

# THE PRIME TIMES



PRIME TIME **PLUS**

Fall 2025

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

9 – The Healthy Brain and Aging

18 – Medicare and Social Security Seminar

### SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

30-7 – Colorado Rails and Rockies - **Sold out!**

### OCTOBER

30-7 – Colorado Rails and Rockies - **Sold out!**

22 – Fall Wine Tour - **Sold out!**

28 – Overture Center Tour

### NOVEMBER

13 – Oregon and Northern California Trip Preview

24 – Holiday Wreath Class

### DECEMBER

4 – Chicago Your Way

11, 16-18 – Holiday Open Houses

### JANUARY 2026

8 – Asheville Trip Preview

19-28 – Pura Vida Costa Rica - **Sold out!**

### FEBRUARY - MARCH 2026

23-4 – Pura Vida Costa Rica - **Sold out!**

### APRIL - MAY 2026

28-10 – French River Cruise - **Sold out!**

Use this QR code to join our Members Only Facebook Page!



## EXPERIENCE THE SPARKLE OF THE SEASON – ASHEVILLE TRIP PREVIEW

Thursday, January 8, 2026, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

St. Francis Xavier Fellowship Hall, 2947 Thinnes St., Cross Plains, WI

Step into a holiday dream with a festive getaway to Asheville, North Carolina, from November 30 - December 6, 2026, where timeless tradition meets mountain charm. From the moment you arrive, you'll be swept into the magic of the season with a warm welcome, a cheerful ride aboard the Holly Jolly Christmas Trolley, and a festive dinner to kick things off.

Over four unforgettable nights, immerse yourself in the rich culture and natural beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains, all dressed in holiday finery. Explore the grandeur of the iconic Biltmore Estate, glowing with candlelight and seasonal splendor, and stroll through the dazzling Winter Lights Spectacular at the North Carolina Arboretum. Enjoy the charm of local traditions at the Folk Art Center and Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center, where music, storytelling, and Appalachian crafts bring the season to life.

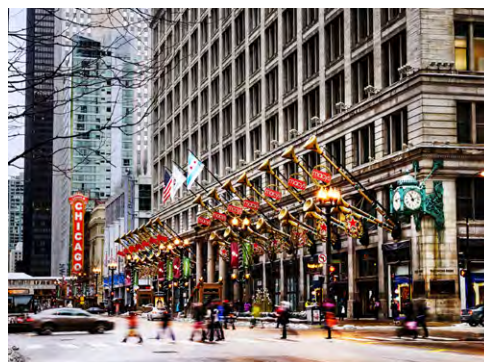
Delight in the whimsy of the National Gingerbread House Competition® at the legendary Omni Grove Park Inn and savor the joy of live holiday theater in the quaint village of Flat

– Article continued on page 7



## CHICAGO YOUR WAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Thursday, December 4, 2025



Treat yourself to a day of adventure, relaxation, and fun in the Windy City – without the hassle of parking. With our special holiday transportation package, we'll get you to downtown Chicago so you can enjoy the city at your own pace. **There's no set itinerary – you're free to explore however you like!**

Whether you're planning to shop 'til you drop on Michigan Avenue, take in the charm of the Christkindl Market at Daley Plaza, visit Navy Pier's festive attractions, or enjoy a delicious meal at one of Chicago's world-

class restaurants, *the choice is yours*. Our transportation will drop you off right on Michigan Avenue in the morning, and we'll pick you up at a designated time later in the day, so you can make the most of your free time without any worries.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Paul Hoffmann – President



## Fellow Prime Time Plus Club Members:

I am sure we have all heard many people sharing their stories of Prime Time's trips, especially about the recent trips to Kenya. While we love hearing about all the fun our members had while traveling, there are also stories from these trips that not as many people might know

about; specifically, the lasting impact our Prime Time Plus Club members can have on the communities they visit.

Both of our Prime Time's tour groups to Kenya had the opportunity to visit Emarti Secondary School, located near Emarti Village in the Trans-Mara District. The Emarti school system includes an elementary program serving more than 700 students, and a secondary school with more than 100 students who live in on-site dormitories.

During their visits, Prime Time members joined students to plant trees, tour classrooms, learn about daily school life, and talk to them about their future career paths. While our members were there, the school was fundraising to complete a library collection for their students and needed about \$3,000 more to reach their goal.

Thanks to the generosity of our Prime Time Plus Club members, the school's goal was fully met after our visits! The school's library is now fully stocked, providing students with the books and resources they need to support their learning. It will make a significant impact on their community.

I would also like to share one more special story from our PTPC visits to Emarti that shows the powerful impact our trips can have on the communities we visit. While at the school, one of our Prime Time members spoke with a guide who mentioned that restroom facilities were not available to visitors as they needed full replacement.

Shortly before our visit to Kenya, this same member had lost his father. His parents had traveled later in their lives, but his father was a reluctant traveler. The PTPC member's trip to Kenya mirrored the Kenya trip his parents took, which struck a chord with the member. His father always spoke very fondly of Kenya and often described it as his favorite destination. During his Kenya trip, his father formed a friendship with a local guide, who gifted him a traditional war club, a keepsake our member still treasures.

After leaving the school, moved by both the memory of his father and the current needs of the community, our member was inspired to do something meaningful. After discussing it with his wife, they decided to make a generous donation from his father's estate to fund the construction of new restroom facilities for the school. This project, which was completed last June, includes ten toilet stalls and a new water tank—creating a lasting and much-needed improvement for the school, its students, and visitors.

This story shows the positive impact all of us can have, not just in our own community, but in the communities we visit all around the world. Thank you for being a member of Prime Time and for traveling with us.

*– Paul Hoffmann, President*





## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE WITH PRIME TIME PLUS CLUB AND LAKE RIDGE BANK

Events will run from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the following locations:



**Thursday, December 11, 2025 – Waunakee Office**, 610 W. Main St., Waunakee, WI  
**Tuesday, December 16, 2025 – Mount Horeb Office**, 1740 Springdale St., Mt Horeb, WI  
**Wednesday, December 17, 2025 – Evansville Office**, 2 E. Main St., Evansville, WI  
**Thursday, December 18, 2025 – Monona Drive Office**, 5515 Monona Dr., Monona, WI

You're invited to celebrate the season with Prime Time Plus Club and our Lake Ridge Bank Associates at our Holiday Open Houses! Join us for a festive gathering filled with cheerful conversation, seasonal refreshments, and delicious holiday treats. It's the perfect chance to relax, connect with fellow members, and share in the joy of the season.

These open houses are for everyone! Even if you don't live in one of the communities the open house is being held in, come for the day to check out a new Lake Ridge Bank office and then enjoy everything each of these amazing communities have to offer. We can't wait to see you there and celebrate the most wonderful time of the year together!

*This is a drop-in open house. If you think you might attend, please complete the registration form for planning purposes.*

## HOLIDAY WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP AT PLEASANT PRAIRIE GREENHOUSE

**Monday, November 24, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

**Pleasant Prairie Greenhouse, 160907 W County Rd C, Evansville, WI**

The holidays are fast approaching, and what better way to get into the festive spirit than by creating your very own holiday wreath? We invite you to join us at Pleasant Prairie Greenhouse for a wreath-making workshop!

Whether you're an experienced crafter or a complete beginner, this workshop offers something for everyone. Everything you need is provided to create your perfect holiday wreath!

Start with a beautiful, freshly made wreath made from mixed greens, then let your imagination run wild!

Adorn your wreath with a wide selection of pre-made bows, pinecones, feathers, ornaments, and decorations in every color you can think of ensuring you leave with a one-of-a-kind masterpiece!

It's not just about making a wreath – it's about making memories. Why not make it a fun outing with friends or family? Bring your loved ones along, enjoy the festive atmosphere, and leave with a gorgeous holiday decoration that you can proudly display in your home.

The cost for this event is \$60 for members and \$70 for non-members.



The cost includes your custom-made, fresh evergreen wreath and holiday treats. Full payment is due with registration in order to secure your wreath.

**RSVP by Friday, October 24, 2025.** To register, please complete the form included in this newsletter. All reservations are made in date and time order.

## ANNOUNCING A NEW REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR TRIP PREVIEWS

Trip Previews are always popular events. We love the excitement and interest you have in traveling the world together! Recently, we have been reflecting on how to improve the extended tour registration process to ensure it is smooth, fair and enjoyable for everyone.

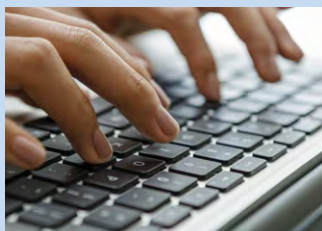
Moving forward, at each Trip Preview, tables will be numbered. After the slideshow, we'll randomly call table numbers. When your table is called, those interested in registering can get in line. We'll keep going until all tables have been called. Some trips fill up during the preview, so if your table hasn't been called yet and the trip is full, you can join the waitlist. If you want to register with friends, make sure you all sit at the same table!

Our goal is to create a registration experience that is both fair and efficient for all members. We look forward to traveling with you soon!



## PRIME TIME IS ONLINE!

As our Prime Time Plus Club continues to grow, we're excited to offer you a new, more convenient way to register for events — Prime Time is now online!



You can browse upcoming events, register, and even pay online through our member portal. After registering, you'll receive a confirmation email with all the event details. Prefer to pay by check? No problem! You can still drop one off at the office. *Just remember, full payment is required to reserve your spot.*

Getting started is easy! Simply email us at **primetime@lakeridge.bank** to express your interest, and we'll send you a link to create your personal username and own password so you can begin using the portal right away. You'll find day trips, local events, seminars, and much more available at your fingertips! ***(Please note: At this time, we cannot take registrations for extended tours online.)***

You can always continue to use the paper registration form. The online portal is simply an additional option for members who enjoy the convenience of registering from home.

## EXCLUSIVE TOUR OF OVERTURE CENTER

Tuesday, October 28, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Overture Center, 201 State Street, Madison, WI

The Prime Time Plus Club invites you to an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of historic Overture Center. Experience the magic behind the scenes at Overture Center for the Arts—one of Madison's most stunning architectural achievements. Learn about the history, shows and events and visit its beautiful theaters.

Overture Center features seven state-of-the-art performance spaces and five galleries where Broadway tours, national and international touring artists, nine resident companies and hundreds of local artists engage people in nearly 500,000 educational and artistic experiences each year.

Our tour of the Overture Center will take approximately 1.5 hours. Please note this tour is a *walking intensive* tour.



After the tour, we encourage members to explore the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art which is attached to the Overture Center.

This event is *free* to Prime Time

members and non-members. Non-members must attend as the guest of a member.

**RSVP by October 14, 2025.** To register, please complete the form included in this newsletter. All reservations are made in date and time order.

*Please note: The closest parking is available at the State Street parking ramp, located at 214 N. Carroll Street, just about a block's walk from the Overture Center.*

## BEST OF OREGON & NORTHERN CALIFORNIA TRIP PREVIEW

Thursday, November 13, 2025, from 5:30 -7:00 p.m.

St. Francis Xavier Fellowship Hall, 2947 Thinnes St., Cross Plains, WI

Embark on an unforgettable adventure with the Prime Time Plus Club as we explore the natural beauty and vibrant cities of Oregon and Northern California from August 18-26, 2026!

Our journey begins in Portland, with views of the Cascade Mountains and highlights like Multnomah Falls and Timberline Lodge along the Columbia River Gorge. We'll then travel to the scenic Oregon coast, visiting Cannon Beach and relaxing in the oceanfront of Newport.

Marvel at Crater Lake's brilliant blue waters before heading to Northern California to walk among the towering redwoods. In Napa Valley, enjoy wine tasting and a gourmet picnic at a picturesque vineyard. The trip concludes in San Francisco, where

you'll take in iconic sights like the Golden Gate Bridge, Chinatown, and Pier 39.



Full details will be available at the preview presentation by Cruises and Tours Worldwide on Thursday, November 13, 2025. **Doors will open at 5:00 p.m.** for a light meal and check-in. **The presentation will begin at 5:30 p.m.**

**Please note:** Registrations cannot be accepted until after the presentation. Prime Time Plus tours can sell quickly. If this trip sounds like a trip you might enjoy, we encourage you to attend the preview.

**RSVP by Thursday, October 30, 2025.** To register, please complete the form included in this newsletter. All reservations are made in date and time order.



## EXPERIENCE THE SPARKLE OF THE SEASON – ASHEVILLE TRIP PREVIEW *Continued*



Rock. Each day is filled with memorable moments, from private wine tastings to festive meals at Asheville's top dining spots, all set against the stunning backdrop of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

This is more than a trip, it's a joyful celebration of all things holiday. Come home with your spirit lifted, your heart full, and memories

that will last long after the lights dim. Let Asheville wrap you in the magic of the season.

Full details will be available at the preview presentation by Universal Travel on Thursday, January 8, 2026. **Doors will open at 5:00 p.m.** for a light meal and check-in. **The presentation will begin at 5:30 p.m.**

**Please note:** Registrations cannot be accepted until after the presentation. Prime Time Plus tours can sell quickly. If this trip sounds like a trip you might enjoy, we encourage you to attend the preview.

**RSVP by Friday, January 2, 2026.** To register, please complete the form included in this newsletter. All reservations are made in date and time order.

## CHICAGO YOUR WAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS *Continued*

The bus ride itself will be full of holiday cheer, festive music and games to get you in the spirit of the season. Let us take care of the transportation while you focus on having fun and making memories in Chicago this holiday season with your friends and family. Book your spot today for the ultimate **"Do What You Want Day"** in downtown Chicago!

In the weeks leading up to the trip, we will send out additional details and a guide of the area to help you plan for your day. The cost for this event is \$55 for members and \$65 for non-members. The cost includes transportation, driver gratuities, and snacks while on board. Full payment is due with registration.

*Members can bring more than one non-member for this event.*

**RSVP by Tuesday, November 11, 2025.** To register, please complete the form included in this newsletter. All reservations are made in date and time order.



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Katie Magyera – PTP Club Director



**Dear Prime Time Plus Club Members,**

This quarter, I want to celebrate a special milestone! In August, Jenny celebrated her one-year

anniversary as Associate Director of Prime Time Plus Club and what a fantastic year it's been!

If you have had the chance to meet Jenny at an event or on tour in the last year, you will know why she has made such a smooth and natural transition into her role! Her warmth, energy, and enthusiasm have been an incredible asset to our club since day one.

Those who have traveled with her know the joy she brings to the microphone on the bus, her talent for keeping the group connected, and her mission to collect Christmas ornaments wherever she goes. If you've attended a local Prime Time Plus Club event and admired the thoughtful details or smooth presentation, you can be sure Jenny had a hand in it. And if you haven't seen Jenny in action yet, I hope you join us at an event soon!

Moving forward, this section of the newsletter will change a little too. Prime Time Plus wouldn't be what it is without the incredible teamwork behind the scenes! In the future, you will find notes from your Prime Time Plus Team closing out the newsletter, not just me!

Working with Jenny each day is a true privilege. But both of us feel the greatest gift is getting to spend time with all of our amazing Prime Time Plus Club Members. Here's to many more years of shared laughter, great adventures, and amazing Prime Time Plus Club moments!



## Lake Ridge Bank™

Go Far. Go Together.

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1-800-315-4636

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**Prime Time Advisors:**

Atwood: Gabriel Haefner  
Belleville: Stacey McPhail  
Bridge Road: Jackson Cardoni  
Cottage Grove: John Kirschner  
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Evansville: Shelley Meredith  
Monona Drive: Helen Dillenbeck  
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Parmenter: Irene Gelfand  
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Waunakee: Deanne Duane

**Advisors Available by Phone:**

Card Services: Tonia Gilbertson  
Retail Operations: Andrea Springman



PRIME TIME PLUS

**PRIME TIME PLUS CLUB DIRECTORS:**

Katie Magyera or Jenny Gutzmer at (608) 767-4752  
or by email at [primetime@lakeridge.bank](mailto:primetime@lakeridge.bank)

We hope you will stop in to see us soon at any of our Lake Ridge Bank locations!

ATWOOD AVE.

BELLEVILLE

BLACK EARTH

BROOKLYN

COTTAGE GROVE

CROSS PLAINS

CROSS PLAINS  
MOTOR PLUS

EVANSVILLE

EVANSVILLE DRIVE-UP

JANESVILLE

MIDDLETON PARMENTER

MIDDLETON  
UNIVERSITY AVE.

MONONA DR.

BRIDGE ROAD

MOUNT HOREB

NEW GLARUS

OREGON

SAUK PRAIRIE

VERONA

WAUNAKEE

**PRIME TIME PLUS CLUB UPDATES:**

Visit our **Prime Time Plus Club Resource Page** at: [www.lakeridge.bank/prime-time-plus-club/member-resources](http://www.lakeridge.bank/prime-time-plus-club/member-resources) to find the latest recordings of our presentations.

The Prime Times is published quarterly by Lake Ridge Bank Prime Time Plus Club. Send address changes and comments to editor, Katie Magyera, 6430 Bridge Road, Monona, WI 53716. This publication is written for the benefit of the Prime Time Plus Club members of the Lake Ridge Bank.



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