaboration.

The Chamber meets the second Monday of the month, 5:30 at the ARCC meeting room. If you would like to join please attend a meeting, call for information or go to the member's page at akeleychamber.com.

Chamber Contact:
218-252-1541
PO Box 356, Akeley MN 56433
akeleychamber.com



Annual Events:

- Audrey's Purple Dream Fishing Tournament
2nd Saturday in February
- The Chamber/Lion's Fish Fry
Friday's during Lent, watch for dates
- The Community Wide Garage Sale
The First Saturday after fishing opener
- Paul Bunyan Days
The last full weekend in June
- Audrey's Purple Dream Fund Run
Check web site for dates
- National Night Out
The first Tuesday in August

Area Attractions:

- World's Largest Paul Bunyan Statue
- Heartland Trail
- Paul Bunyan State Forest and ATV Trails
- Headwaters of the Crow Wing Chain of Lakes
- Paul Bunyan Historical Museum
- City Beach, Playground and Boat Landing
- Lake Country Scenic Byway
- Akeley city lakeside campground

The City of Akeley



The City of Akeley was incorporated in 1916. Founded by the Red River Logging Co. in 1895, it was settled rapidly and at one time was the largest lumber mill in MN. Since that time it has

undergone many changes. Today it is situated in the heart of vacationland as the Headwaters of the Crow Wing Chain of Lakes. Akeley is one of the few cities to have an incredible campground, beach and boat landing right within the city limits. In a 19 mile radius you can find a live variety show, authentic German Cuisine and a winery as well as many miles of trails for hiking, biking, atving, snowmobiling and cross country skiing.

Akeley is your destination if you enjoy the outdoors and down to earth people who are always ready for a good time. You can find more information about the camp ground, city beach and city amenities at: akeleyminnesota.com

For more information:

Akeley Municipal Liquor Store: 218-652-4084
City of Akeley: 218-652-2465

The Akeley Muni
Where Paul Wets His Whistle!

Happy hours
M-F 11am-12pm and 5pm-7pm
Saturdays 11am-12pm and 2 for 1, 10pm-11pm
Karaoke 1st and 3rd Saturdays