

# New owner revamps aging Washburn tavern

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Kelsey Lindsey has never felt more at home than she does in Washburn.

Since moving to the city nestled by Lake Superior with her husband Max Lindsey, in 2017, she has done whatever she can to make her favorite city thrive.

“I’ve lived all over the country— Colorado, California, New York. I’ve never felt I belong like this before,” she said.

Tired of seeing blighted homes in the city, she began buying them, fixing them up and renting them to long-term tenants. But one building on Bayfield Street that really needed some attention caught her eye: The Firehouse Bar.

“I drive by it every day. It’s such a cool building that just needs a little bit of love. I thought, ‘I want to buy it. It could be my next project.’”

Though Lindsey had never owned a bar, she made an offer to previous owner



TOM STANKARD/STAFF PHOTO

Kelsey Lindsey recently acquired the Firehouse Bar in Washburn. She’s in the midst of rehabbing the building before opening later this month.

Harlan Guske and the deal was done. The building may be in a little rough shape, but the theme of the bar remains true to its name. A large ladder hangs above the bar stools, fire helmets decorate the walls and extinguishers liven up the pool area in the back room.

“Honestly I just want to clean it up before I get people in here. I have the bathrooms to clean up still. Then I’ll just piece away different projects as they come. I’m gonna keep the theme for a while. There’s no need to change it for now,” she said.

Not only fire gear decorates the bar. So do framed photos, dating back decades, of regulars enjoying themselves. Lindsey wants her bar to be a gathering place like that.

“It used to be an awesome meeting spot. I bet there were parties galore,” she said. “I want it to be welcoming place and a regular place people go.”

She plans to let the party begin when she formally opens — which is aimed for late May.

“This place is so cool,” she said.



TOM STANKARD/STAFF PHOTO

Lindsey intends to stick with the old firehouse gear that decorates the space.

# Ashland falcons incubating four eggs

ASHLAND DAILY PRESS

The peregrine falcons nesting at Xcel Energy’s Bay Front Power Plant in Ashland had four eggs in their nest last week and were doing well.

As the falcon parents have been getting busy, so have local students, who are learning about the falcons and coming up with names that will be assigned to the chicks when they are banded by researchers.

A tentative date for banding has been set for June 22. In early June, Daily Press readers will have the chance



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO BY ED MONROE

A peregrine falcon sits on at least four eggs at the Ashland power plant this week.

to vote online for their favorite names submitted by

students. Peregrine falcons are the

### SEE THE VIDEO

To watch drone video of the falcon on her nest, visit [youtube.com/watch?v=qbMXu1yAouE](https://youtube.com/watch?v=qbMXu1yAouE)

fastest animals on earth, reaching speeds in excess of 200 mph when they dive on their prey, usually pigeons and other birds.

Falcons have been nesting in a box atop the power plant, which mimics their typical nesting spots atop cliffs, since 2014. Prior to that, they raised their young on the Ashland Oredock.

# Highway 27 bridge work begins

Construction was slated to begin Monday, May 15 on the Ounce River bridge along Highway 27 in Bayfield County.

Built in 1954, the bridge has reached the end of its

service life. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation project will:

- Remove the existing bridge
- Construct a new bridge
- Replace pavement on

both sides of the structure

- Replace guardrail
- Place new pavement markings

During construction, Highway 27 will remain open to a single lane of traffic

controlled by temporary traffic signals at the bridge.

Construction is scheduled for completion in late July.

Information provided by state Department of Transportation.

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