

July 8, 2010

Omro boat club looking for paddlers for leg of Fox River Heritage boat trip

OMRO – Fox River Runners, the Omro boat club, is seeking paddlers for the local leg of the Fox River Heritage 2010 Paddle on Sunday, July 18, as it passes by Omro on its 125-mile journey via the Fox River from Portage to Green Bay.

Fox River Runners is sponsoring one segment of a series of 13 canoe and kayak trips over nine weekends between April 24 and Aug. 14, aimed at helping the public rediscover the beauty and heritage of the Fox River.

The four weekend and five day trips, collectively called Fox River Heritage Paddle 2010, celebrate an effort to gain National Heritage status for the Fox and Wisconsin rivers from the U.S. Park Service. Sen. Herb Kohl, D-Wisconsin, and Rep. Steve Kagen, D-Appleton, have agreed to sponsor legislation to accomplish the designation.

Groups or individuals wishing to participate in the July 18 portion of the trip may contact John Steen, Fox River Runners commodore, at (920) 252-2286 for more information.

All segments are open to the public and led by certified instructors. Participants are charged \$10 to help cover excursion expenses.

Riders will meet at 8 a.m. at Miller Park, 1121 Kiwanis St., Omro. Launch time is at 9:15 a.m. for a leisurely paddle to Terrell's Island in Lake Butte des Morts, at the end of Rivermoor Road off State Highway 21.

During a program that begins at noon, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources biologist Art Techlow and members of the Butte des Morts Conservation Club will discuss an experiment on the island that has created a two-mile breakwall to restore native plants, fish and birds to a wetlands.

The non-paddling public may attend the programs such as the one at Terrell's Island at the conclusion of each segment of the trip.
