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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2009-10

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on ... Transportation, Tourism,
Forestry, and Natural Resources (SC-TTFNR)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
(**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
(**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sfr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources

Senate Bill 526

Relating to: authorizing the village of Stockholm to become a premier resort area.
By Senators Vinehout and Holperin; cosponsored by Representative Danou.

February 09, 2010 Referred to Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources.

April 8, 2010 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present: (6) Senators Holperin, Sullivan, Hansen, Leibham, Kedzie and Grothman.
Absent: (1) Senator Plale.

Appearances For

- Kathleen Vinehout — 31st Senate District
- Pat Ament — Village of Stockholm
- Kathleen Burk — Village of Stockholm

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- None.

Registrations For

- None.

Registrations Against

- None.

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

April 22, 2010 Failed to pass pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution 1.

Committee Clerk



October 28, 2008

Stockholm Merchants' Association
Po Box 35, Stockholm Wisconsin
(715) 442-5017

Senator Kathleen Vinehout
Room 104, State Capitol
PO Box 7882
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Dear Senator Vinehout,

On behalf of the Stockholm Merchants', we would like to inform you that the Association members and the Board members are in full support of creating a Premiere Resort Tax status for the merchants in Stockholm, Wisconsin

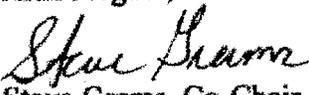
We appreciate your willingness to author the Bill and look forward to working with you in obtaining this status.

Please feel free to contact us if you have further questions or concerns regarding this matter.

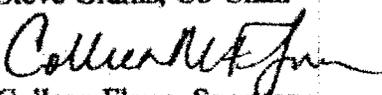
Sincerely,



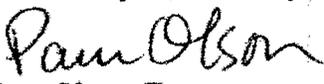
Alan Nugent, Co-Chair



Steve Grams, Co-Chair



Colleen Flynn, Secretary



Pam Olson, Treasurer

SB 526
folder



SB 526
folder

November 3, 2008

Stockholm Village Board
Po Box 35, Stockholm Wisconsin
(715) 442-5017

Senator Kathleen Vinehout
Room 104, State Capitol
PO Box 7882
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

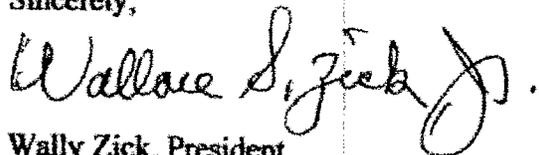
Dear Senator Vinehout,

On behalf of the Stockholm Village Board, we would like to inform you that the Village's Board members are in full support of creating a Premiere Resort Tax status for the merchants in Stockholm, Wisconsin.

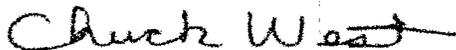
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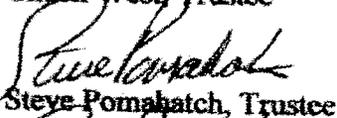
Sincerely,



Wally Zick, President



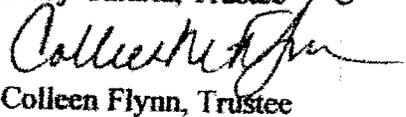
Chuck West, Trustee



Steve Pomahatch, Trustee



Larry Caturia, Trustee



Colleen Flynn, Trustee





KATHLEEN VINEHOUT

STATE SENATOR

**Testimony in Support of SB 526- Stockholm Premier Resort Area
Senate Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry and Natural Resources
Thursday, April 8, 2010**

At the request of the village of Stockholm and the Stockholm Merchants Association, I introduced Senate Bill 526 with Rep. Chris Danou. The bill authorizes the village to declare itself a premier resort area via public referendum. Stockholm is a beautiful and vibrant small community with spectacular views of Lake Pepin. The village has worked hard to develop itself as a top destination for fine dining, arts and crafts, antiques, handmade furniture and unique clothing. *Travel Wisconsin* rated Stockholm as one of the top five shopping destinations in Wisconsin.

While visitors are naturally drawn to Stockholm's natural beauty, the small village struggles to maintain the infrastructure necessary to maintain a tourism-based economy. The village currently needs to repair or replace a bridge, a culvert, a street leading to a historic landmark and a drainage ditch running through the commercial district. These improvements are much needed, but difficult to finance with a population of 97 people.

The Stockholm Merchants Association and the Stockholm Village Board contacted me with an idea to authorize the village to declare itself a premier resort area. Under current law a political subdivision may, by ordinance, declare itself a premier resort area if at least 40% of the equalized value of the taxable property within the subdivision is related to tourism.

Stockholm does not meet the 40% requirement. However, the state has exempted similar municipalities. The City of Bayfield was exempted from the equalized value requirement in 2001. The City of Eagle River was exempted in 2006.

Senate Bill 526 exempts the Village of Stockholm from the 40% of equalized value threshold. The bill also provides that to be enacted, the premier resort tax must be approved by a majority of electors at referendum.

This bill gives Stockholm an addition resource to reinvest in the infrastructure that supports their main industry without instituting a general sales tax increase. Additionally, the bill gives the residents of Stockholm a direct say in whether or not they wish to institute the 0.05% tax on tourism related goods and services.



Close to home...
worlds away

Stockholm

ON THE MISSISSIPPI

One of Midwest Livings
BEST SMALL TOWN GETAWAYS



**Extraordinary
Shops**

**Fine
Dining**

**Exceptional
Lodging**

Abode The Region's premier gallery of local and regional fine art, furnishings and design.

Bogus Creek Cafe Cafe style food, fresh baked goods, espresso drinks and ice cream.

Gelly's A full bar with outside deck seating and great food!

LillaHus A Scandinavian guest cottage... coming soon.

Maidenwood Wedding Center and B & B on a gorgeous 80-acre country estate.

Northern Oak A locally owned Amish furniture and gift gallery.

The Palate Gourmet cookware and food items, dinnerware and home decor.

River Road Inn Uncommon Luxury.

Sandy's Clothing A truly delightful boutique with clothing, accessories and artful objects.

Savvy Fabulous fashion accessories and home accents.

Sense of Place Books, toys and more, themed to nature and regional history.

Spring Street Inn An exquisite resurrection of the old Merchants' Hotel.

Stockholm General Foods, cheeses, wines and beers all crafted in Wisconsin. Picnic supplies and espresso. Wine tastings daily.

Stockholm Pie Company Famous pies, cinnamon rolls, baked goods, ice cream and treats.

Up a Creek Junk market finds blended with new, budget-conscious home accessories.

*Rated one of the TOP 5
shopping destinations in Wisconsin
by TravelWisconsin.com*

See event & festival information at
www.stockholmwisconsin.com

SB 526
folder



COMFORTSIMPLICITYSTYLE

MAY/JUNE 2007

cottage living

summer
garden ideas

easy
outdoor living

inviting
cottage
makeovers



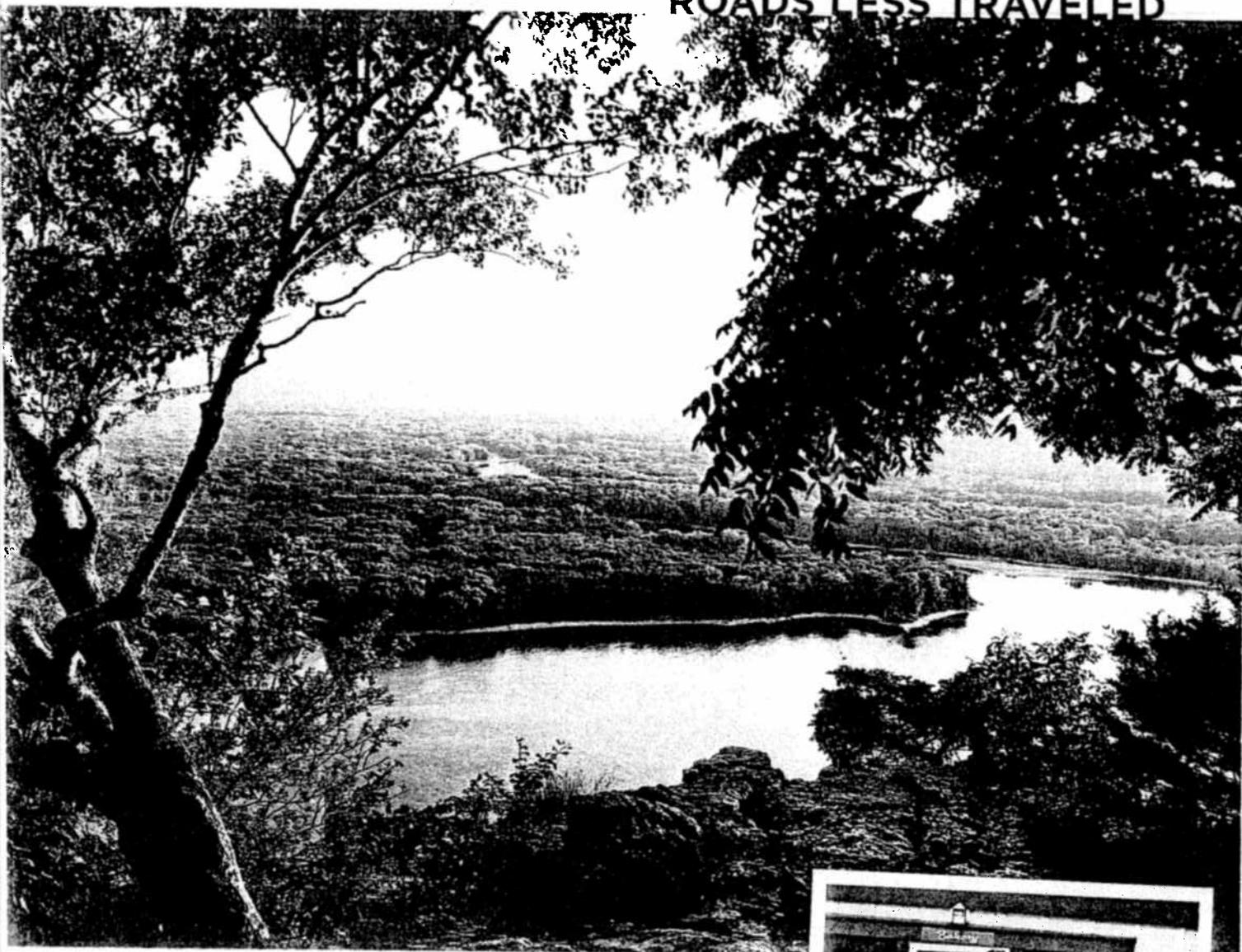
Step inside the
gate of this
Maine garden
page 96

cottageliving.com
AOL Keyword: Cottage Living

\$3.99 US



Feel the breeze!



Near Minneapolis, Bluff Country mixes cottage charm and the ancient beauty of the Mississippi

"WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG to get here?"

Excuse me? I've never met or spoken to this woman in my life. I just walked onto the weeping willow-shaded patio of Bogus Creek Café and Bakery in Stockholm, Wisconsin, and the owner, a tall woman with a tan face, gardener's hands, and long, sun-highlighted brown hair, wants to know where I've been. Well, until about five hours ago. I've been in Alabama, clueless about the stunning Mississippi River Bluff Country slicing between southeastern Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

"You've been missing out all this time on the river country," Colleen Flynn tells me. "I've always been in love with this river. There's an aura to living beside it."

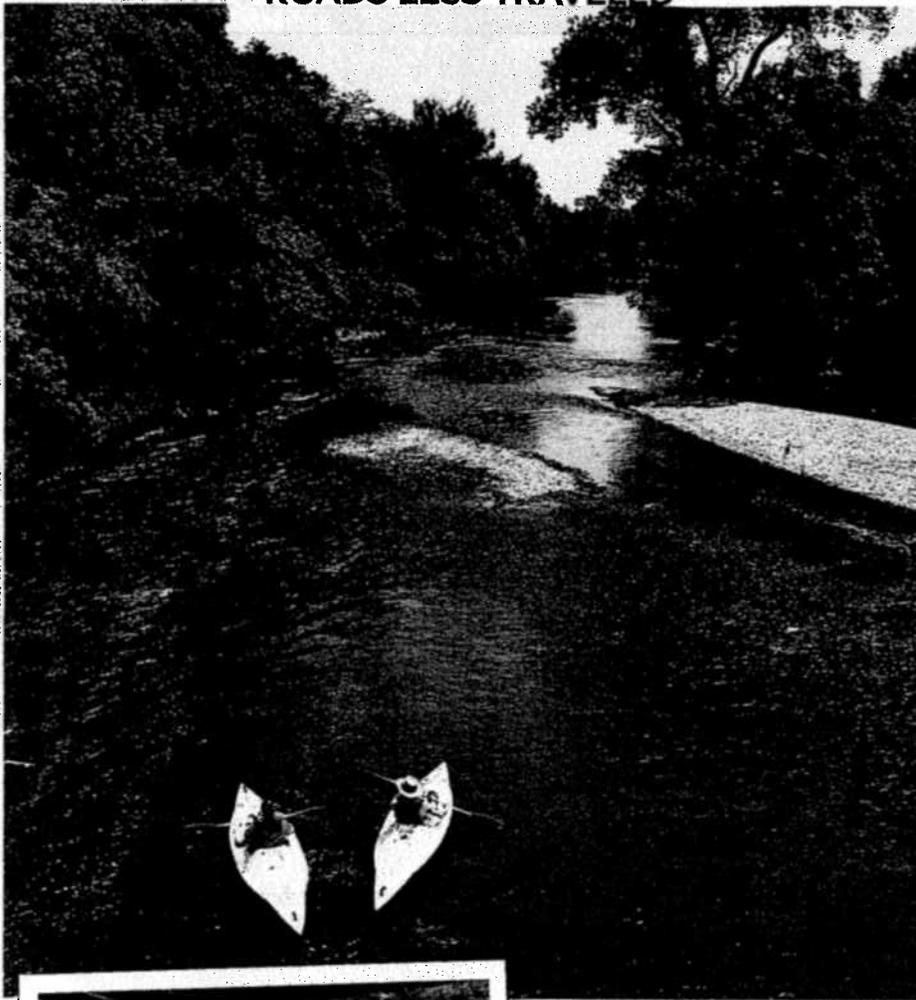
Is this woman some reincarnation of Tom Sawyer's girlfriend, Becky? Colleen >



above
Alma, Wisconsin, the views go on forever and the Mississippi shows off its full breadth.

owner of
Stockholm's Bogus Creek Café and Bakery, welcomes visitors to share Bluff Country's riverside lifestyle.

BYWAYS ROADS LESS TRAVELED



▲ COTTAGE FOR RENT \$\$\$

A COTTAGE IN STOCKHOLM, 715/448-2048 or cottageinstockholm.com. Little Stockholm, Wisconsin, population 97, could use another local, even if just for a couple of nights. This cottage overlooking the river is a short walk to the water and the tiny main drag for shopping and food. Best part is, it's all yours—no B&B obligations or shared hot tubs.



The Mississippi flows clean and clear through new spring green before dumping into the Mississippi. Rent kayaks or inner tubes, or just sit beside it in the small town of Welch. Or a wine tasting with gourmet cheeses? Take your pick at the Nelson Cheese Factory, a surprising roadside stop in Nelson, Wisconsin.

gazes through the willow veil, across the street and seemingly through the homes that block a view of the river. Its presence is undeniable. The mighty Mississippi, still close to its source at Lake Itasca and only a fraction of its southern volume, winds a powerful path through this vibrant green landscape of castle-like bluffs and towns that open in late spring with the small, contained energy of a tree anticipating a short growing season.

The secret to the dramatic beauty here is ancient and slow. Unlike in the northern and central parts of Minnesota and Wisconsin, glaciers never reached the states' southerly regions. They couldn't take the heat, so their slow-creeping bulldozer effect didn't level the natural bluffs cut by an even older Mississippi River. Though the wide, lazy river has reclaimed its hold on this easygoing border country, a subtle current is rippling down from energetic Minneapolis, an hour and a half northwest, infusing a freshness to the small towns' cottage charm.

After coffee with Colleen at Bogus Creek, I cross the street to check out an attractive storefront. The owners of Abode, Steve Grams and Allen Nugent, welcome me into their stylish home-furnishings store and then direct me back across the street to Clementine, where Allison Lisk assembles pretty displays in her fragrant flower shop. Here in little Stockholm, Allison tends to her shop, though she also travels a couple of times a year to France to produce floral arrangements at the Palace of Versailles with the American Friends of Versailles organization.

The town's charm seems endless. On the north side, A Cottage in Stockholm basks in the early summer sun on a little grassy rise overlooking the Mississippi. It's one of those small picturesque houses that stops you on the sidewalk and sends a shot of envy up your spine: Who gets to live here? You do—the house rents for two-night (or longer) stays, so visitors can move in and act like Bluff Country locals for an >



BACK TO THE COTTAGE | DINING A FRESCO | MAD CITY CHICKENS

WISCONSIN TRAILS

PEOPLE • HISTORY • NATURE • TRAVEL • CULTURE

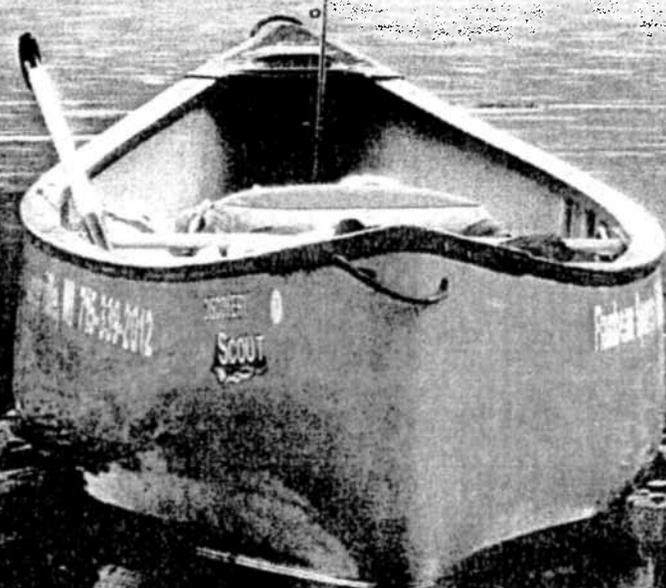
Call of the Wild



SHIPWRECKS!
What's Under Lake Michigan?

Hike Heaventy Cathedral Pines

Women Who Run With the Wolves
(the football team, that is)



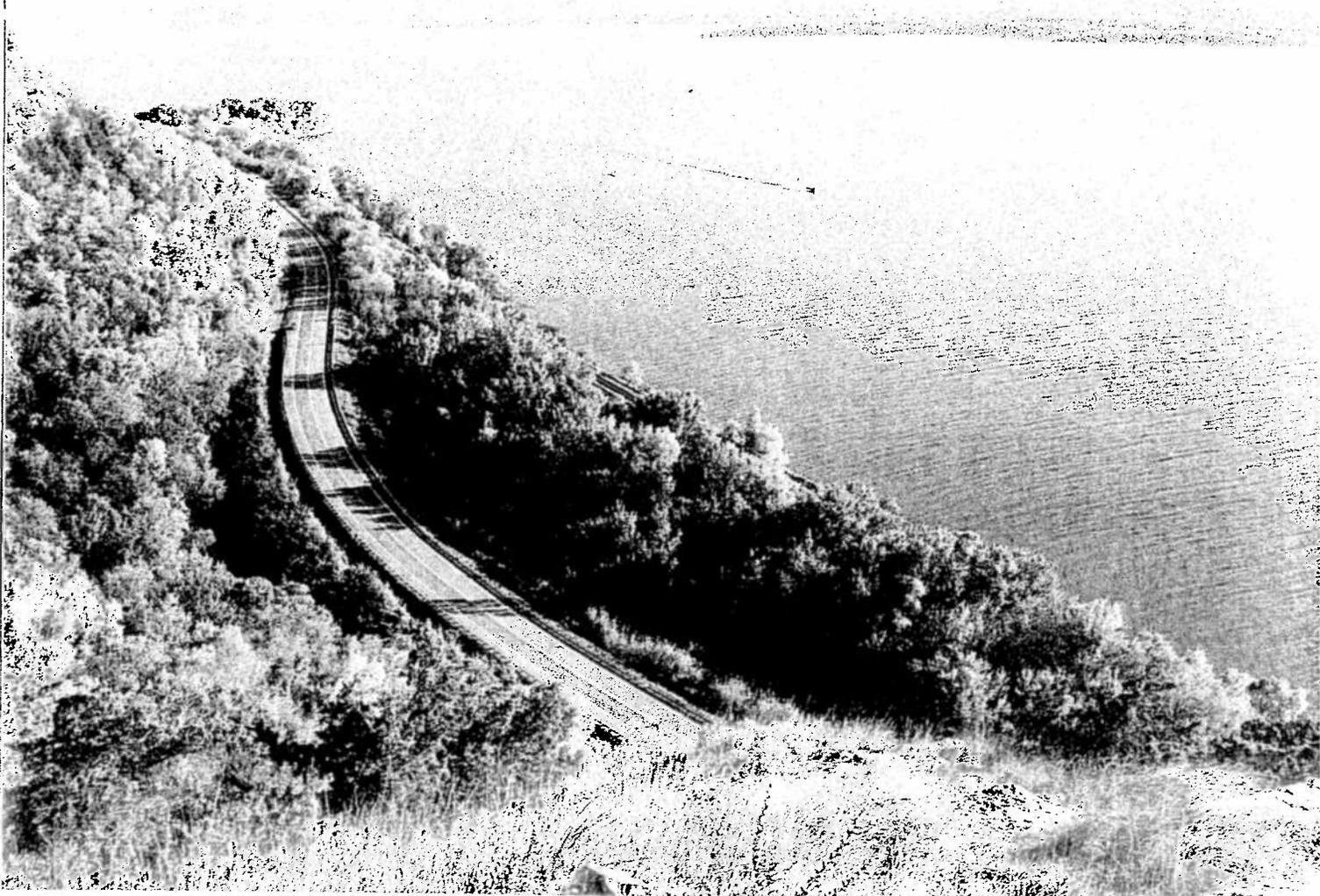
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36 Hours in STOCKHOLM

Stockholm

This little village is home to an outsize art scene and a charming sense of its Swedish heritage—plus plenty of places to eat, shop, and enjoy the outdoors



View from Maiden Rock Bluff

The Scene

Stockholm—pop. 82 or 97, depending which highway marker you put your trust in—is a dot-on-the-map settlement bordering the Mississippi as it widens to become Lake Pepin: No gas station, no convenience store, and no ATM, but a B&B and more than a dozen specialty shops. A historical museum, even.

This itty-bitty village is a jewel in the diadem of towns along the **Great River Road** (aka Highway 35), which rollercoasters along the river—a highway the tripmeisters at Rand McNally rate as one of the 10 most scenic drives in the nation. A near-ghost town not so long ago, Stockholm has been transformed into an artists' colony rich with painters, potters,

weavers, and other creative types who live, work, and sell their wares here.

What drew the new wave of immigrants? The guess put forth in town is that, back in the '70s, land here was both cheap and beautiful. One artist ventured a studio, then others of the romantic back-to-the-land school of thought followed suit.

Backstory

Upriver from Stockholm, a historical marker pinpoints Maiden Rock Bluff, where (as legend has it) a Dakota maiden, forced to abandon her lover and marry another, leapt to her watery death. A second marker downriver commemorates the 1686 site of Fort St. Antoine, which staked claim by French explorers in the name of Louis XIV to "all the land west of the Mississippi no matter how far." The English thought otherwise, though, and took control in 1783.

Fast forward to 1851, when the first immigrants arrived from Karlskoga, Sweden, and founded a settlement they named for a beloved icon of their homeland. They farmed and fished as they'd done back home. Where the Mississippi expands into Lake Pepin, they built a town hall, post office, hotel, and a few of the shops and cottages

A near-ghost town not so long ago, Stockholm has been transformed into an artists' colony.

that still form the community. Cherishing that heritage today, the Swedish flag of blue and yellow flutters above every doorway. Blossoms tumble from sky-blue flowerboxes and blue bicycles glimmer from bike racks around town, beckoning visitors to hop on for a free spin—compliments of a community bike program. Public gardens with inviting benches encourage lingering in the "business district"—a single intersection, truth to tell.

The Digs

Leland Krebs came this way in 1980, looking for a farm where he could raise sheep and chickens. He happened onto the oldest house in Stockholm, built in 1869 by one of the town's founders, Jacob Peterson, anchoring 40 acres of forest and pastureland. In 1985, Krebs quit farming and converted the homestead into a B&B.

Great River Bed & Breakfast is the most beautifully suited-out—and private—B&B I've ever stayed in, and the only place I've slept where doors are never locked.

While there are two bedrooms, Krebs rents the house only as a single unit. He checks guests in, invites them to sample a collection of CDs and books that puts Barnes & Noble to shame, then disappears until it's time to start the excellent breakfast coffee—which comes from Great River Coffee Roasters in Pepin, and is served with juice, fruit, and muffins warm from the oven: none of those four-course extravaganzas that send you back to bed.

Krebs studied art history, and his love of and appreciation for fine art shows in his collection of prints and woodcuts. The house is furnished in contemporary Swedish design (think the collectors' originals that IKEA knocks off) accented by antiques, like the ornately carved wooden bedstead in a room spacious enough to accommodate two armchairs before the fireplace, a writing desk,

and books stacked in a tower higher than I could reach. The other bedroom contains two butter-yellow twin beds. Follow a path through apple trees to the meadow above the house, where Krebs has placed a bench for contemplation in a spot where deer and turkey wander. Rates start at \$175 (for up to two people). Open mid-March through early December. W/1976 State Highway 35; (800) 657-4756, greatriverbedandbreakfast.com.

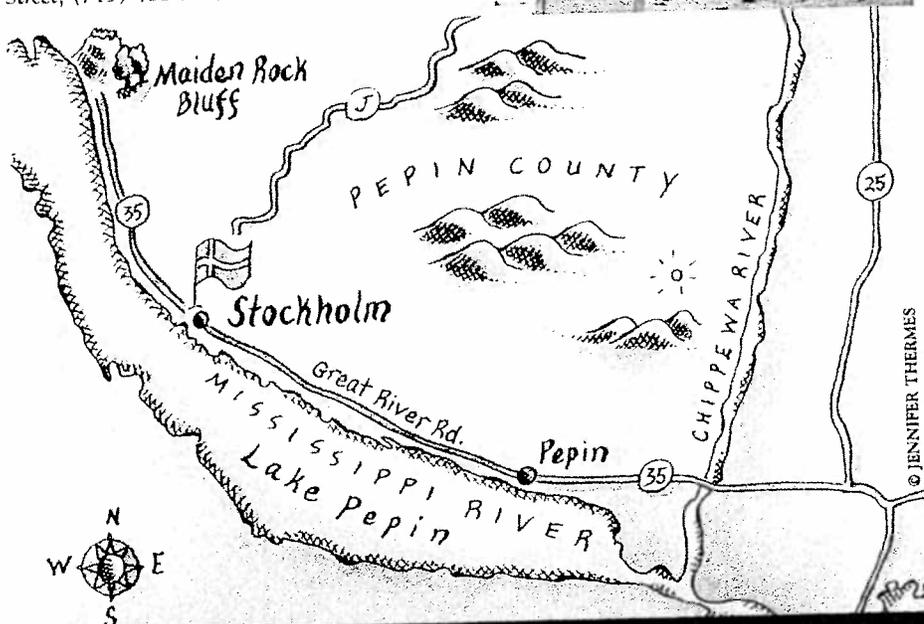
Eats

Bogus Creek Café & Bakery occupies a tiny historic farmhouse, but in nice weather customers eat at umbrella-shaded tables on the patio to the sound of trickling water. Proprietor Colleen Flynn, in a pine-green chef's hat, explains the café's name: Nearby Bogus Creek got its moniker, she says, when a counterfeiter, fearing an imminent raid by the law, tossed his fake coins and tools into the stream.

Flynn was drawn, like other arriving artists, by the zeitgeist in this "place people take their time and relax, where life is simple



and where the local talent is phenomenal," she explains. No fish fries here. Instead, Flynn's creative menu segues from salmon cakes with poached eggs and fruit for breakfast to a BLAT sandwich (the A is for avocado), Cuban black bean soup, or a strawberry-spinach salad, followed by pie à la mode made with local blueberries. Try the Unforgiven Amber Ale, the Rush River Brewing Company's beer on tap. Open mid-March through December. N2049 Spring Street; (715) 422-5017.



 FOR MORE INFORMATION about lodging, dining, and things to do in Stockholm, call (715) 442-2266 or visit stockholmwisconsin.com.

If only Bogus Creek was open in the evening. Fortunately, Gelly's Pub & Eatery is. Gelly's is the latest occupant of a former Texaco station, and is, as my server noted, "the only place around here open seven days a week year-round." Here's where you'll find that Friday fish fry, along with burgers, steak, shrimp, and spaghetti with homemade meat sauce and garlic bread. W12128 Highway 35; (715) 442-2023.

One thing you must do—and everybody does, so be prepared to wait—is head six miles downstream to Pepin's Harbor View Café, now owned, in a seamless transition, by former café staffers Ruth Stoyke and her husband, Chuck Morrow. She cooks and waits tables while he hosts and bartends, greeting the 50-something foursome driving

up from Madison with, "Hi kids, how are you?"

No fish fry here either, believe me. Instead, grilled opah, a pesce stew, and my choice, poached walleye, served with shrimp and wild rice, sugar snaps, and cranberries. With portions on the mammoth side, it's useless to save room for dessert, but try anyway. My favorite is the Georgia walnut pie, served with vanilla ice cream and crème de cacao. The wine list alone is worth the drive (by-the-glass options, not so fabulous). There's a cheery din in this unassuming storefront, where you can spot first-timers by those little black dresses that have no business here. Open March 14-November 22; closed Tuesday and Wednesday. 314 First St., Pepin; (715) 442-3893, harborviewpepin.com.

Shop and Gawk

There's no shortage of dawdle-worthy shops in Stockholm. But many close down or keep only limited hours in winter, so you'll want to call ahead. Don't miss these prime shopping spots:

Abode, a gallery with regional arts and crafts, showcases paintings, textiles, woodenware, pottery, jewelry, and fine books bound in Japanese silk, as well as chapbooks of local poetry. "What are you doing here?" I asked co-owner Steve Grams. His answer: "We came camping every weekend and we hated to go back to the city every Sunday night. The place gets in your blood." N2030 Spring Street; (715) 442-2266, abodegallery.com.

Green Gables, housed in the Civil War-era Merchants Hotel, is crammed with home furnishings and collectibles accumulated by owner Deb Hansen ("I'm Danish, but they let me in"), drawn here from Arizona by the love of water and the vibe. N2037 Spring Street; (715) 442-2113.

Out of the Blue Gallery stocks art photography and prints, books, and gift items. W12117 Highway 35; (715) 442-2583. Clementine proffers live flowers and antique furnishings in the town's former garage. N2030 Spring Street; (715) 442-2008.

The Palate offers kitchenware, edibles, and cooking classes-cum-dinner parties, often led by Judy Krohn, one of Harbor View Café's chefs. W12102 Highway 35; (715) 442-6400, thepalate.net. Find local apple products at The Good Apple, along with themed kitchenware and Wisconsin wines and cheeses. N2030 Spring Street; (715) 442-9077. Or head up the hill to the home orchard, Maiden Rock Apples, featuring 25 varieties, to smell the blooms or pick your own in season. W12266 King Lane; (715) 448-3522, maidenrockapples.com.

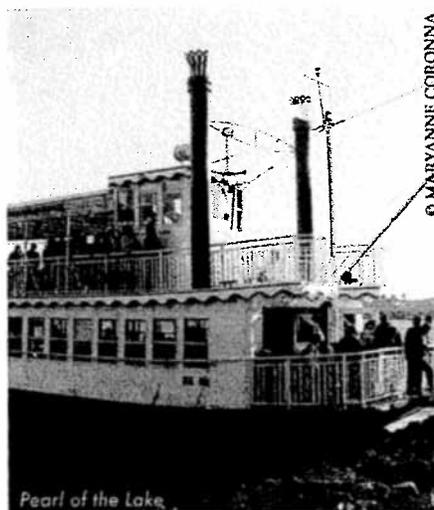
Ingebretsen's in Stockholm, housed in a sweetly renovated 1878 hardware store, carries Scandinavian crafts from the motherland, including American blown glass, Sami jewelry, and decorative items. Christmas ornaments are—over time—what who's ever loved the most, and you will bless them—Scandinavian is a status sure to be cherished

by the owner of any American Girl doll. No kitschy trolls, no Ole and Lena T-shirts. W12092 Highway 35; (715) 442-2220.

Stockholm Gardens was launched 20 years ago by husband and wife Harley Cochran and Beth Shide, escapees from Alaska who found this Wisconsin river town more to their liking. They stock herbs, annuals, perennials, and trees, as well as garden pots, ornaments, and tools in the farm buildings they took over. "We built the gardens from scratch," says Shide with a mix of love and fortitude. The inviting display garden in front is their best advertisement. Annual open house the first weekend in May. W12014 Highway 35; (715) 442-3200.

The Great Outdoors

Hike uphill on Spring Street to the Old Stockholm Cemetery, where peonies and tall cedars guard gravestones carved with Swedish names. Or grab a blue bike from nearly anywhere in town and pedal to Village Park, fronting the river, with its long, concrete pier thrusting into the waves aside a



sandy swimming beach. Or pack your own bike to tour the backcountry roads above the terrain known locally as Little Switzerland. You'll have to jump the border to take a **Lake Pepin cruise** aboard *Pearl of the Lake*, an 1800s-style riverboat. Opens in June. \$15 per person. 100 Central Point Rd., Lake City, Minn.; (651) 345-5188, pearlofthelake.com.

Art and More

Don't miss the **Fresh Art Tours** in May (this

year, May 16-18) and October where you can take self-guided tours to 17 local artists' studios. Pick up a map at any store in town, or visit freshart.org. The annual **Stockholm Art Fair** in Village Park (this year, July 19; stockholmartfair.com) hosts more than 100 juried exhibitors and draws upwards of 8,000 people.

Check out **Maiden Rock Apples' Barn Dance & Barbeque** on the first Saturday night of each month, April to October. \$5 for adults; \$2.50 for kids under 12. W12266 King Lane; (715) 448-3502, maidenrockapples.com.

Try to catch a **pizza night**, held every Tuesday at A to Z Produce & Bakery, where Ted Fisher and Robbi Bannen stock wood-fired brick ovens with their organic farm fare to feed crowds of up to 300 people (no reservations necessary). Bring your own table, lawn chair, drinks, and utensils. \$20-\$26 for each pizza. 4-9 p.m. N2956 Anker Lane; (715) 448-4802.

Carla Waldemar writes from the Twin Cities.

Close to home...

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A relaxing getaway nestled into the lushly wooded Mississippi River Bluffs, overlooking Lake Pepin, on Wisconsin's western border with Minnesota.

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Stockholm

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SPECIALTY SHOPS

abode • stockholm
N2030 Spring St. • www.abodegallery.com
The region's premier gallery of local fine art, handcrafted furniture and interior design

LODGING

River Road Inn
W12360 Hwy 35 • www.riverroadinn.com
Luxury spa-like accommodations, panoramic views, weddings & events

TansyHus
2nd & Mill Streets • www.tansyhus.com
Built by Swedish immigrants, sleeps up to 10, fully furnished

EATING ESTABLISHMENTS

The Stockholm Pie Company
N2030 Spring St. #1 • www.thestockholmpiecompany.com
"Damn good pies!" Delicious, handcrafted pies, apple dumplings, icecream and treats

UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

Maiden Rock Winery & Cidery
W12266 King Lane • 715-448-3502
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WritingLife
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Offering creative writing workshops and mini-retreats to fit any budget

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stockholmwisconsin.com

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CLEMENTINE
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Sandy's
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Innovative Clothing & Accessories



BEST of the MIDWEST

FROM THE EDITORS OF

Midwest Living

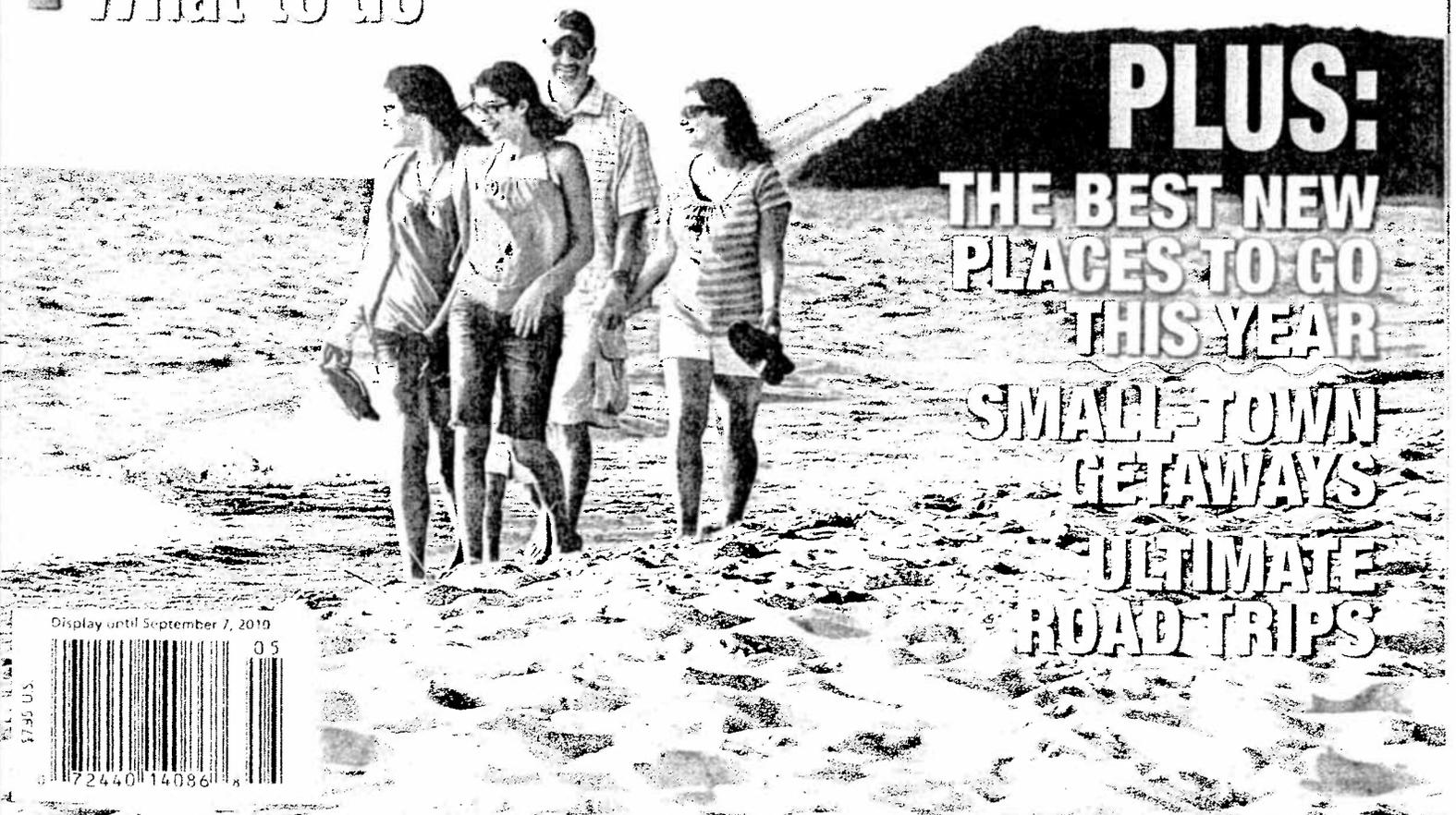
MAGAZINE

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- What to do

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Display until September 7, 2010



0 72440 14096 05

PHOTO: N. GARDNER

Stockholm

WISCONSIN

You'll still find plenty of Petersons, Andersons and Ericksons in this Swedish-founded town (they originally made their living by fishing and harvesting ice on Lake Pepin). But modern Stockholm (population: 97, located 60 miles southeast of Saint Paul) got its start in the 1970s, when artists began discovering the beauty along Lake Pepin and the Mississippi River. Travelers eager to explore this stretch of the Great River Road eventually followed, curious about what they'd find in shops and galleries along the way (800/658-9480; wigreatriverroad.org).

Perhaps nothing better captures that balance between old-world heritage and new creative expression than the festivals held here. The Midsommer Swedish Festival has Scandinavian foods, maypole dancing and an evening bonfire (June 26 this year). The Stockholm Art Fair (July 17 this year) has more than 100 juried exhibitors (stockholmartfair.org). And on September 25 this year, Art•FIRE showcases a big wooden sculpture made by local artists and members of the community. After a day of celebration, the town lights the sculpture on fire, combining new-age performance art with age-old fascination of fire (artfireproject.org).

TRIP GUIDE

Where to start For information: **Stockholm Merchants Association** (715/442-2266; stockholm.wisconsin.com).

What to do **Abode Store and Gallery** This shop sells a variety of art reflecting river themes (715/442-2266; abodegallery.com).

Stockholm General Wisconsin Foods and Mercantile Everything in this gourmet food store is from Wisconsin (715/442-9077; stockholmgeneral.com).

Ingebretsen's Handcrafted Scandinavian imports, books and foods fill this tiny storefront (715/442-2220; ingebretsens.com).

Stockholm Pottery and Mercantile You'll find locally made stoneware, wood engravings, watercolors and jewelry (715/442-9012; stockholmpottery.com).

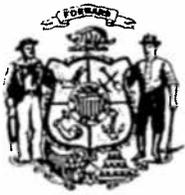
Where to eat **The Stockholm Pie Company** This popular little eatery serves all kinds of pies, from cream to savory (715/442-5505; thestockholmpiecompany.com).

Where to stay **The River Road Inn** Built in 2005, the modern New England-style, spacious three-room inn and carriage house have sweeping views of Lake Pepin, plus spa showers. You'll also get a breakfast of muffins and fruit brought to your room. From \$220 (612/306-2100; riverroadinn.com).



(From top) Patron can get Swedish pancakes with lingonberries all day at Bogus Creek Cafe and Bakery (715/442-5017). A river paddle here often leads to eagle sightings.





2009 BILL 526

Get a sub drafted...
No hurry...even after session.

- 1 AN ACT *to amend* 66.1113 (2) (a) and 66.1113 (2) (b); and *to create* 66.1113 (2)
- 2 (i) of the statutes; **relating to:** authorizing the village of Stockholm to become
- 3 a premier resort area.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Generally, under current law, the governing body of a city, village, town, or county (political subdivision) may, by a two-thirds vote of the members of the governing body, enact an ordinance or adopt a resolution declaring itself to be a premier resort area if at least 40 percent of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property within the political subdivision is used by tourism-related retailers. "Tourism-related retailers" is defined to be certain retailers who are classified in the standard industrial classification manual that is published by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The statutory definition includes 21 retailers who are so classified, including variety stores, dairy product stores, gasoline service stations, eating places, drinking places, and hotels and motels.

A premier resort area may impose a tax at a rate of 0.5 percent of the gross receipts from the sale, lease, or rental of goods or services that are subject to the general sales and use tax and are sold by tourism-related retailers. The proceeds of the tax may be used only to pay for infrastructure expenses within the jurisdiction of the premier resort area. The definition of "infrastructure expenses" includes the costs of purchasing, constructing, or improving parking lots; transportation facilities, including roads and bridges; sewer and water facilities; recreational facilities; fire fighting equipment; and police vehicles.