LONG LAKE — As the mountains turn to fire with the colors of fall celebrate the changing of the seasons at the Fall Fire Festival here Saturday, Oct. 10, from noon to 4 p.m. with Harvest Craft Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Fall Fire Festival is a free carnival-like event that begins at noon. Kids will have the chance to earn tickets for prizes by playing games such as pumpkin bowling, pumpkin pop, milk bottle baseball, ladder toss and many more.

Activities for adults and kids alike will include games such as ladder ball, corn hole, and horseshoes.

In addition to the games there will be an obstacle course that kids can race through, a bounce house to jump in, and photo booth to capture the day’s memories. Food and kettle corn will be sold.

Other activities will include the popular pumpkin seed spitting contest for all ages as well as the scarecrow contest. Participants can either build their scarecrows ahead of time or at the festival with materials supplied. Prizes will be awarded for Most Frightening, Most Traditional, and Most Humorous scarecrows.

Back by popular demand, entertainers CirqOvation! brings interactive stilt walking, a living statue, and fire manipulation. This dynamic duo will entertain the crowds throughout the day.

Fall can be unpredictable, sometimes cold, sometimes warm. If it is cool warm up by the large fire pit and food from the food and beverage vendors. If it is rainy as many of the activities as possible will be held under a large tent.

The Town of Long Lake will jump into the long Columbus Day Weekend Saturday, Oct. 10, with a Fall Fire Festival on the lawn at Long Lake Central School and a Harvest Craft Fair across the street in Long Lake Town Hall.

Fall Fire Festival and Harvest Craft Fair returns to Long Lake on Oct. 10

Siblings Jacob and Brenna Andrade came up from Long Island to paint some pumpkins and enjoy the many other activities during the 2014 Fall Fire Festival in Long Lake.
Ongoing

Through Oct. 12
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Weaving A Legacy: Mohawk Basketry Traditions. Adirondack Museum, 9097 Route 30, Blue Mt. Lake. An exhibition weaving together the stories of both baskets and the basketmakers who create them.

Through Oct. 12
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Through Oct 24
Portraits in the Wilderness. Artist Matt Burnett exhibits his works along the Burns Road Wall on Route 30 north of the Long Lake Bridge. Portraits include Bob Dechene, Willy Burnett, Francis Scaman Boone, Valerie Galvagni and Jim Swedberg. Burnett fuses art and nature to complete the sense of place and people in the Adirondacks. His large-scale portraits evoke a sense of bigness that is larger than life. Burnett also has a large-scale painting on the red barn on Deerland Road, a short distance from the sharp curve near North Point Road.

September

Sept. 25
The Friends of the Gloversville Public Library will hold a chicken barbecue fundraiser at the Runnings/Hannaford parking lot in Gloversville from 4 to 7 p.m. The cost is $10 and includes a half-chicken, potato, coleslaw, roll and dessert. Tickets can be purchased from the library, a member of the Friends, or on the day of the barbecue. Rain date will be Sept. 26.

Sept. 26
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Arrow Wall Basket – Fall Colors. Designed by Linda Allen, instructor, at View in Old Forge. Weave with a combination of flat and flat oval reed complete with a hardwood handle for hanging. $65/$50 Member, $35 Materials. (315) 369-6411 ext. 201, w w w. V i e w A r t s. o r g, Info@ViewArts.org

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Bazaar and Bake Sale at the United Methodist Church, Main St., Indian Lake.

10 a.m. The Long Lake Long Boat Regatta will begin at the Long Lake Town Beach. A competitive event featuring war canoes and C4 boats kicks off from the Long Lake Town Beach around 10 a.m. Spectators are encouraged to attend. Boats paddle to the south end of the lake and back up towards Round Island. Paddlers from all over the Northeast converge on this fun, yet competitive event for a $5000 purse. A great place to get your last big paddle in before the cold air totally dominates the waters. For more information call (518) 624-3077 or check out www.mylonglake.com.

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Apple Fest at the Speculator Pavilion, Rt. 8/30, Speculator. Vendors sell goods including apple desserts and baked goods, people make apple cider, and fun activities for people of all ages. Sponsored by the Historical Society of Lake Pleasant and Speculator. Check out on Facebook.

Noon-8 p.m. Fall Landscapes and Full Moon Rise Photo Tour with Carl Heilman II. View, Old Forge. One-day photo tours are limited in size to six participants for personal attention and for being less intrusive at the various photo locations. $250/$200 Member. www.carlheilman.com, (315) 369-6411 ext. 201, w w w. V i e w A r t s. o r g, Info@ViewArts.org

A Wine and Brewery Tasting with Chicken Dinner to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society will be held from noon to 5 p.m. at the Pleasant.

Please see CALENDAR, Page 6
Central Adirondacks
• Old Forge • Inlet • Raquette Lake

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Central Adirondacks
• Old Forge • Inlet • Raquette Lake
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Fall 2015
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Adirondack Kids Day
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Fishing Derby - Children’s Authors & Illustrators
Paddling - Face Painting
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Live Raptors
Adirondack Kids Band
Archaeological Dig & More!
AdirondackKids.com

October 10
TREK Breast Cancer Awareness Ride
PedsPendPeds.com
The Town of Long Lake will jump into the long Columbus Day Weekend Saturday, Oct. 10, with a Fall Fire Festival on the lawn at Long Lake Central School and a Harvest Craft Fair across the street in Long Lake Town Hall.

Calendar from page 3

Calendar

Square Firehouse, 135 Easterly St., Gloversville. The cost for tasting and dinner is $35, just tasting $25 and chicken dinner will be $10. The event will also include crafts and a bouncy house.

**Sept. 26-27**


Eagle Mills Cider Co. and Family Fun Park, 383 County Rd. 138, Broadalbin will be having its annual arts and craft show featuring over 125 crafters starting at 9 a.m. The cider mill, bakery, gift shop, gem mine and dino dig will be open for the season. Music and face painting will be available along with a variety of foods for sale. Admission is free. The parking fee is $5 and partial proceeds will be donated to a local organization. Handicap parking is available. The show closes at 5 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday. For more information call 883-8700 or visit www.eaglemillsfun.com.

**Sept. 27**

Fulton County Day On The Farm agricultural festival will be held from noon to 4 p.m. at Rogers Family Orchards, 260 County Highway 131, Johnstown. Parking and entrance to the grounds are free. Everyone receives a complimentary ice cream cone and a chance to climb the hay mountain. Horse and tractor-drawn wagon rides are always a favorite. Pick your own apples or a wide selection of already picked apples, pumpkins, vegetables, and cider, honey and maple products will be available for purchase. Festival food will be available from vendors. Exhibitors will showcase oxen, dairy and beef cattle, horses, alpacas, rabbits, poultry and other farm animals. Local producers of Christmas trees, ornamental nursery stock, bedding plants, fruits, vegetables, and fall flowers will be on display. Farm equipment from days past and modern farming technologies will be represented.

**Sept. 28**

7 p.m. “Thomas Cole Returns” Historical Program at the Long Lake Library, 1195 Main St., Long Lake. Matt DeLaMater, a research fellow at the New York State Museum and a doctoral student at SUNY Albany, will revisit painter Thomas Cole’s trip to Long Lake with slides of his drawings and paintings. DeLaMater, a summer resident, is trying to locate the paintings Cole produced of Long Lake.

The Northville Public Library will host “Story Time,” coordinated by Hadley Jacobs starting at 10 a.m. Pre-school children are invited to attend for stories, a craft and snack.

**Oct. 1**

6-9 p.m. Hunter Safety Course, Town Hall, 1204 Main St., Long Lake. Ages 11 and up. Free. Continues Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Oct. 2**

A “scarf it up” evening will be held at Just Because...Boutique starting at 2 p.m., 142 North Main St., Northville.

**The Northville Farmers Market** will be open from 2-5 p.m. at Waterfront Park, Main Street, Northville. Find fresh local veggies, baked goods, flowers, fruits and more.

**Oct. 3**

8-10 a.m. Pancake Breakfast, Inlet Volunteer Emergency Service Building, Inlet. Benefits the Inlet Parent Teacher Partnership.

10 a.m. Adirondack Kids Day, Arrowhead Park, Inlet. Join the authors of Adirondack Kids for a day of outdoor adventures, activities, and workshops. Children’s authors fair, bounce house, petting zoo and much more. (315) 357-5501, www.adirondackkids.com


10 a.m. - 5 p.m. FallFest and Fiber Arts Fair at the Adirondack Museum, 9097 State Route 30, Blue Mountain Lake. Fun for the whole family: hay rides, pony rides, live music performances, pumpkin painting, apple pressing and cider samples, fall crafts, giant leaf piles, and much more. Fiber-arts demonstrations including wool spinning and counted cross-stitching; displays of fiber art including soft sculptures, quilts, and more; join in a big knit-in; and browse the woolens, quilts, scarves, pet accessories, and other items for sale by local artisans.

The Mayfield Central Presbyterian Church family fun day and fall craft show will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Blessing of animals will take place from 11 a.m. to noon with the Reverend Bonnie Orth. There will be face painting and a bounce house. Food and baked goods will be available for sale. For more information contact Sue at 843-4710. Mayfield Central Presbyterian Church, 22 N. Main St., Mayfield.

The Fulton County Domestic Violence Program at The Family Counseling Center Presents the 17th Annual Fall Festival from noon to 3 p.m. at the Rail Trail Park, Gloversville. The event features Food & Beverages, Prize Raffle, Pumpkin Decorating, Face Painting, Carnival Games, Basket & Bicycle Raffles, Photo Booth and more.

Please see CALENDAR, Page 7
October 3-4
10 a.m. The October-Fest will be held at Hoss’s Country Corner. Craft Fair to benefit cancer charity. Vendors and activities to be announced. Contact (518) 624-2481 for more information or check out www.hoss-countrycorner.com.

October 4
12-3 p.m. Oktoberfest at the Oak Mountain Ski Center, Elm Lake Rd., Speculator. Family fun: bouncy house, music, keg roll on the bunny hill, disc golf, lift rides, food and drinks, prizes for best German costumes. Menu: sauerbraten, bratwurst, German potato salad, red cabbage, salad, stewed apples, roll and butter $24.99 each.

A CROP Walk will take place 2 p.m. at the Wells United Methodist Church, Main Street, Wells. Registration will begin at 1:30 p.m. There will be water and rest stops along the route. Refreshments will be served at the church following the walk. Walkers should sign-up sponsors. Donation envelopes are available at any of the local churches.

The Fulton Montgomery Walk to End Alzheimer’s will take place at noon at Fulton-Montgomery Community College, Route 67, Johnstown. No Cost for registration. The Alzheimer’s Association Walk to End Alzheimer’s is the world’s largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s care, support, and research. Each year more than 450,000 people of all ages and abilities come together in over 600 communities to reclaim the future for millions. Join us for a fun family day to support a great cause! There will be a bounce house and balloon artist as well as refreshments. Join a team or start a team at www.alzwalkfm.org.

October 6
The Johnstown Farmers Market will be held from 3-6 p.m. at the Sir William Parking Lot, Main Street and Church Street, Johnstown. Find fresh local veggies, baked goods, flowers, fruits and more at the Johnstown Farmers Market.

October 7
7-9 p.m. Inlet History Program at the Inlet Town Hall, 160 Main St., Inlet. “Moss Lake and Longstaff Camps” by Geoff Longstaff. (315) 357-5501

A Drawing with Dramatic Contrast class will be taught from 6-9 p.m. at the Edinburg Community Center, 47 Military Rd, Edinburg. Cost: $70, SVAN member $65. Maximum 12 participants, age 16-adult. Learn to create a strong composition and draw with dramatic contrast. By observing every day life, students will explore the use of negative space and perspective. Also, students will use the Renaissance tradition of a grid to enlarge a smaller image as a drawing method. Overall, they will be introduced to line, value, textural mark making and spatial relationships. Dry, wet, and mixed media will be used during this session. Class is suitable for beginners as well as those with experience in drawing. Call Constance Dodge at 863-2201 to enroll in class and request a materials list.

October 9
Quilts Unlimited, View, Old Forge. Opening reception. An annual survey of the depth and breadth that can be achieved through the medium of quilting. This year marks the second year the exhibition is juried for both selection and awards and will feature quilts that range in approach traditional to unorthodox. For more information call (315) 369-6411 ext. 201, or email Info@ViewArts.org.

October 9-Nov. 15
Sandi Cirrilo presents a series of felted bowl forms inspired by the sea life in her coastal Maine home. For more information call (315) 369-6411 ext. 201, or email Info@ViewArts.org.

October 9
6:30-9 p.m. The Soroptimist Club of Fulton County presents HerStory Trivia Night at the Eccentric Club, 109 N. Main Street, Gloversville. 4 – 8 members in a team. Many Prizes, snacks, Pizza, rivalry and fun. First Prize: Out to Dinner in a Limo for the team. Prepaid contestants only: mail check to PO Box 168, Gloversville by Oct. 1. Limited seating so get your reservations in ASAP. Questions and Reservations: herstorytriviaight@gmail.com.

October 10
10 a.m. TREK Bike Ride for Breast Cancer Awareness, Pedals and Petals, Inlet. Over 100 participating Trek dealers across the United State will join together to raise money for breast cancer research. Registration at 9 a.m. at the Inlet United Methodist Church, 160 Main St., Inlet. The first 100 entries will receive a T-shirt and a bag of snacks for the ride. Prepaid $15, Group $50, Team $100. For more information visit www.alzwalkfm.org for registration. The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's will take place at noon at Northville's Waterfront Park. This year's event will be held Oct. 17.

October 10-11
10 a.m. The Octo-masquerade at the Sir William Parking Lot, Main Street, Johnstown. No Cost for registration. The Octo-masquerade is a mythical creature that lives in the waterways of the Fulton-Montgomery region. The Octo-masquerade is a creature that hides among the reeds, waiting for the right moment to strike. Vendors and activities to be announced. Contact (518) 624-2481 for more information or check out www.hoss-countrycorner.com.

Pumpkin Fest fun
Left to right: Taylor, Christiane, Addison, Cindy and Mike Gifford of Northville with Matthew Hulett, Elijah Taylor, and Jack Hulett enjoy the Pumpkin Fest last year in Northville’s Waterfront Park. This year’s event will be held Oct. 17.
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**Fall is Festival Time at**

- **Garlic Fest: Oct. 3rd & 4th ~ 9am to 5pm**
- **Harvest Craft Show**
- **Holiday Craft Fair: Nov. 14th & 15th**

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- **SAT. 10 - 4**
- **SUN. 10 - 3 (September Only)**

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**Fall Craft Show & Festival**

- **Sept. 26th & 27th • Oct. 3rd & 4th**
- **Chickens BBQ by Gene & Barb**
- **Cruise-In Car Show**
- **Oct. 3rd & 4th**

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**Prairie Dinner & Show**

- **Saturday • Oct 3rd @ 7:30**
- **Saturday • Oct 4th @ 7:30**
- **Sunday • Oct 5th • Dinner & Show • Noon-8pm**
- **Sunday • Oct 5th • Dinner & Show • Noon-8pm**

**Around the Great Sacandaga Lake Area**
awareness for breast cancer research, treatment and prevention by hosting a 10 and/or 25-mile casual family-friendly bike ride. (315) 357-3281, www.pedalsandpetals.com

10 a.m. Harvest Craft Fair at the Long Lake Town Hall, 1204 Main St., Long Lake. Vendors sell their handmade American wares. Enjoy a selection of gifts and crafts. Admission is free. Kid Friendly activities on the school lawn across the street, longlakeevents@gmail.com

10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Fall Fire Festival and Harvest Craft Fair will be held at the School Lawn and Town Hall, sponsored by the Town of Long Lake. Vendors will be selling handmade crafts at the Long Lake Town Hall while across the street on the school lawn kids of all ages can enjoy a carnival like Fall Festival. Call (518) 624-3077 for more information or check out www.mylonglake.com

7 p.m., Dick Staber and Judith Chasnoff, Vocal Duets with Mandolin and Guitar, St. Williams on Long Point, Raquette Lake. In concert, Staber and Chasnoff apply inspir- ing mandolin virtuosity, solid rhythm guitar, and heartfelt vocal harmonies to a wide variety of material. Program is free and open to the public. This concert will be held at the Raquette Lake School, on Rt. 28, fully ramp accessible, reservations not required, pie and refreshments. Sponsored by the Morehouse Recreation Center, Rt. 8, Morehouse. Morehouse Volunteer Fire Company Annual Turkey Dinner: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, squash, veggies, cabbage salad, cranberry sauce, rolls and dessert. Adults $11 / children $6. (315) 826-7509 or amandase17@gmail.com

The annual Great Sacandaga 10K Road Race. The event, sponsored by the Northville/Sacandaga Lions Club, will be held at Sport Island Pub. The race, organized by the Fulmont Roadrunners Club, features awards for numerous age groups and a post-run buffet and beverages at Sport Island Pub. 8:30 a.m. Call 725-8417 for more information.

7 p.m. Airdville Cemetery Tour at the Airdville Cemetery, Rt. 8, Lake Pleasant. Come meet people from the past buried here and learn their stories.

Oct. 24-25
Adirondack Railroad Pumpkin Train, travel north to our Carter Station for a visit to Wally’s pumpkin patch. Each child can pick one complimentary pumpkin from the patch. Come in costume and enjoy the fun.

Oct. 24-April 3
Myths and Legends of the Adirondacks Vol. 1, View, Old Forge. A group exhibition that visually explores historical and modern myths of the Adirondack region, featuring new work by Stephen Fletcher, Peter Seward, Paula Ann Ford, Greg Klein and more. www.ViewsArts.org, Info@ViewsArts.org, (315) 369-6411 ext. 201

Oct. 11
9 a.m.-4 p.m. The Power of Great Fiction Writing, View, Old Forge. You’ve had that novel in your head, or maybe rough-drafted, for a long while. Time to get serious, develop it, and head out for publishing success. $100/$875 member, includes lunch. www.IsYourLifeBeThere.com, (315) 369-6411 ext. 201, www.ViewsArts.org, Info@ViewsArts.org

Oct. 12-16 Nov.
Mondays, 6-9 p.m. Beginner to Intermediate Wheel Thrown Pottery, View, Old Forge. These classes taught by Marie Imundo are perfect for those individuals who have never taken a pottery class before or those who want to take their skills to the next level. All works created will be glazed and fired. $150/$125 Member, $35 Materials. (315) 369-6411 ext. 201, www.ViewsArts.org, Info@ViewsArts.org

Oct. 17
The annual Pumpkin Festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Northville Waterfront Park. Vendors, Pumpkin Contest, Food available.

Running Colors, Old Forge, fun run. Check In 9 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., Race starts 11 a.m. Running Colors start is at the waterfront in Old Forge. Running Colors is a unique 3.1 mile fun run and walk that is focused less on speed and more on crazy color fun with friends and family. Color runners come from all different ages, shapes, sizes, and speeds; so whether you are a casual morning walker or an all star athlete, you’ll have a great time. While you run or walk the three mile course where you’ll get blasted with color as you go. Runners will be blasted with food-safe, environmentally friendly powdered color. At the finish of the event there will be a color throwing party.

1 p.m.-5 p.m., BrewFest, Old Forge. Brewfest gets under way at the North Street Pavilion in Old Forge. After the race Brewfest Craft Beer Festival takes place Saturday, Oct. 17 at the waterfront in Old Forge. Old Forge on Tap, will showcase over 100 releases from some of America’s best craft breweries. Attendees will receive three hours of sampling along with their souvenir sampling glass. Plus hang out in an atmosphere filled with live music, delicious food available for purchase and great vendors. www. ViewArts.org, Info@ViewsArts.org, (315) 369-6411 ext. 201.

The Friends of the NRA 2015 Banquet and Auction is set for 5 p.m. at the Johnstown Holiday Inn on Route 30A in Johnstown. The groups committee chairman, Bruce Button said the organization is nonpolitical and grant money it raises goes to promote shooting sports and activities as well as gun range safety programs. Local agencies and entities are able to apply for funds that are raised by this event. Local law enforcement agencies, area gun ranges , Boy Scouts and even local 4H clubs have the ability to apply for these funds. Special guests at the dinner include auctioneer Jack Belknap who keeps things lively after the dinner by handling the live auction portion of the fund raiser. Also expected to attend are Assemblyman Marc Butler, and NYSRPA (New York State Rifle and Pistol Association) President Tom King.

Oct. 24
4:30-6:30 p.m. Turkey Dinner at the Morehouse Recreation Center, Rt. 8, Morehouse. Morehouse Volunteer Fire Company Annual Turkey Dinner: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, squash, veggies, cabbage salad, cranberry sauce, rolls and dessert. Adults $11 / children $6. (315) 826-7509 or amandase17@gmail.com

Calendar from page 7

Runners start the annual Great Sacandaga 10K Road Race last year in Northville. This year’s race will be held Oct. 24. The event is sponsored by the Northville/Sacandaga Lions Club.
The children are back in school, the weather is cooling down and soon the leaves will take center stage, color flowing over the mountaintops in waves of reds and golds.

What better way to enjoy the change of season than to participate in one of many activities Old Forge has to offer.

McCauley Mountain runs the scenic chairlift Wednesday through Sunday until Columbus Day. Riders can enjoy a leisurely ride up the mountain and either stop to picnic at the top, or as they return to the bottom, take in the views of the lakes and foliage. Children under 5 can ride the chairlift for free, adults for $6 and juniors 6-16 as well as seniors over 65 can ride the lift for $5.

And if a ride on the lakes to view the leaves is more desirable, there is no better place than Old Forge Lake Cruises. Site seeing tours on the boat Clearwater are available daily at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. from Sept. 12-Oct. 4 with the tours lasting approximately two hours. From Oct. 5-Oct. 12 the tours will be daily at 1 p.m. except for on Saturdays when the tours will be 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Later in the season, the Adirondack Scenic Railroad will have their annual Pumpkin Train ride. It will depart from Thendara and travel north to Carter’s Station for a visit to Wally’s Pumpkin Patch where all children will get a complimentary pumpkin. The train departs at 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Oct. 24 and Oct. 25. The round takes approximately an hour and a half. Tickets for adults and seniors are $15 and $10 for children 2-12 years old. So wear your costumes and enjoy a ride to Wally’s pumpkin patch.

There are great hiking opportunities that will allow you to take in the sites. The trails that go from the top of Maple Ridge to McCauley Mountain as well as the lakes up Bald Mountain, Rocky Mountain and Black Bear Mountain are just a few of the options available. There is also a “pull off” point overlooking Seventh Lake along Route 28. Get out and enjoy fall this year with all the great activities it has to offer.

Plenty of family activities this fall

By BRITTANY GROW

The children are back in school, the weather is cooling down and soon the leaves will take center stage, color flowing over the mountaintops in waves of reds and golds.

What better way to enjoy the change of season than to participate in one of many activities Old Forge has to offer.

McCaguey Mountain runs the scenic chairlift Wednesday through Sunday until Columbus Day. Riders can enjoy a leisurely ride up the mountain and either stop to picnic at the top, or as they return to the bottom, take in the views of the lakes and foliage. Children under 5 can ride the chairlift for free, adults for $6 and juniors 6-16 as well as seniors over 65 can ride the lift for $5.

And if a ride on the lakes to view the leaves is more desirable, there is no better place than Old Forge Lake Cruises. Site seeing tours on the boat Clearwater are available daily at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. from Sept. 12-Oct. 4 with the tours lasting approximately two hours. From Oct. 5-Oct. 12 the tours will be daily at 1 p.m. except for on Saturdays when the tours will be 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Later in the season, the Adirondack Scenic Railroad will have their annual Pumpkin Train ride. It will depart from Thendara and travel north to Carter’s Station for a visit to Wally’s Pumpkin Patch where all children will get a complimentary pumpkin. The train departs at 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. on Oct. 24 and Oct. 25. The round takes approximately an hour and a half. Tickets for adults and seniors are $15 and $10 for children 2-12 years old. So wear your costumes and enjoy a ride to Wally’s pumpkin patch.

There are great hiking opportunities that will allow you to take in the sites. The trails that go from the top of Maple Ridge to McCauley Mountain as well as the lakes up Bald Mountain, Rocky Mountain and Black Bear Mountain are just a few of the options available. There is also a “pull off” point overlooking Seventh Lake along Route 28. Get out and enjoy fall this year with all the great activities it has to offer.

Peak peeping prognosticating

So you’re one of those people who enjoyed summer, but as it wore its way down, you were kind of happy. You can’t wait for sweaters, the kids being tucked away at school, pumpkin spice everything, the crisp fall days, bright blue skies and the glorious, glorious leaves.

At the end of summer, as the days grow shorter, the underlying cold starts asserting itself more and more. That combination, shorter day and colder temps signal the trees to start the show.

Leaves make food for the trees all summer long in the cells that contain chlorophyll. The green color is the most dominant one, so during the summer the trees are green. When the leaves stop making food in the fall, the green color fades away and colors that are in the leaf all year long, come to the fore.

The temperature, light and how much water a tree gets all have an effect on how colorful the trees get and how long the color lasts. Lower temps, above freezing, will produce gorgeous reds in maple trees. If we get an early frost it dilutes the red coloring. Rain and overcast days both make the colors more intense.

If you want to know what the state of the leaves is in Old Forge, the Old Forge Visitor’s Center has a page at http://www.oldforgeny.com/leaf.html. It will give you a day-to-day report on just what the leaves are up to in our area.

But don’t put it off, get up here as soon as you can. It only takes one good rainstorm or one windy day and peak is over on the ground! — M. Lisa Monroe
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Lake Pleasant as seen from the Rt. 8 bridge.

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Adirondack Kids Day in Inlet is scheduled for Oct. 3

INLET — Adirondack Kids Day will be Saturday, Oct. 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Join the creators of “The Adirondack Kids” series of books and their friends for a fun-filled day for the whole family, sponsored by Kiwanis of the Central Adirondacks. The day features children’s authors and illustrators and the French Louie Fishing Derby.

There will also be free family activities such as paddling, knot tying, face painting, horseback riding, a petting zoo, live raptors and more. At 8 a.m. there will be a Pancake Breakfast at Inlet Fire Hall to benefit the Inlet Parent Teacher Partnership. At 11 a.m. there will be a presentation with Mark Manse from Adirondack Raptors (see up close and personal amazing birds of prey) at Inlet Town Hall. Stop at the Kiwanis Information Booth for schedule of events and a free goody bag for every child (while supplies last).

Visit experts in outdoor recreation (Tyler Chase of Adirondack Outdoor Expeditions and Connie Perry of Frisky Otter Tours) for advice, instruction and demonstrations in paddling and hiking and knot tying.

Children can also build an animal at Inlet Youth Commission’s Noah’s Ark Animal Workshop. Select and stuff an animal, insert a rainbow star and create a birth certificate for each new cuddly friend.

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INDIAN LAKE -- The Great Adirondack Moose Festival returns to Indian Lake Sept. 26-27, offering visitors of all ages a fantastic Adirondack experience. Explore the region's peaks and valleys, rivers and lakes, and revel in the beauty of the Adirondacks.

Visitors will enjoy programs, games, contests and exhibitions, all in the name of the elusive and majestic moose.

The half-ton mammal has made a comeback in the Adirondacks, and one may even spot a moose during the weekend.

"The festival is a celebration of the return of the moose to the Adirondacks and is designed to offer multigenerational Adirondack experiences. This community-wide event features a host of Adirondack style and fun moose-themed family activities," said event chairs Brenda Valentine and Christine Pouch.

This year, major festival activities will feature several family fun Adirondack wilderness experiences. These activities will include a Moose River Plains self-guided tour; guided hikes to Castle Rock, OK Slip Falls, Rock Dam and Watch Hill; fall foliage white water rafting; Moose Caption Contest; shopping for arts and crafts under the Big Moose Tent and at local retailers; free samples of moose chili (courtesy of Indian Lake / Blue Mountain Lake Fish and Game Club); a tasting of New York state beers and wines; and the Great Adirondack Fly Casting Classic.

All these activities, and more, offer authentic Adirondack experiences.

Other activities include the Utica Zoo Mobile, "Traditions of Backcountry Brook Trout in the Adirondacks" and "Current Adirondack Moose Research" presentation, Indian Lake Museum Open House, Moosetastic History at the Adirondack Museum, an Old Fashioned Turkey Shoot, Count the Moose Scat Contest, Moosterpiece fun games and activities for children and much more, all with a moose theme.

The festival mascot, Bruce the Moose, will visit different festival activities throughout the weekend. Back by popular demand will be the fifth annual Moose Calling Contest. Check out the contest and witness the fun, and sometimes bizarre and authentic, hooting and hollering moose calls from adult and children contestants.

The annual Great Adirondack Moose Festival is sponsored by the Indian Lake Chamber of Commerce and a host of regional and local businesses. For more information visit www.indian-lake.com, or call (518) 648-5636 or (518) 648-5112.

Visitors are encouraged to pick up a copy of the Festival Program at the chamber of commerce or several businesses around town. A full schedule of GAMF events can also be found on Facebook at 'Great Adirondack Moose Festival.'
Kunjamuck Cave is a mystery

By CRISTINE MEIXNER

SPECULATOR — The origins of the mysterious Kunjamuk Cave are lost in time. No one knows who hewed it out of Cave Hill, or why.

According to “History of Hamilton County” by Ted Aber and Stella King, published in 1965, “No one recalls who first dug the cave on the Kunjamuk that for years has lured hikers and canoeists to the site.

“It is only remembered that the egg-shaped artificial hole in the hillside was made by prospectors hunting for minerals. Campers and hunters made the hole through the roof of the cave at a later date.”

EASY TO REACH

Head south on State Route 30 from the Village of Speculator about 3 miles to Old Route 8B. Hang a left, cross the bridge and take the next left onto the dirt Fly Creek Road.

Keep an eye peeled for a brown sign with yellow lettering on the right, reading, “Historical Kunjamuk Cave.”

It can also be reached via Elm Lake Road in the village, at the intersection of state routes 8 and 30.

Drive about 1.7 miles to a road on the right with a sign for the cave. Keep going about 1.3 miles further, following the signs.

Watch out for log trucks. It is prudent to travel slowly in case one is encountered.

The cave can also be reached by canoe or kayak. Put in at the boat launch at the Speculator Pavilion and paddle 1.6 miles downstream to Kunjamuk Bay. The mouth of the Kunjamuk River is a few hundred feet to the left.

Paddle another 1.8 miles to a bridge and make for the takeout just past it on the left. Cross the bridge and the cave is about three-tenths of a mile up the road.

One can also launch directly into Kunjamuk Bay from a parking area off Rt. 30 just below Speculator.

WELL DEFINED PATH

Next to the sign there are rock “steps” leading from the road down to the path to the cave. The cave can be seen from the road when there are no leaves on the trees.

A walking stick (or two) is a good idea for those who are no longer as flexible as they once were, to aid in getting down (and back up) the rock “steps.” The path is obvious and leads directly to the cave.

Kunjamuk Cave is perhaps 15 feet deep, about 8 feet wide and quite high. A hole in the roof just past the entrance admits sunlight, perhaps it was made to let smoke from a campfire escape.

The back wall is sloped and looks as if it would be comfortable to sit and lean against.
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