

Press Release for the 27th Annual "Midsummer In The Northwoods" Bluegrass Festival

Two Headliner Bands Combine for 86 Years of Playing Bluegrass Together

Headlining the 27th Annual "Midsummer In The Northwoods" Bluegrass Festival is the legendary Bluegrass Band, **Lost & Found**, that formed during 1973 in Virginia. Bluegrass Troubadour Allen Mills sings with a distinctly southern intonation. His polished charm has for 43 years entranced patrons to get lost in their songs where they invariably have found a treasure chest of Bluegrass Music. The band will roll into town with their touring bus known as "The Lost & Found Hilton" at the Cozy Cove Tavern on US Highway 51 N in Manitowish Waters, Wisconsin on August 4, 5, 6 & 7, 2016.

Wisconsin's own **Piper Road Spring Band** will be returning to the Cozy Cove with a familiar line-up as they also celebrate 43 years in 2016. Bob Mason (mandolin), "Black" Barry Riese (guitar), and Billy Kangaroo (washboard) were together at the beginning in 1973. They are joined by Randal Harrison (fiddle) and Mark Hembree (upright bass). Adding a stamp of Classic Bluegrass authenticity to this year's show is the fact that Mr. Hembree has several years on his performing resume as a member of Bill Monroe & the Bluegrass Boys.

Piper Road was born into the age of rock & roll with individual backgrounds diverse as classical, cowboy, folk, blues and Dixieland. Influenced by some live performances of Doc Watson and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's release of "Will The Circle Be Unbroken" in the early 1970's, they put away the electric amps and guitars and developed a unique acoustic/bluegrass style. In fact when Piper Road played at the Cozy Cove 26 years ago at the 2nd Annual MidSummer Bluegrass Show, Bill Monroe, Father of Bluegrass, and the Bluegrass Boys were the headliners.

Over the years, the Piper Road Spring Band never completely abandoned their musical roots and have blended Irish fiddle tunes with American country, big band, novelty and space-aged Grateful Dead inspired jams. On the same token, **The Best Westerns** are part of this year's line-up and their devotion to Western Swing and Hillbilly Jazz will help keep patrons' dancing shoes on.

Rounding out the rest of the array will be the **Bluegrass Express** band, featuring three generations (Gary, Gregg & Jacob) of the Underwood Clan from Illinois, Tomahawk's own, **Hand-Picked Bluegrass**, with their precise picking and harmonious vocals, and **The Allen Cote' Band**, which hails originally from Austin, Texas. The duet of **John Gillette & Sarah Mittlefehldt** are grounded in the old field of Grassroots Music & nourished by the sounds of the 21st century. And, lastly, **Sparrow Tree**, from Marquette, Michigan represents this year's brand of Standard Bearers of Bluegrass Music's Future.

To find out more about this longest continuous-running annual Bluegrass Festival in the State of Wisconsin, and the over 40 scheduled hours of concert and workshops for this year's Bluegrass Show: Phone: 715-543-2166 or visit: www.MidSummerBluegrass.com Contact Jerry@CozyGrass.com for Press Photos or questions.