

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Check for articles in the newsletter for more details on events.)

Month of March MN Food Share March Campaign – Give to Your Local Food Shelf

March 26 – April 3 Waiting for Spring Sale, La Boutique Unique, 127th – 4th St N

April 1 Bike Rentals, 9 am – 1 pm, Cannon Valley Senior Center, 507-263-2136

April 2 Easter Candy Bagging Party, 9 am, True North Church, 410 Dakota St

April 3 Children's Easter Cruise, 10 am – Noon, Cannon Valley Fairgrounds, watch for maps

April 5 First Choice Clinic Expands in Cannon Falls, 118 4th St N

April 15 Cannon Falls Hiring Event, 11 am – 3 pm, 31265 Co 24 Blvd

April 26 First Choice Clinic Open House and Ribbon Cutting, 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm. 118 4th St N

June 24 Chamber Golf Tournament & Fundraiser, Noon – Lunch, 12:30 pm Shot Gun Start, Summit Golf Club

2021 DISCOVER GUIDES HAVE ARRIVED!

Are you interested in having the 2021 Discover Guides available for your customers or clients? Please come to the Chamber Office to pick them up. If you have had them in the past, that quantity has been set aside for you already. 5,250 copies were ordered this year, so there should be enough to go around. Over 1,800 copies have been sent out to the Tourist Welcome Centers around the state and to Chambers who have requested them. Come and get them while they're hot!

CHAMBER'S GOLF TOURNAMENT AND FUNDRAISER IS BACK!

The 30th Annual Chamber Golf Tournament and Fundraiser is set for Thursday, **June 24th**, at the Summit Golf Club.

During the next few weeks, a Chamber Board Member will be contacting you about prizes and certificates for this event. If you know you want to give to this event, please contact the Chamber Office at 507-263-2289.

The Golf Tournament Registration and Sponsorship Forms will be coming out next week. If you have any questions or other ideas, please call the Chamber Office at 507-263-2289 or email us at tourism@cannonfalls.org.

CHAMBER CHILDREN'S EASTER CRUISE & BUNNY HUNT

The Chamber Children's Easter Cruise is on Saturday, **April 3rd**, from 10 am – Noon, at the Cannon Valley Fairgrounds. This is a drive-through, "Safety-First" event, so please stay in your cars to meet and greet the Easter Bunny. The Cannon Falls Fire Dept. will be delivering the Easter Bunny at 10 am. Bags of candy will be handed out to the first 400 kids up to 10 years old.

Please bring a non-perishable food item or cash donation for Cannon Falls Food Shelf. Those who "give" will "get" 14 coupons from participating Chamber Members.

An added event to the Easter Cruise is the **Easter Bunny Hunt**. As families wind their way through the fairgrounds, they will need to look for bunnies (stuffed/plush) along the way. If you find them, report how many your family found to the Easter Bunny helper and you will receive an extra prize. *(If you have any stuffed bunnies that could be used, please bring them to the Chamber before Friday, April 2nd. You will get them back after the event.)*

VOLUNTEERS are needed for both Candy Bagging on Friday, April 2nd, 9 am at True North Church and for during the Cruise on Saturday, April 3rd, 10 am – noon at the Cannon Valley Fairgrounds. Please call the Chamber at 507-263-2289 or email tourism@cannonfalls.org to sign-up.

NEW MEMBERSHIP REFERRAL PROGRAM

In 2021, the Chamber Board created a new Business-to-Business Referral Program. This new program offers a \$25 credit towards a current Chamber Member's 2022 Membership for each new member who remains a member through December 31, 2021.

Both parties need to complete this referral form, sign and date it, and turn it into the Chamber Office with the new Chamber Member's Membership Application and payment. The new member's dues will be pro-rated to the number of months remaining in 2021. If the date on this form is the 15th of the month or earlier, the new member will pay for this specific month plus the remaining months. If the date is after the 16th of the month, the new member's dues will be calculated starting the next month and the remaining months of the calendar.

If you have any questions about this referral program, please contact the Chamber by calling 507-263-2289 or emailing tourism@cannonfalls.org

2021 CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS

The Chamber currently has 159 members. If you haven't paid your membership dues for 2021, you could miss out on some great promotion and advertising opportunities.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MAY 11TH!

The ISD #252 has a capital project levy/bond referendum coming up soon and the items on the ballot are listed below. The tax impact is also illustrated in the attached brochure.

The May 11 referendum ballot includes 4 questions:

- **Question 1** Tech levy would continue to provide funds for our 1:1 technology initiative so we can sustain our operating budget without needing to make budget cuts.
- **Question 2** Bond Referendum to improve student learning opportunities in the current shop (career and technical education spaces) that haven't been improved/refreshed since they were built over 60 years ago. A lot has changed in this area of education in the last 60 years. This bond would also finish the indoor air quality improvements at the high school and career and technical education spaces that the district began 5 years ago
- **Question 3** Bond Referendum makes improvements at the high school gymnasium that include re-finishing the gym floor and replacing the portion that has buckled and replace the bleachers that are so old that we can no longer get replacement parts. This bond would also make improvements at the outdoor athletic stadium that would re-grade the stadium field with a new crown, remove defective irrigation system, install lighting and re-surface the track
- **Question 4** would take the next step and add artificial turf that would allow all programming to have access to this field, provide additional outdoor physical education, athletic practices, outdoor learning and community activities.

If you would like more information about the referendum, would like to show your support by adding your name to the endorsement postcard, or are interested in making a donation to support the efforts of promoting the referendum, please contact Laura Qualey at lqualey@gmail.com or 651-329-5116, Keith Meyers at keith@keithmeyers.com or 507- 263-4830 ext. 301, Jeromy Mouw at mouw@mchsi.com or 507-263-5017 or Dan Meyers danmeyers38@gmail.com.

APRIL 1st - CANNON VALLEY TRAIL PASSES

April 1st is the start date for Wheel Passes being required on the Cannon Valley Trail. The Wheel Passes are available online at www.cannonvalleytrail.com The cost for the passes is \$25 for the year or \$5 for a day.

The 2021 Cannon Valley Trail Passes are also available at the following locations:

- Cannon Falls – Cannon Valley Specialties, Althoff Hardware, Family Fare, CannonBelles Coffee & Ice Cream, Cannon Valley Senior Center, and Cannon Falls Area Chamber of Commerce
- Welch - Bleu Dog Café
- Red Wing – St James Hotel, Red Wing Visitor Center, and Pier 55/Senior Center

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

When Congress passed the \$1.9 trillion [American Rescue Plan](#), it included a \$28.6 billion relief package earmarked for grants to restaurants called the **Restaurant Revitalization Fund**. The Restaurant Revitalization Fund supplies tax-free federal grants to eligible restaurant businesses equal to their COVID-19 pandemic-related revenue losses. Fund grants do not need to be paid back. Unlike the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), which was administered by lenders with the Small Business Administration (SBA) in the background, Fund will be administered directly by SBA. If you have any questions about this plan, please contact Laura Qualey at 651-329-5116 or laura.qualey@cedausa.com

Who is Eligible:

The Fund provides grants to “eligible entities,” which include:

- Restaurants and Caterers
- Food Stands, Food Trucks and Food Carts
- Saloons, Taverns, Bars and Lounges
- Inns
- Brewpubs, Taprooms and Tasting Rooms
- Similar businesses where patrons assemble for the primary purpose of being served food or drink.

Who is NOT Eligible:

- Businesses that have applied for or received a Shutter Venue Operators grant are not eligible
- Publicly-traded companies are ineligible, but franchisees of publicly-traded companies are eligible.

How Much is Available?

- Grants will be available in amounts of up to \$5 million per physical location, with a maximum of \$10 million for eligible entities.
- \$5 billion of the Fund is earmarked specifically for smaller operators, specifically, eligible entities with 2019 gross receipts of \$500,000 or less.
- The remaining \$23.6 billion of the Fund is available for all other eligible entities.
- Grant amounts will be based on “pandemic-related revenue loss,” which generally equals the difference between 2020 gross receipts and 2019 gross receipts. If your business was not operating for the entirety of 2019, revenue loss would be determined by annualizing gross receipts—i.e., comparing 12 times average 2019 monthly gross receipts versus 12 times average 2020 monthly gross receipts. If your business began in 2020, you may still be able to receive a grant equal to the amount of “eligible expenses,” less 2020 gross receipts. Finally, for a business not yet in operation as of the application date, grants equal “eligible expenses.”

PLEASE NOTE:

- Pandemic-related revenue losses are reduced by any PPP loans received.
- Funding received from the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) or the Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERC) do not count towards 2020 revenues.
- **However**, EIDL and ERC funds may not be used to cover the same expenses as Fund grants.

What Expenses are Eligible? - *(Eligible expenses are those expenses incurred beginning February 15, 2020 and running through December 31, 2021)*

There is a wide range of expenses for which the grant funds may be used. Eligible expenses include:

- Payroll costs
- Mortgage obligations & Rent payments
- Utilities
- Maintenance expenses,
- Supplies, Food and Beverage expenses,
- Supplier costs
- Paid sick leave
- Any other expense the SBA determines to be essential for the eligible entity

What Expenses are NOT Eligible?

- Renovation and redecoration are not eligible expenses.

When will grants become available?

- There is not a concrete date when the SBA will begin accepting Fund applications. You can follow the SBA’s COVID-19 relief efforts at <http://www.sba.gov/coronavirusrelief>
- You can also learn more about the American Rescue Plan Act here: [American Rescue Plan Act Elevates Small Business Support in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic \(sba.gov\)](#)

What Should You Do Now?

Most commentators expect high demand for Fund grants, so you should begin preparing as soon as possible. *While waiting for the Fund applications to open, you should obtain a **Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number** and a **System for Award Management (SAM) number**, both of which will be required to complete any application and currently are taking roughly 2 weeks to obtain.* Another step you should take is to compile receipts and financial statements to demonstrate 2019 and 2020 revenue and expenses.

THE FERNDALE EASTER GOBBLE – SUPPORT LOCAL THIS EASTER!

When you shop at Ferndale Market, you not only support our family business, but also all the local farmers and food producers we work with. For example:

- The eggs you purchase to decorate come from nearby **L&R Poultry and Produce**; a small farm headed up by Rae Rusnak. When we opened our market in 2008, Rae was one of our very first partners. Since then, she's delivered thousands of her fresh, free-range eggs to our store, always staying afterward to do her own grocery shopping.
- The **Lorentz Meats** ham you purchase supports the second-generation meat processor in Cannon Falls and helps them employ nearly 100 people locally. Lorentz is a true partner of ours. We not only sell their products in our store, but also create many of our turkey items, including our popular smoked turkeys, at their facility.
- When you buy **Brick Oven Bakery** dinner rolls, you support an independent bakery and café in Northfield that has been in business for over 20 years. Brick Oven delivers fresh bread to our market twice a week and purchases our turkey to use in their café.
- When you purchase **Crystal Ball Farms** milk, you are helping a small family-run dairy in Osceola, Wisconsin, a state that leads the nation in family farm closures. In 2018, Crystal Ball Farms had to completely rebuild after a devastating fire. Now fully back up and running, thanks in large part to the community's support, they continue to create all-natural, non-homogenized milk, pasteurized at a low heat and bottled in reusable glass.
- When you fill your Easter baskets with **Costas Candies** truffles, you are supporting a family owned and operated business that has been handcrafting candies in Owatonna since 1919. When our chocolate stock is low, we email the owner directly to place an order.

While these are just a few examples, there are faces and stories behind every product we have on our shelves. Your purchase makes an impact and allows them to continue doing what they do. Thank you and happy Easter!

FIRST CHOICE CLINIC EXPANDS IN CANNON FALLS

First Choice Clinic, formerly LifeChoice of Cannon Falls, will open its door on Monday, **April 5th**, 2021. The clinic's hours will be Mondays from 1pm – 4 pm and Wednesdays from 10 am – 2 pm. All services are provided to women and men by licensed, trained staff and are confidential and free of charge. The Cannon Falls Area Chamber of Commerce will be holding a ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, **April 26th** at 4 pm, during an Open House with tours which will run from 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm. This is open to the public. Pre-packaged light refreshments will be served. Rain date is **May 3rd**.

The Cannon Falls clinic, located at 118 4th Street North, has been legally upgraded to be a medical clinic as a satellite of Red Wing and will offer pregnancy testing, limited OB ultrasounds, STD testing and treatment, lactation and breastfeeding consults, and postpartum depression assistance, in addition to all the services and Outreach programs in the local schools provided previously. Both clinic locations are under the medical oversight of Dr. Eric Poulin and compliance oversight Executive Director Rose Korabek.

MN FOOD SHARE – MARCH CAMPAIGN

40th Year Anniversary - During the month of March, give to your local Food Shelf or donate at www.mnfoodshare.org/donate. In March, your dollars will go farther with the State of MN giving back a percentage of your donation to your local Food Shelf.

Our local Food Shelf needs the following specific items:

Food items:

hearty soups
saltine crackers
Hamburger Helper
snack crackers
cookies
coffee

Non-food items:

laundry detergent
dish soap
shampoo
pump hand soap
toothpaste

**I L  VE
CANNON
FALLS!**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN CANNON FALLS AREA

CANNON FALLS CANOE & BIKE RENTAL

Drivers Wanted – Must be 25 years old or older, have a clean driving record and a regular driver's license. Mostly weekend hours. If interested, call or text 507-407-4111.

EXPRESS EMPLOYMENT PROFESSIONALS

Extrusion Operator for a well-known door company located in Cannon Falls, MN. This role will be packing parts and performing quality checks in order to produce quality profiles and actively participating in filling out near miss forms to help eliminate workplace hazards. Individuals will also be responsible for all aspects of quality checking and recording on all the lines being packaged, performing quality double checks for other lines within the cell and maintaining accurate records of production. This role is required to follow all safety procedures as outlined, using all approved safety devices and equipment at all times. For more information, please call 651-388-6331, email Anna.Davidson@ExpressPros.com

Metal Finishing position with a well-known assembly company located in the Cannon Falls area. This role will reviewing work orders to insure familiarization with job requirements, maintain a log of plated parts completed during the shift, racking and un-racking all parts insuring that such are properly spaced, changing hooks and racks as required for different parts, inspecting parts continuously to insure the plating process if performed in a manner consistent with company standard, as well as working closely with the Finishing department to gain knowledge of all procedures and methods. Desirable candidates are expected to operate all equipment in a safe manner following all approved safety procedures, maintain a neat and orderly work area, and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers. Must be able to perform a variety of reasonably similar or related duties as instructed. For more information, please call 651-388-6331, email Anna.Davidson@ExpressPros.com

RANCHO LOCO GRILL AND BAR

Help Wanted – Looking for waiters, waitresses and hostesses. PT or FT. To apply, stop by the restaurant at 31303 – 64th Ave Path or call 651-800-8200 and ask for Isma.

ST. ANSGAR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Job Opening: Applications open for **Secretary Receptionist position**. St. Ansgar's Lutheran Church 7459 Highway 19 Blvd. Cannon Falls, MN. Part Time, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Monday – Friday. Send written work-related resume along with two job related written references to: sapastorrandy@gmail.com. For more information call 507-923-3098.

MEMBER-TO-MEMBER NEWS –

If you have an event, activity or announcement you want shared with all of the Chamber Members, please send your information to the Chamber Office at tourism@cannonfalls.org by Thursday of each week.

WAITING FOR SPRING SALE – 50% Off

March 26th – April 3rd

La Boutique Unique, 127 – 4th St N

"New Spring arrivals are delayed BUT no worries. Let's make room for them with an awesome Waiting for Spring Sale with 50% OFF all clothing from March 25 - April 3 at La Boutique Unique, 127 4th St N. Currently open 11 - 4 Monday - Saturday."

BIKE RENTALS START ON APRIL 1ST

As of **April 1st**, the Cannon Valley Senior Center (CVSC) will have bike rentals available to the public. Call Lora at the CVSC to reserve your bike at 507-263-2136. The bikes are located at CVSC, 120 W State St.

As of April 1st, don't forget to get a Wheel Pass for the Cannon Valley Trail. \$5 for a daily pass and \$25 for a yearly pass.

LET'S PLAY BINGO

Monday, **April 5th**, 10 am – 11 am

Cannon Valley Senior Center (CVSC), 120 West State St.

Starting in March, the CVSC started holding Bingo the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month. Due to social distancing requirements, it is best to RSVP for a seat by calling Lora Bremer at 507-263-2136 or emailing her at

lora@cannonvalleyseniorcenter.org Be sure to mark your calendars for **April 19th** and **May 3rd**.

ARE YOU UP FOR CRAFTING?

Wednesday, **April 7th**, 9 am – Noon

Cannon Valley Senior Center (CVSC), 120 West State St.

Quilting, embroidering, and card making are all a part of the Craft Time that is being held at CVSC on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. More crafts can be added. Due to social distancing requirements, it is best to RSVP for your space by calling Lora Bremer at 507-263-2136 or emailing her at lora@cannonvalleyseniorcenter.org. Be sure to mark your calendars for Craft Time on Wednesdays, **April 21st** and **May 5th**.

YOGA THERAPY: RELIEVE PAIN, MANAGE STRESS

Thursday, **April 8th** Noon – 1 pm

Free Zoom Webinar – To Register go to <https://www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org/classes-and-events/yoga-therapy-relieve-pain-manage-stress>

Did you know that yoga can help with chronic health conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and chronic pain? Join Michele Hoffman, a certified yoga therapist at Mayo Clinic Health System, to learn gentle yoga postures that can be performed while sitting on a chair or standing, as well as breathing practices and relaxation techniques that can relieve muscle tension, reduce pain, increase energy and improve sleep.

Upon registration, you will receive an email with a link that will allow you to access the meeting. Check your junk mail if you don't receive this email.

Click on the link a few minutes before the start of the event. Sometimes technical issues can occur when joining a virtual meeting. If the link does not work, you can call the phone number in your confirmation email to listen to the event.

Calling rates apply.

CANNON FALLS HIRING EVENT

Thursday, April 15th, 11 am – 3 pm

31265 Co 24 Blvd

Express Employment Professionals place people in Commercial Jobs (warehouse, CNC, shipping and more); Administrative Jobs (office, billing and more); and Professional Jobs (Accountant, Engineering and more).

Some of these current openings include: Shipping/Receiving, Forklift/Warehouse, General Labor, Welding, Customer Service, Paralegal, Machine Operation, Janitorial, and Manufacturing Specialist.

Have a resume? Bring it with you. For more information, contact Express Employment Professionals at 651-388-6331 or anna.davidson@expresspros.com. Check us out at <https://www.facebook.com/CannonFallsExpress>

RIVERWOOD CHURCH RETIREMENT AND RESIGNATION

Pastor Andrew Lundstrum - After much prayerful consideration and trusting in the Holy Spirit's guidance, I have made the decision to resign as Associate Pastor of Riverwood Community Church and accept a call to become the Lead Pastor of First Baptist Church in Wellman, Iowa. I will begin my call at First Baptist Church on Sunday, **May 30th**.

Pastor Mark LaFollette – After 31 years in pastoral ministry, Pastor Mark and his wife, Judy, believe it is time to begin a transition from the fulltime pastorate. Pastor Mark will be retiring in July of this year. My plan is to preach through Sunday, **July 11th**, and serve on the church staff through mid-July.

Even though I will be stepping away from the full-time pastorate, we will continue to be in ministry. An area of ministry that has been on our hearts for about ten years is the care and strengthening of couples in ministry. For the past decade, we have been serving pastors and wives in our spare time both through our Converge district and in two retreat ministries.

We have now been invited to begin serving part time with the leaders of Deer Ridge Ministries. This ministry provides retreats for pastors and spouses for spiritual renewal and Sabbath rest. They have served thousands of pastors since their founding in 2003.

2021 CHAMBER SPONSORSHIPS (as of 03262021)



MAYO CLINIC
HEALTH SYSTEM

2021 CHAMBER DIAMOND SPONSOR

2021 CHAMBER GOLD SPONSOR



FLOWER BASKET SPONSORSHIPS FROM COMMUNITY

Carrie Johnson and Ryan Josephs – *In honor and loving memory of Patty Anderson*

Gwen Rose – *In Memory of David Delzer and Theresa Rose*

Mrs. Evelyn L Strack

Liz O’Gorman – *In Memory of Bob, Laurie and Dan O’Gorman*

In 2021, the Cannon Falls Area Chamber Sponsorships are taking on a new look. Instead of selecting specific Chamber events, your business logo or name will be represented in the promotions for the events listed in that specific level.

\$100 SPONSORSHIP LEVEL –

Children’s Easter Cruise, Flower Baskets, Halloween Trick or Treat Trot & Open-Air Fair

Bayer Crop Science

Cycle America

Mayo Clinic Health System

Merchants Bank

Peterson Turkey Hatchery – *In Memory of Pat Anderson*

Northside Storage

Rod Nelson – *In Memory of Mary Nelson and Pat Anderson*

Sustane Natural Fertilizer

\$250 SPONSORSHIP LEVEL –

Golf Tournament Hole Sign & Deck the Falls Fireworks

\$400 SPONSORSHIP LEVEL –

Golf Tournament Meal

\$500 SPONSORSHIP LEVEL –

Golf Tournament Team and Light Up Cannon Falls

Mayo Clinic Health System

Merchants Bank

Sustane Natural Fertilizer