

Blueberry/Art Festival 2019

Ellen Cashman, Event Director

You are invited July 26th to July 28th for the 39th Annual Blueberry/Art Festival held in Whiteside Park, sponsored by the Ely Chamber of Commerce, Event and Promotions Committee.

Ely's premier art festival is a juried show drawing 30,000 to 40,000 people to Ely during the three day event. The event opens on Friday morning at 10 a.m. Friday and Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

You will find unique, hand-crafted items and original works of art from over 260 exceptional artists and crafts people. You can also find a collection of some of the best photographers in the area, wonderful pottery, top notch jewelry, oil and water color paintings, exquisite furniture and of course the hot category of repurposed art.

The festival also features a wide variety of food and beverage vendors. There will be 20 food trucks and trailers lining the food court. Start your day with fresh, hot off the griddle blueberry pancakes, or a yummy breakfast sandwich and coffee drink. For lunch try oriental cuisine, seafood including crab cakes and coconut shrimp and the tried-and-true favorites; hamburgers or sausages with all the fixings, piles of french fries. New this year: authentic Mexican food and Mexican sodas.

Make sure you save room for blueberry pie, by the slice or whole pie. Hundreds of blueberry pies are baked fresh for the festival and are available from the Kiwanis at the Park

Pavilion.

Take time to relax and refresh, with fresh squeezed lemonade, Dorothy Molter root beer, Italian Shaved Ice, or an ice cold beer in the beer garden.

The festival features live music in the park band shell all three days. On Friday enjoy Timmy Haus from 1:00-4:00. Saturday features Bill Maxwell and Cowboy Angel Blue, performance times are 11:00-1:00 and 2:00-4:00. Top things off on Sunday with Pat & Donna Surface and the Boundary Water Boys, on stage 12:00-1:00 and 2:00-3:00. There is plenty for the younger folks to do including bungee jump, water ball and bounce house providing plenty of fun.

Stop by the Chamber of Commerce booth in the middle of the park for vendor lists, listings of all the blueberry items available by artists in the park including: blueberry soaps and lotions, blueberry paintings and cards, blueberry pottery, blueberry textiles and even blueberry vegan nail polish (new this year).

While you are enjoying the festival, be sure to stop in at our local retail businesses and restaurants too. You can also find a list of businesses carrying blueberry items throughout town. The list is available at the Chamber festival booth and also at the Chamber office.

Like them on Facebook and check them out at www.ely.org.

WTIP Announces Lineup for 12th Annual Radio Waves Music Festival Sept. 6th to 8th

WTIP Community Radio has announced the lineup for the Radio Waves Music Festival, Sept. 6th to 8th, at Sweetheart's Bluff in the Grand Marais Recreation Area. This marks the 12th year of this family-friendly festival, which features a diverse mix of local and regional artists. The event features three days of live music under the big sky and big stars of the North Shore, just a stone's throw from Lake Superior.

Twenty-five acts will take the stage at this year's festival, including six new to the festival, including the Joshua J Schmidt Band and acoustic-Ska duo Woodblind. The weekend will also feature performances by local, regional and national favorites, including: The Carpenter Ants from Charleston, West Virginia (gospel-soul), Pushing Chain (roots-Americana), Yellow Bellied Sapsuckers (hillbilly country), Cherry Dirt (Americana with a twist), Lake Effect (folk), and the students and teachers of the Grand Marais Music Collaborative (variety).

The full music lineup is online at www.wtip.org – just look for “Radio Waves Music Festival” under the EVENTS drop-down menu. Festival hours are Friday, 4 to 10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A favorite of both visitors and area residents as well as performing musicians, Radio Waves is held rain or shine - with two stages housed under a large tent - and includes on-site food as well as children's activities for a portion of Saturday and Sunday. WTIP is offering online ticket sales, a new option for 2019. Admission, also available at the gate, is \$10 per day or \$20 for the weekend. Festival admission is free to children 12 and under.

The Radio Waves Music Festival is made possible in part with funding from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, with additional support from Visit Cook County, the Gunflint Trail Association and the Grand Marais Area Tourism Association.

Old Macdonald Had A Banjo - Paul Imholte

Grand Marais Public Library is pleased to present Old MacDonald Had a Banjo, a free program being offered for kids ages 3-8 with their parents/caregivers/families, Tuesday, July 23 at 3:30 p.m.

The children's show Old MacDonald Had a Banjo, imagines a farm full of songs bursting out to entertain, educate, and involve the audience in singing, movement, and silliness. Folk musician Paul Imholte plays the part of Old MacDonald as he sings original and classic children's songs. During the show, Paul will play the fiddle, guitar, hammered dulcimer, autoharp, cello, harmonica, spoons, jaw harp, and, of course, banjo. Children and adults alike will leave the show singing and smiling after this energetic program. Program length is 45 minutes.

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



New Salon and Event Planning Comes to Downtown Two Harbors

By Kitty Mayo

Chrissy Scandin fondly remembers the days of her youth when historic downtown Two Harbors was bustling and her mom's department store, Laura Lee was a thriving business. Now she is doing her part to bring back some of that hustle and bustle with a dual business of her own.

Setting up shop next door to the building that once housed Laura Lee, Scandin will be opening a hair salon and event planning shop.

“I liked the old department store, my mom started working there while she was in high school and took it over in the '90s and was there for over 25 years. I want to help revive downtown and make it like when I was a child,” said Scandin.

The new salon, set back between the Lake Bank and the former Portside Pizza, will bear the name Dept. Two in homage to the first department store on the block and will have two chairs.

Working in hair styling for most of the last 13 years, Scandin says that is a steady skill set that will give her the base to move into more uncharted waters.

Hoping to split her work time equally between hair care and event planning, Scandin is calling her event planning business “Northern Nights”. A stint working at Glensheen mansion with their private events a couple of years ago left her wanting more of the excitement of being a part of helping people plan special events.

“I fell in love with the idea of events planning, and want to plan weddings, fundraisers, and even fun activities for locals and out of town people,” said Scandin.

She is already helping out with an upcoming August wedding, and has another event she is already working on for the Fall. Weddings, fundraisers, and parties are all to be expected as part of her event planning portfolio, but Scandin does not want to pigeon hole her operation before it has even gotten off the ground.

“I don't want to miss any group, and want to be all over to keep it exciting. I don't think I would say no to anything that was reasonable,” said Scandin.

Even while things are coming together in the recently renovated building that still needs some plumbing work to bring it up to par for salon needs, Scandin is still throwing around novel ideas. She has even thought about using her outdoor patio space to good effect with potentially having food, drink and music there on occasion.

The biggest hurdle for Scandin, she says, is balancing family life with her business goals and dreams. With two small children and a husband that works out of town frequently, she says finding the right balance is a challenge.

“I had to be realistic instead of trying to do the work of ten people,” Scandin said.

Hoping that her story will give others in the same boat a boost, Scandin especially wants to see more women taking leadership roles in business.

“I hope I can inspire some women to move forward with chasing their dreams,” said Scandin.

Setting up shop has been a major endeavor, but Scandin is hopeful that she will have the doors open by August 1st.