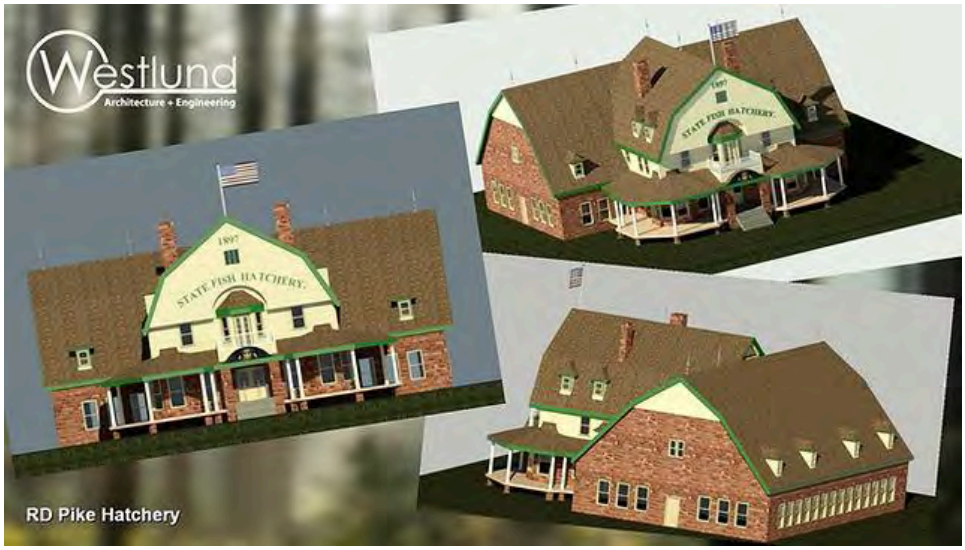
Happenings at the Hatchery!

Friends of the R.D. Pike Building, Inc.
Volume 3, Issue 3, April 2026

Spring into action with our lastest exciting news!



Your Friends Board has been busy since the successful online painting auction in February. The paintings were all sold, raising even more funds for the porch restoration and they now adorn people's walls from southeast Wisconsin all the way to western South Dakota! We are now working diligently on the plans to replace the grand front porch as needed renovations begin this year on the historic building. We wanted you to see this great photo of the building with the two "*photo-bombers*" on the right! Looks like the roaring twenties to us and they appear to be having a grand time. Take a good look at the majestic porch before you scroll to the next picture as there is a tie-in.



The photo collage here comes from Westlund Architecture & Engineering, the architect in charge of restorations to the R.D. Pike Building and other work currently about to start at the Bayfield hatchery. This technology uses laser scanning, which enables them to add the porch back on and show us a virtual look! To see a really impressive video panorama of the porch and additional information on the project and fundraising goals, click to the new porch page here: ***https://www.friendsofrdpike.org/porch***

An INCREDIBLE donation!



The Apostle Islands Historic Preservation Conservancy (AIHPC) has bestowed an amazing show of support to the Friends for the re-creation of the grand front porch! Here, Executive Director Jo Holt (left) hands a check for the donation to the Chairwoman of the Friends group, Mary Gruhl. We are very grateful for this incredible contribution. Read the full article and the terrific AIHPC statement about their rationale here: ***https://www.friendsofrdpike.org/post/apostle-islands-historic-preservation-conservancy-makes-very-generous-donation***

Like Joni Mitchell said... "Back to the Garden"





"*Back to the garden*" is the central refrain in Joni Mitchell's iconic song- Woodstock. Restoring the historic gardens at the hatchery are a joyful and wonderful endeavor. The job is a big one too, getting bigger by the year in fact! Our grounds and garden committee could use your help keeping the gardens beautiful for the thousands of visitors (*still slightly less than the attendance at Woodstock but we are trying*) that come to the hatchery every year. There is spring clean-up, summer planting, weeding, watering, dead-heading and other fun earthy chores. Our grounds and garden folks would LOVE some help. No long commitments or schedules. If you have a little time between late April and early October, an hour or two here or or there, we would be so appreciative. There are three ways you can reach us:

1) Email us by clicking HERE and tell us you are interested!
2) Call our garden chair, "V" at 715-820-2694 and have a chat about the opportunities and what works for you.
3) Fill out a volunteer form on our website by clicking HERE and we will respond quickly after we receive it.

Our sincere thanks for your consideration. The gardens are a big draw to the hatchery and are full of historic significance. They are being recreated using the Superintendents diaries from 1895 to 1959 that are in our possession. These serve as our roadmap in helping to restore this iconic piece of history. Listed below is one of the many entries:

"Monday, May 29, 1911: Robert L. Ripple, John Hagberg, Fred Wahlquist, Andrew Wahlquist, Frank Purcell "Set the red geraniums in flower bed from Smith the Ashland Florist. Picking Rainbow eggs, etc. Mr. James Nevin at hatchery".

Dig in and come help us in our mission to Re-Awaken History!

PO Box 511 Washburn,
WI 54891-0511
friendsrdpike@gmail.com

Friends of the R.D. Pike Building | PO Box 511 | Washburn, WI 54891 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!