

Fun ways to help support our communities!

Submitted by the
Ozaukee County
Tourism Commission

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

As a tourism-based organization, the Ozaukee County Tourism Council is dedicated to providing information about the wonderful attractions, trails, parks, dining, shopping, events and more throughout Ozaukee County. However, during this challenging time when all of us are responsibly reacting to the COVID-19 situation and staying safe at home, we wanted to share some of the incredible ways our local businesses are staying in touch with consumers, and ways we can support our communities while keeping ourselves and others safe. As we all know, things are changing by the hour so we recommend visiting websites and Facebook pages for updates.

The Gem Shop

The Gem Shop in downtown Cedarburg is the midwest's largest rock shop, featuring full lapidary services and a retail store with home décor, jewelry, fossils, beads, faceted stones, rough rock slabs, lapidary equipment and so much more. Although the store is closed, they are offering Facebook Live sessions, the first was held on March 26 and featured Malawi Agate and all the new products they picked up at the recent Tucson Gem & Mineral Show. Follow their Facebook for upcoming sessions.

Artist Guild

Art lovers take note! The Cedarburg Artist Guild is offering 92 pieces of art from the Cedarburg Artists Guild for the show Purple Rain. Although the exhibit is closed for now, these works of art are on their Facebook page @cedarburg.guild. Many local artists are offering art on their own pages as well – not only are they filling our newsfeeds with fun colorful art, many pieces are available for purchase simply by contacting the artist.

glaze!

Thiensville's popular shop glaze! is a family-favorite paint your own pottery & glass fusing studio. They are offering kits to-go and ordering is simple! Just call 262-238-5456, let them know what you would like to paint, choose your colors and when you get there, they will bring your supplies out to you. You can even order ice cream from their Purple Frog parlor. If you're unable to get there, they can even arrange delivery.

Lunch Doodles

The Cedarburg Art Museum is temporarily closed, but they're offering Lunch Doodles every day at noon, an opportunity for families to draw along with best-selling author and illustrator Mo Willems. If you can't corral the kids exactly at noon, the episodes are recorded and available to watch at any time. Visit the Cedarburg Art Museum on Facebook for information.

Trails

Fortunately we're still able to enjoy the outdoors safely! There are many beautiful trails throughout Ozaukee County. The Ozaukee Interurban Trail spans across the county and offers 30 miles of paved trails for biking, walking, skating and more. You can pick it up in any community with parking locations. Visit www.interurbantrail.com for more information.

Riveredge Nature Center's Visitor's Center, programs and events have been canceled until April 12. However, their 10-miles of trails are open from dawn until dusk! Please visit www.riveredgenaturecenter.org for fee information and more. Stay tuned as Riveredge Nature Center will be providing educational videos and opportu-



Submitted photo

You can still enjoy our local trails and county parks during the statewide lockdown. Pictured here is Grafton's Milwaukee River bridge.



Submitted photo

Several restaurants in the county are still open for carry-out and curbside services. Here's a meal from Kyotes Bar & Grill.

nities via social media, their website and email on how to enjoy the natural world in your backyard, get creative outdoors with your family and more! They will be using #RiveredgeVirtualNaturalist.

The Mequon Nature Preserve building is closed, but their trails are open and they are celebrating this opportunity to reconnect with nature. Visit their Facebook page for wonder-

ful educational videos the whole family will enjoy, such as how maple sap turns into syrup.

Harrington Beach State Park is a 702-acre Wisconsin state park on the shore of Lake Michigan. In addition to a mile-long beach, the park contains a white cedar swamp surrounding a 26-acre lake that used to be a stone quarry. The park is open and a great place for hiking and bird watching.

Get outdoors

The Ozaukee Washington Land Trust has launched a new website: www.naturenowlt.org. The website is a community forum that provides the public the opportunity to come together and celebrate our protected outdoor places. You can share your outdoor recreations tips, get answers to specific questions, be inspired and learn how you can make the most of your time outdoors.

Ozaukee County Parks are open, but with all public places, observe the 6 feet or more distance from each other, stay away from playground equipment and remember to keep hands clean! Note that buildings at the parks are closed, which includes restrooms.

Eating out

Although a number of our eateries have closed for indoor dining, many are offering curbside pick-up or delivery! There are resources on Facebook providing information as to who is offering what type of service, contact information and wonderful mouth-watering photos! The Ozau-

kee County Tourism Facebook page offers partner Restaurant BINGO! The BINGO card shows what restaurants are offering pick-up and delivery. There are also many posts each day with updates on specials. The Belgium, Cedarburg, Grafton, Mequon/Thiensville and Saukville Area Chambers of Commerce are also providing restaurant information in their communities. There is also a countywide Facebook group called Local Menus for Take Out in Ozaukee County where people can share information.

Alcohol beverages can also be purchased for pick-up at many locations. Fermentorium Brewery and Tasting Room in Cedarburg, Inventor's Brewpub in Port Washington and Sahale Ale Works in Grafton are among a number of the breweries providing your favorites or something new for carryout. Some of the restaurants are offering beverages as well. Visit their Facebook pages or contact them for days, times and online ordering as they vary. Cedar Creek Winery is closed, but you can place an order as long as it can be shipped via UPS.

Many stores throughout the county are not open, however many have online shopping available. Another way to support businesses of all types is to purchase gift certificates/gift cards to use at another time and give as gifts. Perhaps to healthcare staff, emergency personnel, teachers, friends or yourself! For a list of Ozaukee Tourism businesses you can support, visit our website at www.ozaukee-tourism.com.

Do keep in mind that things have changed daily, so do visit websites and Facebook pages for updates.

We are all in this together and we will be stronger than ever!! Thank you for supporting the community! Be safe! Be well!