



THE LAKELAND TIMES



JULY 2024

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Min-Aqua Bats celebrate 75 years

The Lakeland Times proudly marks the 75th anniversary of the Min-Aqua Bats — the world's longest-running amateur water ski show — in today's edition with a commemorative special section.

Inside, readers will find coverage of the Aqua Bowl's newly designated historic landmark status, details about Thursday's reunion show, a retrospective on the club's legacy, and dozens of photos, memories and personal recollections shared by alumni.

Congratulations to the Min-Aqua Bats on 75 thrilling years — and here's to 75 more. Hit it!

Proposed 89-room Woodruff hotel annexed into the Lakeland Sanitary District

Peters: 'We went back and forth for quite a while on it'

By Brian Jopek
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The board of directors for the Lakeland Sanitary District (LSD) Tuesday gave approval to add, or annex, a proposed 89-room hotel in Woodruff to the district's system.

Businessman Jay Gouardham had the parcel, off of Northridge Way near Walmart where he plans to build

the hotel, re-zoned from residential and farming to business use by the Oneida County board's planning and development committee on March 5 and that was approved by the full county board on March 18.

Along with the hotel would be a structure that will house hotel employees.

See LSD... page 47

Federal court remands Bangstad case

County's zoning lawsuit against MBC heads back to circuit court

By Richard Moore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

A federal district judge has rejected yet another effort by Minocqua Brewing Company owner Kirk Bangstad to have Oneida County's lawsuit against him for zoning violations removed to federal court, roundly dismissing

See Bangstad... page 42



KATE REICHL/LAKELAND TIMES

ROCK ON!

Three-year-old Henry Hoban enjoys free rock painting at the 56th Annual Gem and Mineral Show on Friday, July 18, at Lakeland Union High School in Minocqua.

Five arrested for drug-related incidents in Oneida County over the weekend

Hebein speaks to drugs affecting community

By Trevor Greene
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Five people were arrested in Oneida County this past weekend for a variety of drug-related incidents.

Travis Jeffery Brooks, 40, of Rhinelander, was arrested by the Oneida County Sheriff's Office on July 18 for charges including: possession of THC, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance.

Minogheezhig Sandman-Shelifoe, 41, of Rhinelander, was arrested by the Oneida County Sheriff's Office after being medically cleared on July 19 for charges including: possession of drug

paraphernalia, second or greater offense of possession of cocaine and two charges of possession of heroin and fentanyl.

Amy Catherine Bock, 29, of Rhinelander, and Karen Ann LaPuma, 59, of Rhinelander, were both arrested by the Rhinelander Police Department on July 19 in a related incident. Bock was arrested for charges including: possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine, possession of a controlled substance and a probation violation. LaPuma was arrested for charges including: possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine, possession of an illegally obtained

See Drugs... page 43

St. Germain to take bids for basketball, pickleball courts

Vojta: 'We don't know what it's going to cost'

By Fred Williston
SPECIAL TO THE LAKELAND TIMES

Pickleball may soon hit the courts in St. Germain, where town officials voted July 14 to pursue bids for construction of a shared basketball and pickleball court.

Town chairman John Vojta is spearheading the project and he requested the assistance of Jim Bossert, a member of the St. Germain Pickleball and Spikeball Club.

"Everybody's probably heard that pickleball is the fastest-growing sport in the country by far," Bossert told the board. "The Northwoods reflects that very much."

As an example, he said there's a group that plays on Fridays in St. Germain.

"About a year ago, there were maybe 12 people who would sign up each week," Bossert said.

"We're now up to 20 people signing up and even putting people on a wait-list. It's that popular. So we kind of find ourselves going around to different towns that have dedicated pickleball courts to kind of help spread the load around a little bit. I believe it's very much warranted for St. Germain to have a facility like this."

Vojta shared preliminary sketches of the court and described it to the board. "I wanted a basketball court to serve a dual purpose and kind of kill two birds with one stone," he said. "This is what we came up with for the spot that we have. 60-by-100 fits in there. I think the pickleball people would like more courts but my comment has been

See Pickleball... page 50

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KATE REICHL/LAKELAND TIMES

NATURES CANVAS

Six-year-old Piper Hoban paints a rock at the 56th Annual Gem and Mineral Show on Friday, July 18, at Lakeland Union High School in Minocqua.

Genealogical society workshop in Boulder Junction Sept. 6

The Northern Waters Genealogical Society invites you to a "Getting Started on Your Genealogy" workshop on Saturday, Sept. 6, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Boulder Junction Community Center, 5392 Park Street. Topics to be covered include genealogy forms, organization of re-

search, resources, and available genealogical software. This program is free to the public but pre-registration by Aug. 31 is required. You may pre-register by contacting Jay at 715-686-7173 or jhwoolf@gmail.com. Refreshments will be served.

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Monday, July 28

LAKELAND UNION HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION- 5 p.m., Lakeland Union High School, library media center.
WINCHESTER PLANNING COMMISSION- 7 p.m., Winchester Town Hall.
RHINELANDER CITY COMMON COUNCIL- 6 p.m., Rhinelander City Hall, 2nd floor council chambers.
PELICAN TOWN BOARD- 4 p.m., Pelican Town Hall.

Tuesday, July 29

MINOCQUA PLAN COMMISSION- 8:30 a.m., Minocqua Center, 3rd floor board room.
VILAS COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT- 10 a.m., Arbor Vitae Town Hall.

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Boulder Junction library August Art in the Library Exhibit features underwater photographer

The Boulder Junction Public Library welcomes the public to view their August Art in the Library exhibit featuring underwater photographer, Jim Arnold, beginning Saturday, Aug. 2.

Meet Jim and view his work at an Artist's Reception to be held on Thursday, Aug. 14. From 6:30 to 7 p.m., tour the art in the library. Then at 7 p.m., gather in the meeting room for a presentation. Take a deep dive — photographically — into the hidden world beneath the surface of northern Wisconsin's lakes. You'll explore the fascinating life forms that inhabit our local waters, from delicate aquatic plants to elusive amphibians, freshwater mussels, sponges, bryozoans, and fish. Guided by Jim, you will gain an appreciation for the complex ecosystems thriving just below our lakes' surface.

Jim Arnold grew up on the shores of Blue Lake in northern Wisconsin fantasizing he was an 8-year-old Jacques Cousteau with his \$9.99 dime store mask, snorkel and fins. Using his love



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

The Boulder Junction Public Library welcomes the public to view their August Art in the Library exhibit featuring underwater photographer, Jim Arnold, beginning Saturday, Aug. 2.

of photography and a passion for nature, he tells the story of what is below the surface of our lakes from its beauty and diversity of life that goes unnoticed and underappreciated.

Jim is former artist-in-residence at the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Trout Lake Station and his photography has been featured in Lake Superior Magazine, Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine, and numerous galleries across the

country, including the Museum of Contemporary Art in Wausau, the Northern National Art Competition in Rhinelander, Praxis Gallery Minneapolis Minnesota, and at The Nat Photo Society.

For questions about the Art in the Library exhibits, the application process, or the Artwork policy, please email the library at info@boulderjunction.wislib.org or call the library at 715-385-2050.

Pfeifer won't prosecute DeMet

DA: Insufficient probable cause for misconduct in office

News analysis

By Richard Moore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The Oneida County district attorney said last week she is declining to file charges for misconduct in public office against Lake Tomahawk town chairman George DeMet in relation to a recent court finding that DeMet knowingly broke the state's open meetings law.

Last month, in a long-awaited decision, Oneida County circuit judge Mary Sowinski concluded that DeMet knowingly violated the open meetings law when he attended an enhanced wake boat presentation in 2023, aware both that the presence of another town supervisor, Lenore Lopez, consti-

tuted a quorum and that the meeting had not been properly noticed to the public, as required by the open meetings law.

After that finding, *Lakeland Times* publisher Gregg Walker filed a complaint with district attorney Jillian Pfeifer, asserting that knowingly breaking the law constituted a felony breach of DeMet's duties.

"The law is clear," Walker wrote. "Misconduct in public office is defined as '[a]ny public officer or public employee' who ... 'intentionally fails or refuses to perform a known mandatory, nondiscretionary, ministerial duty of the officer's or employee's office or employment within the time or in

See DeMet. . . page 53

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To offer or not to offer

Proposed land sale to the Landfill Venture Group by Vilas County still being discussed

By Brian Jopek
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

A proposed sale of land to the Landfill Venture Group (LVG) of the nearly 170 acres it occupies and leases from Vilas County in the town of Cloverland was once again discussed in a closed session of the LVG's executive committee at its July 16 meeting in Arbor Vitae.

The LVG is a consortium of 13 Vilas County towns and the city of Eagle River that owns the County G Landfill in Cloverland and in May, Vilas County board chairman Jerry Burkett presented to the LVG executive committee the idea of the group buying the land from the county for a total of \$710,000.

After that meeting, Burkett stressed to *The Lakeland Times* the idea to sell the land to the LVG is "my idea."

"Every time the DNR (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources) gets a bug up their butt, they'll send a letter asking for this or asking for that," he said. "I don't want the liability. The LVG has the right of first refusal and there are probably several solid waste haulers

that would probably buy the landfill."

His other concern was what might happen should the landfill be sold to a private entity.

"They would simply jack up the tipping fee," Burkett said.

In June, the LVG's executive committee met in closed session to discuss a counter offer to the \$710,000 figure Burkett presented.

After the LVG's July 16 meeting that included another closed session to discuss further the proposed land sale, LVG commission chairman Scott Maciosek said the organization was "waiting for the county to bring us an offer and see if they want to sell it or not."

"So far, it's just been the (county board) chairman talking," he said. "Well, it needs to go to the county board and the county board needs to vote on whether they want to sell the property or not and at what price."

While no decision was made following that closed session, Maciosek told the *Times* he had talked to Burkett about the proposed sale.

He mentioned the sum of \$300,000.

"He wanted a letter

from us stating that we'll buy the land and we'll pay the \$300,000 by the end of June of next year," Maciosek said. "And I'm going 'If we bring a letter, then it looks like we're initiating the county to sell it to us' but it's the county that came to us and said they wanted to sell it."

He said it was at that point the realization was made that the county board "had to

from the landfill couldn't be brought to the Eagle River facility "until they find out where the PFAS is coming from."

Sanborn told the Eagle River city council on July 8 PFAS contamination had been discovered but at that time, had little information although he confirmed the County G Landfill is one of the

sources of leachates at the Eagle River facility but at the same time, stressed no one particular business had been identified as the source of the PFAS contamination.

Maciosek said the PFAS contamination issue at the Eagle River wastewater treatment plant didn't come up at the LVG's July 16 meeting but a call was received from Sanborn letting County G Landfill staff know leachate

result of a "conceptual talk between he and I."

"What he (Maciosek) did was he came in and said 'We don't want to make payments over 20 years,'" he said. "He said, 'You know, we'd be willing to consider \$300,000 in one payment to get it over with.' I said that wasn't as much as I want but I could take that money and in the next 20 years, I could make it \$700,000 just like anybody else could with the normal interest rates."

Burkett said he told Maciosek he "was fine" with the \$300,000 idea but reiterated there was a process to be followed at the county level.

"Remember, we have to go through the forestry committee first, the finance committee second and then the county board," he said.

Burkett then touched on the reason he brought up the land sale idea: the possibility for county liability tied in to

"Until I actually see an offer that's got a signature on it, all I've got is two old men, sitting on the porch talking."

Jerry Burkett, Vilas County board chairman

Concept of an offer

Burkett, also a member of the Eagle River city council, told *The Lakeland Times* on July 17 he was unaware that Sanborn had communicated with the LVG and County G Landfill that no more leachate would be accepted from the landfill until more was known about the PFAS source.

As for any discussion about the land sale between himself and Maciosek, Burkett referred to the \$300,000 number for the property coming up as the

See **Landfill** . . . page 5

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Vilas emergency management stressing federal funding

Sheriff's office looking to fix St. Germain communications issue

By Trevor Greene
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Vilas County emergency management director Sherri Congleton provided a report to the county board's law enforcement and emergency management committee meeting on Monday.

One part of Congleton's report focused on federal funding the county's emergency management department has been receiving for the past 25 years.

However, she said, this year she's not entirely sure the county will receive it.

The emergency management performance grant (EMPG), Congleton explained, assists her department with fulfilling federal and state regulations.

She said the county's emergency management budget is around \$145,000, with the EMPG in 2025 being \$31,588.

Congleton said the grants haven't been announced by the federal government yet and everyone in emergency management is "getting a little bit notice."

She said she wanted to give the committee a "heads up."

"(Because) if that

(funding) doesn't come through, we're going to be looking at a deficit in my budget," Congleton said. "I feel better that it's going to come through for next year, (but) this year, just because of all the changes at the federal level, things are a little bit up in the air. Kind of what you're seeing with the health department grants and stuff too."

The funding "definitely helps," she reiterated, to meet and added "it will hurt us" if the funding doesn't come through.

"The federal government usually has that release by now,"

Congleton said. "So the longer it takes, the more nervous people are getting because if they don't release it by Sept. 30, the funding reverts to the U.S. Treasury ... it's just kind of a weird (situation). But you know, with all of the changes going on in the government right now ... things are just kind of at an unknown point."

Regardless, she said she's still optimistic the funding will be secured.

"So yeah, I'm hoping that it comes through and that they push for that, but the longer it goes, the longer ... all of a sudden ... it really could become a reality that we don't get it," Congleton said. "And we have seen that with some of the public health funds."

Wisconsin Emergency Management administrator Greg Engle sent an email to municipalities on July 15 regarding the ongoing funding concerns.

"We have been engaged with state leadership, federal representatives, and national organizations such as National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) and the Governors Homeland Security Advisory

Council (GHSAC) to both convey the importance of the federal funding and gain more insight into when it will be made available," he said. "We are also working closely with state leadership to identify options to sustain emergency management across the state and continue our critical mission in the absence of the EMPG funding."

Engle suggested those like Congleton consider planning for the possibility of the funding not coming through.

"I recognize that this is an unprecedented situation, and it has been stressful on everyone for the past several months," Engle said. "We are committed to doing everything we can to support our county and Tribal emergency management community and our mission, and I am confident we will be able to get through this and continue the important work that we do together."

Communication issues in St. Germain?

Sheriff Joe Fath said committee chairman Jerry Burkett asked his

office at the Monday meeting to follow up with a telecommunications consultant in Madison.

He said Burkett wanted to know if that would be of any assistance to the county in handling a communications issue in St. Germain and sometimes Arbor Vitae.

"It has to do with paging," Fath said of the issue. "They have some intermittent coverage ... so we're not sure what's causing the problem, but our consultant's ... been working on replacing some equipment like antennas, cabling, in case that has something to do with it."

He said the county has worked with the Twin Cities-based PSC Alliance as its telecommunications consultant for some time and they would be working with the consultant Burkett suggested at the meeting Monday to conduct testing in the area.

PSC Alliance, Fath noted, assisted the county in developing its telecommunications network.

Trevor Greene may be reached via email at trevorgreene@lakelandtimes.com.

Landfill

From page 4

the County G Landfill.

"We get these letters from the DNR all the time because we (Vilas County) are the landowner asking what are we going to do about this, this, this," he said. "Our corporate counsel wants to reduce our liability so that's why we would consider this."

Burkett said he told

Maciosek to encourage cooperation from the LVG executive committee as well as the rest of the group's members "and bring me an offer."

"I said, 'Scott, I'm only one person,'" Burkett said. "I'm only the chair. There are three committees involved. I do not make the decisions. I can do my best to steer the vote to get that accepted. Sometimes, people come to the chair and they

think I'm going to wave a magic wand and it's done but isn't that way. There are committees."

He again said the \$300,000 was "not an offer at all but a conceptual thought."

"Until I actually see an offer that's got a signature on it, all I've got is two old men, sitting on the porch talking," Burkett said.

Brian Jopek may be reached via email at bjopek@lakelandtimes.com.

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WHEEL DEAL

By Beckie Gaskill
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Cycling Without Age is a global movement to provide free bike rides to the elderly and those with special needs who would normally not get to partake in the great sport of bicycling. Events are held through both the Oneida County and Vilas County Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC).

“Cycling Without Age brings together seniors and volunteers to create meaningful connections, foster social inclusion and promote active living,” according to the Vilas Oneida Cycling Without Age website. For many seniors, simply getting outside can be challenging, and enjoying the neighborhood on a bicycle is simply out of the question. Cycling Without Age changes all that.

This month, the Oneida County ADRC has so far held two rides, one at Holy Family Catholic Church in Woodruff on July 16 and one at the SDRC building on July 18. Both events were held at meal sites to introduce seniors to the trishaws used in the program and to encourage participation at the meal site.

Another ride coming up is a special partnership with Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River. That event will take place on Thursday, Aug. 21. Cycling Without Age will offer rides from the Highway 45 trailhead three miles north to Three Lakes on the west side of the highway. As the riders enjoy the trishaw bike ride, an educator from

ONEIDA AND VILAS COUNTY ADRC'S FREE CYCLING WITHOUT AGE TRISHAW TOURS LET SENIORS ROLL AGAIN



Patrick Busch and Delores Roehl were piloted by Steve Haugesag.



Amy Engel and her aunt Audrey Eder ride with their pilot Mary DeNamur last week during the Cycling Without Age event put on by the Oneida County ADRC.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPHS

Trees for Tomorrow will talk about the local flora and fauna along the trail. The rain date for this event is Tuesday, Aug. 26.

Rides are also given throughout the season at

See Deal... page 7

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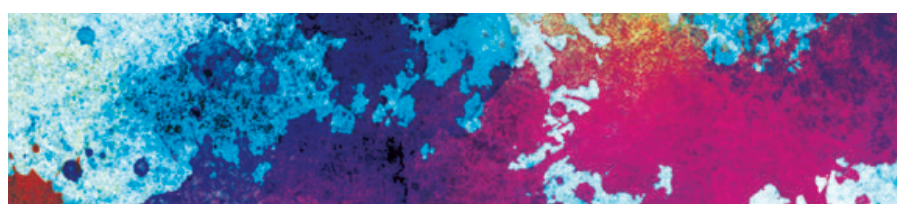
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Cathy Bayer and her pilot Suzanne Mooney enjoy a ride during the Cycling Without Age event last week.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Deal

From page 6

skilled nursing facilities as well as assisted living centers. The trishaws used in the program are able to traverse most anywhere and are legal vehicles, meaning they are even allowed on roadways just like regular bicycles. The best routes, however, are low-traffic areas such as side streets and trails through parks. These allow riders to feel safe and enjoy the outdoors at the same time.

All trishaw pilots are volunteers who have undergone training. They are trained not only in the rules of the road but also trishaw handling skills and best prac-

tices for maintenance of the trishaws, among other things. Learning how to be sensitive to the needs of riders and to make each ride a top-notch experience for every rider is foremost on the minds of all pilots in the program.

Cycling Without Age began in Denmark in 2012 in an effort to get older adults back into bicycling. Since then, the program has spread to more than 50 countries. To learn more about rides in Oneida and Vilas counties, see the local website at vocylingwithoutage.com

To register for the Trees for Tomorrow event, call 715-479-3625.

Beckie Gaskill may be reached via email at bgaskill@lakelandtimes.com.

Permaculture Convergence comes to Rhinelander

By Beckie Gaskill

OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

For the first time the Wisconsin Permaculture Convergence is coming to Northern Wisconsin. The event will be held Sept. 5 through 7 at Holiday Acres in Rhinelander. With the owners there working to move the resort to a carbon neutral vacation destination, it makes perfect sense to draw in a big event such as this that will help to showcase all the Rhinelander area has to offer. Attendees will come from across Wisconsin as well as from Minnesota and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, according to Mike Hassl of the Northwoods Homesteading Club. While there are differences between homesteading and permaculture, some homesteaders do also follow the permaculture tract as well, he said.

The basic tenant of permaculture is to work with nature rather than trying to control her. This may include planting vines or taller shrubs that will shade a house in the summer but then die back and allow the winter sun to help to heat the house. It takes things steps further than simply being organic and/or sustainable. While some attempt to follow permaculture completely, others take the pieces that work for them and use them to their fullest. Learning the different concepts of permaculture can allow a person to decide what works for them and to learn more about all aspects of working with nature. That is where the Wisconsin Permaculture Convergence comes in.

There will be many different workshops for attendees to get involved in, some of

which are still being set up. From foraging to land management and producing their own food, there will be workshops for just about everyone interested in learning more. Even survival arts, remediation of contaminants and making and using medicinal tinctures will be subjects about which attendees can learn more. There are sessions scheduled for all experience levels, from beginners to those who have been practicing permaculture for years. Pre-convergence workshops are also being set up, with activities that will take place the week leading up to the event.

Attendees are in for a real treat with this year's keynote speaker as well. Samuel Thayer is an internationally recognized forager and authority on edible wild plants. He will be speaking on the morning of Saturday, Sept. 6, kicking off the bulk of the conference.

Tent camping will be available for free, and Holiday Acres is offering special rates for attendees. There is also some RV parking at the event. Besides free tent camping, registration includes six meals as well as access to all 13 workshop sessions, the keynote speaker event, live music Friday and Saturday night and all the convergence has to offer.

The entire weekend is family-friendly and will include nightly music and camaraderie around the campfire. Set on the shores of beautiful Lake Thompson. For more information, and to register for the convergence, see the website wisconsinpermacultureconvergence.com.

Beckie Gaskill may be reached via email at bgaskill@lakelandtimes.com.

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OBITUARIES

Charles "Chuck" P. Bliss

Charles "Chuck" P. Bliss, 86, of Lake Tomahawk, passed away peacefully on July 14, 2025, at Tomahawk Health Services after a courageous battle with cancer.

Chuck was born in Milwaukee, on January 18, 1939, to Val and Esther Bliss. At the age of 18, he proudly joined the United States Army, beginning a life marked by service and dedication. He later settled in Waukesha, where he raised his family, before moving north to Lake Tomahawk in 1987. There, he found peace and joy on his cherished lakeside property.

In his younger years, Chuck was an avid motorcycle enthusiast, racing flat track bikes and enjoying motorsports of all kinds — from dirt tracks to NASCAR. His passion for the open road also led him to a career as a long-haul truck driver, traveling across the country and embracing life's journey.

Chuck had a deep love for the Northwoods and an even deeper love for his family. He found comfort in country music, especially the songs of Merle Haggard, and was happiest when surrounded by those he loved.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Judith; his grandson, Ryan Pitsch; and his nephew, Bill Moeser.

Chuck is survived by his loving wife, Christine; his children Kenyon (Jackie) Bliss of Eagle River, Tammy Bliss of Rhinelander, Kevin Bliss of Rhinelander, and Megan (David) Stanchfield of Waukesha; and his step-daughters Sarah (Justin) Noel of Arbor Vitae and Jenna (Michael) Sundquist of Wausau.

He is also survived by his grandchildren: Crystal Bliss of Land O' Lakes, Travis Bjorklund of San Antonio, Jacob Matthews of Rhinelander, Kylie and Mia Stanchfield of Waukesha, Kamryn Slomka of Madison, Kyla Hobock of North Pole, Alaska, and Caden Creger of Wausau; great-grandchildren Colin Pitsch of Rhinelander and Josie Hobock of North Pole, Alaska; nieces Priscilla (Larry) Polster of Baraboo and Donna (Michael) Bubolz of Harshaw; and nephew Warren Moeser of Campbellsport.

Chuck will be remembered for his grit, his heart, and the quiet strength he brought to every chapter of his life. Visit www.bolgerfuneral.com for condolences.

Patrick John Bloczynski

Patrick "Pat" Bloczynski, 80, of Minocqua, passed away peacefully on July 14, 2025 in Rhinelander with his loving companion Beverly by his side.

Pat was born in Marshfield, on October 29, 1944 to Sylvester "Sally" Lawrence Bloczynski and Marcella "Mutz" Marie (Daum) Bloczynski. He spent his childhood in Marshfield and attended Columbus Catholic High School. He also attended the seminary in St. Nazianz. Pat was married to Sharlene Reich from 1965 to 1988, and they raised their family together. He worked his career in data processing at various companies in Wisconsin, Oklahoma and Illinois. In retirement, Pat spent much of his time and energy doing handyman jobs and real estate work. He was employed as a security guard at Lake of the Torches



Bliss



Casino in Lac du Flambeau, for the last few years until the time of his death.

Pat loved being outdoors and spent much of his free time golfing, snowmobiling, camping, cutting firewood, snowshoeing and hiking. In his earlier years, Pat was a dedicated runner and participated in many marathons and other races and earned countless trophies and medals. He was a devoted sports fan and faithfully watched and cheered on his favorite golfers and Wisconsin sports teams.

Pat was always willing to lend a hand to anyone who asked. He was also very good at keeping in touch with old and new friends. He would often call up friends out of the blue and visit or spend the night during his travels. Pat was a hard worker, but any time he took a short break he could be found eating cheese right off the block or enjoying a bottle of Miller Lite. Pat's grandkids were a huge source of pride for him and he loved spending time with them, showing up for their events and texting them the most random photos and thoughts. Pat loved his many years spent with Beverly, whether they were traveling, attending family events, going out to dinner with friends or enjoying quiet time at her home or his cabin.

Pat was preceded in death by his parents, two sons Peter and Paul Bloczynski and his sister-in-law, Rita Bloczynski. He is survived by his brother Ronald Bloczynski of Wausau, and sister Frances Sapienza of Louisville, Ky.; his three children Suzanne (Johnny) Johnson of Telluride, Colo.; Shayna Lehmer of Bartlesville, Okla.; Patrick (Jessica) Bloczynski of Wisconsin Rapids, and seven grandchildren: Gage, Rye, South and Cash Livermore, Keaton Lehmer, Alaina and Kian Bloczynski. He is also survived by his long-term companion, Beverly Schonenberger and her four sons John, Jim, Mark and Steve and Beverly's grandchildren and great-grandchildren who were all an important part of his life. He is further survived by several nieces and nephews, cousins and countless friends that all held a special place in his heart.

A celebration of Pat's life will be held in his honor at the Knotty Barrel Supper Club located at 238 Lakeshore Drive, in Minocqua, on Aug. 2, from noon to 3 p.m. where family and friends will gather to share their memories together.

Our family would like to extend our sincere thanks to Beverly for the love, support and companionship she has given Pat over their many years together. We would also like to thank her neighbors for being there and providing additional care and support. He will be greatly missed by his loving family and many friends.

Our family plans to use any monetary gifts to contribute to his snowmobile club and other charities that were meaningful to Pat.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Hildebrand Funeral Home & Cremation Specialists, 24 E. Davenport Street, Rhinelander, Wisconsin, 54501, 715-365-4343. Everyone is invited to leave an online condolence at www.hildebrandfuneralsfh.com.

Joann Elizabeth Long (nee Rogers)

Joann Elizabeth Long (nee Rogers), 88 of Sun City West, Ariz. and Stillwater, Minn. passed away peacefully on April 8, 2025.

A celebration of life will be held in Manitowish Waters,



Long

on Friday, Aug. 1 from 4 to 6 p.m., (hors d'oeuvres reception) at Manitowish Waters Community Center, 5733 Airport Road, Manitowish Waters, WI 54545.

Mass of Christian burial 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 2 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church, 51 S. 93 Highway 51, Manitowish Waters, WI 54545. Burial service at Pine Lawn Cemetery. Luncheon at Little Bohemia Restaurant located at 142 Highway 51.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Camp Jörn YMCA, 13591 Zenner Lane, Manitowish Waters, WI 54545.

Online condolences may be shared at www.nimsgernfuneral.com. Nimsgern Funeral & Cremation Services is serving the family.

Thomas H. Patterson

Thomas H. Patterson, 96 of Minocqua, passed away on Saturday, July 19 at Careview Health and Rehab in Minocqua. Thomas was born on July 9, 1929 in Fifiel, the son of William and Winnifred Patterson.

Thomas attend college in Ashland, and after serving in the Air Force, he worked at a sawmill, but most of his career as an auto mechanic for Matz Motors. After retiring he enjoyed working for Semling Distributing.

Thomas enjoyed small game and deer hunting, fly tying and fly fishing, picking wild mushrooms, cooking, smoking and pickling fish. Loved making his homemade wine and maple syrup, cherished his family picnic outings and setting up at flea markets.

He is survived by his sons Tom Patterson Jr. and Mike Patterson and by his daughters Norma (Scott) Semling, Karen Parcher and Pam (Mark) Siech and by grandchildren Scott (Bree) Semling Jr., Eric Semling, Jason Parcher, Grey (Taylor) Siech and Ali Siech and by great grandchildren Allysen (Jayden) Sus, Ashlynn Semling, Kendel Semling, Olivia Parcher, Lachlan and Beckhem Siech and by his nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Thomas was preceded in death by his parents William and Winnifred Patterson, his siblings Sam Patterson, William Patterson, Winnifred Fox, Florence Witt, Barbara Patterson, Carol Jean Patterson and infant brother Henry.

Upon his wishes, cremation took place and private graveside services will take place at Forest Home Cemetery in Fifiel.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Madsen-Empey American Legion Post 89 in Minocqua.

Rosemary Ann Rennhack

Rosemary Ann Rennhack, age 88, passed away at Mercy Hospital on July 7, 2025. She was born on January 26, 1937 in Decatur, Ill., the daughter of Richard & Marjorie Rowe. She attended high school and graduated from Watertown High School in 1955. On September 14, 1957 she married Merrill (John) Rennhack. She worked at home providing daycare for many children in the Milton area for many years. Then Rosemary and John owned and operated Deer Ridge Resort on Island Lake in Manitowish Waters, for 14 years. Rosemary



Patterson



was a member of Seventh Day Baptist Church in Milton, the Red Hat Ladies, and sang with the Pine-tones. She will be especially remembered for her love of sewing, quilting, cross-country skiing, bicycling, canoeing, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. Rosemary is survived by daughter Merilee (Curt) Olson of Milton, two sons, John (Susan) Rennhack of Milton, and Keith (Mindy) Rennhack of Danvers, Ill.; six grandchildren, Dana (James Lilly) Mills, Tyler (Juliette LaPorte), Jacob (Cassidy Olson), Rachel, Ava and Cooper; seven great-grandchildren, Nicole and Curtis, Cavalli and Dash, Averie, Wesley and Lennon; two sisters Sally (Jon) Welter, Margie (Dan) Schaaf. She is further survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 3 at the Connecting Church, Milton Seventh Day Baptist Church, 720 E Madison Avenue, Milton. Friends and family may gather at 10 a.m. for visitation time up to the time of service at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Seventh Day Baptist Church to benefit the Camp Wakonda program. In honor of Rosemary feel free to wear the color "purple." The Albrecht Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, Milton is assisting the family with arrangements.

Rolland L. "Ron" Schoepfoester

Rolland L. "Ron" Schoepfoester 86 of Prairie Du Sac formerly of Minocqua, passed away peacefully July 19, 2025.

He was born August 17, 1938, in Markesan, to LeRoy and Irene (Schweder) Schoepfoester.

Ron graduated from Green Lake High School and enlisted in the Navy, serving four years as a radarman aboard the destroyer WM. M. Wood.

This was followed by a 38-year career with General Telephone/Verizon as construction supervisor in Minocqua and ending his career at the State Headquarters in Sun Prairie.

Ron married Karen Schuster of Woodland, celebrating 63 years together. He is survived by Karen and their two sons, Peter (Kathryn) of Madison and Jason (Cat) of Middleton, grandchildren, Noah, Matthew, and Hisa. Known to them as G-Pa or Boomps. Ron was very proud of his children and grandchildren, spending time with them was one of his greatest joys.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Shirley Nelson of Rio and brother Richard Schoepfoester of Green Lake.

Ron enjoyed time spent on the north shore of Lake Superior, mountains of the West, fishing, hunting, boating and wood working. He volunteered as a DNR citizen scientist for Loon Watch and lake clarity monitoring on Bobidosh Lake, Vilas County. He also volunteered his time in many ways at Trinity Lutheran Church, Minocqua.

Services will be held at 11 a.m., Aug. 2, at our Redeemer Lutheran Church 1701 McKenna Blvd. Madison, visitation at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Madison, Trinity Lutheran Church, Minocqua or Agrace Hospice. Hooverson Funeral Home is serving the family, hooversonfuneralhomes.com.



Schoepfoester



OBITUARIES

Thomas Blaine Swanson

On July 17, 2025 Thomas Blaine Swanson passed away unexpectedly.

Tom was born August 26, 1946 in Wausau to Donald Swanson (1923 - 2004) and Marion Williams Swanson (1924 - 2024). In 1954, Don and Marion packed up Tom and his sister Patricia for a permanent move to Boulder Junction to run Camp Milo Lodge on White Sand Lake. At a very young age Tom solidified his love of the rural Northwoods wilderness. By age 10, Tom was guiding guests of Milo Lodge to the best fishing holes White Sand Lake had to offer. By age 14 he achieved his first official guiding license, becoming the youngest licensed fishing guide in the state of Wisconsin at that time.



Swanson



In 1967 Tom was drafted into the U.S. Army and assigned to the "Old Guard," a historic name for the 3rd U.S. infantry regiment. In that time, he participated as a

member of the honor guard serving at the burial ceremonies of former President Dwight Eisenhower and Senator Robert F. Kennedy and received a personal letter of gratitude from Ethel Kennedy for his service. In 1969 he was also recognized for his participation in the presidential inauguration of Richard M. Nixon. Upon his honorable discharge, Sgt. Tom Swanson returned to Boulder Junction.

While he was cementing his legendary angler status, Tom met and married the love of his life, Colleen Ryan on June 26, 1976, becoming a beloved stepfather to her two girls, Lisa and Jessica Sorcic. In the mid-80s, Tom became the face of Team Swanson, a Musky Classic fishing team that grew to 100-plus members. Over the course of 20 years, Team Swanson won numerous fishing awards and raised thousands of dollars for local charities in support of the communities of Boulder Junction, Presque Isle, Winchester and Manitowish Waters.

More than just a guide, Tom worked tirelessly with local and state agencies, including the office of Governor Tommy Thompson to promote and preserve the quality of fishing in northern Wisconsin. Tom was also a long-time member

of the American Legion Post 451, the Boulder Junction Chamber of Commerce and past President of the Boulder Junction Guides Association. After more than five decades of guiding, in 2011 Tom was inducted as a Legendary Guide into the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame for outstanding achievement in the realm of fresh water sportfishing.

The Northwoods has not only lost a legendary guide but also the last local remaining member of the Sam and Ada Williams (great grandparents) family and the Floyd and Hazel Williams (grandparents) family, who were some of the founding members of Boulder Junction dating as far back as 1903 when railroad tracks were laid in the area. The Williams family were also founding members of the Boulder Junction Community church.

Tom was not just a son, brother, uncle, father, grandfather and husband but also a beloved friend to so many that had the pleasure of knowing him. To quote the Bob Marsh Family, "leave a few fish in the heavenly lake for us."

Tom is survived by his wife, Colleen, sister Patricia, children Tommy, Lisa, Daniel, Jessica and Jennifer, as well as grandchildren

Lars, Elizabeth, Bethany and Jordan and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. To make donations needed to cover Tom's medical bills and funeral arrangements, a GoFundMe account has been established and can be accessed using the link below or by searching by his full name on GoFundMe.com. <https://gofund.me/bb5af24c>. A final sendoff will be determined and communicated at a later date.

Online condolences may be shared at www.nimsgernfuneral.com. Nimsgern Funeral & Cremation Services is serving the family.

Mardelle "Mardi" Sachse

Mardelle "Mardi" Sachse, age 75 of Harshaw, passed away on Wednesday, June 25 at Aspirus Hospital in Wausau.

A memorial gathering for Mardi will be held on Saturday, Aug. 2, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Nimsgern Funeral Home Chapel with a memorial service at 2 p.m. followed by a reception at the funeral home fellowship hall.

Online condolences and full obituary at nimsgernfuneral.com. Nimsgern Funeral & Cremation Services is serving the family.

Holy Family offers grief support program

Holy Family Catholic Church will launch a new 13-week session of GriefShare, a non-denominational support program, on Wednesday, Aug. 20.

GriefShare provides help and encouragement to people who have experienced the death of a spouse, life partner, child, family member or friend.

Meetings will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. each Wednesday at the church, 8950 County Road J, Woodruff. The last session is scheduled for Nov. 12. A one-time fee of \$35 covers the cost of a course book.

Each session, led by trained facilitators, includes biblical concepts for healing, insights from grief-recovery experts, small-group discussions, journaling and personal study exercises. Organizers say the program emphasizes healing and hope and is open to all.

For more information, call Deacon Jason Marti at 715-972-4012.

AREA EVENTS CALENDAR

Want to submit an event to the calendar? Email editor@lakelandtimes.com

Friday, July 25

MINOCQUA: FARMERS MARKET-

8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Downtown Minocqua. Enjoy shopping local produce, baked goods, handmade crafts, and other surprises. Info: visit minocquafarmersmarket.com.

MINOCQUA: TAI CHI IN THE PARK-

9 a.m., Upper Torpy Park. Tori Cihla will lead us in Tai Chi on Fridays in June and July. No registration required. Info: visit minocqualibrary.org.

MINOCQUA: MIN-AQUA BATS WATER SKI SHOW-

7 p.m., 422 W Park Ave. Come down to Minocqua lake and enjoy a show filled with lots of water ski fun! Info: visit minaquabats.org.

WOODRUFF:

SHEEPSHEAD- 1 p.m., Lakeland Retirement Foundation-Generations, 103 Elm St. Woodruff. Every Wednesday and Friday. Come by yourself or bring a friend! Info: call 715-356-9118.

SAYNER: CHAIR YOGA-

9 to 10 a.m., Plum Lake Library. Kickstart your day and have fun with chair yoga with weights! Bring your water bottle and a set of weights if you would like to use them. Registration required either ahead of time or before class begins. Info: visit plumlakelibrary.org.

PRESQUE ISLE: TUNES ON

THE WATER-

5 to 8 p.m., Pipke Park. Join us for some great music by the water, bring your chair or a blanket to sit on. There will be food and beverages available. In case of bad weather, the music will be at the Presque Isle Community Center. This week will feature music from Comstock Lode! Info: visit presqueisle.com.

PRESQUE ISLE: FARM FRESH FRIDAY MARKET-

8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Presque Isle Main Street. This market features farm fresh poultry, baked goods, honey, cheese, local eggs, and many other items! There are also vendors with handmade crafts and goods. Info: visit presqueisle.com.

PRESQUE ISLE: AMERICAN MAH-JONGG-

1 to 3 p.m., Presque Isle Community Library. Join us for some friendly games! Free to join, all experience levels are welcome. Info: visit presqueislelibrary.org.

MANITOWISH WATERS:

EXPLORING REST LAKE'S AMAZING HISTORY PONTOON TOUR AND LUNCH- 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Rest Lake Boat Landing. Join the Manitowish Waters Historical Society and learn about the area's rich history. Following the pontoon tour will be a fish lunch. Register ahead. Info: visit discoverycenter.net.

MANITOWISH WATERS:

TENNIS DOUBLES- 9 a.m. to noon, North Lakeland Elementary School. Join us for some fun tennis every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in summer. Info: call 715-892-1328.

EAGLE RIVER: WIGGLE GIGGLE AND SHAKE-

10 to 11 a.m., Olson Library. Music and movement, sing, dance, and play! Held you and your child strengthen family bonds and build social connections. Info: visit olsonlibrary.org.

LAC DU FLAMBEAU: IKWE CIRCLE-

3 to 8 p.m., Lac du Flambeau Public Library. Bring your own sewing, beading, or other craft projects. Supplies are limited, snacks are provided. Info: visit ldflibrary.org.

LAC DU FLAMBEAU: BEAD NIGHT-

4 to 9 p.m., Old Bingo Hall. Join us for this weekly Beading Circle where first-timers and seasoned artists come together to create art. Kids are welcome, there are limited supplies for the first to arrive. Bring a project or start a new one. Info: call 715-588-1511.

RHINELANDER: ROCK GARDEN PAINTING PARTY-

10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Rhinelander District Library. Paint a rock for the rock garden at the front of the library! Paints and one rock provided, all ages welcome. Info: visit rhinelanderlibrary.org.

Saturday, July 26

MINOCQUA: LEGO CLUB-

10 a.m., Minocqua Public Library. All ages are welcome to free build or complete a fun challenge. Info: visit minocqualibrary.org.

MINOCQUA: RUMMAGE SALE-

8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Calvary Lutheran Church. Huge sale inside the church! Info: call 715-358-0067.

SAYNER: PLUM SKI-TERS WATER SKI SHOW-

7 p.m., State House Point Road. Come down to Plum Lake and watch an

exciting ski show full of jumps, flips, tricks, and more! Wednesday and Saturday nights. Info: visit plumskiters.org.

PRESQUE ISLE: LOGGERS BREAKFAST-

8 to 11 a.m., Presque Isle Community Center. All you can eat! Adults \$15, ages 5 to 12 \$10, and children under 5 eat free. There will also be mimosas! Info: visit presqueisle.com.

RHINELANDER: ALL AGES CHESS CLUB-

10 a.m. to noon, Rhinelander District Library. If you would like to learn how to play chess, there will be an instructor standing by. Otherwise, join at any time and find a worthy opponent! Info: visit rhinelanderlibrary.org.

RHINELANDER: PUZZLE SWAP-

10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Rhinelander District Library. Bring up to five puzzles and receive tickets to select new puzzles! Info: visit rhinelanderlibrary.org.

RHINELANDER: 10TH ANNUAL NORTHWOODS HONOR FLIGHT BENEFIT-

9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Cabaret Cove. A full day of fun and events with proceeds going to the Never Forgotten Honor Flight Program. Honor Guard kick off at 9 a.m. followed by a motorcycle ride, raffles, food, and entertainment. Info: visit business.rhinelanderchamber.com/events.

MANITOWISH WATERS: THE ART OF SHADOW BOXES-

Noon to 4 p.m., North Lakeland Discovery Center. Perfect for all skill levels, the group will take a short walk through the forest to gather materials. Then we will learn how to assemble a one-of-a-kind shadow box! Supplies provided, register ahead. Info: visit discoverycenter.net.

MANITOWISH WATERS: ANIMAL SPOTLIGHT FISHERS-

10 to 11 a.m., North Lakeland Discovery Center. You will learn about fishers and their behavior, habitat and role in the ecosystem. Free event.

See Events... page 32

Real Life

With Pastor Steve



"Why did we make that change ... that move ... that decision? Look at all the obstacles we are facing now!"

~ Classic case of doubt and second-guessing

Now, yes ... sometimes we did not do our "due-diligence." Sometimes we did not think things through or made an emotional decision at the time, and we face consequences of those choices. This ... is not that. These are those moments where you knew, 100% this was the right decision. Where you knew God was calling you, directing you. You were simply following His plan. You did the due-diligence. It was the best call, the right decision to make. But then the troubles come. Obstacles rise. And it's just human nature to doubt and second guess ... unless you know why you are there ... unless you know your true purpose. Difficulties are not a sign that you made a mistake ... difficulties and obstacles are part of life, and it takes character to stick it out ... and live out your purpose in the midst of them. We see that vividly in the life of the Apostle Paul in the book of Acts. He left a "successful, safe" ministry in Antioch to go somewhere else. Immediately there were pushbacks, obstacles. However, Paul did not allow fear or doubt to rob his joy or his purpose for why he was there. May we be filled with the same resolve ... don't walk away ... you are there for a purpose!

And that's ... real life.

~Pastor Steve Rowe
- Eaglebrook Church



Eaglebrook Church

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St. Germain town board endorses plan to rezone land for residential community near Sunrise Drive

By Fred Williston

SPECIAL TO THE LAKELAND TIMES

The St. Germain town board authorized sending a letter to the Vilas County board's zoning committee recommending approval of a re-zoning request for a proposed single-family subdivision in the town.

The roughly 9-acre development would be south of State Highway 70 and west of Sunrise Drive, with road access to the latter.

Surveyor Greg Maines addressed the town board at its July 14 meeting on behalf of the building project's developer.

"What we're looking to do here is to develop this property into a community of single-family homes," Maines said. "Right now, the current zoning in the town allows for that but the current zoning with the county, the only way we could do this would actually to do multi-family structures and so the thought is that single-family individual homes is a better fit for St. Germain."

He said re-zoning the parcel to community business is "the only way to do that with the county."

"The re-zone to community business would then allow for individual buildings, as opposed to a multi-family structure," Maines said. "It's also going to match the town's zoning. The town zoning for this property is currently community and highway business."

"The snowmobile trail will obviously have to get re-routed," town supervisor Brian Cooper said.

He's also chairman of the town board's zoning committee.

"So how did the zoning committee leave this?" town chairman John Vojta asked.

"We took no action on it because it wasn't up to us to take action," Cooper said. "We don't have to re-zone them."

"Because it's allowable?" Vojta asked.

"Correct," Cooper replied. "The county is going to be looking at it at the county zoning meeting on August 7. I don't know if Vilas has an issue about it or not but they always have asked the towns — whenever they're doing a re-zone — if they've got a positive feedback, a negative feedback, or they're just quiet on the subject."

"That's kind of the question with the re-zone," Maines clarified. "That's the question we asked the zoning committee: would the town prefer a large, multi-family building, or would they prefer a development of single-family homes? And the re-zone would cause us to do single-family homes, whereas the current zoning would require multi-family."

Glenn Schiffmann of GPS, Inc. and Cornerstone Custom Builders also spoke on behalf of the developer.

"I just feel the single-family homes are more marketable as these will all be for sale and we're hopeful we're going to be able to price them in the range of \$350,000 to \$400,000," he said. "But we need to increase the density."

"The property itself has some similarities to a multi-family development in that we'll have some common septic areas," Maines explained. "We'll have some common wells. The grounds around all the buildings would be maintained by the association. Because it's in such close proximity, you don't have to worry about how your neighbor is keeping up his yard."

Everything, Maines said, is main-

tained the same.

"It's still a community of single-family homes," he said.

"The rules would be similar to the ones we imposed on Bradford Point," Schiffmann said in reference to another completed building project in St. Germain.

"It would be plotted as a condo," Maines added.

Town supervisor Peggy Nimz asked whether the development — when completed — would be visible

from Hwy. 70.

"There will be a decent amount of screening left with the natural vegetation," Maines answered. "There will be some clearing with the storm-water management and septic areas, but the buildings will be set back away. There will still be a pretty good tree buffer."

The town board's vote to send the letter of recommendation to the county and to be drafted by Cooper, was unanimous.

Boulder Junction town board authorizes committee to use up to \$50,000 in room tax revenue

'The Station' in 'very early planning stages'

By Trevor Greene

OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The Boulder Junction town board at its Tuesday meeting agreed to authorize its economic and development corporation (EDC) committee to spend up to \$50,000 for planning and marketing purposes of what's, at this point, being referred to as "The Station."

Town clerk Dan Driscoll said The Station is what's being proposed to be on property the town purchased two years ago adjacent to the Boulder Beer Bar near the County Highway K and County Highway M intersection.

"The Station is a concept of what

(the committee) wants to do there," he said. "It's in the very early planning stages, but they would like to put ... a public bathroom, at the very least a parking lot there. So they want to, if they need up to \$50,000, but they want to use room tax dollars ... for design, marketing and fundraising to get that done one day in the future."

The town board, Driscoll said, will have a role in all of this as well, but the EDC committee is spearheading the effort.

"They approved up to \$50,000, which doesn't mean it will be spent, but it will be room tax money," he said. "For tourism purposes, I would say that's definitely the reason behind it."

Trevor Greene may be reached via email at trevorgreene@lakelandtimes.com.

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MHLT to expand 3K program

Smudde: 'We're going to try being a good neighbor'

By Brian Jopek
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The board of education for the Minocqua Hazelhurst Lake Tomahawk (MHLT) school district Monday approved plans to expand the district's 3K program.

District administrator Bob Smudde said there are "more than enough students to warrant two sections."

"We currently have more ... than we had in 4K in all of last (school) year," he said. "What we're asking is using our staff that we currently have because inevitably, there are going to be additions in 3K."

Smudde said with 24 students signed up for the 2025-26 school year at MHLT, the intent, since it isn't what he described as a "standard-based class," is to split the two groups.

"We believe we have the paraprofessionals and Nikki (Blondheim) to run two sections separate and just making one of the paraprofessionals who just happens to be very experienced with day care stuff and then having Nikki run the curriculum pieces," he said.

Blondheim is on the elementary teaching staff at MHLT.

"We would love to have two rooms as opposed to just one room," Smudde said. "Honestly, I don't want to tell people no this year."

He said he felt expanding the 3K program at MHLT is "a really great idea."

"I had to turn several people away from other districts, which is unfortunate," Smudde said. "We have to charge tuition, which we talk about at a later date but that isn't a 'this year' issue. We don't want to burn the neighbors just yet."

He said he and his staff would like to have a "good conversation" with the other K-8 "feeder" school districts in the Lakeland area, meaning the Arbor Vitae-Woodruff, Lac du Flambeau and North Lakeland school districts and "see how it goes."

"We know we're going to be drinking from the fire hose a little bit so we want to divide and conquer," Smudde said. "As the year progresses, we are going to see more three-year-olds with needs ... every year, it happens, two or three kids show up."

He said it would be nice to have the

two rooms instead of trying to put all 24 children in one room.

"It's really simple," Smudde said. "We just jump across the hallway and both of those rooms would be used for 3K then."

School board president Christy Seidel made the motion to expand the 3K program as requested and before she called for the roll call vote, said she felt expanding the program is "awesome."

"What a great idea to introduce people to the district," she said. "I hope it's successful and maybe next year we can expand and do an out-of-district tuition-type of thing. I think that would be fantastic."

"I also like the fact that you're making an effort not to step on toes of our neighbors," board member Jay Christgau said, a reference to the Arbor Vitae-Woodruff, North Lakeland and Lac du Flambeau school districts.

"Giving them a chance to step up. If they don't, then we can step on toes."

Consortium thing

Just before the vote, Smudde briefly expanded on the "stepping on toes" reference as it relates to the

Lakeland consortium of school districts.

"There's a thing about the consortium, and you're going to hear this a lot from my mouth; we either need to get our things together, K-12, or we need to start talking about other things," Smudde said. "Right now, we're going to try being a good neighbor."

He said MHLT has the largest tax base and most votes of the five school districts in the Lakeland consortium, including Lakeland Union High School (LUHS).

"I want you guys to let that sink in as these conversations continue," Smudde, who until last year was LUHS district administrator, said. "We have some new leadership at the high school. We'll see how that goes. We'll be good neighbors there as well as much as they'll let us ... our kids deserve that. Like I said to anyone who listens, MHLT is on my paycheck not the consortium and I'm looking out for the best interests of our MHLT kids at the high school."

Brian Jopek may be reached via email at bjopek@lakelandtimes.com.

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Lakeland Disposal CUP brought up at AV-W school board meeting

Towanda Lake Association president makes one last effort before board of adjustment hearing

By **Brian Jopek**
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

A contentious transfer station issue made its way to the July 21 meeting of the Arbor Vitae-Woodruff (AV-W) school board.

In May, the Vilas County board's zoning committee approved a conditional use permit (CUP) application submitted by Chad Metzger, owner of Lakeland Disposal.

Metzger intends to construct a solid waste transfer station on just over five acres off of Justin Street in Arbor Vitae.

Since that time, the Towanda Lake Association filed for an appeal with the Vilas County board of adjustment (BOA). The BOA hearing is scheduled for July 29.

The association's president, Mary George, who has brought up different items in attempts to get Lakeland Disposal's CUP revoked, has attended recent meetings of the Arbor Vitae planning commission and town board.

She also made an appearance at

Monday's AV-W school board meeting, speaking to the board in the public comment portion of the meeting.

George was reminded under open meetings law, since the transfer station issue and concerns about increased traffic at the intersection of U.S. Highway 51 and Airport Road weren't on the meeting agenda, school board members couldn't discuss the matter.

She said the Lakeland Disposal facility would be like Waste Management's facility on County Highway J in Woodruff.

"They're going to have garbage taken to that site from all the different routes," George said and she went over other information related to the transfer station.

She also highlighted a letter the Arbor Vitae sent to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation regarding the Hwy.51/Airport Road intersection as the intersection is crucial to the school because of its proximity and use on a daily basis during the school year by school

buses as well as parents of children attending AV-W.

While increased traffic is a concern, George went back to what was going to be at the transfer station and the effect she indicated it could have on the school district.

"As indicated, there's a lot of things that are going to be outside," she said. "The garbage is going to be outside, the drainage, all the leakage, you know, the soup ... you see the garbage trucks and all the leakage. All that sits in the containers that leaks down through the ground, the soil is sand with very shallow ground water.

George said there's concern for the school district's well.

"With the depth of the groundwater, there's no way of knowing if all that leachate, all that ... goop, if you would, from that garbage seeping into the ground, what direction it's going to go, what the flow is. There's no way of knowing because no study was done. So, the concern for your school and the safety of your students is some-

thing you might want to be taking a look at."

The school board also heard from Don Kuechler who lives near AV-W and echoed George's sentiments and then George asked school board president Chris Thielman if she could add one more thing and he gave her the floor.

She said the Vilas County BOA's hearing was at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 29 at the Arbor Vitae town hall.

"That is the last opportunity that we have to be able to address the concerns," George said. "Either it's going to be approved or denied and he (Metzger) is going to be allowed to build it if its approved."

She said that would be the time for people to "make our comments known."

"I ask consideration to have some representative there or somebody speak if that's appropriate to do that," George said.

Brian Jopek may be reached via email at bjopek@lakelandtimes.com.

Clover and the Bee at Party in the Park in Minocqua July 27

Clover and the Bee, a new original Folk/Americana project featuring the songwriting of Becky Schlegel, Eric Christopher, Anthony Ihrig and Kevin Rowe, will debut at Party in the Park on Sunday, July 27, at Torpy Park, on Minocqua Lake.

Join four bluegrass songwriting friends as they step into the landscape of modern folk and Americana music to create something new together. Named after a line from Emily Dickinson's poem "To Make a Prairie," Clover and the Bee play American roots music that's as free and



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Clover and the Bee, a new original Folk/Americana project featuring the songwriting of Becky Schlegel, Eric Christopher, Anthony Ihrig and Kevin Rowe, will debut at Party in the Park on Sunday, July 27, at Torpy Park in Minocqua.

expansive as the wide-open flatlands of the Upper Midwest. Clover and the Bee began as a semi-regular song swap among three friends, songwriters and musical co-conspirators in Saint Paul, Minn.. The three dug into their songwriting back catalogs to show off songs that were either not bluegrass enough (in the case of Ihrig and Christopher's band The High 48s), not country enough (in the case of Schlegel's solo project) or just plain too weird or idiosyncratic for any other project.

It was at this open house for misfit songs that the three got the idea to start a new band, one whose sound showed Christopher, Ihrig and Schlegel's country and bluegrass roots but wasn't bound by tradition. With the addition of bassist Kevin Rowe (Buffalo Gospel, Space Burritos), who had recently moved to the Twin Cities from Madison, Clover and the Bee was born.

The Party in the Park free concert series is made possible by the fundraising efforts of the Minocqua Island Business Association members, Minocqua Area Visitors Bureau and the generous support of local sponsors. Area non-profits benefit from the refreshments, so outside food and drinks are not permitted. The Northwoods Wildlife Center will offer tasty refreshments at this Party in the Park.

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Fifield town board considers safety signage added to Shady Knoll Road

Pike Lake Fire Department volunteers question board's authority over new chief decision

By Trevor Greene
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The Fifield town board at its Tuesday meeting agreed to research the cost of electronic speed limit signs which would be placed on both sides of Shady Knoll Road near the Big Dipper in Pike Lake.

Town chairman Bill Felch said at the meeting the town received a letter from the owners of the Big Dipper, Thor and Catie Gunderson, explaining safety concerns they have. He asked town supervisor Dave Ebert to read the letter.

"The bend in the road coupled with the high traffic received, vehicles speeding and the ATV/snowmobile crossings are a great candidate for extra safety signage," the letter said. "The only cost incurred by the town would be the installation of these signs so that they meet DOT (Department of Transportation) standards. The distances from our business to the signs on either side would also be at the town's discretion for the same pur-

poses."

Besides the installation costs, the Gundersons proposed to pay for all other costs associated with the additional signage.

If the board approved the addition of the signage, the Gundersons asked the sign facing northbound traffic include a built-in speed radar with "your speed" stated.

"Are they wanting two of them, one on each side?" Felch asked, to which Ebert and town supervisor John Schroeder indicated that's what they understood of the proposal. "That's what they have in Lake Tomahawk."

Road superintendent Ted Fleming said the electronic speed limit signs "used to be about \$3,000," though he added costs for electronics have decreased.

"Well, let's get a price," Felch said.

"I think they're more concerned about a pedestrian crossing sign there too, aren't they?" Schroeder asked. "Because when they have their events, it's so crowded there people can't walk back

and forth (across the street)."

Felch said parking near that area is "terrible" as well. He said the town should "get the price of everything."

It was also asked if the DOT needed to approve anything.

"I think we're OK with that," Schroeder said. "It's change in speed limits that we have issues with (the DOT)."

It was noted that Shady Knoll Road is a 35 miles per hour speed zone near the Big Dipper and turns into 45 miles per hour "further down."

'Educate yourselves'

At the start of the Tuesday meeting, during the public comment period, former town supervisor and Pike Lake Fire Department volunteer Ann Sloane advised the board to review the fire department's by-laws.

Even though the topic was not on the agenda, a discussion took place regarding Sloane's concerns between Sloane, other members of the public

and board members — which under the state's open meetings laws is a violation.

"I noticed that when our Pike Lake fire chief was to be sworn in, that didn't happen timely, but rather wait for a couple of meetings because the township felt they needed to discuss it or consider it," she said. "So I took the opportunity and went through our Pike Lake policy and procedures — that we have for Pike Lake as well as Fifield — then I went and looked at the bylaws for Pike Lake as well as Fifield, nowhere in there does it say at anytime the board would need to OK a legal vote by our membership."

Sloane said that led her to wonder why board members felt they needed to review and approve the vote themselves.

"Was it to once again usurp Pike Lake?" she asked.

Felch said there was no intention to "disrespect" the fire department.

Town clerk Angie Richardson said the oath needed to be pre-

pared.

Sloane then asked why the elected chief, Les Nordrum, was being questioned about his residency.

Richardson said she remembered Nordrum mentioned he resided in the town of Minocqua at a previous meeting, though Nordrum said that was "years ago" he resided in Minocqua.

Ebert said he believed he heard Nordrum mention to Schroeder at a past meeting it was going to be a little bit before he was residing in Pike Lake.

"Anyways, that raised a bit of a concern that we had a fire chief that was not a resident," he said. "So we did ask, and he said he was, and that was the end of it."

Pike Lake Fire Department volunteer Ed Clemens said the board

didn't have the authority to question Nordrum's residency.

"The only authority this board has is if we have a tie, the chairman breaks the tie," he said. "That's it, and you can question it all you want, but it's in the by-laws."

"You have to accept it and swear him in, I don't think you have the authority to question our vote," Clemens said.

Felch said he didn't think anyone on the board was questioning the fire department's vote, though Clemens indicated he disagreed.

"I would encourage the board to read policies and procedures, as well as the bylaws, and educate yourselves," Sloane said.

Trevor Greene may be reached via email at trevorgreene@lakelandtimes.com.

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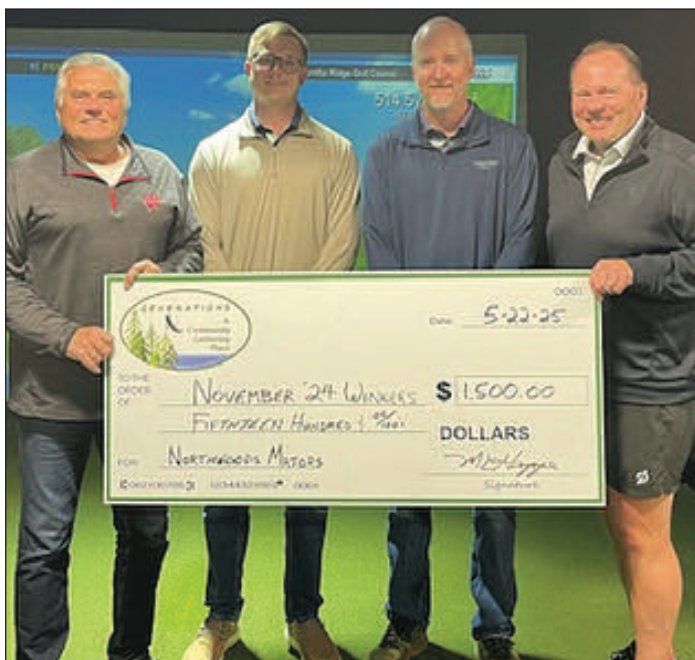
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Truck/SUV: 2017 Ford Explorer, 1999 Ford F250 w/snowplow & lift gate, **Skid Steer:** Case 85VT, pallet forks, HD grapple, HD snowplow, chains, **Travel Trailer:** 2010 Coyote Lite KZ 232 **UTV:** 2014 Polaris RZR S 800 **Trailers:** equipment Redi Haul trailer, enclosed Karavan Hybrid snowmobile, **Snowmobiles:** 2018 Arctic Cat ZR 8000, 2014 Arctic Cat El Tigre 600, mini 120, **7 Firearms:** (see website for full list) ammo, **3 Antiques Hit/Miss Engines:** Fairbanks. **Tools:** 80 gal air compressor, 2- Rol-Air compressors, parts washer, drill press, M18 tools, stacking tool boxes, Snap-On impact, air drills, torch, grinders, levels, shop vac, vise, battery charger, drills, jig saw, parts bins, miter saw, table saw, nail guns, jack stands, straps, jacks, commercial paint pump, chop saw, ladders, sheet metal brake, hand tools & more! **Welding:** Miller Matic 210 w/aluminum spool gun, welding table, new iron stock **Gazebo:** custom Cedar **Maple Syrup Equipment:** Smokeylake cooker/pans, taps, lines **Home Contents:** log beds, log futon, flat screen TV, recline love seat, WoJo cabin prints, freezer, dehydrator, TV stand, books, desk, Black Walnut cabinet w/drawers, Lazy-Boy recliners, Oak kitchen table, snow shoe table, sm. Appliances, glass, dishes, cast iron pot, book cases, dresser & more! **Sporting/Yard:** Little Wonder blower, Brute gas wood splitter, power washer, Husqvarna 562 chain saw, Stihl pole saw & trimmer, snowblower, scaffolding & planks, trap thrower, smoker, deep fryer, lanterns, K-drill, ice fishing, patio furniture, log chairs, Blackstone & gas grill, fish mount, camping, gas RC boat & more!

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GENERATIONS PAYS OUT \$1,500 IN PRIZE MONEY

Generations recently paid out \$1,500 in prize money to winners of the Lakeland Fitness & Golf "Northwoods Majors" golf tournament, which benefited several areal non-profits each month over the winter season. Pictured, from left, Generations president Mike Heppie, one half of the second place team Mitchell Giraudskas, and one half of the first place team Scott Messner and Lakeland Fitness & Golf owner John Weis.

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10:00 - 12:00 Speaker followed by Business Meeting
Guest Speaker -
• Eddie Heath - Onterra LLC Eurasian Water Milfoil Update

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Mr. & Mrs. Brad Swartz are moving!

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St. Germain to investigate suggested speed limits for town roads

By Fred Williston

SPECIAL TO THE LAKELAND TIMES

The need for less speeding in the town of St. Germain was again a topic of discussion at the July 14 meeting of the town board, whose members discussed a possible solution.

Over the course of several months in the recent past, town supervisor Patric Niggemeier led an ad-hoc committee investigating the possibility of regulating enhanced boat wakes on town lakes.

The enforceability of those potential regulations came into question several times as did the speed limits on town roads (but not county or state highways).

Niggemeier told *The Lakeland Times* one participant in those discussions repeatedly stated the speed limits on St. Germain town roads are not legally binding and are therefore not enforceable, meaning they act only as suggestions and/or deterrents.

"When I heard that, I decided I'm going to do the due diligence," Niggemeier said. "I'm going to look into exactly what we don't know about this. Eventually, I fell down a rabbit hole ... I found all this information, and I had to let the board know what I found out."

He called the matter to the attention of the previous town board and has been investigating the matter since.

Niggemeier confirmed state statute currently mandates a speed study be conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) or an accredited third-party, such as MSA Professional Services of Rhinelander, prior to a town adopting speed limits on municipal roads.

After collecting data on traffic volumes, geographic features and other factors for consideration, engineers make a recommendation to the municipality for an appropriate speed limit.

Local government then makes the final decision on implementing the limit.

"If a speed study (recommendation) comes out to 35 miles an hour, we can — as a town — decide if we

want to accept that or toss the study," Niggemeier told the *Times*. If we toss the study, it's a waste of money. But hypothetically, let's say the town gets a speed study done on a certain road and it comes out to 45 miles an hour. The town — due to state statute — chooses to accept the study and it become 45 miles an hour. The town can lower it ten miles an hour, but no more than ten. So it could come to 35 miles an hour. That has to be done by an ordinance."

In that instance, he said, the Vilas County Sheriff's Office could start enforcing the speed limit.

During a meeting in June, Niggemeier told the board Vilas County Sheriff Joe Fath as well as Gerard Ritter, the sheriff's office's patrol captain, have both said currently, due to state statutes, "we do not enforce your speed limits."

"The current speed-signs that we have are untrue, per the Department of Transportation," he told the board. "They were put up by a town board many years ago. I have yet to find actual documentation. I've gone through 22 years of town board information and I haven't been able to find anything."

Per state statute town road speed limits are 55 unless a speed study has been done.

"I haven't been able to find any record of any speed study being done," Niggemeier said. "I'll leave it up to the board's discretion what we want to do about that."

During the June town board meeting, town chairman John Vojta suggested Niggemeier talk to the town attorney Steve Garbowicz, ask "pertinent questions" then report back to the board.

"You're asking if, at one time, the state statute changed and those speed-limit signs that were put up could be grandfathered in," Vojta instructed. "And you're asking if those signs are illegal ... why hasn't somebody come and told us to take them down?"

Niggemeier provided his update during last week's town board meeting.

A few questions

"The first question that we wanted

to know was if Mr. Garbowicz knew when that speed-survey law took place in the State of Wisconsin," Niggemeier said. "Attorney Garbowicz says he can't give a definite answer but it has definitely been state law for 30-plus years."

The second question Niggemeier had for Garbowicz was if he knew when the speed-study law took place. "Was St. Germain and her town speed signs grandfathered," Niggemeier said. "Attorney Garbowicz says he is pretty sure St. Germain was not grandfathered and he has no recollection or knowledge of any town in Wisconsin having its speed signs grandfathered."

Niggemeier's third question pertained to liability.

"Do the current town signs pose any liability risk to the town of St. Germain?" he asked. "Attorney Garbowicz says they can pose a liability issue but it all depends on a certain number of factors. For example, if a kid gets T-boned on our town roads and becomes quadriplegic, attorney Garbowicz said 'If I was his lawyer, I would leave no stone unturned' and that could get us into some trouble. But it all depends on a certain amount of facts."

Niggemeier said he also consulted the Wisconsin Towns Association and got nearly-identical answers to those from Garbowicz.

"What is your suggestion or solution, then?" Vojta asked.

"Considering everything, I hate to put the town in a bind liability-wise but I understand that we've got to do something about speed limits and them being 55 miles an hour," Niggemeier said. "I have come across — and I think it's a fair compromise — a specific type of signage. They're yellow and black. And that's a suggested speed but that's the only thing that I've found."

"When I was out in the town of Washington camping on Cranberry Lake, lo and behold, they have the yellow-and-black suggested speed-limit signs all throughout their town," town supervisor Brian Cooper said. "I don't know if they work or not but they have them."

Potential cost

Niggemeier said he had researched pricing for new signs and came to the understanding the cost of each sign could be kept to \$35 apiece or less.

Cooper said he had consulted with the town's department of public works (DPW) and the crew estimated there are roughly 75 speed-limit signs on town roads.

"It's a lot cheaper than speed-studies," Cooper suggested.

"So, in a worst-case scenario of \$35 apiece for 75, you're looking at a minimum of \$2,625," Niggemeier said.

"So, I don't know if I'm following this or not," Vojta said. "It's \$2,600 to change the color of the signs. That's going to waive the liability?"

"Yes," Cooper and Niggemeier answered, overlapping each other.

"And it solves the enforceability (problem) because it's just a recommendation," town supervisor Bob Olson said.

"With the enforceability, I'd buy that," Vojta replied. "But as far as liability goes, anybody can name you on any suit."

"Yeah, but it's a lot harder," Cooper said.

"The point is that there's a liability and enforcement issue," Vojta said.

"My suggestion would be to know how many signs and get an exact number," town treasurer Jenn Jones said. "If it's really \$2,600, we can find that somewhere but if it ends up being closer to \$9,000 or \$10,000, then we'd have to talk about it."

"When I called for pricing on those signs today, both of our sign companies we use said they don't recommend yellow-and-black because it goes against uniform traffic signage," DPW superintendent Tom Stoltzman said. "I don't have the exact information on that. In addition to replacing the signs, there's also going to be some poles and all the hardware. So that needs to be taken into account."

"Some of the hardware is probably rusted and will need to be replaced," Vojta said.

"It's all anti-theft hardware, too," Stoltzman added. "So it will have to be cut off."

"I like the idea and I know I'm going to regret saying this, because I don't like tabling stuff and kicking it down the curb but I'd like to digest this a little bit more," Vojta said. "I'll maybe take a little ride out to Washington and do a little more research of my own."

Regarding the potential for escalating costs, though, Vojta said he was "having a hard time stomaching this."

"I think we should figure out the number of signs, get a better estimate of the total cost and maybe Mr. Stoltzman could research that a little further," he said. "About what the sign companies are saying, then we can compare that with what Garbowicz and the WTA are saying and then make a decision. I encourage the board to get out and look at these elsewhere and do a little bit of research on your own."

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So much for the rapists and murderers

Remember when candidate Donald Trump went on and on about all the rapists and murderers who were invading our country and he said he was going to deport them? It was his favorite issue, his answer to everything. It was enough to frighten anyone and helped him win the election. People believed him: According to exit polls, even many Hispanic Americans agreed that those who had entered the country illegally and then committed acts of violence should be deported. They assumed, wrongly, that raids would be limited and targeted, surgical, that they would not bring a reign of terror to everyone who has brown skin. They would never have voted for that. Only a racist would. And yet that is precisely what we got in Southern California.

My friend Rosie had to drive her 40-year-old son to a haircut appointment and stay with him there because he was afraid that ICE would round him up on the Metro or show up at the barbershop. He is an American citizen with no criminal record. So is his mother. I have countless friends who — American citizens or legal permanent residents all — are driving their frightened children everywhere, even though the children are all U.S. citizens. Family separation is everyone's great fear. Ridership on the Metro is down substantially because so many people are afraid to be "part" of any group full of brown men.

My friend George, also a citizen who lives in a predominantly Hispanic neighborhood, tells me ICE vehicles drive slowly and deliberately around his neighborhood every day looking for brown men on street corners, or at Home Depot, where so many go to buy supplies for their jobs. Construction at one friend's house has stopped because her contractor, an American citizen, is afraid to show up at the work site or go shopping for supplies. The women — and men — are afraid to go to the grocery store to buy food for their families, so local nonprofits have taken it upon themselves to deliver groceries to Hispanic families.

Nearly everyone I know is afraid

to go to churches in Hispanic neighborhoods, and the archbishop has literally excused them from coming to Mass because of these fears. The

word on the street is that they will round up anybody with brown skin, and then it can take at least two weeks in detention (if you're lucky) to straighten things out, and let citizens and those with green cards out of awful detention. ICE, backed up by the Marines and National Guard, who no one wanted called up (no one

being the governor and the mayor and most of the citizens) have brought a reign of terror to our community.

And for what? For whom? Figures out this week show that more than half of those arrested in Southern California had no criminal convictions or charges. Of those arrested on the streets or in courts, 75 percent had no criminal convictions. Only one in ten had any pending charges against them. If we needed proof of the randomness of these raids, we have it.

Meanwhile, the U.S. military — the Marines and the National Guard, the young men and women who have volunteered to serve and protect our country (many of them with brown skin as well) — are, according to news reports, mostly fighting tedium and boredom. There are no riots; I'm old enough to have lived through the 1992 riots, when the city did need the National Guard. Trust me, it was different. As the Los Angeles Times reported this week, the Marines and the National Guard "were deployed to combat 'violent, insurrectionist mobs' around Los Angeles, but in recent days the only thing many troops seemed to be fighting was tedium." They need to get back to the jobs they signed up for and let our city return to normal. Round up the rapists and murderers, but leave the rest of us alone.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

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Susan Estrich
COLUMNIST



Retrain American workers

More than anything else, American voters worry about the economy. Specifically, they struggle to pay their bills. Those with jobs are scared they will get fired through no fault of their own, perhaps because globalization ships all or part of their sector overseas, or because artificial intelligence replaces humans. The unemployed and underemployed are angry and terrified that they will never be able to reenter the workforce.

Their fear is well founded. The average American has three months of savings or less — a number that keeps falling. The average length of unemployment is more than five months — a number that keeps rising. The average worker will be "between jobs" about six times throughout their work life. It happens more to "unskilled" workers.

Workers live in a constant state of terror.

Donald Trump won reelection in large part because he recognized these fears. He focused on inflation and high prices at a time of raging economic anxiety more than Kamala Harris, whose message centered on democracy. As president, however, Trump's policies haven't done anything to ease the financial concerns of the average American.

The president talks a lot about inflation and high prices. But his policies, which merely rehash failed Reagan-era supply-side economic theory, won't help. Businesses love deregulation, but high housing and medical expenses — the biggest-ticket bills for most consumers — depend on structural problems impervious to changing government rules, so prices are unaffected. Republicans claim that increasing domestic energy production reduces oil prices and thus transportation and production expenses, but "drill, baby, drill" doesn't affect per-barrel rates set by a global energy market. Higher trade tariffs cannot have a deflationary effect soon, if ever. Trump argued that his Department of Government Efficiency spending cuts would reduce prices — economists were doubtful — but the point is moot. Those cuts turned into federal spending increases under his Big Beautiful Bill.

Nor is Trump creating new jobs. Under Trump, the U.S. is cutting about as many positions from agencies like the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Environmental Protection Agency as it's adding to defense and border control.

There is a better way.

The silent killer of the economy, and the primary driver of Americans' anxiety, is the mismatch between the credentials and skills workers have and those that employers want in order to fill their job openings. Workers have the right degrees, but their colleges didn't prepare them for current reality. Or their skills have become outdated due to technological advancements. Or they have the skills but not the desired degree. Or they're perfect but they live far away from where em-

ployers are located.

According to the Chamber of Commerce, employers are struggling with a labor shortage so acute that even "if every unemployed person found a job, there would still be open jobs." Corporations say they need H-1B visa holders and other foreigners to fill the gap.

But how can that be? Among would-be workers, 1.6 million are long-term unemployed, meaning they've been looking for work for at least 27 weeks. Several hundred thousand are STEM workers — the same field companies say they need to fill with foreign H-1B visa holders. And 5.5 million more Americans are "discouraged workers" — they want to work but have been rejected so often they've stopped looking. Whoever can move, retrain and reeducate those 7 million-plus people to new jobs will become an American hero.

To Trump's credit, he recently signed an executive order on workforce modernization that targets the skills mismatch. It would reallocate \$5.5 billion in existing federal programs to train a million apprentices a year for skilled trades and tech fields like AI. But implementation and funding, if they happen, are years in the future.

Who will step up? As a leftist, I look to government to take a more active role in managing the economy. Jobs should be America First. As long as a single American is under- or unemployed, no employer should be able to legally hire a foreigner. The Department of Labor should ban job listings that require credentials, like a college degree, that are not required to perform the required duties. Workers who move to another state to accept a job should be able to claim a federal tax credit subsidizing their relocation expenses.

Those who most need to rise to the

See Rall... page 17



Ted Rall
COLUMNIST

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All hands on deck: Wisconsin GOP is burning to the ground

Just when you think everything is all clear, that the Democrats have gone so far round the bend that even the bend is shaking its head, just when you start to think that maybe the future is not so dark after all, that's when you remember to turn your head and for a moment look in the other direction — toward the Wisconsin Republican party, or what's left of it.

How shall we say this politely? The Wisconsin GOP is a royal pile, and it's stinking up the conservative movement in the state.

Let's be clear, we're not saying that about Republican voters or conservatives in general. We're talking about the party leadership, which, with just a few notable exceptions, is a disgrace. Such a disgrace that the state can no longer be legitimately called "purple." It's as blue as a bilberry, and just as lost in the thicket.

Not that we're counting — because we aren't — but in statewide elections since the heyday of Scott Walker, progressive Democrats have trounced Republicans something like a gazillion to one or two. And the margins are increasingly getting more and more lopsided.

Unless your name is Donald Trump or Ron Johnson, forgededabout it.

So what is the deal with the Republican party leadership?

Well, in a word or three or four, they're either corrupt or stupid or both. We're not sure, but let's take a look at what they have done to absolutely destroy their credibility with voters.

First, over and over again, Republicans in the state legislature have either sold their constituents down the river, or tried to. First there was what we call the Foxconn faux pas, yet more slathering of foreign corporate interests with subsidies when lawmakers could have eliminated income taxes and regulations and truly opened Wisconsin for all with a competitive economic environment. The Foxtanic started the sink-

ing and likely cost Walker his third term, but that was just the beginning.

Then so-called legislators teamed with progressive Democrats to have the state spend hundreds of millions of tax dollars on renovations to the Brewers stadium. Just curious, how many northern Wisconsinites will ever step foot in that stadium? To state Republicans, when it comes to baseball, the idea is apparently to steal tax dollars, not bases.

But oh the GOP was just getting started. This year the GOP legislative leadership cooked up a scheme to raise all your utility rates by giving the state's incumbent utilities a monopoly on future energy projects (called ROFR). But wait a minute, you say, creating a state monopoly is not very free market.

Yes, but that was OK with most GOP lawmakers. At a hearing, state Rep. Karen Hurd (R-Withee) said that, sometimes, capitalism just doesn't fit the situation.

"Not all square pegs can be forced effectively into a round hole," Hurd said. "Such is the case with free trade/capitalism and utilities. For that is the issue with the Right of First Refusal (ROFR) legislation before us today."

A highly regulated monopoly was the answer, Hurd said.

"Because of the unique nature of utilities, monopolies are the common-sense solution, but they must be highly regulated by the state to ensure fair rates so that consumers cannot be taken advantage of by the utility," she said. "Thus, in the state of Wisconsin we have the Public Service Commission (PSC) that is the regulatory authority for our utilities."

So, to recap, GOP support of monopolies over free markets: Box checked. GOP support for heavy state regulation: Box checked.

Right now, some people are probably beginning to understand what is going on. What conservative wants to vote for Republicans like these?

ning, no training required. Left unanswered are the questions: If everyone wants someone else to train workers so they can poach them, what happens when there's no more "someone else"? Why would anyone train a worker, knowing their increased skillset will make them more likely to be poached?

Between AI and other new technologies, we live in an age of perpetual disruption. Workers are human beings, and human beings are not disposable. A skilled workforce increases productivity. Countries like Germany fund vocational training, contributing to low unemployment and a strong economy. So we ought to make retraining as easy as possible. Education at any level — certificate program, B.A., M.A., J.D., M.D. — that is undertaken to pivot to a high-demand field like health care ought to be free or substantially subsidized by the government.

See **Rall**. . . page 18

But oh the legislature was just getting started. This year the GOP leadership marched right in to Gov. Tony Evers's office to confront him on the budget bill. Of course, Republicans spell confront as "s-u-r-r-e-n-d-e-r." And so we now have a "compromise" budget that increases spending by 12 percent.

That's a tax increase down the road. Despite all the huffing and puffing about tax cuts in the budget, government spending has to be paid for now or later, and it also means more bureaucrats breathing down your neck with preposterous new regulations.

And that's not all. Two central Wisconsin Republicans have introduced "compromise" legislature for the Stewardship program that would continue unconscionable borrowing for public land acquisitions we don't need and would virtually give radical land trusts everything they want.

It's not just the legislature, either. The powers-that-be inside the Republican brain trust, to use that term loosely, seem to think that the only way to win statewide races is to ignore the successful traits and strategies of those who actually win — Trump and Johnson — and instead focus on picking candidates with specific loser qualities: They have to be completely unknown to the public; they must be well known in big business establishment circles; they must be completely disconnected from real political engagement; they must call themselves conservatives; and they must have loads and loads of money, usually inherited from rich families on the east and west coasts.

Sure that'll resonate with voters every time. Think Tim Michels. Think Eric Hovde and his ridiculous mustache.

So where does this leave us for the immediate future?

Well, let's start with the state Supreme Court. What's going on there is that progressives keep giving us a licking, and they keep on ticking. They now have a 4-3 majority and soon enough it will likely be 5-2.

That's because it is now probable that conservative justice Rebecca Bradley won't run for re-election next year. Bradley is a true conservative and could be a powerhouse in bringing out the conservative base — the only way to keep that seat — but she now apparently thinks there's no way to prevail in the current climate.

That said, the reason that progressives keep winning Supreme Court seats is not because conservatives are outnumbered but because Trump and Johnson voters don't turn out in the spring elections. This past spring, 10 counties that voted for Trump in November flipped in April to progressive Susan Crawford over conservative Brad Schimel, the latest sacrificial lamb in high court races.

That was a direct result of lower voter turnout, and even though Schimel was good conservative candidate, people just don't trust Republicans, and, as the aforementioned

policies demonstrate, who can blame them?

Voters are fed up with this version of the Republican party, and Rebecca Bradley is apparently one of them. It's a shame.

Now let's move on to next year's governor's race. It's early and hopefully more candidates will enter this contest, but already the GOP leadership appears to be coalescing around another rinse-and-repeat loser: businessman Bill Berrien.

He, too, checks all the boxes the GOP bosses like: He is completely unknown to the public; he runs in big business establishment circles; he has been completely disconnected from real political engagement but has now decided to parachute in for the election, and he has loads and loads of money, inherited from a rich family on the east coast.

If that's not enough to turn off MAGA voters in the general election, there's this: He supported — of all people — Nikki Haley in the 2024 primary. So he's not even MAGA. Wait until MAGA finds that out. Berrien might win the primary because of his money — unless an authentic conservative rallies the base, which is possible — but he's a loser in November 2026.

What's that about the definition of insanity — doing the same thing over and over again even though it never works. Welcome to the state Republican Party.

Finally, there's the legislature itself. Used to be that backroom politicians was characterized by a patronage spoils system know as bossism; now it's called Vos-ism. Next year though, because of legislative maps hijacked by an extreme and unethical Supreme Court, Democrats might actually win one of the chambers, especially the state Senate.

That would be the nail in the coffin. If the Supreme Court stretches its progressive majority — and they could even add to it in 2027, when Annette Ziegler's seat is up — we are essentially living under a tyrannical judiciary that is both rewriting state law and the state constitution, as recent rulings on religious liberty, redistricting, legislative oversight of state agencies, and bureaucratic tenure demonstrate.

There is a remedy for that — the constitutional amendment process for major initiatives to reverse extremist Supreme Court decisions. Those amendments only have to be passed in two consecutive legislative sessions — the governor is not involved — and they head to the voters. We imagine voters would reverse many of this court's outrages.

But that won't happen if the Democrats are successful in 2026. Will they be?

We hope not, but it's not looking good. We see the billowing smoke of disaster. As long as we are represented by Republicans who love corporate welfare and despise capitalism, and who are hell bent on selling out the base for the elite, the fire will rage on.

The time is now to contain it. All hands are needed on deck. There's not a minute to waste.

Rall

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occasion, however, are private employers who increasingly refuse to train their new hires.

"In 1979," The Washington Post noted back in 2014, "young workers got an average of 2.5 weeks of training a year. While data is not easy to come by, around 1995, several surveys of employers found that the average amount of training workers received per year was just under 11 hours, and the most common topic was workplace safety — not building new skills. By 2011, an Accenture study showed that only about a fifth of employees reported getting on-the-job training from their employers over the past five years." It's worse now.

Job listings tell the story: The typical employer seeks an experienced worker who can hit the ground run-

NORTHWOODS POLITICAL DIGEST

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Lawmakers introduce accountability bill to rein in unlimited spending

Rep. Amaad Rivera-Wagner (D-Green Bay) and Sen. Chris Larson (D-Milwaukee) have introduced legislation they say will bring common-sense accountability to how the Wisconsin legislature hires private attorneys and spends taxpayer dollars.

The bill would require a vote of approval by the full Assembly, Senate, or legislature before entering into contracts with outside legal counsel — they say putting an end to unchecked, single-leader decisions that have cost taxpayers millions. The lawmakers say it does not eliminate the ability to retain counsel but simply ensures that major financial decisions are debated and voted on by the full body.

“This is about restoring trust and transparency,” said Rivera-Wagner. “Right now, majority leaders in the Assembly and Senate can spend unlimited public dollars on private law firms without input from the rest of us or the people we represent. That’s not how democracy should work.”

A recent Milwaukee Journal Sentinel investigation revealed that the legislature spent over \$26 million on private attorneys since 2017, the lawmakers say. The bulk of that spending occurred after the elections of Gov. Tony Evers and attorney general Josh Kaul, when legislative leaders passed laws giving themselves sole authority to retain outside legal counsel and bypassing the full legislature and public scrutiny.

“In just the last year, over \$5 million in taxpayer funds went toward private legal fees — much of it for politically motivated cases, including the Gableman election investigation and redistricting litigation,” Rivera-Wagner said. “These are resources that could have gone toward helping keep shelters for homeless veterans open or funding classrooms and mental health services across Wisconsin.” Larson said a small group of partisan elites have had a blank check to spend millions of tax dollars chasing election conspiracies, taking power away from the governor, and promoting gerrymandering.

“If they’re going to continue to act this way, the least they can do is put it to a vote of the full legislature,” he said. “That’s precisely what this bill requires.”

Evers urges Trump administration to reverse course on cuts to forestry programs

Gov. Tony Evers has sent a letter to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) secretary Brooke Rollins and the Trump administration urging immediate action to reverse what he calls the administration’s misguided cuts to key investments and staff at the USDA.

The letter is the second in recent months that Evers has sent to the Trump administration raising concerns about the impacts of federal funding and staffing cuts on Wisconsin’s critical forestry industry and tradition and emphasizing the importance of the state’s forests to Wisconsin’s way of life, economy, and future.

In a follow-up letter this week, Evers strongly opposed reported re-

ductions in United States Forest Service (USFS) programs that support states in order to cover the costs of purging USDA of its expert workforce. The letter comes after Wisconsin officials were recently warned by USFS officials to expect less funding from the Urban and Community Forestry grant program.

Evers says the move represents a twofold blow for states like Wisconsin that depend heavily on forests for economic success, not only gutting key staff that help support a critical industry but then also cutting critical funding that similarly supports the industry, as well.

Wisconsin’s forestry products industry contributes \$42 billion to the state’s economy and 126,000 jobs, both of which could experience significant consequences and impacts caused by reckless cuts to federal investments and mass firings of federal workers, Evers maintains.

In his most recent letter, the governor warned that cuts to federal programs and purging of critical USDA staff would be devastating to states like Wisconsin, affecting forestry capacity at nearly every level.

Grothman, Dingell reintroduce bipartisan Dillon’s Law

Congressman Glenn Grothman (R-Wisconsin) and Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (D-Michigan) have reintroduced Dillon’s Law, a bipartisan bill that incentivizes states to empower “good Samaritans” to save lives in critical moments.

The legislation encourages trained individuals to administer epinephrine in schools during emergencies. Currently, the administration of this medication is limited solely to trained school employees.

Dillon’s Law is named in honor of Dillon Mueller, a native of Mishicot, Wisconsin, who tragically passed away in 2014 at just 18 years old after being stung by a bee that resulted in an anaphylactic reaction. At the time of the incident, epinephrine was not readily available and accessible.

Several states, including Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Indiana, have enacted versions of Dillon’s Law with strong bipartisan support. While Congress passed a similar measure in 2013 to support epinephrine programs in schools, this legislation expands access further by allowing any trained individual to administer epinephrine in the event of an emergency.

“We’re working to prevent more heartbreaking tragedies like Dillon’s,” Grothman said. “No parent should ever have to experience the pain of losing a child simply because lifesaving medication wasn’t avail-

able in time.”

Grothman said Dillon’s Law gives states the tools to train and empower everyday people to act in emergencies and save lives. Since Wisconsin enacted a version of this law in 2017, thousands of residents

have been trained to use epinephrine in life-threatening situations. “Deaths like Dillon’s are heartbreaking and preventable, and we should empower good Samaritans to save lives,” Dingell said. “I’m proud to introduce Dillon’s Law with Rep. Grothman to help prepare individuals to respond to anaphylaxis and prevent tragedies like the one experienced by the

Mueller family. We’ve seen programs like this work in my home state of Michigan, and we can help so many people by expanding this to the rest of the country.”

Legislation to address mail delays passes house

The U.S. House of Representatives has passed a bill to update and modernize ZIP codes to reflect current municipal boundaries and to address USPS mail delays.

U.S. Rep. Bryan Steil (R-Wisconsin-01), a leader of the bill, says communities in Wisconsin and across the country currently face challenges due to outdated ZIP codes. Those challenges include misdirected mail, delays in emergency service response times, higher insurance rates, confusion with local taxes and tax rebates, confusion over polling places, and incorrect jury summons.

The bill addresses those unnecessary complications by directing USPS to create ZIP codes that align with current municipal boundaries.

“ZIP code boundaries that don’t match community boundaries cause needless headaches and frustration for families throughout Wisconsin, something I have heard from residents and community leaders in places like Mount Pleasant, Somers, Caledonia, Franklin, and Rochester,” Steil said. “This bill directs the USPS to modernize these ZIP codes to fix the many problems they cause, such as delayed emergency response times, higher insurance rates, tax confusion, and misdirected mail. I

am grateful to see this bill pass the House.”

Vining reintroduces universal changing stations legislation

State Rep. Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) has re-introduced her Universal Changing Stations bill with Democratic colleagues Sen. Dora Drake, Rep. Tara Johnson, Rep. Shelia Stubbs, and Sen. Jeff Smith.

The bill requires the installation of adult-sized changing stations in certain high-capacity public buildings and creates a tax credit for small businesses to install the stations.

“Bathroom accessibility is a public health issue and a human dignity issue,” Vining said. “For many of us, using the restroom is a routine, easily accessible part of our everyday lives. Whether it’s at work, school, a sporting event, or a concert, we are able to take care of our needs. For those who need assistance using the restroom — including adults and older children with disabilities — using the restroom in public can be nearly impossible.”

Vining said that, at one of her very first in-district meetings with constituents in 2019, a mother shared her concerns about the lack of adult-sized changing stations in public places for people with disabilities.

“Sarah shared that her family is affected because her son Matthew had been unable to go to basketball games, museums, and airports because, then at age 19, he had to be changed on the floor of public restrooms or in the back of their van,” she said. “This also affected their family’s ability to do things together. Access to changing stations is an issue of public health and of human dignity.”

It’s also an issue of community connection, Vining said.

“We have a population of people in need who are going unseen because they are unable to participate in society,” she said. “Since the buildings don’t work for the people, the people aren’t going to the buildings. We can change that, and so we should.”

Vining said universal changing stations are a growing reality in Wisconsin.

“Businesses want to do the right thing, and we have already seen community partners stepping up,” she said. “Expanding access to changing stations in Wisconsin will help adults and older children with disabilities, older adults who need assistance, along with parents and other family members, home health care workers, and other care providers. Let’s find common ground for the common good and make Wisconsin safe and accessible for everybody.”



Rall

From page 17

Government can help. Bosses aren’t training workers because it doesn’t pay to do so. Under the current tax code, a company can’t deduct its costs of training its worker for a new trade or business, or if the training is required to meet the minimum educational requirements for their current job. Training an accountant to become an office manager is not deductible. Nor is hiring someone smart and then paying them to go to law school.

Self-employed individuals can only deduct training costs if they update or improve skills for their existing profession. As a cartoonist, I can

deduct a class about Adobe Photoshop. If I create a new business, however, I can’t. So I can’t deduct flight classes to become a pilot.

Congress should fix these perverse disincentives to reflect our new reality, which requires Americans to change jobs throughout their lives.

Ted Rall, the political cartoonist, columnist and graphic novelist, is the author of the brand-new “What’s Left: Radical Solutions for Radical Problems.” He co-hosts the left-vs-right DMZ America podcast with fellow cartoonist Scott Stantis and The TMI Show with political analyst Manila Chan. Subscribe: tedrall.Substack.com.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

Letters for the opinion page should be addressed to: Lakeland Times, Attn.: “Letters to the Editor,” P.O. Box 790, Minocqua, WI 54548 or emailed to editor@lakelandtimes.com. All letters must contain the complete address and phone number of the author. Letters without phone numbers for verification will not be considered. The address and phone number will not be printed. The Lakeland Times reserves the right to edit or reject letters to the editor.

Min-Aqua Bat group photos

Editor's note: We received the identities for these photos after press time for the Min-Aqua Bats' 75th anniversary special section. They didn't run in that section, but *The Lakeland Times* is pleased to include them in today's paper.



2023



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Back row, standing, from the left: Chandler Curtis, Peyton Hobein, Brendan Huggett, Jimmy Bolan, Andrew Maulson, Fitz Diefenbach, Luke Smithing, Markus Mortenson, Lennon Smithing, Ethan Buchheit, Troy Rice, Cole Beiser, George Buchheit, Tucker Braun, Matthew Mortenson, Billy Hunter, Danny Ahern, Caleb McEachron, Jules Smithing, James Patterson, Gunnar Larsson, Wesley Huggett, Mason Carol, Eliseo (Sven) Vargas, Dunbar Schuetz. Middle row, kneeling, from left: Hannah Ahern, Lucy Friedman, Avary Schuetz, Abby Graul, Isabelle Boyer, Katie Buchheit, Hannah Sperling, Cassie Thompson, Ava Marquez. Front row, sitting, from left: Emerson Smithing, Lindsey Bickelhaupt, Erika Alms, Meghan Meitus, Annabelle Fillipini, Macy Cakans, Annabelle Busch, Cassidy Cleveland, Charlotte Grant, Emma Hunter, Marlie Cakans, Moira Ahern, Fanny Smithing, Grace Ahern, Mally Steinle, Lillian McEachron.

2024



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Back row, standing, from the left: Ashely Hradisky, Mckenzie Goltermann, Emerson Smithing, Lillian McEachron, Erika Alms, Meghan Meitus, Lauren Budleski, Devin Blake, Moira Ahern, Charlotte Grant, Cassidy Cleveland, Adele Preston, Macy Cakans, Christie Huggett, Abby Graul, Morgan Blake, Sadie Scott, Katie Ahern, Abby Johnson, Britany Schlect, Hannah Ahern, Isabelle Boyer. Middle row, kneeling, from left: Emma Hunter, Shae Scully, Olivia Lynch, Hannah Sperling, Lindsey Bickelhaupt, Chandler Curtis, Dunbar Schuetz, Matthew Lambrecht, Michael Francis, Dylan Skaletski, Mason Busch, Sven Vargas, Katie Buchheit, Rosalie Chione, Cassie Thompson, Avary Schuetz. Front row, standing, from left: Jimmy Bolan, Mason Carol, Andrew Maulson, Caleb McEachron, Jules Smithing, Ethan Buchheit, Cole Beiser, George Buchheit, Tucker Braun, Billy Hunter, Troy Rice, Lennon Smithing, Markus Mortenson, Luke Smithing, Brendan Huggett, Wesley Huggett.

2025



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Back row, standing, from the left: Hannah Ahern, Maryn Peterson, Cassie Thompson, Britany Schlect, Emerson Smithing, Brooklyn Tabb, Katie Ahern, Abby Johnson, Erika Alms, Moira Ahern, Eliza Hunter, Emma Hunter, Morgan Blake, Devin Blake, Cassidy Cleveland, Adele Preston, Christie Huggett, Macy Cakans, Lauren Budleski, Meghan Meitus, Sadie Scott, Emily Johnson, Aubrie Sperling, Hannah Sperling, Penelope Black, Maecie Ledden, Avary Schuetz, Isabelle Boyer. Middle row, kneeling, from left: Molly Richardson, Rosalie Chione, Katie Buchheit, Rigby Mallery, Sven Vargas, Jack Hendricks, Dylan Skaletski, Michael Francis, Jimmy Bolan, Kobe Hendricks, Chandler Curtis, Caden Schillinger, Dunbar Schuetz, Danny Francis, Briggs Buchheit, Aileen Blake, Shae Scully. Front row, standing, from left: Wesley Huggett, James Patterson, Mason Busch, Matthew Lambrecht, Jules Smithing, Markus Mortenson, Luke Smithing, Chase Sullivan, Troy Rice, Tucker Braun, Matthew Mortenson, Ethan Buchheit, Lennon Smithing, SinJin Vanderhart, Caleb McEachron, Andrew Maulson, Ryan Tabb, Mason Carol, Chris Hunter, Parker Smithing.

Back in business

Snowhawks crush Lakeland Times to get back in win column

Brett LaBore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

I missed playing snowshoe baseball last year due to a rainout. *The Lakeland Times* put together a team once again in a game that was an absolute blast.

The Snowhawks defeated the *Times* 21-11 on Monday in Lake Tomahawk.

"It was a lot of fun. We always have a lot of fun with you guys," Snowhawk player-coach Jeff Smith said. "We talked about it for quite a long time at the afterglow. It's a game that we always look forward to. We really do. We had a real good crowd. The crowd was very much into it because of your team — a bunch of nice guys on that team, and they're a lot of fun, and they're yelling back-and-forth which makes it a lot more fun for the crowd too."

It was great to play snowshoe baseball for the first time in two years after having been rained out last year. The Snowhawks flexed their muscles all night with three home runs and plenty of highlight hits.

"It was really, really full still at the end, and Amy (Monday) had some really good music," Smith said. "She brought some stuff from the 80s kinda into it, and I don't know if that had anything to do at all, but it



KATE REICHL/LAKELAND TIMES

The Lakeland Times snowshoe baseball team fell 21-11 to the Snowhawks Monday, July 21 at Snowshoe Park in Lake Tomahawk. Team pictured, back row from left, are Chayce Walker, Chad Metzger, Travis Strasburg, Braeden Walker, Dick Lee, Walker Hartman; front row, Trevor Greene, Gregg Walker, Brett LaBore, Jeremy Mayo, Sam Weber and Adam Redman.

was a lot of fun to hear some of them songs again that really you haven't heard in years. I think it got the crowd going in a way, and it just added to it I think. And some of the falls and some of the great catches on your team's part and some really great hitting too. I mean a lot of shots up the middle, and it just kept everybody interested and kept everybody around."

I thought that we got off to a good start. Braeden

Walker drove in two runs with Chayce Walker and Sam Weber coming to score. We led 2-0, our only lead of the game.

It didn't take long before the Snowhawks overtook us. Their first four batters all scored as we made plenty of mistakes in the field in the bottom half of the first.

If we had any chance of upsetting the Snowhawks, we would have to play near-perfect defense. We weren't even close.

The Snowhawks led 4-2 after one inning.

We did have a chance to tie the game in the top of the third. Jeremy Mayo, myself and Adam Redman all reached base. On Rodman's hit, an error in the field moved everyone up a base, causing Mayo to score.

I stood at third base as the tying run with no outs. Unfortunately, our next three batters all flew out.

The Snowhawks scored five runs in the bottom of

the third inning, and we never came close after that.

One of the best parts of the game came on a miraculous catch by Weber in right-center field. The Snowhawks hit a high flyball towards Weber. He initially moved forward before realizing the ball was going over his head. He changed his direction, reached out his hands and made an over-the-shoulder catch blind.

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Runners-up in Tomahawk

Lakeland 14U softball team shows how bright the future is

Brett LaBore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Lakeland's 14U softball team came close to winning a tournament in Tomahawk last weekend.

The Thunderbirds went 3-2 in five games played and took second place in their 14U age bracket at the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament in Tomahawk Friday, July 18 through Sunday, July 20.

"It's really a great run tournament by

those Tomahawk folks," coach Jeff Smith said. "I think it's a great weekend for a lot of teams just to come back here and relax."

Lakeland 8, Medford 2

A five-run first inning was all the Thunderbirds needed to seal their first win of pool play on Friday, July 18. Two runs came home to score following a drop in the field by Medford. Rylie Burmeister scored a run with an RBI groundout.

"That was really huge," Smith said. "They got in a little trouble, and we took advantage of it. We happened to have a really good first. We were aggressive on the bases."



BRETT LABORE/LAKELAND TIMES

Britta Kemnitz delivers a pitch from the circle against Northwoods during the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament Saturday, July 19 at Sara Park in Tomahawk. Kemnitz pitched five shutout innings.

Then, Darikka Decora scored on a catcher's error. Zoe Sievert delivered an RBI triple. Lakeland led 5-0.

Britta Kemnitz started in the circle for Lakeland. She gave up two runs in four innings pitched. Shaye Trapp pitched the final three innings without allowing a run.

"Sometimes it's a little scary because they pitch amazing, and so sometimes I flinch, but I know that they've got me," Zia Amer-shek said about catching both Britta and Shaye. "I love both of them, and they pitch amazing."

See **Tomahawk . . . page 23**

Errors plague Northern Wisconsin Thunder softball team

Thunder get walk-off win over Marshfield

Brett LaBore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

A new softball team called the Northern Wisconsin Thunder have played in a few tournaments this summer. They looked to play their best at a tournament in Tomahawk last weekend.

The Thunder went 1-3 in four games played in the U16/U18 age group at the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament Friday, July 18 through Sunday, July 20 in Tomahawk.

"We struggled this weekend with fielding errors consistently in every game," Thunder coach Crystal Newport said. "(It's) difficult to win games with multiple errors."

The Thunder are comprised of players from Lakeland, Rhinelander, Antigo, Hurley, Crandon and Park Falls. Ciara Chris-



PHOTOS BY BRETT LABORE/LAKELAND TIMES

Ciara Christianson attempts to catch the ball with Aria Peterson closing in against the Elite during the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament Saturday, July 19 at Sara Park in Tomahawk.

tianson, Rayna Hella, Malia Newport and Addison and Shaye Trapp were players that represented Lakeland.

"My daughter Malia had been on a travel team based out of Marshfield for the past

four summers," coach Newport said. "We thought it was a perfect time to step back from that commitment and start a Northwoods travel team, allowing area kids opportunities to compete at a higher

level. It is very typical that girls in the Northwoods travel over two hours to practice on travel softball teams, due to the lack of travel teams in their areas, and most families cannot make that commit-



Malia Newport scores the game-winning run against Marshfield during the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament Friday, July 18 at Sara Park in Tomahawk.

ment. This team has given families an opportunity, which was not an option before."

For Addison Trapp, this tournament featured some of her first

games back since her injury she sustained during the high school season.

See Thunder
... page 23

First win of the summer

89ers top Tomahawk before regional tournament

Brett LaBore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Right before the Legion tournament started, the 89ers picked up their first win of the summer on Monday.

The Minocqua Post 89 Legion baseball team beat Tomahawk 7-1 at the Minocqua Park Complex.

"Obviously great for the kids, great for the team to go out and get that first win," coach Doug Etten said. "Like I told them afterwards, we've played some really good baseball for the most part throughout the course of the summer, much better, I think anyways, overall as a team than what some of them may have played during the spring season. To see it come to fruition and obviously be able to outscore a team for the first time this year when it was all said and done was great. (The) kids really deserved it."

All three phases of the game came together for the 89ers. They used three different pitchers, all finding some success on the mound.

"They've really stayed focused on some of the things that we've been preaching throughout the entire season so far," Etten said. "They don't really have to do anything spectacular. I think they realized that after the game. The pitchers threw strikes,

we made the routine plays defensively, and when we were up at the plate, we did a good job of executing when we needed to whether it was moving runners, taking advantage of a hit or putting a good swing on a pitch and yeah, just it all came together for once, and it was nice that we were able to witness a little bit of success in the score afterwards."

Max Keuer started the game for Minocqua. He had success and pitched three shutout inning with six strikeouts. He gave up one hit and walk.

"We're really unsure right now where we are at with Ben Peterson because Ben's obviously one of our top pitchers and going into the Legion tournament ... this week not knowing whether or not Ben's gonna be able to throw just because he just had his wisdom teeth taken out," Etten said. "We knew Max had to throw, but we also knew that we didn't wanna overwork him because if we had to come back and throw him on Thursday, we didn't want his arm stressed out, or we wanted him to be fresh. He was a little frustrated at first when he got the hook after the third, but he understood why we did it, and he was totally fine with it."

Logan Gray-Ives was up next for Minocqua. He, too, pitched three innings, giving up one unearned run. He threw 28 pitches, 23 for strikes.

"We wanted to get a couple of other guys some work on the mound so it really worked out to our



BRIAN JOPEK/LAKELAND TIMES

Max Keuer scores a run in the 89ers' 7-1 win over Tomahawk Monday, July 21 at the Minocqua Park Complex. Keuer won the game at pitcher with three shutout innings and six strikeouts.

benefit that we were able to get some runs early and then work with the lead," Etten said. "We're really happy that we were able to get the game in because it was a good tune-up for (yesterday's game) and especially pitching-wise ... being able to get three guys good innings on the mound and see all of them throw strikes and play defense behind them was a positive."

Cooper Johnson came in and tossed a perfect seventh inning, striking out the side on 11 pitches.

"He reminded me after the game he was only two pitches short of an immaculate inning," Etten said.

Minocqua got a lead in the second inning and built it from there. The 89ers drew seven walks against Tomahawk starting pitcher Colin Black. Even though the 89ers only had five hits, they got the hits that counted.

"You're not gonna score until you get to first so being able to get guys on base and then take advantage when you get a pitch to hit with some guys that

are able to drive the ball," Etten said. "We were able to run a little bit last night too, which was helpful."

Doubles by Gray-Ives, Merick Trotter and Keuer gave the 89ers a spark. Jack Stella, Danny Gahler, Trotter and Keuer all had RBIs to their credit.

Gray-Ives also walked twice and scored two runs in the leadoff spot of the lineup. Minocqua scored four runs in the third inning and led 6-0 after four innings.

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“That was an over-the-shoulder catch that he was making like he had a glove on his hand, and that is very hard to do in snowshoes, especially out there where there’s a fence,” Smith said. “We all thought it was just gonna go over his head. Cole (Punches) took off from second base, and we all were yelling and watching the play and not him. All of a sudden, we had to tell him to go back.”

I had a great view of it in right field. I thought for sure it was going over Weber’s head. It was one of the best catches I’ve seen, especially in person.

“That is definitely one of the best catches,” Smith said. “I’ve seen some diving catches, but not running all out and catch the ball over your shoulder. That just doesn’t happen very often. The ball’s either hit over your shoulder, and it’s gone, or you miss it. It’s easy to miss it, and he scooped it up like he had a glove on his hand. That was an ESPN highlight reel catch, that’s for sure.”

Travis Strasburg had himself a night for the *Times*. He made plenty of catches in left field and reached base three times with one run scored.

Offensively, we really struggled to score runs. We put together just two runs in innings four through eight. We couldn’t solve Cole Punches, the Snowhawks’ pitcher.

Meanwhile, the Snowhawks hit a couple of bombs. Jesse Robinson powered one to deep center field that rolled all the way down a hill. A tumbling Weber gathered himself and threw it back in after Robinson had crossed home plate.

Two innings later, Robin-

son hit another home run, this one more towards left-center field.

“There were some really nice hits,” Smith said. “He plays for the crowd a lot cause he wants them to see the long ball, and he didn’t have to do that, but I know Jesse, and he’s all for, you know, getting the crowd going on those long balls and yeah, he got into that one.”

Gunner Dunbar delivered his own homer, sort of. He lined one to right field off a high pitch. We had trouble getting the ball to the right base and ended up throwing it to the Snowhawks’ bench. Dunbar came home to score.

“Gunner karate-chopping one over his head ... I know he likes the high pitch but not like that,” Smith said. “It was just a very all-around good, fun game.”

We used three different pitchers throughout the game — Gregg Walker, Chad Metzger and Redman. No matter what we did, the Snowhawks scored runs.

“We didn’t wanna walk so it was either you get a hit, or you don’t, and that makes the game go a little faster too without all that. The pitchers did a good job,” Smith said. “Actually, we didn’t really swing anything bad. I mean really there were a couple pitchers that we let go, but the third one was always seemed to be there.”

It came a little too late, but we did score six runs in the ninth inning.

Walker Hartman and Braeden Walker got things started by reaching base against new Snowhawk pitcher Don Moore.

Strasburg and Dick Lee kept things moving with hits of their own. Gregg Walker, who reached base all four times, and Metzger also scored in the ninth inning.

“You guys didn’t play last

year so you’re a little rusty,” Smith said. “We should’ve spotted you six, seven runs. By the end of the game that would’ve been a lot closer.”

Trevor Greene and Mayo reached base to keep our rally going. I popped out for the final out of the game.

Up next, the Snowhawks (3-2) play Black Bear Bar on Monday, July 28 at 7:30 p.m. The game takes place at Snowshoe Park in Lake Tomahawk.

“They have a very good squad,” Smith said. “It’s basically their Thursday night team so Tommy Ziemba again. There’s a couple other guys too that have played before with Jesse, and they’ll be on the team. It’s a pretty good game all around. It’ll be not as much fun obviously as what we had with you guys.”

Brett LaBore may be reached at brett@lakelandtimes.com or sports@lakelandtimes.com.



PHOTOS BY DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES

Sam Weber looks the ball in playing against the Snowhawks Monday, July 21 at Snowshoe Park in Lake Tomahawk.



Snowhawk Martin Jaramillo connects on the ball with Jeremy Mayo looking on at catcher Monday, July 21 at Snowshoe Park in Lake Tomahawk.

Summer

From page 21

“When you put yourself into scoring position, you really put some stress on the defense, and that’s what we did last night with them,” Etten said. “We challenged them to throw strikes. We didn’t swing at pitches out of the zone which gave us some base runners via the walk, and then when we did get an opportunity to drive some guys in, a couple guys took advantage of that which was great.”

Tomahawk scored once in the top of the sixth inning, but the 89ers got that run back in the bottom half of the inning.

Keuer had himself a solid game all around with two hits, an RBI and run scored. He was also the winning pitcher.

Minocqua played their first game of the Wisconsin American



BRIAN JOPEK/LAKELAND TIMES

Cooper Johnson gets ready to catch the ball at second base in a Legion game against Tomahawk Monday, July 21 at the Minocqua Park Complex.

Legion Baseball Association Class AA Region

2 tournament on Thursday against Medford.

Coverage of this game will be in the Tuesday,

July 29 edition of *The Lakeland Times*.

Up next, the 89ers (1-9) will play either at 11 a.m. or 2 p.m. today, depending on their result against Medford. It’s a double-elimination tournament.

“The tournament structure is always a fun one because it’s anybody’s day any day, and if it works your way for a few innings one day and a few innings the next day, you never know what the end of it where ya’ll gonna stand,” Etten said. “We got a tough draw. We really have to just concentrate and worry about what we’re gonna do and how we’re gonna do it and just let the chips fall. I know it’s a cliché, but realistically that’s baseball in a nutshell. It’s a world of clichés. It’s cool. We’re hosting it too, so it’s nice to be comfortable at home.”

Brett LaBore may be reached at brett@lakelandtimes.com or sports@lakelandtimes.com.

Tomahawk

From page 20

Marshfield 10, Lakeland 8

Lakeland's second game also came on Friday, July 18. This time, the Thunderbirds started Trapp as their pitcher.

Marshfield came out aggressive and scored six runs in the top of the first inning. Vanessa Czech hit a two-run single to center, and Ayva Haehlke delivered a two-run double.

"They caught us flat-footed," Smith said. "I don't think our pitchers were as good. They were hitting them hard. The first four batters smacked the ball around pretty good, and there was really nothing we could've done about it."

The Thunderbirds would outscore Marshfield 8-4 the rest of the game. Kemnitz had the hot bat, hitting a two-run double to deep left in the first inning.

Marshfield led by as many as eight runs when they took a 10-2 lead in the top of the fourth inning.

Lakeland scored four times in the bottom of the fourth. Again, Kemnitz produced with a two-run single. She had four RBIs in the contest.

Amershek hit an RBI single to right field. Sievert scored a run with a groundout. Marshfield led 10-6 after four innings.

Down to their last out, the Thunderbirds had a flair for the dramatic. Amershek hit a two-run inside-the-park home run to deep left-center field. She got the Thunderbirds to within two runs at 10-8.

However, Marshfield got the final out and held on to the win.

Lakeland 8, Northwoods 0

After going 1-1 in pool play, the Thunderbirds



BRETT LABORE/LAKELAND TIMES

The Thunderbirds take a team photo following their second-place finish in the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament Sunday, July 20 at Sara Park in Tomahawk. Team pictured, back row from left, are coach Derrick Decora, head coach Jeff Smith, Jayden Cella, Annelise Mayer, Britta Kemnitz, Amelia Neri, Zoe Sievert, Adalyn Bohne, coach Patrick Trapp, coach Eric Bohne; middle row, Alena Bohne, Zia Amershek, Shaye Trapp, Ryllie Burmeister; front row, Darikka Decora.

began bracket play with a game against Northwoods on Saturday.

Kemnitz tossed a gem for Lakeland. She pitched five shutout innings with just one strikeout. She induced many groundouts and flyouts as she let her defense play behind her.

"I loved how at the end where we all came into the circle so I'd say my teammates hyping me up," Kemnitz said about her pitching performance. "That really helped a lot."

"I feel bad for (Northwoods) because they hit the ball, but they just didn't fall," Smith said. "They didn't hit the gaps, and that is the way that happens."

Offensively, Lakeland had

another big first inning. Burmeister hit an RBI triple to right field to put Lakeland up 4-0.

Amelia Neri scored on a wild pitch in the fourth inning. Adalyn Bohne increased Lakeland's lead with an RBI double. Kemnitz added to her big day with two RBIs.

The Thunderbirds defeated MFP Heiman, a team out of Marshfield, 11-4 in the semifinals on Sunday morning to secure their spot in the championship game against Marshfield, a rematch from their game in pool play.

"(MFP Heiman) were a really scrappy team, but they just could not get runs across," Smith said. "We hit the ball pretty good."

Marshfield 8, Lakeland 5

Lakeland took the lead in the second inning. Burmeister drew an RBI walk with the bases loaded to tie the game. Sievert hit an RBI fielder's choice to give Lakeland a 2-1 lead.

The Thunderbirds added to their lead in the third inning. Jayden Cella and Adalyn Bohne both singled, and Trapp walked to loaded the bases.

Marshfield turned to Haehlke at pitcher. Later in the inning, Decora hit a two-run sacrifice fly after a leaping catch in center by Marshfield. Lakeland was up 4-1.

"They were in really good spirits going into that last game," Smith said. "We knew we could beat Marshfield. We were close to them the first game so we knew we could compete."

Defense continued to be a strong point after three innings for Lakeland. Kemnitz had given up the one run with lots of groundouts and flyouts.

Lakeland's lead would grow to 5-1 after another RBI by Burmeister in the fourth inning.

Marshfield started to hit the ball hard in the fifth inning. Laila Weitz hit a double to deep center. Then, Iris Vine singled as the ball scooted by Lakeland's outfield.

Brynlie Bremer gave Marshfield the lead with a two-run triple to right field. An RBI bunt by Courtney Knetter gave Marshfield a 7-5 lead.

"It's always important to keep that ball in front of you,

and we stressed that all year, but it just happens ... girls don't have a ton of reps like that with balls hit hard," Smith said. "I think we had a few more errors in that one inning than we had the whole tournament."

Meanwhile, Lakeland's offense couldn't figure out Haehlke. She gave up just one run in five innings.

"She was a little more accurate on her pitches. She was hitting the corners," Smith said. "She made us swing, and we didn't hit the ball real well against her. She was a little more accurate, and she kept her composure."

The Thunderbirds, down by two runs, had a shot to tie or take the lead. Alena Bohne got hit by a pitch, and Amershek had an infield single. Later on, Alena Bohne got picked off at third base to end any momentum Lakeland had established.

Smith was happy, though, with the second-place finish.

"I as a coach don't go into a tournament looking to take the whole thing," he said. "I mean, I would like our team to play up to their expectations of how they've been practicing and to do better than the next game and to grow as a team, and that's exactly what we did from the last game of the regular season to the first game of the tournament."

The Thunderbirds have one more tournament left with the Hodag Heist Aug. 15-17 in Rhinelander.

Brett LaBore may be reached at brett@lakelandtimes.com or sports@lakelandtimes.com.



BRETT LABORE/LAKELAND TIMES

Adalyn Bohne hits a single against Medford during the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament Friday, July 18 at Sara Park in Tomahawk.

Thunder

From page 21

"It was devastating to Addison and our team to find out that she would probably not get to play with us," coach Newport said. "Losing a player like her on your team is huge. She has played third base for five to six years. She is a force to be reckoned with when she is 100 percent. She finally got to fully play this Tomahawk tournament. I would say she is only at 80 percent."

Thunder 11, Marshfield 10

The most thrilling game for the Northern Wisconsin Thunder came in their first game against Marshfield on Friday, July 20.

In the bottom of the first inning, Malia Newport hit an RBI single to center to tie the game. Then, Zoey Votis singled to left to score a run. Later on, Saige Mutter produced an RBI hit.

The Thunder led 3-1 after one inning.

The runs kept coming for the Thunder in the second inning. Votis drew an RBI walk, and Rayna Hella

hit an RBI single to left. Malia Newport also scored on a wild pitch to make it 6-1.

"We were being patient and waiting for good pitches to swing at," coach Newport said. "That was our night that we were hitting the gaps."

Ariel Haasch started the game for the Thunder. She ran into some trouble in the top of the third inning. Marshfield started connecting on their hits, one of them a two-run double.

The Thunder turned to Aria Peterson in the circle. When all was

said and done, Marshfield ended up scoring five runs to tie the game at 6-6.

"We started the season with four pitchers, and we are down to two," coach Newport said. "Playing four to five games in three days is tough with only two pitchers. Ariel Haasch from Hurley and Aria Peterson from Crandon both have been our go-to pitchers."

Moving to the top of the fourth, Marshfield took an 8-7 lead after a couple of hits.

See **Thunder** . . . page 24

LOCAL SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

LEGION BASEBALL

Tomahawk at Minocqua
Monday, July 21

Tomahawk 000 001 0 — 1 4 2
Minocqua 014 101 x — 7 5 1

TOMAHAWK		MINOCQUA	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Arndt ss	3 0 0 0	LoGrylvs 3b	2 2 1 0
Black p	3 0 1 0	Stella c	2 1 0 1
Tollefson c	3 0 0 0	DGahler ss	2 1 0 1
Dickens cf	3 0 0 0	Bolton 1b	3 0 0 0
Esselmn 1b	3 0 0 0	Trotter cf	2 1 1 1
Peterson 3b	3 1 1 0	Johnson 2b	1 0 0 0
Seslar rf	2 0 2 1	BGahler rf	2 1 1 0
Hetzel 2b	3 0 0 0	Jacques lf	2 0 0 0
Scheffler lf	3 0 0 0	Marocco	3 0 0 0
		Keuer p	3 1 2 1
Totals	26 1 4 1	Totals	22 7 5 4

Tomahawk	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Black, L	4.2	2	6	5	7	5
Peterson	1	1	1	0	1	1
Tollefson	0.1	2	0	0	0	0

Minocqua	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Keuer, W	3	1	0	0	1	6
Lo.Gray-Ives	3	3	1	0	0	1
Johnson	1	0	0	0	0	3

LOB: Tomahawk 7, Minocqua 6. **2B:** T_Seslar, M_Lo.Gray-Ives, Trotter, Keuer. **HBP:** T_Seslar, Black, M_Jacques, Trotter. **SB:** T_Arndt 2, Black, M_Stella.

Generations charity golf tournament

Thank you to all that participated in last week's annual Generations charity golf tournament. Over 20 raffle baskets were donated from area businesses, one lucky person took home \$240 from the 50/50 raffle and board member Ray Knapstein won the putting contest. Close to \$5,000 in proceeds were brought in to support Generations — Lakeland Retirement Foundation. A huge thank you to Trout Lake Golf Club for hosting the event, we could not make this happen without you!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Ray Knapstein won the putting contest during the Generations charity golf tournament Thursday, July 17 at Trout Lake Golf Club in Arbor Vitae.

Junior Thunderbirds Skills Academy Camp Aug. 4-7

The Junior Thunderbirds Skills Academy Camp for 1st through 4th graders is meant to be an introduction to Lakeland basketball through

a series of skill development, team building and fun game activities. Players will be introduced to some of the basic skills of the game that

will build a foundation for their success as future Thunderbird girls' basketball players.

The Junior Thunderbirds

Skills Academy takes place at the Lakeland Union High School fieldhouse Aug. 4-7 from 8 to 9 a.m. The cost is \$35.

Walk-up registrations are welcome or you can register online at the following web address: forms.gle/wMf9Kig-WKJLQyiPq5.

Thunder

From page 23

Malia Newport started a little rally in the bottom of the fourth with a single to right. Votis and Hella also had hits. Hella tied the game with her RBI single. Mutter gave the Thunder a 9-8 lead with an RBI single to left.

"We had 13 hits in that game — Rayna Hella, Malia Newport and Rhinelander's Saige Mutter all had three hits each," coach Newport said.

Peterson walked the first two batters of the fifth inning. The Thunder went back to Haasch in the circle. Marshfield drew an RBI walk to tie the game at 9-9. Haasch struck out a batter to strand the bases loaded.

The game went to extra innings with the California rule in place. Both teams would start their at-bat with a runner on second base.

Shaye Trapp took to the circle for the first time. Marshfield scored the go-ahead run on a catcher's error.

It was the Thunder's chance to answer back in the bottom of the sixth. Shaye Trapp started on second base and scored on a wild pitch to tie the game at 10-10.

"I knew we were the better team, just super happy for my girls to get the win," coach Newport said.

"They battled every inning and never gave up."

Malia Newport walked and made it to second base. Then, she took third base on a delayed steal. With two outs, she scored on a Marshfield error to give the Thunder the walk-off win.

"(I'm) looking at the girls, see if they're paying attention," Malia Newport said about the delayed steal. "Sometimes they're just like, 'OK, let's focus on this person. We don't care about them. We're just trying to get this out.'"

Elite 16, Thunder 2

The Thunder had a hard time keeping up with the Elite, a team based out of Mosinee, on Saturday.

"Elite is the Mosinee travel team," coach Newport said. "Mosinee is located right in that area were I always say is the heart of softball in Wisconsin. There is so much opportunity with beautiful local facilities. Families don't have to travel far."

Three Thunder pitchers were used throughout most of the tournament — Haasch, Peterson and Shaye Trapp. They all were featured against Elite.

"It's a lot to put on just two girls to do all the pitching, so we asked Shaye Trapp to move up a division and help for the weekend," coach Newport said. "Very good batting teams like Mosi-

nee, I like to switch it up on them once we run through the batting lineup and bring in a new pitcher. I'm super proud of the three pitchers this weekend. Every time they step out there they give us the opportunity to win."

Malia Newport stayed hot with a single to right and a stolen base. Mutter hit her home with an RBI double to right-center field in the bottom of the first inning.

Adi Bablick reached on a bunt single and later scored on a wild pitch for the Thunder, their second run of the game.

The Elite flexed their muscles for the big win. They scored at least one run in each inning, including a home run in the fifth.

The Thunder lost their other two games to the Wausau Patriots 12-0 and to Tomahawk 9-7.

"Too many errors," coach Newport said. "We should have beat Tomahawk, we were the better team. We must have had six hard hits to left field, and everyone we hit right to the left fielder. We just could not get them to fall in play. That is softball. You can't get the softballs always to hit the pockets. So that is why it is always anyone's game."

Brett LaBore may be reached at brett@lakelandtimes.com or sports@lakelandtimes.com.



PHOTOS BY BRETT LABORE/LAKELAND TIMES

Rayna Hella hits a single against Marshfield during the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament Friday, July 18 at Sara Park in Tomahawk.



Addison Trapp tags out a Marshfield runner at third base during the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament Friday, July 18 at Sara Park in Tomahawk.

MONDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

The Snowhawks defeated *The Lakeland Times* 21-11 in a snowshoe baseball game Monday, July 21 at Snowshoe Park in Lake Tomahawk.



DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES
Gregg Walker looks in the ball before an attempted catch.



KATE REICHL/LAKELAND TIMES

Trevor Greene reaches out with one hand on a line drive to right field.



KATE REICHL/LAKELAND TIMES

Chayce Walker gets ready to fire to first base.



DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES
Travis Strasburg prepares to catch the ball.



DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES

Dick Lee goes to make a catch with Travis Strasburg looking on.



KATE REICHL/LAKELAND TIMES

Brett LaBore gears up for a swing with Adam Redman looking on.



KATE REICHL/LAKELAND TIMES

Walker Hartman takes a tumble.



DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES

Braeden Walker tags out Snowhawk Jeff Smith with Chad Metzger celebrating in the background.

LADY T-BIRDS TAKE SECOND

The Lakeland 14U softball team finished second place in the Rod Timm Memorial Girls' Fast Pitch Tournament Friday, July 18 through Sunday, July 20 at Sara Park in Tomahawk. The Thunderbirds went 3-2 in five games, falling 8-5 to Marshfield in the championship game.

PHOTOS BY BRETT LABORE/LAKELAND TIMES



Zoe Sievert delivers an RBI triple against Medford on Friday, July 18.



Zia Amershek goes to tag out the Medford batter on Friday, July 18.



Jayden Cella singles in the championship game against Marshfield on Sunday, July 20.



Shaye Trapp, right, high-fives Annelise Mayer after Mayer's catch in the championship game against Marshfield on Sunday, July 20.



Ryllie Burmeister picks up an RBI groundout against Medford on Friday, July 18.



Amelia Neri puts the ball in play against Medford on Friday, July 18.



Shaye Trapp tosses the ball to Alena Bohne at second base to get the out in the championship game against Marshfield on Sunday, July 20.



Darikka Decora hits a two-run sacrifice fly in the championship game against Marshfield on Sunday, July 20.

TOWN NEWS

www.lakelandtimes.com

ST. GERMAIN

Jennie Saltzgeber saintgermainchamber@gmail.com 715-477-2205

Music in St. Germain

Are you looking for live music at a local establishment? Check out your favorite restaurants and bars in the St. Germain area for schedules. Live music can be heard almost every day of the week.

Mondays in St. Germain

Have you visited St. Germain this summer? Mondays are hopping with the St. Germain Firefighters Association flea market. Shop from more than 500 vendors every Monday through Labor Day, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Community Park (corner of Hwy. 70 and Hwy. 155). Then, stay for the St. Germain Chamber's Bingo Night. Doors open at 6 p.m. and games start at 7 p.m. Fun for the entire family. Prizes are awarded every night. Food is provided by the St. Germain Primetimers. Game prices start at \$3 for ten games. The Progressive Jackpot is played every night for \$2 per card.

Colorama and Pints in the Park

Mark your calendars for St. Germain's 67th annual Colorama on Sept. 20 at the St. Germain Community Pavilion and Park. The crafter/vendor show will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We are still looking for homemade crafters, bakers, direct sale vendors, and more for the show and farmers market. Free booth spaces are available for not-for-profit organizations, too. Pints in the Park, noon to 4 p.m., will include a wine walk this year. Music will be performed by The Lady and the Tramp from Illinois and local favorites, Flying Blind. The annual Fall Cruisin' Car Show will be open for car enthusiasts of all ages all day. For more information, visit www.st-germain.com or call 715-477-2205.

Greater Wisconsin Musky Tournament

The 37th annual Greater Wisconsin Musky Tournament is Oct. 4-5 with a check-in on Oct. 3. Anglers

will compete for muskies and northern pikes. Friday night's check-in and regulations meeting will include door prizes, including cash, and a chance to win a one-week cabin stay at Spruce Island Camp in the beautiful Lake of the Woods, Ontario (conditions apply). The musky winner receives a minimum cash prize of \$500 and a replica of the winning fish by Lax Taxidermy. \$95 per angler and two or three anglers per boat (must have a partner). To sign up, visit www.st-germain.com or call 715-477-2205.

One the road to 250

History tells us that Benjamin Franklin founded the United States Postal Service. The first American post office opened in 1639 at Richard Fairbank's tavern in Boston. He handled mail between England and America for one cent per letter. Why a tavern? It was a place that

most people knew and visited. On July 26, 1775, Benjamin Franklin became the first postmaster of the United States Postal Service after the Second Continental Congress passed the Continental Post Act. Franklin's yearly salary was \$1,000. The newly established postal service removed England's inspection of letters and allowed Patriots to communicate. On Feb. 20, 1792, under George Washington, the Postal Act of 1792 created the modern USPS and the right of privacy for items mailed. Violators of the new privacy laws faced six months in jail and a \$300 fine.

Upcoming event?

If you have an upcoming event, please contact the chamber. We'd love to help you spread the word. All news must be submitted two weeks in advance. Call 715-477-2205 or send an email to saintgermainchamber@gmail.com.

MANITOWISH WATERS

Arin Jelmeland townnews@manitowishwaters.org

Manitowish Waters Night Market!

The Manitowish Waters Night Market is a free, outdoor event showcasing a variety of local vendors, food and drink, and live music. The Manitowish Waters Night Market exists to create a vibrant, family-friendly space that is reminiscent of night markets internationally and to celebrate our community's entrepreneurs, art, music, food, drink, culture and more! Vendors will range from arts and crafts, food trucks, farmer, grower, rancher, artisan food, non-profits, and more! Aug. 15 from 3 to 8 p.m. If you are interested in becoming a vendor for our Night Markets, visit our website manitowishwaters.org/things-to-do/night-market/ to register or give us a call at 715-543-8488.



Arin Jelmeland
MANITOWISH WATERS

tive American trail networks, Manitowish Water's earliest pioneer family, all phases of the logging era, a railroad depot, homesteads, early resorts, and businesses. For more information visit discoverycenter.net

Manitowish Waters Lions Club

The Northern Wisconsin Lions Club invites you to the 25th annual golf outing on Thursday, Aug. 7, 9 a.m. shotgun start. Check in and free range balls: 7 to 8:15 a.m. For more information please visit mwlionsclub.org.

Springstead Corn Roast

Join in for the Springstead Volunteer Fire Department's Annual Corn Roast on Saturday, Aug. 9 from noon to 6 p.m. at the town of Sherman Pavilion on Hwy. 182! Enjoy live music by Flash Back, a free kids bike giveaway, raffles, a 50/50 drawing, food, drinks, and more — rain or shine.

Manners Café

Located at the Manitowish Waters Fire Hall, 5797 U.S. Hwy. 51. Lunch is

served at 11:15 a.m. every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for residents aged 60 and older. To reserve a meal, contact Mary Ellen Duranso at 715-904-0065 at least 24 hours in advance.

Music in the Park

Sundays at Koller Park 4 to 6 p.m. A free, family-friendly event featuring live music, food vendors, dancing, and community fun. More information at mwmusicinthepark.com.

Lions Club Bingo

Mondays at 7 p.m. Bingo is held in the Manitowish Waters Community Center. Doors open at 6 p.m. with bingo starting at 7 p.m. Snacks and refreshments are available. No bingo on July 15.

Lions Club Flea Market

Thursdays come visit the Lions Club's summer flea market, held every Thursday from mid-morning to mid-afternoon (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.), June through August. In September, the market continues, weather permitting.

Mahjong at the Koller Library

Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. All are welcome, including begin-

ners. The group is happy to teach new players. More details at kollerlibrary.org.

Manitowish Waters Cribbage Club

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Held at the Manitowish Waters Community Center, \$5 entry fee. For more information, call 715-367-6758 or email yourartsprogram@gmail.com.

Skiing Skeeters Ski Shows

Wednesday and Saturday nights at Rest Lake Park at 7 p.m. This is a free family event. Bring a blanket or lawn chair for your comfort or watch from your boat on Rest Lake!

More on Manitowish Waters

If you have an upcoming event in Manitowish Waters that you'd like featured in the Town News, please email the details to townnews@manitowishwaters.org. For a complete list of community happenings, visit manitowishwaters.org. The Manitowish Waters Visitors Bureau, located at 5733 Airport Road, is open 24/7. Stop by to pick up a visitors guide, maps, brochures, and area information.

PLUM LAKE/SAYNER/STAR LAKE

Emily Koester emakoester@gmail.com

Library events

July 25 is Popcorn Friday! At 9 a.m. is chair yoga. July 26 is the deadline for the Color Our World Photo Contest, so get those entries in!

Anne and Murray Small will be at the library again on July 29 to share their Appalachian Trail story. Hear about their experience at 6 p.m.

Plum Ski-ers

The Plum Ski-ers perform every Wednesday and Saturday at 7 p.m. through July 30. Beginning in August, the shows will start at 6:30 p.m. The Developing Stars Show begins one hour before the main show. Join the show at 3230 State House Point

Road in Sayner.

Sayner Community Church holds an open house



Emily Koester
PLUM LAKE

If you have ever wondered what the inside of the Sayner Community Church looks like, you have an opportunity to take a look on Saturday, Aug. 2 from 9 a.m. to noon. The historic church building was constructed in 1916-1917 and is in dire need of structural repair as well as an addition to include a restroom.

Fundraising efforts continue as a goal of \$180k is needed to complete three phases of work to the building and grounds. Stop by and see the interior of the building and renovation designs, along with an early 1900s walnut Chicago Cable Company pump organ.

The church is located at 2995 Plum

Lake Drive in Sayner. Sunday services begin at 10 a.m.

If you have questions, please email: saynercommunitychurch@gmail.com. For further information about the church, visit: saynercommunitychurch.org.

Leapin' Ladders Makers Market

Leapin' Ladders Makers Market in downtown Sayner is entering the fourth year of handmade crafts and food. This unique craft show is held every Wednesday through August 6. The weekly craft show runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Vendors offer fabric art, wood-crafts, baskets, cards, photography, jewelry, nature crafts, jams and jellies and so much more. The craft event is held in the meadow behind "Cre'ate."

The Plum Lake Library holds a weekly book sale during the craft event. Books, puzzles and audio titles are available for all ages. The li-

brary is located across the street from the Makers market. Wednesday in Sayner offers something for everyone.

Sayner-Star Lake Chamber of Commerce

Vendor registration is open to all artisans, crafters, food vendors and businesses for the Sayner Street Fair on Aug. 3. Visit www.sayner-starlake.org/events/street-fair-2025 for more information.

Fire Dept. Spaghetti Dinner on Aug. 11

The 36th annual Plum Lake Fire Department Spaghetti Dinner will be on Aug. 11 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Sayner Community Center. Besides the delicious homemade spaghetti dinner with all the trimmings, there will be raffle prizes to win and support the department! For more information, call 715-891-0579 or email plumlake51ja@outlook.com.

TOWN NEWS

www.lakelandtimes.com

BOULDER JUNCTION

Jeanne Milewski jmbjnews@gmail.com 715-385-0366

Outdoor worship

The Community Church of Boulder Junction invites you to the outdoor worship service on Sunday, July 27 at 9:30 a.m., 10445 Main Street. Bring a lawn chair and invite a friend. For more information, call the church at 715-385-2146 or visit the website: commchbj.org.

Summer Book Walk

The library has chosen "A Park Connects Us" by Sarah Nelson as this year's summer book walk title. This picture book excursion through a city park invites readers to discover how shared green spaces bring us together. Without a screen in sight, it gently hints at the adventures to be had offline and encourages readers to venture into nature.

The "Book Walk" combines the love of reading with a family-friendly outdoor activity. The book walk begins in the library's reading garden, then continues to the skate park and on to the playground and around the ballfield walking trail. Each page directs

you to the next stop on the book walk.

At the library

The Books n' Brews Book Club will meet on Wednesday, Aug. 5 at 7 p.m. The selection is "Tom Lake" by Ann Patchett. Please RSVP to the library for the correct location.

Mah Jongg is played on Mondays from 1 to 4 p.m. at the library.

The summer reading program "Color My World" meets on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the library.

The Chat 'n Craft Club meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon in the Nordlof Conference Room at the community center.

The library is offering bi-monthly HeArt Centered Meditation Sessions with Lia Montgomery on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the community center.

For more information on the library's services, programs and events, call 715-385-2050 or visit the website: boulderjunctionlibrary.org.



Jeanne Milewski
BOULDER JUNCTION

Summer art tour

The Northwoods Summer Art Tour takes place this weekend, July 25, 26 and 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. This is a self-guided tour of artist-owned galleries and studios. Artist demonstrations and art available for purchase at each stop. Brochures are available at area chamber offices or northwoodsart-tour.com.

68th annual Musky Jamboree

Mark your calendars for the "68th annual Musky Jamboree" weekend on Aug. 8, 9 and 10 in Boulder Junction. Street dance, "Learn to Fish Musky" by the DNR, History Day, Musky Fun Run, arts and crafts vendors, car show, kids' zone, live music, Musky Fly-In and so much more. Visit the chamber office or the website: boulderjct.org, for more information.

Corn roast

Mark your calendars for the Springstead Volunteer Fire Department's annual "Corn Roast" on Saturday, Aug. 9 from noon to 6 p.m., rain or shine. Live music, free kids' bike giveaway, hourly raffles and 50/50 raffles and more. The resale

shop will also be open. Located at the Sherman Town Hall, Hwy. 182, Springstead.

Food pantry

The Community Food Pantry will be open on Thursday, July 31 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. behind the Community Church on Hwy. K. The Clothes Closet is also open for your clothing needs. For more information, call 715-385-2146.

Community calendar

Tuesdays: Boulder Junction Lions Flea and Craft Market on the grounds of the community center, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Library's used book sale, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wednesdays: Block party on Main Street. Guide on the Side, 4 p.m., next to Northern Highland Sports. "Motors on Main" cruise-in, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., meet on Hwy. M across from the Veterans Triangle. Music on Main Street at Peeples Park from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact the chamber at 715-385-2400 or boulderjct.org.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: Weekly fitness program at the community center from 9 to 10 a.m. For more information, call Mary Grafenstein at 920-547-8161.

LAKE TOMAHAWK

Deb Zimmerman debzimmerman1@yahoo.com

Lake Tomahawk Sloan Community Center

The Sloan Community Center will be closed during Snowshoe Baseball games.

Lake Tomahawk Snowshoe Baseball 2025

The games are held every Monday at 7:30 p.m. Concession stand will serve burgers, cheeseburgers, brats, hot dogs and slices of pie throughout the summer at 5 p.m.

The concession stand is a wonderful opportunity for local non-profits to fundraise for their clubs.

The Lions Club will host the concession stand at the Lake Tomahawk Snowshoe Baseball Game on Monday, July 28. If you are interested in donating a baked pie, please deliver pies to the concession stand by 3 p.m. The Lions Club is looking forward to serving you burgers, brats, and hot dogs and of course a slice or two of homemade pie!

Lake Tomahawk summer children events

Join us on our Summer Children Events 2025 on Saturday on July 26, at Snowshoe Park from 10 a.m. to

noon. This event is called "The Amazing World of Bees." Come and find the wonderful world of bees. Paul Mueller from Rhinelander Honey Company will bring an observation hive and discuss bee keeping and honey. We need to save the bees!

Children must be accompanied by an adult. There is no cost to attend but we ask that you register your child in advance. Snacks will be served. To register, please contact Darlene Neumann at 715-277-3514.

Vets & Guides Annual Fishing & Touring

Vets & Guides Inc. will hold their annual fishing and touring event for area veterans n Wednesday, Aug. 13 with a rain date Thursday, Aug. 14. The event will consist of a half day of fishing or touring on the Lake Tomahawk chain of lakes provided by local volunteers. Check in will be at 7 a.m. with the sendoff at 7:30 a.m. All will return back to shore around 12:30 p.m. for a shore lunch, either a fish fry or brats and all the fixings provided by Vets & Guides at the Snowshoe Park pavilion.

Any interested veterans along

with their spouses/helpers should contact Patsy Niemi at 715-892-7628 or Gary Drossart at 715-370-4652 by Wednesday, Aug. 6 to guarantee a spot.

Lake Tom Sno Fleas - Trailriders

Our new website is up and running "laketomsnofleastrailriders.org." You can go to this site and join or renew your club membership online or print and mail an application. To those that have paid dues to the ATV/UTV club for this season do not have to reapply or pay again. We are looking for members to be part of the following committees: fundraising, maps, groomer barn/grounds, maintenance, trail work, apparel sales, vintage show, membership, dinner meetings and more. If you are interested, please email Sandra Tiffany at snofleassecretary@gmail.com.

Lake Tomahawk's Autumn on Main Street

The Lake Tomahawk's Autumn on Main Street Event is accepting vendor applicants to sell food, crafts, direct sales, homemade goods, concessions, antiques, rum-

mage, etc. There is no charge to be a vendor. The event will take place on Sept. 20. Vendors will be placed in Lake Tomahawk along Hwy. 47, in front of, and next to businesses, as well as surrounding the Raymond F. Sloan Community Center creating a path to the park for concessions and more vendors. Email autumnonmainstreet@gmail.com or find us on Facebook.

Musky Area Wood Carvers

Interested in learning to wood carve or have friends who may be interested? This is a great time as the seasons change with more time available. You might be interested in learning a new skill, meeting new friends and having fun.

Come check us out. Join this friendly group of wood friendly wood carvers and burners that meet every Thursday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Sloan Community Center.

Lake Tomahawk Visitor Center

The Lake Tomahawk Visitor Center is open seven days a week, Monday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The visitor center is located at 7226 Bradley Street.

LAC DU FLAMBEAU

Frank Gauthier frankldfnews@gmail.com

Hello Lac du Flambeau and readers elsewhere! Today is National Hot Fudge Sundae Day, the one day when drowning your ice cream in molten fudge is not only accepted but practically a civic duty. As for calories? Those are just fiction today. Then on Thursday, we pivot from sweet to salty with National Spam Day, honoring that iconic, shelf-stable mystery meat that somehow survived wars, pantries, and public opinion with its gelatinous charm fully intact.

Indigenous craft sale opens Saturday

Looking for a last-minute plan that will plunge you into living Native tradition? Tomorrow, the Lake of the

Torches Convention Center bursts to life with the Native American Arts & Craft Show and Sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dozens of master artisans will showcase beadwork, carvings, drums, baskets, and jewelry, each piece carrying stories that span generations. Admission is free and the doors are open to everyone, so you can explore, learn, and shop without spending a cent at the gate. Come early, bring a friend, and let the creativity of Indigenous makers ignite fresh inspiration for your home or gift list. Need details or directions? Email organizer Roberta Gast at rgast1553@gmail.com, then arrive tomorrow ready to celebrate culture and craftsmanship.



Frank Gauthier
LAC DU FLAMBEAU

Indian Bowl beats echo across the lake

Ready to trade an ordinary Tuesday for a sunset lit by swirling ribbons, pounding drums, and ancestral song? Then make your way to Lac du Flambeau's lakeside Waaswaaganing Indian Bowl, marking 75 years of powwow magic with a jubilant 2025 season. Every Tuesday through Aug. 12. Gates open at 5 p.m., the preshow ignites at 6 p.m., and the grand entry surges in at 6:30 p.m. Thunderous drum groups, soaring vocals, and dancers spanning toddlers to elders promise a feast for the senses, but the tiny tots' fearless footwork may just steal the night. Skip it, and you'll miss the summer's most electric celebration of Ojibwe heritage pulsing right in our backyard.

Hidden histories book chat

Are you ready to see how one buried secret can overturn the history you thought you knew? Find out on Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 2 p.m. when the Lac du Flambeau Public Library's book group digs into its August pick, "Still True" by Maggie Ginsberg. This Northwoods novel braids a quiet love triangle with Ojibwe land rights, revealing the clash between public record and lived experience. Readers, browsers, and curious listeners alike are invited to pull up a chair. Expect a friendly, no-pressure circle where candid insights turn pages into shared revelations. If distance is an issue, simply call Macy at 715-588-7464 for a Zoom link and join the discussion from wherever you are.

TOWN NEWS

www.lakelandtimes.com

MERCER

Louise Minisan minisan@centurytel.net

Northwoods Wildlife & Wetlands Club (NWWC)

Open trap shoot, Wednesdays at 5 p.m. Members \$4, non-members \$6 per round. Shells available for purchase. Traditional bow, 14 stations, 3D target tour. Tuesdays and Saturdays 9 a.m. no fee. The NWWC range is open to the public for free, hosting pistol, rifle, and trap ranges. Donations are appreciated.

Loon Day Fun Day Trap Shoot at NWWC, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Aug. 6. Potluck for all. If you come bring some-

thing. Brats and dogs on the grill.

6th Annual Mercer Unchained Anniversary

Saturday, July 26, beer games 1 p.m., beer releases 2 p.m., live music Chris Skinner, 2 to 5 p.m., and live music In the Groove from 6 to 10 p.m., all at Liberty Tap in Mercer.



Louise Minisan
MERCER

Ambulance steak feed

Mercer Fire and EMS is bringing back the steak feed. Dinner plate includes steak, sides, non-alcoholic beverage and dessert.

There will be music and raffles. Aug. 23, 4 to 8 p.m. at the Mercer Community Center. Community strong: motto of "We Stand Together, We Support Together."

Loonie Tunes in the Park

Aug. 9 at 5 p.m., at Carow Park. Come join the fun with music featuring Liz Mathias with Skinner and Kov. Food, beer, raffles with all proceeds going towards a new playground. Brought to you by Mercer Parks and Recreation.

Mercer Loons 38th Annual Mercer Loon Poker Run and Party

Saturday, Aug. 16 at 10

a.m. at Cleveland's Clubhouse on Beaver Lodge Road. Starting at Yukon 51 sign up at 10 a.m. and leaving at 11 a.m. Ending at Cleveland's Clubhouse at Beaver Lodge Road, Mercer.

Mercer Lion Bingo

Every Wednesday, doors open at 6 p.m., bingo at 7 p.m., at Mercer Community Building. Refreshments available. Bring family and friends.

Mercer Duck Race

Aug. 8, Rivers Edge, South of Mercer on Hwy. 51, ducks running in Manitowish River. Sponsored by Mercer Lions. Fun,

food, drinks, music, bounce house, door prizes. This is the 14th annual. You'll have a ton of fun.

Stuff the bus

Aug. 2, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Mercer Dollar General. Supply lists will be available. Also accepting monetary donations. The helps the Mercer School students to start the year supplied with what they need. Please be generous.

Mercer Food Pantry

Food pantry open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesday 3:30 to 6 p.m. Senior boxes still available.

PRESQUE ISLE

LJ Schmalzer lenoradamron@gmail.com 715-686-2073

Presque Isle Volunteer Fire Department

The fire department will hold their annual Fireman's Picnic on Saturday Aug. 2. Parade starts at 5:15 p.m. 8310 School Loop Road. Music, food and refreshments. Theme: Northern Lights, with raffle prizes, silent auction and kids corner.

Tunes on the Water

Come out to Pipke Park, Fridays 5 to 8 p.m. Enjoy great food and even better live music. In case of inclement weather, Tunes will be at Presque Isle Community Center. The line up is as follows: July 25-Comstock Load; Aug. 1-Tom Kaitlin; Aug.

8-Traveling Wheel Bearings & Johnny B; Aug. 15-Flashback. Always a great time, we'll see you there!

Rummage sale

The Presque Isle Lions Club is taking donations every Saturday until Aug. 2. Now is the time to clean out those sheds, garages and basements. Donations can be dropped off on Hwy. W. First drive west of Presque Isle Transfer Station. You will see the shed on the south side of the road.

Loggers' breakfast

All you can eat pancakes, sausage,

eggs, juice, coffee and milk. Mimosas will also be available for purchase. Saturdays — July 26 and Sunday, Aug. 31. Adults \$15, kids \$10 and kids 5 and under eat for free. Located at the Presque Isle Community Center, 8306 school Loop Road.

Kids fishing

Bring the kids out to Lynx Lake Resort for a fun morning fishing on Aug. 6. Bait will be provided as well as fishing mentors. Lunch and prizes too! 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

American Legion Post 480

The post is open to the public Thurs-

day through Saturday 4 p.m. to close.

Wilderness Veterans Memorial

The Wilderness Veterans Memorial is pleased to announce that it has been selected as one of six in Wisconsin to be part of the nationwide Tour of Motorcycle Ride. We welcome our visitors this summer from April to October. If you see the riders, give them a welcome wave or a handshake.

Farmers Market

Fridays 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Main Street, in Presque Isle. Featuring farm fresh produce, baked goods, honey, cheese and smoked fish. Also hand crafted items from the Northwoods!

BBB Tip: recovering from a scam

Scammers are generally after one of two things; they either try to steal your money now, or they try to steal your identity now to steal money from you later (or to pretend to be you to steal from others).

For many scam victims, the loss of personally identifiable information (PII) is even worse than losing money, because it's hard to recover.

If you are the victim of a scam, here are some steps you can take to try to protect your PII and your accounts, as well as mitigate the long-term impacts of the scam.

- Put a fraud alert on your credit reports and consider freezing your credit. This will prevent thieves from opening additional lines of credit in your name and causing additional financial distress.

- Request a free credit report to make sure that existing lines of credit haven't been compromised.

- Follow the guidelines on IdentityTheft.gov for additional recovery strategies. This free resource provided by the Federal Trade Commission will assist in helping you take the steps necessary in notify the appropriate agencies. In Canada, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police has advice for protecting yourself from identity fraud and how to report it.

- Monitor your online accounts (banking, credit card, app payment services, etc.) at least weekly to make sure you recognize all the charges.

- Change your password regularly and don't use the same pass-

word for multiple sites.

After you've taken care of yourself, please report the scam to Better Business Bureau (BBB) Scam Tracker (BBB.org/ScamTracker) to help warn others and to provide additional information that may be useful to law enforcement.

If a company you do business with has suffered a data breach, don't panic. Check the company's website or look for an email with instructions on what you should do to follow up. Many companies offer free credit monitoring after a data breach, or have other concrete measures. With so many major data breaches in the past decade, consumers should assume their data has been compromised in some way and take the same precautions as those who know they've been scammed.

Here are some other ways to recover from a scam:

- If you've lost money to a retailer because of undelivered merchandise or are being told you must pay more in order to receive an item, there are several options:

- If you used a credit card, contact the credit card company using the number on the back of your card and dispute the charges.

- If you used a debit card, contact the banking institution immediately to report the loss (use the number on the back of your card).

- If you used a third-party app (PayPal, Venmo, etc.), contact them for instruction on next steps.

- If you don't get satisfaction through these means, file a complaint at BBB.org and we will try to help you.

- If you were responding to an ad on social media (Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, etc.), report the ad or business and tell the social media channel exactly what happened.

If you get a phone call about an opportunity that sounds too good to be true (investments, medical devices, tech support, lottery winnings), or that claim to be debt collectors, just hang up. Don't "press 1 to be taken off our list," as that just confirms to the robocaller that they've reached a real person.

Some phone calls claim to be about a family member in jeopardy, usually traveling in a foreign country, and those can be particularly frightening. If you aren't sure, ask the person on the phone how you can get in touch with them, or ask them to call you back in 15 minutes. Then reach out to the person who is supposedly in jeopardy, or another close family member, and ask if they are traveling. Read more at BBB.org/EmergencyScam.

Phishing email and Social Media: These are the two top methods favored by cyber crooks. They like to hide on the internet and fool people into thinking they have a problem. They may say your bank account has been compromised and that you need to confirm a password via email. They may say your utility bill is

overdue or that your account has been hacked. Sometimes they're successful in messaging victims on Facebook that there is an emergency or there's free money that you must claim — right now.

Here are the steps to take to identify online scammers:

- If you are still 'chatting' with the scammer online, please cease the conversation. The more the conversation continues, the more they will try to persuade you to give up information or press for payment of some kind.

- Delete emails that are unfamiliar to you. Banking institutions will never request personal information about your account via email. Online services, phone services and the like are commonly 'spoofed', and scammers impersonate these companies to get personal data.

- Contact businesses directly if you're unsure. Use direct phone numbers you have on file for your banks, online services, and the like to confirm the information that's being requested via email.

- Report the emails. Report phishing emails to ic3.gov and then mark them as spam.

For more information

For more information or further inquiries, contact the Wisconsin BBB at www.bbb.org/wisconsin, 414-847-6000 or 1-800-273-1002. Consumers also can find more information about how to protect themselves from scams by following the Wisconsin BBB on Facebook, X, Instagram and YouTube.

YEAR IN REVIEW

July

Lac du Flambeau town board seeks legal advice on 'conflict of interest' amid heated dispute

July 2

The Lac du Flambeau town board decided at a June 26 special meeting to consult with the attorneys at the Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA) regarding a clarification of the term "conflict of interest" on the part of an elected official as it relates to town business.

The decision was prompted by some back-and-forth between town supervisor Bob Hanson and town resident Dennis Pearson that got contentious.

Pearson also has property on East Ross Allen Lake Road, one of four roads the town has been in a dispute over with the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians since January, 2023, because of expired easements over tribal land on the roads.

He had brought up the issue in comments made during a May 31 town board meeting which Hanson didn't attend.

"Some of them (comments) were toward supervisor Hanson," town chairman Matt Gaulke said. "He has the ability now to reply."

"I'm hung up with people misrepresenting that they are answering for the board," Pearson said, a reference to comments he'd made during a June 12 town board meeting. "I believe board members need to answer for themselves. I'm also hung up because we're not using (town) email addresses but personal or private emails to conduct town business. I do believe that would make those emails subject to open records requests."

He said he intended to file an open records request of Hanson's emails.

"So we can understand what's transpired," Pearson said. "For the town, we can start with a clean slate."

Pearson then said he didn't believe family members "should be responding to any emails related to town business."

"That's for you guys to decide," he said. "You have a fiduciary responsibility to the town and each other to make sure that stuff's being released in a proper manner and comments made. Anybody can come to this meeting and get on the agenda and



DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES

BEAR RIVER POWWOW

United in celebration, Native American tribal members from across the nation gather at the historic Bear River Powwow grounds on Sunday, July 14, 2024 along the scenic banks of the Bear River in Lac du Flambeau.

make any public comment they want. That's what this is for. Not to be transpired through email."

Pearson's comments were with regard to Hanson's wife, Dedie.

Hanson, a retired attorney, at the June 12 meeting defended what his wife does for him.

"Because for the last 30 years, my wife has been my gatekeeper, my paralegal, my practice manager, my supervisor," he said.

"We didn't elect her," Pearson told Hanson at the June 12 meeting.

St. Germain board approves disc golf course — with conditions'

July 5

After mulling the idea for several weeks, the St. Germain town board voted during its meeting on Thursday, June 27 to allow the use of a parcel of town-owned property for the development of a disc golf course — as long as certain conditions are met.

When the town board first heard the proposal to use the property for disc golf, town chairman Tom Christensen said the land in question might possibly be put up for sale, so the board held a special meeting on Mon-

day, June 17 to clarify the issue.

The land he referred to sits on the north side of Wisconsin State Highway 70, just west of the town's municipally-owned golf course.

"Not to throw any water on the fire here," Christensen said. "But also something that came out of our last meeting, I've had several calls saying 'Why don't you sell the property around the golf course that you don't use?' This would be one of the lots that would probably sell quicker than some of the others, but maybe not."

Christensen was referring to a May 21 board meeting when supervisors struggled — as they have for months — to come up with a plan for financing a complete replacement of 74 town roads, which is expected to cost anywhere between six and \$10 million.

During that discussion, town supervisor Patric Niggemeier asked about the possibility of selling town assets — specifically including equipment, land-holdings, or even the golf course — to help pay for the roads.

During the meeting on June 17, Christensen described the parcel to the west of the golf course.

"It would have to be surveyed," he said. "It's approximately 33 acres, and after you've had it surveyed, there's probably 15 to 20 acres that are available at the highway."

"The snowmobile trail runs through it," he said. "That would probably have to be re-directed. You would have to get it ... The northeast corner would have to be saved for the golf course, because the fairway is on that corner. But you have the front part of it that could be basically where the

piece of property would be cut in half, if we wanted to try to sell that."

"For what little money you're going to get to sell that," town supervisor Kalisa Mortag said. "That parcel is probably worth more to the town to keep than to sell it."

Presque Isle town board continues debate over town lakes committee

July 9

The Presque Isle town board at its July 2 meeting continued to debate what to do, if anything, with the Presque Isle town lakes committee (PITLC).

Town chairman John MacLean at the beginning of May issued an announcement ceasing operation of all committees which aren't statutorily required until new members are appointed by him and approved by the other two board members. He's said committee members shouldn't serve in perpetuity and there's no such thing as "lifetime appointments."

A majority of the town's committees had members appointed or reappointed at a June 5 town board meeting, and even though a more difficult discussion occurred with the ordinance committee appointments, the board still was able to work through it.

PITLC, however, was a different story, as only two members — Otto and Linda Novak — MacLean proposed on June 5 were approved by the board. PITLC is a committee which typically consisted of representatives from each of the town's lake

See YIR. . . page 31



TREVOR GREENE/LAKELAND TIMES

A PONTOON'S EARLY LAUNCH

There were no injuries as the result of a pontoon boat that ended upside down in the center turn lane of U.S. Highway 51 on Friday, July 5, 2024. According to the state accident report filed by the Minocqua police department, a 2015 Silverado 2500 pickup truck driven by Kirk Korpela, 44, East Troy, was southbound and pulling a pontoon boat on its trailer. The report states Korpela, headed home, noticed the Trig's convenience store on the west of Hwy. 51 had diesel and he decided to fill the Silverado's fuel tank and he turned onto Fieldstone Drive, just south of the convenience store. As he did, the sudden turn made the trailer tip, the strap holding the pontoon boat on the trailer broke and the boat ended up upside down on the pavement. Members of the Minocqua fire department were called in to clean up spilled fuel and provide traffic control until the pontoon boat could be removed.



TREVOR GREENE/LAKELAND TIMES

WAKE BOAT DEMO

Minocqua Police Department boat patrol officer Terry Pockat, left, and Bill Stengl, Gage Marine manager, watch Braeden Walker during a wake surfing demonstration on Thursday, June 27, 2024 on Lake Minocqua.

YIR

From page 30

associations — making it a substantially large group of people.

Before the board started to discuss PITLC's status going forward, MacLean said the committee's bank account, owned by the town, was closed and town supervisor Cathy Logan Weber made a motion to designate the remaining funds to PITLC.

"They can't have it under the town EIN (employer identification number), that was the problem," Weber said.

The motion passed unanimously, and MacLean was going to move on to the next agenda item, until Weber said she wanted to discuss PITLC more.

"I'd like to talk about the fact that we have a town lakes committee and I think they've been very successful in helping our town," she said. "And from what I can see, that is a committee we have. (It) was appointed, going through the minutes, looking back, it was started by the town board (with



DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES

GLOWING GLORY

Independence Day fireworks add to the after glow in the sky above Minocqua on Thursday, July 4, 2024.

a) motion back in 2005. So as far as I'm concerned, it's still a committee as

it is." Weber said at previous meetings if a committee is created by the board it can only be dissolved by the board, insinuating it cannot be dissolved by any single person.

MacLean agreed PITLC was created by the board, but indicated members on the committee seem to view their terms as ever-lasting and members are chosen by each lake association when that's "not true." If PITLC is a town committee, the chairman appoints members and the board approves just like every other committee, was MacLean's logic.

Forty years of advanced healthcare in the Northwoods —The Howard Young Foundation celebrates its 40th anniversary

July 12
The Howard Young Foundation (HYF) is celebrating 40 years of serving the Northwoods community. HYF is an independent 501(c)(3) dedicated to supporting two area hospitals, Aspirus Eagle River Hospital and Howard Young Medical Center (HYMC).

Erin Biertzer joined as a volunteer board member in 2013 and has served as the foundation's president since 2017. She is passionate about HYF's efforts to provide effective healthcare to the rural community.

The mission of the foundation,

Biertzer said, is to advance the health and wellness of the community served by the two hospitals.

Background

In 1972, Lakeland area native Howard Young passed away and left the Northwoods area \$20 million to create a health care center that would operate with the best facilities and attract the most talented health care professionals.

Young's love of the Northwoods and its people inspired many, including HYF board chairman Trig Solberg, owner of Trig's grocery store in Minocqua.

"I got behind healthcare when I saw such a wonderful philanthropist, Howard Young, donate to build our hospital and help healthcare in northern Wisconsin," Solberg said.

The Howard Young Foundation was created in 1984 in an effort to extend the generosity of Howard Young in the Northwoods.

"Our community started saying, 'What are we going to do about the future of these hospitals? Who will be the next Howard Young?' so the Howard Young Foundation was formed," Biertzer said.

Over time the foundation has been forced to shift with the changing climate of health care, but overall, has stuck to its original mission.

See YIR. . . page 36



DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES

DRAGONFLY FLYBY

A dragonfly passes over a nesting common loon on Thursday, June 27, 2024 in Lac du Flambeau.

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The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution prepares to celebrate country's 250th birthday

The country is preparing to celebrate its 250th birthday in 2026. The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) are making plans. The organization was established in 1890 when the Sons of the American Revolution decided to remain a men-only organization.

Eighteen women attended the first meeting and established three objectives that the organization adheres to today: Historical, Educational, and Patriotic. The society is a lineage, service organization that contributes millions of hours of volunteer hours each year.

Nokomis Chapter is the local chapter of the Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution (WSDAR) that encompasses most of the Northwoods including Forest, Iron, Oneida, Phillips, Price, and Vilas counties. The chapter combined efforts with other WSDAR chapters to create the "Patriots of the American

Revolution: Legacies in Wisconsin" traveling display detailing how America Revolutionary War Patriots settled in Wisconsin. The four-panel display includes an interactive kiosk. It will be displayed at five local libraries this summer: July 25 at Plum Lake Library in Sayner; July 28 – Aug. 1 at the Land O' Lakes Library; Aug. 4-8 at Olson Memorial Library in Eagle River; Aug. 11-15 at the Rhinelander Library, and Aug. 18-28 at the Minocqua Library. Please feel free to visit the exhibition at one of the libraries.

Do you have a patriot in your family? Would you like to explore your heritage to see if you have a patriot in your family? If you are interested in joining the Nokomis Chapter of WSDAR, please contact Jennie at ojell11091212@gmail.com. Ladies from Wisconsin and UP Michigan are welcome.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Nokomis Chapter is the local chapter of the Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution and created with other chapters a traveling display called "Patriots of the American Revolution: Legacies in Wisconsin."

Events

From page 9

Info: visit discoverycenter.net.
MANITOWISH WATERS: SKIING SKEETERS WATER SKI SHOW- 7 p.m., Rest Park. Come down to Rest lake and enjoy a show filled with lots of water ski fun, full of exciting tricks and entertainment! Info: visit manitowishwaters.org.
MANITOWISH WATERS: MANITOWISH WATERS LAKE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING- 8:30 a.m. to noon, North Lakeland Discovery Center. Breakfast, a review of the year, and a short business meeting followed by presentations on Eurasian watermilfoil control, Save the

Chain, Fisheries, and Water Safety Patrol. Info: visit mwllakes.com.
ARBOR VITAE: ANNUAL TRAIN SWAP MEET- 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Arbor Vitae Town Hall. Info: call Skip Tosh, president of Northwoods Model Railroad Club at 715-356-6656.
LAKE TOMAHAWK: THE AMAZING WORLD OF BEES SUMMER CHILDRENS EVENT- 10 a.m. to noon, Snowshoe Park. Paul Mueller from Rhinelander Honey Company will bring an observation hive and discuss bee keeping, pollen, and honey. Free event, register ahead. Info: call 715-277-3514.
WOODRUFF: HOG & HOPS 'MICRO' BREWFEST- Noon to 9 p.m., Woodruff Fire Department. Formally the Woodruff Fire Department's annual pig roast

fundraiser, now getting a flavorful upgrade. There will be live music, raffles, activities for the kids and more. Ticket is \$35 and only 200 available for beer tasting. No ticket required for event itself, which will have domestic beer and soda all day, plus pork sandwiches. Info: woodruffhogandhops.com.
LAC DU FLAMBEAU: NATIVE AMERICAN ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW- 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Lake of the Torches Convention Center. A variety of handcrafted items for sale! Open to the public. Info: visit lacduflambeauchamner.com.
CONOVER: CHAIN SKIMMERS WATER SKI SHOW- 7 p.m., 5280 Hwy 45 N. Come down to Lake Pleasant and watch an exciting show full of many different water ski stunts! Info: visit conover.org.

THREE LAKES: AQUA DEVILS SKI SHOW- 6:30 p.m., Phyllis B. Felland Memorial Waterski Park. Enjoy an exciting waterski show with pyramids, ballet, jumps, and more! Wednesday and Saturday from June 21 to August 2. Info: visit aquadevils.org.
PRESQUE ISLE: LOGGERS BREAKFAST- 8 to 11 a.m., Presque Isle Community Center. All you can eat! Adults \$15, ages 5 to 12 \$10, children under 5 eat free. Info: visit presqueisle.com.
RHINELANDER: NORTHERN LIGHTS INDI-VISIBLE RALLY TO STOP SCIENCE DENIAL- Noon to 2 p.m., Pioneer Park. Hosted by Northern Lights Indivisible, attendees are encouraged to bring signs,

See Events... page 54

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Minocqua Public Library

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Wednesday, July 30
10:00-4:00

Please drop-off all donations on the Menominee Street side doors. Look for signs.

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BACK THRU THE TIMES

www.lakelandtimes.com

100 Years Ago

Anglers Lasso Big Black Bear

When Harry Keith of Crandon told us that fishermen on Stone Lake between Crandon and Laona were using bears to propel their crafts while angling in that lake he was not believed. On top of that he also informed us at the same time about how two deer were using the pools in that same lake for their daily baths during the extremely hot weather. Again he was not believed.

But, now the bear story is verified and an apology due Mr. Keith. The facts of the bear story are true, and shapes up something like this; a couple of young men were fishing on Stone Lake and spied an animal in the water swimming toward shore. They rowed close and discovered it was a black bear. Men and bear were of different opinions; the bear wanted to get to shore, while the men wanted to catch it. An anchor rope, with noose prepared, was thrown over the bears head and the fight was on. First trying to get in the boat, he was beaten off and then started for dry ground. He made a perfect imitation of a six-cylinder motor and kept up the speed until he was near shore when the noose was loosened from his neck.

The story is absolutely true, and witnesses claim that the young men took desperate chances in haltering the bear to the

boat. The deer story is not unusual at all. Deer frequent a lake during hot weather in order to drink and drown out the flies, and most any lake in this section which deer frequent show up most any evening or in the early morning.

Harry Keith is Vice President of Keith and Hiles Lumber Company at Crandon, and our apology goes to him for doubting the bear story. He is a mighty good scout and a booster for Northern Wisconsin. That's why we thought he was pulling a strong tale. He was, and was able to get away with it this time.

Pulmotor Bought for Public Use

The town of Minocqua satisfied a long felt want when it purchased the new pulmotor which is being kept for all emergencies in Dr. G.W. Huber's office.

The new pulmotor, which is known as a H-H Inhalator, is of the newest type made, being composed of a set of oxygen tanks and a mechanical device, which, when placed over the face, forces oxygen in and out of the lungs. It is being kept in Dr. Huber's office and is accessible to anyone at anytime of the day or night, so that it can always be obtained whenever the emergency may arise.

The instructions for its use, which are very simple, and are attached to the container of the pulmotor, should be carefully studied by everyone in this community who is in

charge of any place where there is a great deal of swimming, bathing and fishing, and all those who feel that they can be of assistance whenever an occasion for the use of the pulmotor may arise.

75 Years Ago

'Queen City' of North Will be Featured in New Film of Vacationland

Minocqua famous resort attractions will become "location" for the new motion picture, "This is Wisconsin," August 4, 5 and 6, when Joseph Mercedes, director of the Wisconsin Tourism Bureau, brings his camera crew to the Island City under the sponsorship of the Minocqua Lions Club.

Minocqua is being billed in the new motion picture as "Queen City of Wisconsin Famous Heart O' the Lakes." Special events are being planned in order to provide for the motion picture continuity, the broadcast possible cross-stretch of activities in one of Wisconsin's prime resort communities.

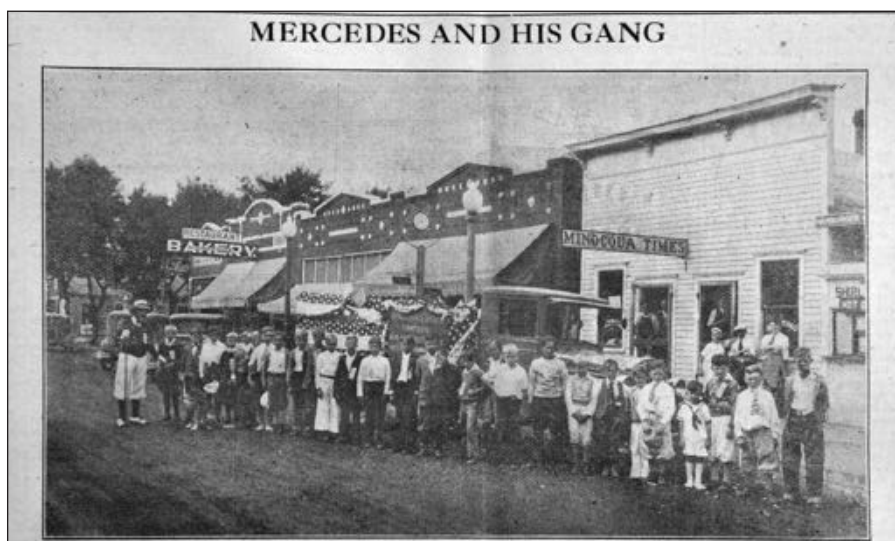
One of the stunts to be staged August 4 for camera shooting is a fish fry in which the Lions Club members and local visiting celebrities will take part. For the filming of this event, which will include pictures of fishermen with their catches, the Lions Club is inviting any fishermen interested in taking part.

Fishermen who wish to go after their catches Thursday, August 3, so that they may be part



FOREST HOME RESORT—SQUIRREL LAKE.

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JULY 27, 1905



Left to right: Mercedes, Delbert Ahlborn, Harold Titus, George Bassett, Billie Fisher, Harold Martin, Walter Ahlborn, Richard Mathews, Paul Loomis, Marvin Busch, Midge Kline, Danton Lake, John Schilling, Edward Titus, Billie Scherdt, Seth Noble, Jimmie Harding, Donald Luedtke, Gale Huber, Harold Lander, Howard DeNoyer, Raymond Oxley, Bob Mercedes, Mortie Mercedes, Russell Oxley, John Kline, Donald Busby (in background). (Photo by Wm. H. Roemke's Minocqua Photo Laboratories)

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JULY 26, 1929

of the film on August 4, are asked to register at Helterhoff's Variety Store in downtown Minocqua with Harold Helterhoff, Lions Club president.

In addition to the list of donors published last week, other contributors toward the \$500 needed for this film promotion includes: Security State Bank, Patrick E. Bolger and Curley's Tavern. To date \$325 has been raised. Anyone wishing to contribute may leave

checks or cash with Arthur Down, fund chairman.

The actual shooting of the film, designed to show outstanding attractions of the entire state, was begun. Last week when Mercedes' technical staff and cameramen moved into Baraboo and Devils Lake region to record the recreational facilities there.

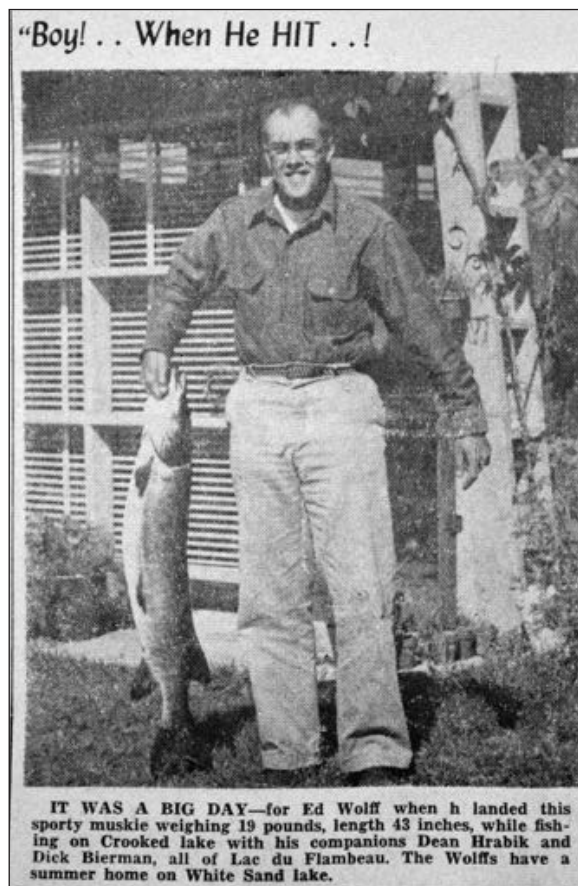
The plan was to follow a group of Chicagoans to their actual vacation spot in

Wisconsin. The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad cooperated by halting the famous "Dakota 400" so that one cameraman might at his leisure make the properly focused shots of the vacationers leaving the station, and moving over to the resort station wagon, which wished them away to their vacation spot.

In Minocqua, the merchants and vacationers themselves will "star" in the location shots. Certain scenes, Mercedes said, are to be shot at Torpy Park, others on the downtown streets, still others at one or another resorts and campsites. Mercedes explained that he is photographing the Minocqua area at the height of the tourist season so as to record for audiences who will see the film next winter "what goes on in a typical Wisconsin Resort Town."

Fish Are Biting

"Walleyes are crazy and bass are jumping in the boat," says Paul Hans of Sunset Resort in describing the good fishing being enjoyed on Bear Lake, Town of Hazelhurst. Mr. and Mrs. B. Springer and their son, and Mr. and Mrs. M. Schiebeinger and family, all from



IT WAS A BIG DAY—for Ed Wolf when he landed this sporty muskie weighing 19 pounds, length 43 inches, while fishing on Crooked lake with his companions Dean Hrabik and Dick Bierman, all of Lac du Flambeau. The Wolfs have a summer home on White Sand lake.

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JULY 26, 1956

PROPOSED PLAT OF MINWOOD
MINWOOD REALTY CO. INC. OWNERS

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LOTS ARE TO SELL AT AS LOW AS \$200.00

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JULY 23, 1937

BTTT

From page 33

Chicago, enjoyed a nice vacation at Sunset and went home with 45 pounds of walleyes, the largest of which weighed seven pounds. All of the fish were taken from Bear Lake.

50 Years Ago

Minocqua Hosts Airstream Group

Minocqua had the pleasure of playing host to the Badger State Caravan of the Airstream trailers this Saturday through Tuesday, July 19-22.

The Badger State Caravan consisting of 38 trailers and their occupants, was headquartered at the M-H-LT school grounds.

The group arrived at the school at about Saturday noon, and that evening they were welcomed by Vic Ouimette, president of the Minocqua Chamber of Commerce.

Sunday night the group attended the Min-Aqua-Bat water ski show on Minocqua Lake.

On Monday, the members were treated to a walk on the Raven Natural Trail and a tour of the DNR Fish Hatchery in Woodruff. That evening, they attended the snowshoe baseball game in Lake Tomahawk.

Tuesday was reserved for Rhinelander sights, including the paper mill, logging museum and Von Stiehl Winery. The group left this Wednesday morning July 23 for Hayward.

Bob Glanville of Boyceville, caravan leader, said that the group "had a terrific time" in the Minocqua area. "The hospitality was great and the weather was beautiful," he noted.

About 15 states were represented among the 38 trailers with the largest numbers com-

ing from California, Texas and Florida.

The group was among over 4,100 Airstream trailers from Canada, Mexico and the United States, which gathered in Brandon, Manitoba, June 28-July 4 for the 18th annual International Wally Byam Caravan Club rally.

Following the rally, the club members broke up into ten individual caravans. They had the choice among three "Friendly Manitoba" caravan tours and six "Going Home" caravans, including 1. Grand Tour of Manitoba; 2. The Buffalo Trail Riders; 3. "Goin' Golfing"; 4. Fishing in Northern Canada; 5. Canadian Rockies to Puget Sound; 6. Canadian Rockies to the Blue Pacific; 7. Badger State Caravan; 8. Canadian Sunrise Tour, and 9. The Voyageur Caravan east from Brandon.

The Badger State Caravan was treated to sites in Manitoba, Canada, and Minnesota before touring Wisconsin more extensively. In this state, they stopped at Duluth-Superior and Bayfield before stopping in Minocqua. Future stops on the schedule include Hayward, Menomonie and finally Baraboo, where the tour will end on Aug. 3.

Poetry Corner

A Certain Farmer Working all his life, With nothing to show for. No respect from people, Nothing to look forward to. Standing in the field, Sweat rolling down his back, Straining for a living, Yet dying in his tracks.

25 Years Ago

Eco-Terrorists Strike Forestry Lab

Up to \$1 million of destruction and trash-

Chamber President



Arthur M. Dorwin, Unanimously Elected President of Newly Organized Minocqua Chamber of Commerce

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JULY 21, 1939

ing of several research projects, including one involving at least 20 years of work by a single man, was carried out by the Earth Liberation Front (E.L.F.) late Wednesday night or during the early morning hours Thursday at the USDA Fires Service Genetics Lab outside Rhinelander.

According to Alan Barbian, spokesman for the center, six trucks were vandalized with spray paint and glass etching foam. However, that was the least of the problems. Approximately 500 research trees at the center were destroyed.

Eco-terrorists responsible

"What we are dealing with here is a very well organized eco-terrorists organization," Barbian said.

The center received a call from the group Thursday afternoon from a member of the group claiming respon-

sibility. The group's website also carried a story identifying the research center and claiming responsibility for the damage.

The center was closed Thursday as investigators from the FBI, the Department of Agriculture and the Oneida County Sheriffs Department conducted a thorough investigation. "Oneida County was the lead agency in the investigation, but the others were called in," Barbian said. The damages incurred could carry a Class A felony charge, but "these people are rarely caught," Barbian added.

This type of group carries out terrorist tactics. They will come into an area, scope it out and do their damage. This place isn't locked up. What we do here is basically growing trees. There are no



(Photo by Vic Hendrickson, Minocqua Photo Shop) Pictured here are Mr. and Mrs. Volodmyr Holubiw and their daughters, Wira, 7, Lida, 5, and Walja, 3, displaced Polish family, along with their sponsor, Frank Krahl, Boulder Junction mink farmer, as they arrived at the Woodruff station of The Milwaukee Road to make their future home at the Krahl mink farm. Holubiw was the 250,000th displaced person to enter America.

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JULY 26, 1951

fences and the public uses the grounds like a park. We're proud of the fact that we're an open facility and feel that if we put up fences, people would wonder what we do here. It's all open to the public."

Projects Targeted

The group knew exactly what they were doing. They struck specific projects and took out only the best trees in the project," Barbian said.

Tragically, one of the projects damaged involved trees that had been part of one researcher's 20 years of work.

"This is not bio-technology research, this is simple plant-breeding methods that we have going here," Barbian said. He described the research as "trees that are fast growing and disease resistant. What we are trying to do is grow trees that can be planted and will thrive in areas away from woods."

Why Rhinelander?

So, why did the group hit the Rhinelander research center? Barbian speculated that because of a major three-week conference on animal genetic research being conducted in Minneapolis, the high profile and controversial

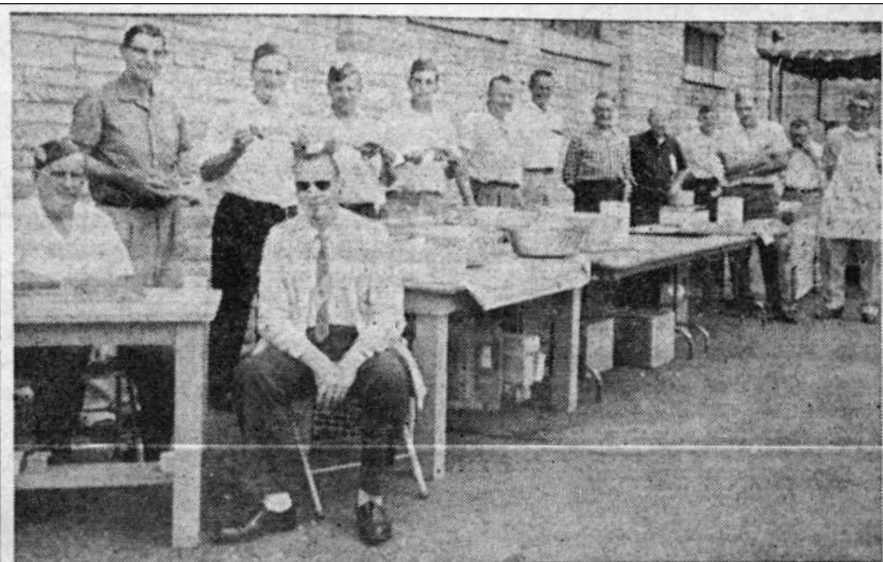
subject may have drawn fringe groups to the Midwest.

"We had increased security at the conference because many thought something would happen. We just didn't expect anything here," he said.

However, he said E.L.F. has been doing major damage across the U.S. "In April, they set fire to a St. Paul, Minn., lab, they have burned down ranger stations, set fire to vehicles, damaged facilities at Michigan State University and the University of Minnesota and damaged research facilities at Boise Cascade office in Oregon. This was not a random act. It was a well thought out and calculated attack."

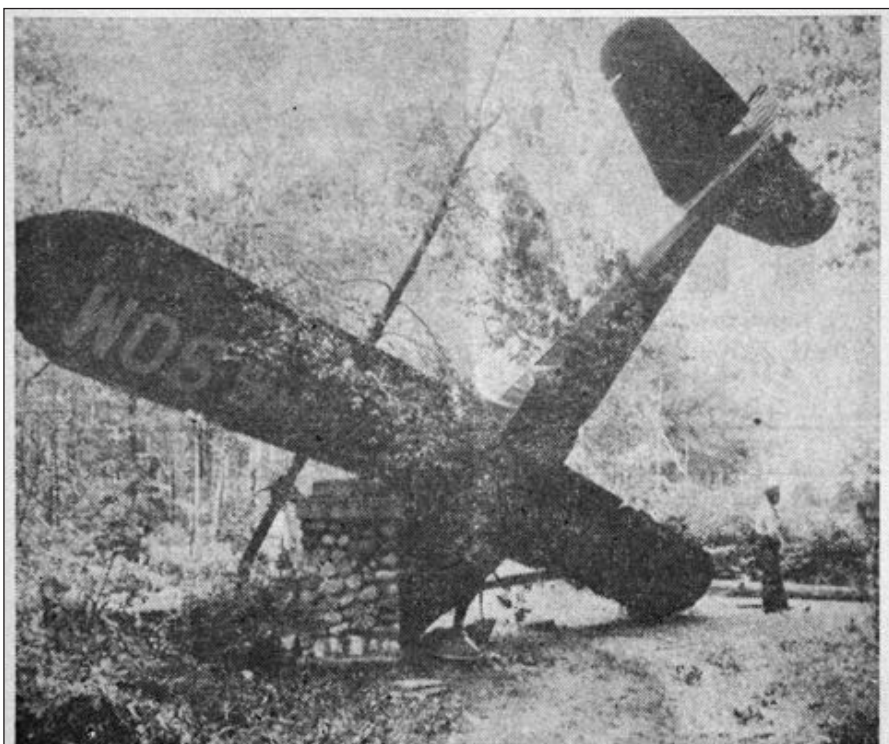
"Fire seems to be a major part of their plan. In fact, the group claimed they were interrupted while they were here by a security guard or they would have done more damage. However we have no security guards. It could have been one of our researcher working late that night," Brabian said.

"It's really sad. We have a researcher whose whole life's work was destroyed. He's dealing with it, but he's certainly not a happy camper today," he added.



TAKING TIME OUT FROM THEIR DUTIES is the hard-working crew of the Arbor Vitae-Woodruff Lions club which served over 200 people at the first charcoal Chickeree held last Sunday, July 22 on the lawn of the Arbor Vitae-Woodruff grade school. Chicken, with all the trimmings, was on the menu and proceeds of the dinner will be used for sight conservation.-Times Photo

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JULY 26, 1962



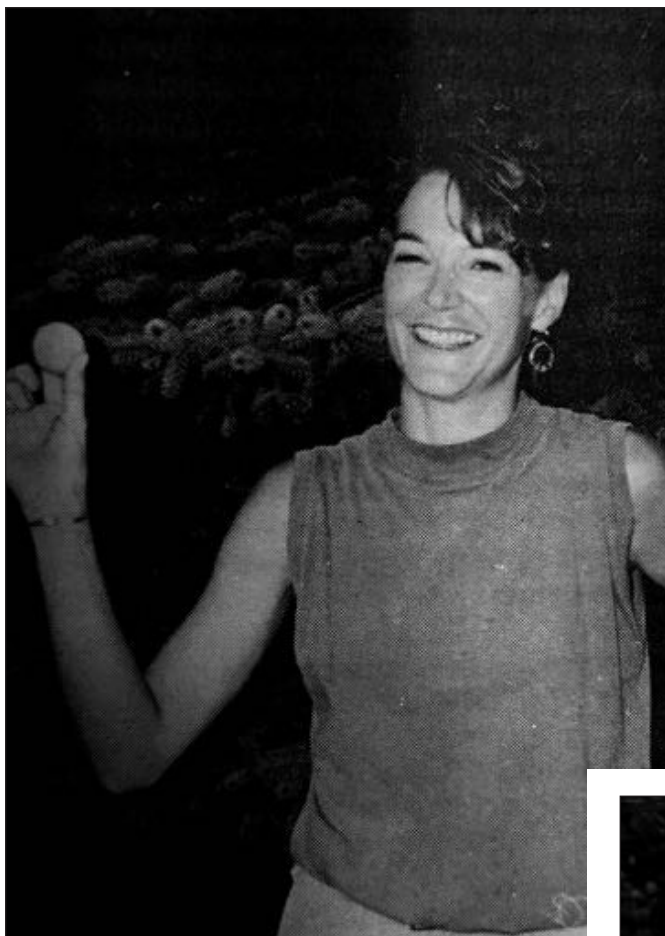
CRASHED PLANE—The Stinson Flying Station Wagon in which Elisha Morgan, 75, Vincennes, Ind., was fatally injured and two others were hurt when the plane crashed on Sylvan Shores road southwest of the Minocqua airport last Friday. James Bryant, 53, also of Vincennes, pilot of the plane, and his wife, 51, are recovering in Sacred Heart hospital, Tomahawk, from injuries suffered in the accident. Vic's Minocqua Photo

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED JULY 24, 1952

BACK THRU THE TIMES Sports 1995

www.lakelandtimes.com

ARCHIVE PHOTOS/LAKELAND TIMES



Above: Mary Hilliker of Minocqua had her first-ever hole in one during Sunday's Dr. Kate-Lakeland Hospice Pro-Am Tournament played at Timber Ridge Country Club. Hilliker scored the ace on the 110-yard 16th hole. She used a six iron.

Below: Nick Roush, 9, of Corvallis, Ore., takes great delight in beating his dad at tennis. The pair were playing a match at Torpy Park.



Above: Six golfers earned Timber Ridge County Club championship titles following mens and womens tournaments played Aug. 5-6 at the 18-hole course. Those earning titles include: (l-r) Steve Theiler, mens B flight; Orly Francisco, mens A flight; Dick Weiss, Championship flight; Rheba Mabie, womens Championship flight; Kathy Marston, womens A flight and Sandy Bolger, womens B flight.

Below: Before they teed off in the junior tournament at the St. Germain Golf Club, instructions were given by golf shop assistant Jeff Rosenburg. (From left), Tom Chilcote, Lac du Flambeau, Cory Maanum, Sayner; and Joe Hafermann, Lac du Flambeau.



Below: Members of the 1995 Lakeland Thunderbird volleyball team include: (front row, l-r) Terri deRoan, Shannon Guild, Nicole Olivera, Kara Schurman, and Kari Bauer. Back row: (l-r) Katie Zumach, Jenny Risch, Kelly Backhaus, Melanie Hoeffs, Nicole Pavlov and Cindy Teske.



Above: Arbor Vitae resident Peter St. Germaine was recently named to United States International Development Team, which helps him in his attempt to make the Olympics in 2002.

YIR

From page 31

The biggest obstacle, Biertzer said, “has been the incredible change in the healthcare landscape.”

She said there’s been a lot of consolidation and HYF has worked with four different leadership teams, “but what has stayed steadfast is the care that’s received at the hospital.”

Pickleballers serve up trouble in Hazelhurst — Court crackdown costs town

July 16

Hazelhurst town chairman Ted Cushing said there’s an issue between pickleball and tennis players in town currently.

“The pickleball folks have created some problems,” he said to *The Lakeland Times* after the town board’s July 9 meeting. “Last year, it was over how high the net should be versus tennis, and they stretched the nets and we had to replace them because they pulled them down to make them lower.”

Pickleballers this year, Cushing said, placed a sign at the Hazelhurst town park’s tennis courts designating a specific time only pickleball players can play and indicated on the sign only higher quality players are allowed to play.

The group of people doing these things remains unknown, and that’s because Cushing said no one has fessed up to it yet.

That wasn’t the only issue the pickleballers have caused this year though.

“And then they took it upon themselves to fill a crack ...,” Cushing said. “The court is green with white stripes, the crack is filled with this junk that we don’t even know what it is. And to take that crack, to fill that crack that is the smallest, to take that stuff out and have (Pitlik & Wick) to fill it properly, that’s going to cost the town \$1,800.”

There was another, larger crack the unidentified group of pickleballers attempted to fill, he said he’s guessing, would cost the town “close to maybe \$15,000.”

“Because two feet have to be taken out of the asphalt and then re-laid,” Cushing said.

The board, he said, will need to decide where to go from here.

“So we’re at the point where we’re going to have to come to a conclusion pretty soon if there’s going to be tennis (courts) or pickleball court and tennis court,” Cushing said. “We’re going to have (the one crack) fixed and then we’re going to make a decision (of) whether we’re going to have it striped just for tennis or have it striped for both.”

MHLT superintendent comments on retention Parent claims there’s a ‘toxic environment’

July 19

Minocqua Hazelhurst Lake Tomahawk (MHLT) School superintendent Dr. Jim Ellis, in his report to the board of education during a meeting on Monday, commented on an evolving issue regarding retention of the district’s employees.

Prior to Ellis commenting on the matter, the board decided to table a discussion with regard to making a decision for the district to hire a “leadership institute” called Initiative One to consult with and work to build back the district’s culture for \$80,000.

Ellis mentioned the topic of employee retention being brought up at the board’s meeting last month, and not only could Initiative One possibly help, but he added he thinks a group discussion among the district’s employees could be beneficial too.

“I think what I would like to do ... in the fall, is get a group of employees, not just teachers ... and talk about the culture here,” he said. “One of the things we did last year to retain the top employees is we put longevity incentives (in place).”



DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES

COOL CHICK

A recently-hatched Killdeer cools off in an ephemeral puddle on Saturday, July 6, 2024 in Lac du Flambeau.

Ellis said he’d like to see the group focus on “work atmosphere.”

“The other big part for me is just to stress that work-life balance too,” he said. “You know, we got 90 something employees here (and) we need each and every one of them to do their very best. I think it’s also important that ... we are competitive in the market.”

An annual review of employee compensation and benefit plans could be something to think about doing as well, Ellis said.

“As we post jobs now, we don’t get the applicants,” he said. “We just don’t get any applicants anymore. I think that was one of my things, with my own position, is to give you an opportunity to land somebody because we had a couple people who were hired last year, but backed out because they couldn’t find housing.”

Ellis submitted his letter of resignation to the board on June 13. His last day of work won’t be until Aug. 1, 2025. He gave the lengthy notice to provide the district enough time to not only find his replacement, but for whoever replaces him to have enough time to find housing.

“But I think we need to retain who we have, appreciate who we have and also be willing to attract (others, as) this is a destination to come work and live,” Ellis continued. “And so what I’ll probably do is, with (the board’s) permission, in the fall, is do a compensation plan with a number of (employees), not just teachers, taking a look at where can we improve at, what do we do well, what can we do better. And that probably will parallel with Initiative One and I think the more voices they get, the more collaboration they can hear. I think it’s a win-win for everybody.”



BRETT LABORE/LAKELAND TIMES

CONTESTED CATCH

Noah Bruckner, left, and Ethan Erickson go for the ball during a drill at a camp run by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at IncredibleBank Field in Minocqua.

With some consideration of the holiday and weekend, a copy of the rebuttal was provided to the officer on July 8, giving the officer to July 10, 2024, to reply. A reply was filed on July 10, 2024.”

The sufficiency review goes on to state on July 18, Cowling reviewed the petition and “other filings,” and, “after careful examination,” nine signatures were found to be invalid.

“It was determined that the petition consisted of 187 qualified signatures,” the sufficiency review states. “Only 139 signatures were required. After reviewing the challenge, the rebuttal and the reply, all being equally persuasive, the Clerk finds the petition to be sufficient.”

The Lakeland Times attempted to reach Sloane, but was unable to get comment from her prior to press time on Friday, July 19.

Minocqua town board formally ends possible land purchase — Town electors had authorized Plaza Drive property purchase at April annual meeting

July 26

The Minocqua town board, meeting in special session jointly with members of the ad hoc and housing committee Monday, voted to formally cease participation in a land purchase approved by town electors in April.

During the town of Minocqua’s annual meeting on April 18, electors authorized the purchase by the town of two parcels on Plaza Drive for \$352,000.

The purchase of the land, owned by True Blue North LLC, was contingent upon the town coming to an agreement with Holtz Builders of Lake Delton along with various easements and covenants worked out with the home office of Walmart.

If successful, the plan was for Holtz Builders, as its representatives, including Holtz Companies president Dan Bullock outlined at the April 18 annual meeting, to build and manage housing primarily for seasonal workers in the J1 visa program.

During that meeting, Bullock explained building and developing J1 housing such as the type planned for Plaza Drive in Minocqua was something the company has been doing in other parts of the country and he highlighted its Holtz housing facilities at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. and another that had recently become operational in Foley Ala.

In the months prior to the April annual meeting, members of the town board’s ad hoc committee on labor and housing, who had met with Holtz Builders representatives and toured J1 housing facilities the company constructed and manages in Lake Delton and Wisconsin Dells, worked with the town board to get the proposal in front of voters.

The land purchase by the town passed at the annual meeting, 53 yes to 30 no votes.

“There’s a number of conditions and restrictions on the property that we now have to work through,” town chairman Mark Hartzheim told *The Lakeland Times* after the April 18 annual meeting. “Get some cooperation from some adjacent owners and Walmart to make the development a possibility. We’ll have to hammer out a development agreement with Holtz that outlines all of our goals and expectations and holds them accountable to meet those.”

In June, however, came word there were difficulties between the town and Holtz Builders in getting the deal finalized.

Monday, after weeks of trying to keep the deal viable, the Minocqua town board formally pulled the plug on any deal with Holtz Builders regarding the Plaza Drive property.

Court dismisses Bangstad — Zoning committee revokes CUP; Bangstad heads to appeals court

July 26

It was a double whammy in Oneida

See YIR . . . page 37

YIR

From page 36

County circuit court last week for Minocqua Brewing Company (MBC) owner Kirk Bangstad, as circuit judge Michael Bloom thwarted Bangstad's efforts to have a major zoning complaint against him dismissed and to have the circuit court issue an injunction prohibiting the county from shutting down his business by revoking his conditional use permit (CUP).

It became a triple whammy the next day when the county's zoning committee did just that — revoke the CUP, that is — citing ongoing violations.

In the wake of those setbacks, Bangstad filed a motion for emergency temporary relief in the state's appeals court. That court has set deadlines for the production of the circuit court's written order to deny the injunction and a timeline for Bangstad to file his petition for leave to appeal, as well as the county's response, and it enjoined the county from enforcing the CUP revocation until further order by the court.

The county could respond to the motion for emergency temporary relief now or with its response to the motion for leave to appeal.

In April, the county filed a long-form complaint for forfeitures against the MBC and Bangstad, seeking fines for a long string of alleged zoning violations that by some estimates would top \$28,000.

The complaint had been in the works for months after the zoning committee voted unanimously to seek the fines in January. Zoning staff cited Bangstad on multiple occasions for violating his administrative review permit that did not allow for outside seating and service. Ulti-



DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES

LARGE GARAGE DESTROYED BY FIRE IN ARBOR VITAE

An aerial view of the Sunday July 21, 2024 fire in Arbor Vitae.

mately, the committee revoked the permit, but Bangstad continued to operate.

In court last week, Bloom rifled through the reasons he was not dismissing the zoning complaint.

For one, Bangstad and his attorney, Frederick Melms (no association with Melms, Hogan & Francois

law firm), argued that the county had failed to state a claim for which any relief could be granted — had failed to present facts sufficient to indicate a violation of law — but Bloom said that was obviously not the case, as the complaint itself set forth a factual basis for a claim — the existence of a CUP, alleged viola-

tions of the CUP, and a request for forfeitures.

Bloom pointed out that Bangstad had not really submitted a response or pleading to the county's complaint, only motions that amounted to affirmative defenses to the allegations, all of which Bloom said could be potentially successful at trial.

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DEAN HALL/LAKELAND TIMES

FEATHERED FANFARE

A trumpeter swan spreads its wings in a dramatic display while foraging at the Vista Flowage on Saturday, July 19, in Manitowish Waters.

11-year-old catches two muskies on back-to-back days, one a fish of a lifetime

48-incher was so big it broke the net

By Trevor Greene
 OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

The Keelers have been coming to the Northwoods for generations — the family having a shack in the Manitowish Waters area. When they were up recently, 11-year-old Otto Keeler landed a pair of muskies, a fish species many consider to be the ultimate catch in freshwater fishing and what's often referred to as the fish of 10,000 casts.

Cooper Keeler, his father, said his son caught both of the fish, one being about 38-inches big and the other a whopping 48-inches big, off their family's dock on back-to-back days.

Otto, Cooper said, caught the 38-inch musky right after they got up to the Northwoods. He said Otto maybe only threw five casts.

"And all of a sudden I heard him screaming ... from inside the house, 'I got a musky, I got a musky,'" he said. "We go out there and he had a musky!"

Cooper indicated he was able to help Otto net the fish and get it on shore for measurements and pictures before releasing it.

On many lakes, musky typically have to be at least 40 inches and only one can be kept. The prized fish are indeed trophies.

Therefore, Cooper said, he intended to get a replica made of his son's first musky in order to add it to the wall where "four generations of muskies" hang.

"So, we had planned on that and later on the next day, we had seen this musky kind of coming out of the water, this big musky, and it was



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Cooper Keeler, left, and his 11-year-old son Otto pose for a picture with a 38-inch musky Otto caught on a Northwoods lake recently.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Cooper Keeler, right, holds a 48-inch musky his son Otto, left, caught the day after landing a 38-incher on a Northwoods lake recently.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Perry Keeler, 8 years old, poses for a picture with a trophy smallmouth she caught on a Northwoods lake recently.

about right at last light, I guess they saw it right off our dock and Otto, he threw one lure at it and it turned around and smacked it." Cooper said. "You know, all chaos broke out. There was probably five to seven people out there on the dock when he caught it."

Cooper wasn't out there when Otto hooked into the fish of a lifetime, but he ran out there when he heard all the commotion.

He netted it for his son, he said, but "it just broke the net in half." The net was a musky net too, Cooper said.

"So I kind of had to wrestle it on the dock and ... we were able to keep it," he said. "I said, 'You know Otto, I think we don't have to do that reproduction any more.'"

Cooper has been fishing for musky all his life, but said he's never caught

one that big before.

Catching a musky, sometimes, comes when anglers least expect it.

Otto caught the 32-incher while fishing for bass with a spinner lure. Luckily, he had 20-pound braid line on.

Being from Indianapolis, Cooper said his family will come up throughout the summer and enjoy what's been his family's home away from home since 1974.

Compared to Indiana, fishing in the Northwoods is significantly better, he said. Cooper said in Indiana, bass are really the only big game fish anglers target.

"Where here, you have such a variety of fish you can go after," he said. "For instance, my eight-year-old daughter (just the other day), caught a 20-inch smallmouth."

Otto said he used a swimbait for the 48-incher.

He said he was in disbelief when everything came together.

The fish weighed 33-pounds, Otto said, and it was pretty hard to hold for a picture.

Cooper said within the last year, he's felt the fishing has been "unlike anything in all the years I've been up here."

"It may just be luck, but boy, it's been pretty nice," he said.

The memories made while fishing with the family up north are irreplaceable and Cooper acknowledged that. His children will remember those moments for the rest of their lives, he said.

Trevor Greene may be reached via email at trevorgreene@lakelandtimes.com.

Swirls, streaks signal toxic threat in Northwoods waters

Brett LaBore

OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

Streaks of pea soup-colored water and paint-like swirls may signal a silent summer threat: blue-green algae blooms that can release harmful toxins in lakes throughout Wisconsin, including those in the Northwoods.

What it is

In short, blue-green algae is like a bacteria. Large amounts of blue-green algae form a bloom.

“Blue-green algae are actually a type of bacteria. They’re lumped in with algae because they photosynthesize, just the same way plants do,” said Gina LaLiberte, statewide harmful algal bloom coordinator and inland beach monitoring coordinator. “Anytime you get a lot of blue-green algae or other types of algae growing to really high levels, that’s what’s called a bloom.”

Blue-green algae can make harmful toxins.

“We are concerned about them because there are some blue-green algae that can make toxins, even those that make toxins don’t make them all the time,” LaLiberte said. “But you can’t tell if blue-green algae are making toxins just by looking at them. So you do have to be careful anytime you are possibly exposed to large amounts of blue-green algae.”

What to look for

Blue-green algae tends to feature more of a green color.

“You can see blooms just with the naked eye. They look like discolored water,” LaLiberte said. “Usually it’s green. There are some species that can be brown, and it usually looks

like tiny little particles in the water. Anytime you see discolored water that contains a lot of tiny little particles, you should be suspicious that that’s blue-green algae.”

Clearer lakes might have blue-green algae that can float on the water as mats.

“There are other types that might float around on the surface of water as mats,” LaLiberte said. “These tend to be more in lakes that have clear water, because they’re growing on the bottom usually, and they photosynthesize just like plants do. And when they photosynthesize, they put out oxygen, and that can form bubbles within their mats to lift them to the surface. So, like later in the summer, I usually do get some reports of these mats of blue-green algae floating to the surface.”

Swimmers should also be aware of water that is of the turquoise or brown color.

“In general, blue-green algae tend to be green when they’re actively growing,” LaLiberte said. “Some might be brown. You don’t usually see sort of the blue color, what gives them the blue part of the name blue-green algae, until they’re dying and decomposing. Anytime you see sort of turquoise-colored streaks or what looks like paint spilled on the sur-

face or pea soup water in a lake, you should be suspicious that that is blue-green algae.”

Don’t drink the water

Blue-green algae toxins get exposed to people when they drink lake water.

“Some (blue-green algae) can make toxins,” LaLiberte said. “They don’t make them all the time and how people and animals are exposed — kind of the worst symptoms that these toxins can cause are caused when you swallow them in water. So it might be the cells of the blue-green algae themselves, or if they have died and released their toxins into the water, it could be just toxins in the water themselves. Basically swallowing water is kind of the major pathway for illness from these toxins.”

LaLiberte encourages people to not drink lake water at all.

“It’s always a good idea just to not swallow water while you’re swimming and to teach kids to try not to swallow water, too, just because could be blue-green algae in the water, but there’s also a lot of other stuff in there,” she said. “There’s other bacteria, there’s other viruses, and there’s parasites that could make you sick. You really don’t

want to swallow untreated surface water.”

Another way to get exposed to these toxins is through water droplets in the air.

“If you are, say, water skiing or tubing across a lake that has a blue-green algae bloom on it, that boat is kicking up a spray, and you are inhaling that in water droplets, so that’s an exposure route,” LaLiberte said.

Also, there are those that may get a reaction from blue-green algae.

“Some people will have skin reactions from blue-green algae — getting under their bathing suit or the straps of (their gear) and being rubbed on their skin,” LaLiberte said. “That tends to be limited to sort of allergic-type reactions, dermatitis-type reactions and rashes.”

All over the state

Blue-green algae is prevalent all throughout the state of Wisconsin.

“I know a lot of us southerners kind of have this concept of, ‘Oh, the Northwoods, everything is clear and pristine,’ but there are water bodies that do have blooms in northern Wisconsin, too,” LaLiberte said. “Where we tend to see lakes that have the most issues with either large blooms of blue-green algae or recurring blooms of blue-green algae are lakes that have high nutrients — phosphorus and nitrogen at high levels.”

If you see significant blue-green algae blooms, e-mail DNRHABS@wisconsin.gov. For more info on blue-green algae, visit dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/lakes/blue-greenalgae.

Brett LaBore may be reached at brett@lakelandtimes.com or sports@lakelandtimes.com.

BLUE-GREEN ALGAE CONTACTS

If you think you are experiencing symptoms related to exposure to blue-green algae (e.g., stomach cramps, diarrhea, vomiting, headache, fever, muscle weakness, difficulty breathing), contact your doctor or the Wisconsin Poison Center (1-800-222-1222) right away.

If your pet displays symptoms such as seizures, vomiting or diarrhea after contact with surface water, contact your veterinarian right away.

To report a case with potential health effects caused by blue-green algae, visit the Department of Health Services at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/algae/index.htm> or contact the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health at 608-266-1120.

DNR publishes 2025 fish stocking summary

Over 5 million fish stocked into Wisconsin waters

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recently released the 2024 fish stocking numbers for inland waterbodies and the Great Lakes.

The DNR raises millions of yearling and fingerling fish to stock into Wisconsin waters every year. Over 5 million fish were stocked in 2024, which helped fulfill the quotas submitted by county fisheries biologists.

Stocking helps boost natural fish populations where natural reproduction can no longer support the fishery, maintain or restore existing fisheries and support recreational fishing opportunities. Stocking is also used to evaluate management actions or fish culture techniques.

DNR biologists analyze data collected from present and past surveys to determine which species and quantity should be stocked, along with other factors such as:

- Public input received during the development of species-specific management plans.
- Experimental fisheries management strategies.
- Specific watershed goals to restore self-sustaining fish populations, maintain existing fisheries or create recreational ones.

DNR fish crews stocked fish in inland waters, Lake Michigan, Lake Superior and their tributaries across the state in 2024.

The following summaries provide total fish stocked by species in Wisconsin waters in 2024:

Inland Waters

- 231,685 brook trout.

- 288,290 brown trout.
- 10,945 lake sturgeon.
- 86,552 lake trout.
- 59,112 muskellunge.
- 243,588 rainbow trout.
- 1,195,570 walleye.

Lake Michigan

- 50,184 brook trout.
- 475,045 brown trout.
- 1,361,857 chinook salmon.
- 517,166 coho salmon.
- 1,139 lake sturgeon.
- 15,495 muskellunge.
- 446,150 rainbow trout.

Lake Superior

- 199,885 brown trout.
- 60,732 lake trout.
- 54,743 splake.

This data does not include the stocking of newly hatched fry, fish stocked by private fish farms under a stocking permit, fish stocked by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or fish stocked by our tribal partners.

Visit the DNR’s Fish Stocking database to view stocking data from previous years or specific waters.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Over 5 million fish were stocked in 2024, which helped fulfill the quotas submitted by county fisheries biologists.

DNR seeking volunteers to teach new hunters

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is seeking volunteers to teach and certify basic hunter education students and teach hunters of all experience levels practical outdoor skills. Volunteer opportunities are available in all parts of the state.

Hunter education has a strong history in Wisconsin. Since the program’s creation in 1967, more than 20,000 volunteers have educated hunters in the state, certifying more than 1 million hunters. The program has also contributed to a significant decrease in hunting safety incidents.

The strength and success of the Hunter Education Program are due to the dedication and commitment of the volunteer instructors. The instructors deepen their connection to the state’s hunting heritage while shaping the next generation of Wisconsin hunters.

Basic Hunter Education

Basic hunter education is a firearm safety class that is required by law for anyone who intends to hunt independently. We rely on a statewide corps of about 4,000 volunteer hunter safety instructors to teach the standardized, internationally approved curriculum and administer the written and practical exams required for certification.

Volunteers must be certified to teach basic hunter education by apprenticing with an existing group of Hunter education instructors or attending a staffed mini academy that takes volunteers through each lesson that instructors are expected to teach at a basic hunter safety class. Instructors must also pass an exam based on the DNR’s Hunter Education Policy & Procedure Manual.

Once certified, volunteer hunter education instructors should teach at least one class and attend an instructor recertification workshop every three years.

Advanced Hunter Education: Outdoor Skills And Learn to Hunt

Beyond basic hunter education, the DNR and our contracted partners (Becoming an Outdoors Woman, National Deer Association, Pass It On – Outdoor Mentors, Pheasants Forever and Raised at Full Draw) offer additional instruction and continuing education to hunters of all experience levels. We are seeking volunteers to coordinate and instruct advanced programs as the next step from basic hunter education. Training is currently optional and provided upon request.

Outdoor Skills programs teach specific skills related to hunting and the outdoors, such as processing deer, shooting basics and cooking wild game. We have some lesson plans available for you to use as a guide, but if you have a hunting or shooting sports skill you can teach, reach out to our program staff to talk more.

Beyond Outdoor Skills programs, the Learn to Hunt program is a unique opportunity in Wisconsin that allows volunteers to host educational mentored hunts outside of the normal hunting season. The program is a valuable and rewarding educational opportunity offered by the DNR for both participants and volunteers looking to find greater connection in the outdoors.

The Learn to Hunt program requires at least four hours of pre-hunt instruction to participants, and program volunteers must have at least five years of experience hunting the target species.

All hunter education volunteers must pass a DNR background check.

For more information about becoming a volunteer instructor or applying, visit the DNR website.

CLOVER: AN ALTERNATIVE PLANTING



Dale Streubel

SPECIAL TO THE LAKELAND TIMES

There is an area in our backyard that has been unable to grow any type of grass throughout the years. Basically, I had nothing to lose but to try planting clover years ago. Fortunately, it took off and produced a lush vibrant green cover throughout the summer and into the fall season. Every year since, I make sure that we replant the area with clover where needed.

Now, the trade off with having clover is the fact that you may have a few animal visitors from time to time, which we really don't mind. If you were to have any female deer in your area, they may become your friends during their lactation period, after producing any fawns.

Keep in mind that a doe needs to feed on as much forage as possible in order to produce a healthy supply of milk for her "young ones." Having a supplement of clover nearby may become quite beneficial.

The amount of protein may vary anywhere from 15 to 30 percent in clover which is exactly what is needed for a doe during her milk-producing period.

Now, besides having does with their fawns visiting your clover patch, you may also have a surprise appearance by a few local bucks in the area. In fact, recently there have been two of them visit-



Deer and rabbit on Dale Streubel's clover.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

ing us on a regular basis. You must remember that in order for a buck to produce antlers which are basically a bone material, he requires a substantial amount of calcium and phosphorous throughout the summer months, in order to fulfill the needed amount for the antler growth and also to maintain the bone tissue throughout his entire skeletal system.

There again, it just so happens to be that clover is rich in calcium and phosphorous which will become beneficial to both the does and the bucks in sustaining the needed requirements of mineral content.

Now, on top of all the new activity generated on your freshly planted clover, there may be another animal that may enjoy a clover salad in the evening. A cottontail rabbit may suddenly appear nibbling on your clover from time to time, grabbing up on some extra well-needed protein.

Now, this all may sound like a cute Walt Disney program, with

mother deer with their fawns frolicking around and Mister Buck in the background trying to munch on a little clover, while simultaneously Mister Bunny Rabbit is dancing throughout the patch in between all the deer, in the attempt of also grabbing up on a fresh clover salad.

But, here lies the controversial segment of the story.

What about all your flowers and or vegetables? You must realize the potential of these herbivores and investigating what more you have to offer them is quite likely. Personally, we spray every evening with a repellent to create a perimeter around our house, which after a period of time they become aware of the fact.

So all in all, if you are looking to "green up" a particular area around your home and enjoy a variety of animal life, then a spring planting of clover may just be what you are looking for.

Stay safe!

the lake
where
you live

Two ways to breathe

If you look down into the water from your pier, you might see tadpoles lying on the bottom. As a kid I haunted what we called the Pollywog Pond, a marshy puddle in the middle of a residential neighborhood where tadpoles abounded.



Ted Rulseh
COLUMNIST

I would catch a few with a little scoop net, take them home, put them in an aquarium, and see if they would change into frogs. A couple of times a tadpole developed front and hind legs, but I never produced a fully formed frog.

What amazes me now about tadpoles, but didn't occur to me then, is how their metamorphosis includes a complete change in the manner of breathing. Going from tadpole to frog means switch from gills to lungs, and those ways of conveying oxygen into the bloodstream are very different.

Lungs draw in atmospheric air, which is 21 percent oxygen. The oxygen exchange takes place in tiny sacs called alveoli that are surrounded by capillaries – micro-scale blood vessels. Oxygen diffuses into the capillaries, and carbon dioxide diffuses out.

The basic principle of gills is the same – they are incredibly rich in capillaries where the gas transfer happens. But the concentration of oxygen in the water is extremely low compared to the air above. In a well-aerated lake, the oxygen in the water is about eight parts per million, or 0.0008 percent. That means the gills must be extremely efficient.

So how can a tadpole that hatches from an egg with gills make the conversion to lungs? It means growing an entirely new set of organs and shedding the old one. It turns out that the lungs start to develop just a few weeks into the metamorphosis.

And the gills remain until the transition to lungs is almost complete. So for a time, the tadpole has two ways to acquire oxygen: There's a period in which they can test drive their new respiratory system.

You may have seen a tadpole come up to the surface and then dart back down. What it's doing is taking a sip of air. Ultimately the gills disappear and the newly minted frog is ready for life lying in the water, eyes and snout exposed, breathing contentedly. Or, in the case of species like tree frogs, living nearly full-time on land.

On our property, the grandsons enjoy chasing leopard frogs that make their way up our long, steep lakefront hill to hide out in our "lawn" no-mow grass, wildflowers and weeds.

Frogs aren't the only creatures that change how they breathe as they go through their lifecycles. Dragonflies, for example, spend time in the water and breathe through gills. The adults don't have lungs; they take in air through small openings, called spiracles, in the sides of their abdomen. From there, oxygen travels through branching tubes that get progressively smaller and feed oxygen directly to the cells.

I can't help but be amazed at all this, but I must say I am perfectly content with a simple life of breathing through lungs.

Ted Rulseh, a writer, author and advocate for lake protection, lives on Birch Lake in Oneida County. Visit him and his blog at <https://thelakeguy.net>.

ATV/UTV safety is a must for children this summer



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Most ATV and UTV crashes involving youth are preventable with basic safety steps.

With thousands of children and teens across Wisconsin gearing up for outdoor adventures this summer, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) urges families to take ATV and UTV safety seriously.

Each year, the number of youths on ATVs and UTVs continues to grow, and so does the importance of proper training, supervision and gear.

"We want every ride to be a safe one," said Lt. Jacob Holsclaw, Wisconsin DNR off-highway vehicle administrator. "Most ATV and UTV crashes involving youth are preventable with basic safety steps and education."

So far this year, 21 people have been killed in ATV/UTV crashes. Most of them were not wearing seatbelts or helmets, and alcohol and speed were also contributing factors.

Key safety reminders for families:

- Helmets are required by law for all riders under age 18.
- Parents and mentors are encouraged to set a positive example by modeling proper helmet and seatbelt use.
- Youth under 16 must operate age-appropriate vehicles and follow all manufacturer restrictions.
- ATVs are typically designed for one rider only. UTVs may carry passengers only if seatbelts are available and used.
- Wisconsin law requires anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1988, and at least 12 years old, to complete an ATV safety certification course before operating alone on public trails.
- Parental supervision is strongly encouraged, even for certified riders.
- Safety certification courses are available online and in person. Visit the Wisconsin DNR website for more information or to enroll in a course.

DNR publishes fall 2025 hunting and trapping forecasts

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recently released the 2025 fall forecast series, detailing the hunting outlook for a variety of popular game species.

These forecasts outline what hunters and trappers across the state can expect while pursuing their favorite game species. In addition to information about specific game species, they also include helpful reminders about public land access opportunities, game registration requirements and season dates.

Although these forecasts are merely intended to give predictions of the upcoming hunting and trapping seasons, they are based on a thorough analysis of available species data. These data sources include federal and local species surveys, the findings of DNR research projects, weather patterns and the on-the-ground information we receive from our advisory committees and staff.

Hunters and trappers can explore the fall forecasts for species they are interested in:

- 2025 Fall Deer Hunting Forecast.
- 2025 Fall Upland Game Bird Forecast.
- 2025 Fall Migratory Bird Hunting Forecast.
- 2025 Fall Bear Hunting Forecast.
- 2025 Fall Furbearer Hunting And Trapping Forecast.

For more resources and information about many of Wisconsin's most popular game species, visit the DNR's Hunting webpage.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

The DNR's fall forecasts outline expectations and reminders for hunters and trappers for the upcoming seasons.

NORTHWOODS YARD & GARDEN



Bumps and odd growth on leaves

While scouting plants in your yard or garden, perhaps you have noticed unusual bumps or growth extensions on the leaf surfaces of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials. These are leaf galls, a common plant abnormality that initially may cause concern, but are not actually a problem.

Galls are distorted plant tissue developed by plants due to the presence of insects or mites. Disruption of leaf development and plant hormones influence gall development, creating bumps or strange growths on leaves, leaf stalks (petioles), sometimes even flowers. Often-

times galls are misidentified as eggs. Once the gall appears, the damage has been done, and it is too late for any controls. In addition, prevention is seldom practical because the insect or mite would need to be controlled before it got into the plant bud or shoot.

Fortunately, other than appearance, most leaf galls are not actually harming trees or landscape plants. Once galls form, even if the pest were to be controlled, the distorted growth remains for the rest of the season. In addition, several natural predators

and parasites help keep gall maker populations in check.

One of the showier examples is maple bladder gall, especially on silver maples. Initially small green bumps appear on the surface of silver and red maple leaves, turning bright red later. Mites feeding on newly developing leaves are the culprit. Once again, it can look serious, but tree health is not compromised, and

control is not practical or necessary. Likewise, elongated spindle galls are common on cherry, elm, and Prunus species but are just cosmetic. Oaks often show a wide

variety of leaf galls, often looking like warts, small disks, or raised areas. Oak-apple galls, the work of a small wasp, are larger, round, apple-like growths. Gouty oak gall can be more serious as galls develop within twigs and may lead to dieback of twigs.

When discussing galls, one major exception is crown gall, a serious plant disease caused by bacteria. Crown gall appears as tumor-like growth in stems just above or below the soil line. It can also form on roots, stems, trunks, or branches. Crown gall interferes with water transport and results in unhealthy, stunted plants.

Crown gall affects more than one hundred species of plants and is considered the

most widely distributed bacterial disease in the world. Among the susceptible plants are apple, brambles, euonymus, grapes, lilac, pear, poplar, rose, stone fruits, viburnum, and willow. Crown gall bacteria survive in the soil and spread via soil, water, and infected plant material. Always purchase plant material from reputable nurseries. More details on crown gall can be found at hort.extension.wisc.edu/articles/crown-gall.

Bruce Spangenberg is a horticulture outreach specialist with UW-Madison Division of Extension. Get answers to your lawn, landscape, and garden questions anytime at www.go.wisc.edu/Garden-Questions.



Bruce Spangenberg
SPECIAL TO
THE LAKELAND TIMES

DNR accepting grant applications to build hunting community

Applications due Sept. 15

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is accepting applications for the Hunter Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation (R3) Grant Program.

The Hunter R3 Grant supports projects that promote awareness, understanding and participation in safe, ethical hunting and hunting-related outdoor skills for anyone who wants to learn. These skills offer individuals a unique connection with nature and wildlife and foster confidence and comfort in wild places.

Past grant recipient projects included archery range upgrades for urban after-school clubs, start-up costs for scholastic clay target teams and 4-H shooting sports programs, support for hunting-related expos

focusing on recruiting new or underserved audiences, Learn to Hunt programs and the purchase of outdoor wheelchairs and other equipment for public use.

A total grant pool of \$75,000 is available. Individual grant awards are typically limited to \$25,000. These cost-sharing funds can be awarded to individuals or community-based organizations, Wisconsin tribes, universities and schools.

The grant is a sub-award of federal Pittman-Robertson Act funds and is administered as a reimbursement program.

The deadline to submit grant applications is 11:59 p.m. on Sept. 15. Applicants should plan to start projects approximately one year from the application deadline.

Learn more and apply on the DNR's Hunter R3 Grant Program webpage.

Spring waterfowl survey shows positive results

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) today announced that data is now available from the annual spring survey of breeding waterfowl. The survey indicated stable population numbers and habitat conditions for migratory birds.

The data from this survey is used as part of the overall survey of breeding waterfowl in North America, and the information helps the DNR make management decisions about waterfowl in Wisconsin. The survey has been conducted annually since 1973, except for 2020 (due to the pandemic). Survey results are best interpreted as trends over several years rather than year-to-year comparisons.

Surveyors estimated the state's 2025 breeding duck population at 564,693 birds, a 7 percent increase from the 2024 estimate and 26.9 percent above the long-term average. The 2025 mallard breeding population estimate



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOGRAPH

Spring waterfowl surveys indicate stable population numbers for migratory birds.

is 149,568 birds, 2 percent higher than 2024 but lower than the long-term average. Wood duck populations decreased 1.8 percent from last year but remain 5.1 percent above the long-term average.

The Canada goose population estimate is 8 percent lower than in 2024, yet it remains significantly higher than the long-term average.

Find additional data from this and other wildlife survey reports on the DNR's Wisconsin Wildlife Reports website.

Unique event for Wisconsin waterfowl hunters

For those interested in waterfowl, the DNR is once again partnering to host the Waterfowl Hunters Expo on Aug. 22-23 at the Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh.

The Waterfowl Hunters Expo is open to waterfowl hunting enthusiasts of any age. The expo will feature hands-on exhibits for attendees to try and buy the latest in outdoor products and presentations from industry experts, habitat managers and waterfowl scientists. The event is family and dog-friendly, setting the stage for hunters to come together and experience everything waterfowl.

The Waterfowl Expo is also the home of the state Waterfowl, Turkey and Pheasant Stamp competition, as well as the state duck and goose calling contests.

More event and ticket information is available on the Waterfowl Hunters Expo website.

DO NOT BRING FIREWOOD FROM HOME!



WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE FIREWOOD?

- Firewood purchased within 10 miles of a state forest, park, or other state-managed property.
- Firewood from a vendor that is certified by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.
- Dimensional and untreated lumber scraps, such as 2-by-4s and 2-by-6s.

GETTING AWAY IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK in Manitowish Waters, WI



Legendary 10-Lake Chain



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Bangstad

From page 1

Bangstad's claims of federal jurisdiction as a misreading of the law.

On Monday, federal district judge James Peterson remanded the case back to state court for resolution and awarded Oneida County reasonable costs and expenses incurred because of the attempted removal.

As Oneida County recounted in its own brief in the matter by attorney Andrew Jones, the county filed a lawsuit in circuit court against Bangstad and the Minocqua Brewing Company on June 16, laying out three causes of action: a pursuit of forfeitures for the company's violations of its prior conditional use permit allowing it to operate a craft brewery retail outlet and outdoor beer garden; a pursuit of forfeitures for the company's operation of the outdoor beer garden after the suspension of the conditional use permit with respect to outdoor operations; and a pursuit of forfeitures for the company's operation of a retail outlet and beer garden after the revocation of the conditional use permit in its entirety.

The county is also seeking preliminary and permanent injunctive relief prohibiting Bangstad from continuing to operate the retail outlet and beer garden without a valid permit.

In his decision, Peterson observed that, after the county filed its lawsuit, on June 20 Bangstad removed the case from state court into federal court, citing a statute that applies federal jurisdiction to "all civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States."

Essentially, Bangstad's defense is that the county's zoning ordinance is unconstitutional and thus the case belongs in federal court.

After Bangstad filed his removal notice, Peterson pointed out that Oneida County's lawsuit against Bangstad and the Minocqua Brewing Company is based only on state claims — namely, zoning violations — and so the judge directed Bangstad and his attorney, Fred Melms, to show cause why the case should not be remanded to state court for lack of jurisdiction.

Bangstad: County raised the federal issue first

As Peterson observed in his decision this week, in his response to that directive, Bangstad cited *Gunn v. Minton*, which allows a federal court to exercise jurisdiction if a federal issue is "necessarily raised," "actually disputed," "substantial," and capable of resolution in federal court without disrupting the federal-state balance approved by Congress.

In their reply, Bangstad and Minocqua Brewing Company argued that the Supreme Court had clarified that jurisdiction can be granted "when federal law creates the cause of action asserted," and, on rare occasions, the grant of jurisdiction also covers a suit containing state-law claims alone, when one or more of them "necessarily raise[s]" a "substantial" and "actually disputed" federal question.

And that's exactly what was going on in this case, the Bangstad reply stated.

"Petitioner's complaint pleads a Federal Question on its face," the reply states. "Specifically, ... petitioner's complaint outline[s] Oneida County's unconstitutional zoning scheme, enforced through Oneida County Zoning and Shoreland Protection Ordinance that underlies the entire complaint. Oneida County Ordinance 9.26 violates the Fourteenth Amendment because the ordinance provides no permitted commercial uses in a commercial zone and in doing so, is so restrictive that the ordinance has no reasonable relation to a compelling state interest."

Moreover, the reply continues, the complete restriction that Oneida County Ordinance 9.26 sets on the use

of commercial property in a commercial district "is unreasonable, having no substantial relation to public health, safety, morals, or general welfare."

In other words, Bangstad's reply argued, the inclusion of an allegedly unconstitutional ordinance in its complaint raised the federal question prior to respondents presenting a defense.

"The zoning system described in the complaint deprives landowners of all commercial use of their property, absent a discretionary zoning permit," the reply states. "This is a clear violation of the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment."

Right off the bat, Peterson said that argument wouldn't fly because, under the law Bangstad cited, federal jurisdiction arises only when the plaintiff's statement of his own case reveals that it is based upon federal law: "The only federal issues in this case are issues that defendants are asserting as defenses, and it is well established that federal defenses do not provide a basis for exercising jurisdiction under [the federal statute]."

Indeed, Peterson wrote, only two issues were before the court: whether the court could exercise jurisdiction over this case under [the cited federal statute]; and, if not, whether the court should award costs and expenses.

In answering the first question, Peterson observed, citing case law, that the basis for jurisdiction outlined in *Gunn* applied only to a "special and small category of cases," so an analysis under *Gunn* "rarely results in a finding of federal jurisdiction."

"This case is not one of the rare exceptions," Peterson wrote. "The court concludes that it cannot exercise jurisdiction under [the statute [because no federal issues are 'necessarily raised' within the meaning of *Gunn*. This conclusion makes it unnecessary to decide whether defendants have satisfied any of *Gunn*'s other requirements."

For one thing, Peterson continued, Bangstad and company did not dispute that the county's complaint rested solely on state law.

"The county contends that defendants violated county ordinances regarding permit requirements, and it seeks to enforce those violations under Wis. Stat. § 59.69(11)," he wrote. "The complaint does not rely on or refer to federal law."

Still, Peterson noted, Bangstad contended that the case 'arises under' federal law within the meaning of [the cited federal statute] because the ordinance that is the basis for the complaint violates the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and the Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

"Defendants say that the court 'must necessarily answer the[se] federal question[s]' to resolve the case, and they cite the statement from *Grable & Sons Metal Products, Inc. v. Darue Engineering & Manufacturing*, that 'a federal court ought to be able to hear claims recognized under state law that nonetheless turn on substantial questions of federal law,'" he wrote.

The problem was, Peterson explained, Bangstad and company were misreading both *Gunn* and *Grable*.

"A federal issue is not 'necessarily raised' simply because the defendant has raised an issue that the court will have to decide before ruling on the merits of the plaintiff's claims," he wrote. "Rather, [u]nder the long-standing well-pleaded complaint rule ... a suit 'arises under' federal law only when the plaintiff's statement of his own cause of action shows that it is based upon federal law."

In other words, Peterson explained, the court asks whether a "question of federal law is a necessary element of one of the well-pleaded state claims."

"This is consistent with the rule that removal is proper only if the plaintiff could have filed the lawsuit in federal court," he wrote. "At the time of filing, the plaintiff cannot speculate on issues that the defendant might raise to support jurisdiction."

To say it another way, Oneida County had no basis to file its lawsuit over zoning violations in federal court because zoning law and remedies are wholly under state law. Furthermore, Peterson continued, the two cases Bangstad cited, *Grable* and *Gunn*, both focused on issues raised by the plaintiff, not the defendant.

"In *Grable*, the case satisfied the 'necessarily raised' requirement because the plaintiff was contending that a property title was invalid under federal law," the judge wrote. "In *Gunn*, the plaintiff contended that the defendant committed malpractice by misapplying patent law. More generally, both the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit have repeatedly held that federal defenses do not support the exercise of jurisdiction."

Courts have also declined to recognize an exception to this general rule for constitutional defenses, Peterson added.

"If the rule were otherwise, virtually any case would be potentially removable because the validity of any state-law cause of action could be challenged as unconstitutional," he wrote. "Defendants cite no authority for the proposition that constitutional defenses provide a basis for jurisdiction. No federal issue is a necessary element of the county's claims, and defendants do not contend otherwise. So the court does not have jurisdiction under *Gunn*."

Court costs

The remaining issue was Oneida County's petition for reimbursement for "its costs, including attorney's fees, incurred as a result of the removal." The question in deciding that issue, Peterson asserted, was whether "the removing party lacked an objectively reasonable basis for seeking removal."

The answer was 'yes,' Peterson wrote, the defendants lacked a reasonable basis for removal in the case.

"[S]ince 1887 it has been settled law that a case may not be removed to federal court on the basis of a federal defense," Peterson wrote, citing *Franchise Tax Bd.* "To make matters worse, defendants continued to press for removal even after this court's order to show cause quoted the Supreme Court's statement in *Royal Canin U.S.A.* that 'the determination of jurisdiction is based only on the allegations in the plaintiff's 'well-pleaded complaint' — not on any issue the defendant may raise.'"

Defendants acknowledged that rule in their brief, Peterson stated, but they offered no plausible basis for concluding that the well-established principle did not apply in this case.

"Defendants should not have removed this case, and they should have conceded error in response to the order to show cause," the judge wrote. "So the court will award the county's reasonable costs and expenses incurred because of the removal."

Peterson also cautioned that the county had not yet itemized its reasonable costs and expenses for the court, but that was not a reason to delay remand.

"District courts retain jurisdiction to award costs and expenses even after a remand to state court," he wrote. "And remand orders are not appealable except in circumstances not present here, so there is no need to stay the remand pending the appeal deadline."

Peterson gave the county an opportunity to file a motion that itemizes the county's costs and expenses incurred because of the removal and to explain why those costs and expenses are reasonable.

County's argument

In its memorandum, the county asserted that Bangstad removed the case from Oneida County circuit court without any proper basis, but attorney Andrew Jones, representing the county, also argued that Bangstad acknowledged that the attempt to

move the case to federal court was a legal gambit.

"On June 22, 2025, Bangstad stated publicly that the removal of this case was a 'legal maneuver' akin to 'pull[ing] a rabbit out of [a] hat' that 'bought [MBC] 30 more summer days' to remain open without a permit," Jones wrote.

Jones then quoted a Bangstad post: "Be it genius or dumb luck, my legal team realized early last week that this 'restarting of the clock' allowed them to 'remove' Oneida County's new complaint to federal court, because [Oneida County corporation counsel Mike] Fugle's complaint asserted that we would use the 1st Amendment as our defense — and 1st Amendment issues are always dealt with in federal court. Now regardless of whether Western District federal judge Peterson allows us to move Oneida County's case to federal court or not, we are automatically given 30 days to get his answer, which allows us to legally stay open until July 20th. Yippee!!!!!"

Bangstad went on to say the case was about more than staying open "another 30 days to sell beer and t-shirts during this crucial tourism season."

"The county's attacks on me over the last 4 years clearly demonstrate a continued violation of my 1st Amendment right to free speech, which is clearly a federal issue — not a county one," the county's complaint quoted the Bangstad post. "Furthermore, Oneida County's judges have been part and parcel of those 1st Amendment attacks — rendering decisions that gave the county permission for its unconstitutional and retaliatory conduct, and cloaking their violations of my rights to due process and equal protections in court orders."

In short, Bangstad's post states, the "removal" to federal court was absolutely justified.

"However, it is delightfully coincidental that this legal maneuver just bought me 30 days of staying out of jail on potential contempt of court charges," the post stated, according to the county's memo. "Phew!!!"

Jones's memorandum also observed that Bangstad's response to the court contained not just reasoning for why the case should not be remanded to state court but 16 pages related to the substantive disputes between the parties, that is to say, about the actual claims in the county's lawsuit.

"The county does not engage in a discussion of those alleged facts here — not because it agrees with MBC's account of the parties' disputes, but because the alleged facts are not material to this court's resolution of the jurisdictional issue presented by MBC's improper removal of this case," the memo stated.

The federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction, Jones asserted.

"Thus, as is dictated by the plain language of the removal statute, only cases over which the federal courts have original jurisdiction may be removed from state to federal court," he wrote. "Thus, in cases (such as here) where the diversity requirements are not met, federal question jurisdiction is required to justify removal."

Under what is known as the "well-pleaded complaint rule," Jones continued, citing case law, federal jurisdiction exists only when a federal question is presented on the face of the plaintiff's properly pleaded complaint.

"As the Supreme Court has noted, '[t]he rule makes the plaintiff the master of the claim; he or she may avoid federal jurisdiction by exclusive reliance on state law,'" he wrote. "An important aspect of the well-pleaded complaint rule is that a defense under federal law to a claim pleaded under state law does not confer subject matter jurisdiction over the claim to the federal courts."

Jones also quoted the Seventh Cir-

See **Bangstad**. . . page 47

Drugs

From page 1

prescription drug and harboring and aiding a felon with intent to prevent apprehension.

Matthew John Roberts, 38, of Rhinelander, was arrested by the Oneida County Sheriff's Office on July 20 for charges including: possession of

iff's Office captain Robert Hebein spoke with *The Lakeland Times* and *The Northwoods River News* Tuesday.

He indicated the amount of arrests this past weekend for illegal narcotics, particularly including methamphetamine, isn't unusual.

Hebein said the sheriff's office has placed an emphasis on enforce-



Brooks



Minogheezhig



Bock



LaPuma



Roberts

cocaine, possession of THC, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of an illegally obtained prescription drug, operating with a revoked license and two counts of misdemeanor bail jumping. Oneida County Sher-

ing the "hard drugs" and curbing this type of drug use in the county. "Whether it be methamphetamine, fentanyl, heroine, things like that," he said. "So yes, it is one of the top priorities at our sheriff's office."

As far as progress goes, Hebein said law enforcement officers do everything in their authority to "aggressively deal with the drug problem." "But there are certain things out of our control," he said. "We

certainly do see (repeat offenders) and some of that is not under our control. We can only do the enforcement and the referrals." Hard drugs are a significant challenge the county faces, especially when it comes to

methamphetamine. Hebein said it's "absolutely horrible for our community" because it not only negatively impacts the users of those drugs, but family members and other community members too.

"There's a greater problem other than the person that's arrested," he said. "It does lead over to other aspects of the community." Trevor Greene may be reached via email at trevorgreene@lakelandtimes.com.

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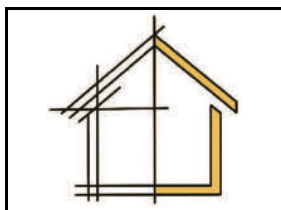
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470. FOR SALE MISCELLANEOUS

For sale: 4 - 17" tires. Tire size 235/55-17. Have less than 1,000 miles on them. \$500. 715-409-6453

Work shop tools, chest freezer, hideaway bed, desk, brand new file cabinet, beautiful wood dinig set with four matching chairs in Presque Isle area. Call Cindy 715.686.2914.

480. FOR SALE SPORTING GOODS

2 each, Savage model 220-20 ga. 2 3/4 +3" Stainless steel, one has Leopold Ultimate Slam scope 3-9 X 40 mm

3/4 + 3" Thumbhole stock has Burris 45 -14 X 42MM scope
Have five boxes of shells \$950.00 each or OBO 715.207.5171

For sale
12 Ga. MEC 600 Jr reloader, like new \$250.00
Also 12 Ga 761R Grabber reloader, like new \$650.00
Call 715-356-9715

530. ESTATE SALES

PACKRATS ESTATE SALES LLC is hosting an estate sale located at 1336 E. Bass Lake Rd. Eagle River, WI. Dates & times are: Saturday, July 26 9am- 2pm, Sunday, July 27 10am- 1pm: half- off day. Items to expect are: Chevy Tahoe 4x 4, 2- seater Yard Sport, impact tools, saws, household, boat and trailer, yard vacuum, snowmobile, bricks, paint sprayer, yard cart and more. For any updates and pictures, please visit us on Facebook or our website.

540. GARAGE / RUMMAGE SALES

RUMMAGE SALE KEY

- AV.....Arbor Vitae
- BJ.....Boulder Junction
- CR.....Crandon
- CS.....Cassian
- ER.....Eagle River
- FI.....Fifield
- HR.....Harshaw
- HZ.....Hazelhurst
- LDF.....Lac du Flambeau
- LT.....Lake Tomahawk
- MC.....McNaughton
- MQ.....Minocqua
- MR.....Mercer
- MW.....Manitowish Waters
- NB.....Newbold
- NK.....Nokomis
- PF.....Park Falls
- PL.....Presque Isle
- PL.....Plum Lake
- RH.....Rhinelander
- SA.....Sayner
- SC.....Sugar Camp
- SG.....St. Germain
- TO.....Tomahawk
- WB.....Woodboro
- WD.....Woodruff
- WN.....Winchester

540. GARAGE / RUMMAGE SALES

*****HOW TO GET GREAT ***RESULTS FROM YOUR ***RUMMAGE SALE AD*****

Town of sale: _____
Dates of sale: _____
Time of sale: _____
Address of sale: _____
Directions to sale: _____
List your big ticket items. A thoroughly worded ad will produce BETTER RESULTS

RUMMAGE SALE ADVERTISING DEADLINES - 5 FULL BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO 1ST RUN DAY IS RECOMMENDED.

To be in the Tuesday Lakeland Times or River News: WEDNESDAY at 5 P.M.

To be in the Wednesday Super Shopper: WEDNESDAY at 5 P.M.

To be in the Friday Lakeland Times or River News: TUESDAY at 10 A.M.

PLEASE have your ad prepared prior to calling in - 715-365-6397 River News 715-356-5236 Lakeland Times or email your ad: classifieds@rivernewsonline.com classifieds@lakelandtimes.com **Include your name, mailing address and telephone number so that we can call you for payment. All rummage sale ads are prepaid.**

AV: Annual neighborhood sale. Quality, great priced items. July 25 & 26 8:30-4:00 2423 Pine Acres Rd off 51 N. 715.686.2914.

HUGE SALE
MQ: S&P Storage unit #9 9794 Highway 70 West, Minocqua, Behind Pinno Builders. Wooden drop leaf table, four chairs. Wrought iron chairs, table set and rocker. Wooden storage bench, small stand with drawer, wicker items, decorative metal hangings. Many other items, too numerous to list all. Must sell! Friday & Saturday July 25 & 26 8:00to 4:00

WD: Garage Sale
11293 Kel-Robin, Woodruff Aug. 1-3 9:00-3:00
Basket weaving reed, patterns, handles, craft supplies, tools, camping, household, chiminea, garden bench, wicker rocker, telescopes, digital cameras

WD: Storage Unit Sale. Old Hwy. 51 Stor-All Balsam St. Woodruff. Military duffel, deck umbrellas, Barbie, Monster High, G.I. Joe, salt and pepper sets and more. Saturday July 26th 9am- 3pm

550. MISCELLANEOUS

Nicolet Welcome Service has a FREE welcome packet filled with gift certificates and information from Minocqua/Woodruff area businesses. For a friendly welcome, call Chris at 715-360-6089 or go to nicoletwelcome.com

650. REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

3 bedroom, 1 bath. Remodeled kitchen, laundry room off of 1 car attached garage, half basement, metal roof, large backyard. Close to town and bearskin trail. No realtors. 9721 Blue Lake Road, Minocqua. \$229,000. PLEASE DON'T BOTHER THE RENTERS.

Oneida County owned Real Estate For Sale: A detailed list of the properties, bid form, and other information can be obtained from the County website at <http://www.oneidacountywi.gov> under Announcements click 'Real Property Sale Offerings', or contact Land Information Office, email lio@oneidacountywi.gov PH 715-369-6179.

Bids due August 8th, 2025, 4PM.
Parcel and minimum bid: 2886 E Lake George Rd - PE-177-1A \$99,000.00.

710. VEHICLES AUTOMOBILES

Project Vehicles for sale 2011 Buick Enclave, runs but some work needed. \$3200.00 2005 Ford F150, not running. Part out potential \$500.00 Jim 715.493.3585

720. VEHICLES PARTS & ACCESSORIES

Voxx Wheels Bridgestone Blizzak snowtires 225/65R17 great condition used one season. \$800.00 715.892.2235

754. REC. VEHICLES BOATS



14' Aluminum Northwood boat. Great condition. 64" transom. \$495.00 OBO. Call 815.661.1312

756. REC. VEHICLES CAMPERS / RVS



2012 42 ft Tiffin Phaeton Motorhome with all the bells and whistles + 2011 Subaru Outback dinghy. Ready to travel the country and spend the winter in Arizona. RV and car \$143,000. Call 715.356.4876 for equipment list and photos.

788. REC. VEHICLES TRAILERS / PARTS & ACCESSORIES

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820. SERVICES CONSTRUCTION / REMODELING

1: AAA Carpenter and 1 helper: 31 years experience. Framing, Custom finish work, Cabinets, Doors, windows- featuring Kolbe & Kolbe, Custom aluminum capping, Vinyl, Wood siding, All Ceramic tile. Fully Insured, references. We show up- on time. Jon 715-358-7927

16 years experience stick frame construction, dry walling, painting, stained concrete floors, window replacement, siding, soffit & fascia. 715-367-9710 or 715-358-5555

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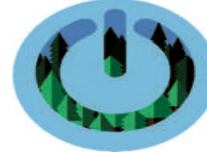
Tear offs, new roofs, repairs & inspections. Asphalt shingles, metal, PVC or EPDM. Fully insured. Local references. Call or text today for your free estimate. 715-358-6037

830. SERVICES GENERAL

Garage Floor Specialist BLACK PEARL EPOXY Call Dan Johnson 920-378-2458 email: djn63886002@gmail.com

830. SERVICES GENERAL

"Got computer problems? Need it fixed? Contact the **Northwoods Nerds!** We're two young, experienced IT support professionals looking to help our community! We specialize in repairs, tune-ups, in-home services, and more! Reach us at northwoodsnerdsllc@gmail.com find us on facebook, or call us at 715-892-8581!"



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Roofing and Home exterior pressure washing, mold/ algae removal. Roofs, decks, siding, piers, etc. No jobs too big or too small. Fully insured. Free estimates 715-891-8776.

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Exterior painting, roofing, power washing, mold/ moss removal, gutter cleaning, window cleaning, pier & boat lift installation, spring clean up, junk removal Fully insured / 20 yrs local experience. Call or text today for your free estimate 715-358-6037

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APPLICATIONS: Sowatzkas Sole Proprietorship, 715-614-4591 gsowatzka@gmail.com Specializing in custom showers (built-ins), steam showers, bathrooms, floors, foyers. Free estimates and consultations on tile layout and design. Will bid new construction. Fully Insured

Interior- Exterior painting. Interior- Exterior staining. 36+ years experience. Incorporated and insured. Meticulous work done in a timely manner. Call 563-370-5323 or 563-370-8619

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Remodeling- Decks- Garages- Roofs (asphalt & metal)- Masonry (cultured stone work & cabin foundation) Repairs- Exterior Painting & Staining (pressure washing) Retaining Walls & Walkways (block, stone & treated timber) Lawn Care, (seeding & black dirt spreading, yard clean- up leaves & fallen trees) Problem Tree Removal- Red Granite & Gravel Driveways & Washout Repairs- Rip Rap Rock Shorelines- New Fences & Repairs. Serving The Lakeland Area Since '76. Fully Insured- Free Estimates- References. Call 715-388-0302.

Need something hauled away? Give Jesse at JK Groundsman a call. (715) 891-5658

Sunshine Help Services

Let us make you smile! We'll help with any job needed. Yardwork, Household work, Care taking for private properties, Check on your property when away, Chauffeur services, Minor repairs around your house. References available. Please call this phone number first: 715.705.0636 or call/ text 715.499.7574. Please leave message with your phone number and we will get back to you in a quick and timely matter. **Sunshine Help**

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Pollen, Grime, Spiderwebs & Bugs Removal! Interior & Exterior Screens & Sills Knox Window Cleaning Free Estimates 262-873-0258

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WOODCHIPS FOR SALE

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930. WANTED TO BUY

ATTENTION: ISLAND CITY ANTIQUE MARKET is OPEN FRIDAY, SATURDAY SUNDAY & MONDAYS only, Noon to 4 p.m. We are STILL BUYING ANTIQUES by appointment only, 1 piece or entire estates! Give us a call. ISLAND CITY ANTIQUE MARKET, between Paul Bunyan's & McDonalds in Minocqua. 715/356-7003.

Looking for large White Pine trees, 100 - 200 trees 18 inch and larger on the stump & 16 to 20 Red Pine. We will cut, skid and truck. If you can cut and skid to a good landing that will work out also. We will come in and select the trees to be harvested. Also interested in large Red Pine plantation, 25 years old +, and want to buy White Spruce & Black Spruce. Call anytime or text. If you have pictures that would help also. Please contact Ron at 715-250-2442

Wanted to buy: fine jewelry & watches gold silver platinum modern or vintage rings and bracelets earrings and chains larger diamonds & entire collections old pocket watches silver & gold coins old silver dollars. Local collector and retired jeweler now paying highest cash price, will make any house call or meet at any public place for information or appointment please call or text David at (715) 891-9956

Add color to your classified ad - only \$12 per week!

Add a photo to your classified ad - only \$6 per week!

Advertising a rummage sale? Please have ad in by Thursday Noon prior for Wednesday's Edition of the Super Shopper.

EMPLOYMENT

the lakeland times: sales@lakelandtimes.com • 715.356.5236 | northwoods river news: 715-365-6397

NOW HIRING EXPERIENCED

Landscape/ Hardscape Foreman

Looking to hire an experienced Landscape Hardscape Foreman to work and run a landscape crew. Must have knowledge in installing man made and natural retaining walls, pavers, dry lay and wet lay flagstone, etc. Must be able to operate machinery.

We offer top wages and benefits based on experience!



Email resume to
customcaretakingllc@gmail.com

10536 Hwy. 70 East
Arbor Vitae, WI 54568
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We're #1 Because of You!

HELP WANTED

LUMBER JACK'S TREE SERVICE • St. Germain

JOIN OUR TEAM. LEARN TREE CARE INDUSTRY. **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.** ON THE JOB TRAINING.
Must be 18 yrs. old • Driver's License a must.
Starting Pay \$25-\$35 HR.-Housing Available
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Answering phones remotely and office help position also available

**LAKELAND UNION HIGH SCHOOL
TEACHING POSITION AVAILABLE
BEGINNING WITH THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR**

ENGLISH TEACHER (HIGH SCHOOL)
(full time)

DPI certification #1300 required.

This position is available until filled.
Please apply on WECAN at <https://wecan.education.wisc.edu/#/>
(I.D. #242890)

For questions about this position, please contact:
Mr. Levi Massey, Principal
Lakeland Union High School,
9573 State Hwy 70, Minocqua, WI 54548
or email massey@lakelandunion.org

120833

46,47,48 WNAXLP

The Lakeland Times and Northwoods River News is currently seeking to fill a

Part Time or Full Time CUSTOMER SERVICE POSITION

This is a weekday, daytime-hours opportunity to service established and new accounts in Oneida and Vilas counties. Competitive pay scale with Bonus Program and mileage reimbursement. Responsibilities would also include communicating with customers to help them promote their business, and writing instructions to complete the customer's request for print and website advertising. The perfect candidate would be energetic, organized, efficient and possess a positive attitude. Sales experience is preferred. Marketing and print advertising experience also preferred, but not necessary.

Please send resume and cover letter to:
The Lakeland Times attn: Gregg Walker
PO Box 790, Minocqua, WI 54548
or email: gwalker@lakelandtimes.com

THE LAKELAND TIMES

GROUNDS CREW STAFF

The Minocqua Country Club is looking for a reliable and hardworking individual to assist in the maintenance of one of northern Wisconsin's premier golf courses. Responsibilities include mowing, landscaping, irrigation, and general upkeep of the grounds. No experience needed, just a strong work ethic and passion for working outdoors. \$16-18/hr with overtime available. golf privileges and uniforms provided.

If interested contact Sterling at 715-356-3586 or at sterling@minocquacountryclub.com



FULL-TIME TECHNICIAN

LAKELAND POWERSPORTS IS CURRENTLY LOOKING TO ADD ANOTHER FULL-TIME TECHNICIAN. POWERSPORTS AND / OR MARINE EXPERIENCE IS PREFERRED. FAST PACED ENVIRONMENT,



COMPETITIVE WAGES BASED ON EXPERIENCE, OEM TRAINING PROGRAM, PAID HOLIDAYS, AND A SOLID BONUS PROGRAM.

**STOP BY, OR SEND RESUME TO
BWAGNER@LAKELANDPOWERSPORTS.NET**

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WWTP SUPERINTENDENT

Lakeland Sanitary District #1, a municipal water and sewer utility, has an opening for the position of Water/Wastewater Superintendent. As part of our team, District employees have the opportunity to positively impact the lives of others and the environment providing safe water and wastewater treatment. The Superintendent is responsible for all operations of the wastewater treatment plant, collection system, drinking water wells and distribution system. Responsible for the supervision and management of district staff and reports directly to the Board of Commissioners. Knowledge of WI DNR regulations and responsible for submitting of all reports. Responsible for preparing the annual budget and preparing documents and/or information for the annual audit. Attention to detail is a must. Other duties include but not limited to general maintenance and repairs to equipment, lift stations, electrical and pump knowledge, building structures and grounds. Candidate must be an energetic self-starter with excellent work record and be a positive team leader. Must be able to respond to the wastewater plant within 25 minutes of receiving call-out.

Will be part of a weekly on-call rotation. Weekend and holiday work is required on a rotating basis as well as emergencies. A CDL is required. DNR certification as an Advanced Wastewater Operator and Groundwater and Distribution is required for the Superintendent position. The District offers competitive pay and excellent benefits including WI Retirement Plan, paid holiday, paid vacation and a clothing allowance. Job will be posted until filled. Salary will be based on experience and level of certification. Application and full job description can be obtained by contacting the Lakeland Sanitary District office at 715-356-4454 or visiting our website lakelandsanitarydistrict1.com.

To be considered for the position, applicants must submit both their application and resume to Lakeland Sanitary District, 8780 Morgan Road, Minocqua, WI 54548 or email to sandist@frontier.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WATER/WASTEWATER OPERATOR

Lakeland Sanitary District #1, a municipal water and sewer utility, has an opening for the position of Water/Wastewater Operator. As part of our team, District employees have the opportunity to positively impact the lives of others and the environment providing safe water and wastewater treatment. The Operator is responsible for the operations of the wastewater treatment plant, collection system, drinking water wells and distribution system. Knowledge of math and attention to detail is a must. Other duties include but not limited to general maintenance and repairs to equipment, building structures and grounds. Candidate must be an energetic self-starter, team player with a positive work attitude and excellent work record. At times must work with minimum supervision. Must be able to respond to the wastewater plant within 25 minutes of receiving call-out.

Will be part of a weekly on-call rotation. Weekend and holiday work is required on a rotating basis as well as emergencies. A CDL is required or the ability to obtain one within 6 months. DNR certification in groundwater and distribution is also desirable for the Operator position and required to acquire within one year of employment. The District will provide on the job training and classes to obtain certifications for the Operator position if needed. The District offers competitive pay and excellent benefits including WI Retirement Plan, paid holiday, paid vacation and a clothing allowance. Job will be posted until filled. Salary will be based on experience and level of certification. Application and full job description can be obtained by contacting the Lakeland Sanitary District office at 715-356-4454 or visiting our website lakelandsanitarydistrict1.com.

To be considered for the position, applicants must submit both their application and resume to Lakeland Sanitary District, 8780 Morgan Road, Minocqua, WI 54548 or email to sandist@frontier.com.



TAX SEASON PREPARER

We're Hiring!

A CPA-led accounting firm in Minocqua is seeking a tax season preparer (Feb-April 2026).

Our team works with businesses, individuals and other organizations. Duties for this position include individual tax preparation and accounting, if interested.

Will Train. Flexible Hours.

If interested please call 715-358-4004 or send resume to Kimberly@petersonmetz.com

Lakeland Area Bus Service

618 1st Ave., Woodruff, WI 54568
715-356-5984

NOW HIRING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

***Starting at \$23.00/hr. more with experience**



LSD

From page 1

The LSD recently began an extensive \$21 million facility upgrade project and in recent months, has granted annexation for a 112 unit apartment complex in Minocqua and a mobile home development in Arbor Vitae.

As the board has done that, engineers and planners with MSA Professional Services have been calculating and recalculating the impacts of the addition of the new developments as well as other anticipated future growth in the area.

At the LSD's July 7 meeting, superintendent Wilbur Peters, after hearing an update in projections from Pat Morrow with MSA that included an estimated use of 25,000 gallons per day by the hotel, told the

board in light of the latest projections, he would advise the board against an annexation request from Gouardham.

Concerns null and void

At Tuesday's LSD board meeting, Gouardham was accompanied by Tony Pharo, executive director of the Oneida County Economic Development Corporation.

He gave board members copies of a letter of support for Gouardham's hotel project from Krystal Westfahl, president and chief executive officer of the Greater Minocqua Area Visitors Bureau.

"We're hoping this will be a huge advantage to the region and having this hotel there to help the economics of the area," Pharo said.

While Westfahl's letter touched on the potential positive economic impact the

hotel will have, she also stressed the importance of the eight units of housing for hotel employees "funded entirely by the investor."

"This type of private investment in workforce accommodations is both rare and commendable," Westfahl wrote to the LSD board. "It addresses one of our most pressing challenges: the lack of affordable and proximate housing for hospitality and service workers. By enabling employees to live near their workplace, the development will reduce commuting barriers, improve retention, and enhance the quality of life for workers who are essential to our tourism economy."

Gouardham acknowledged the project, going into the meeting, wasn't part of the LSD.

"We have submitted our estimates and they have been verified by

the engineers," he said. "We're talking about roughly 7,000 gallons per day of sewer."

"Originally, when we had gotten preliminary numbers from the hotel, the numbers that were tossed around were 25,000 gallons a day," Morrow said, adding during subsequent discussions and recalculating, the 7,000 gallon per day figure Gouardham mentioned "is consistent with what we would project for that size hotel."

Gouardham said that includes the hotel's swimming pool, which will hold about 22,000 gallons.

"It's going to be a salt-water pool and it would be drained twice a year," he said.

Peters indicated his mind had been changed with the new information.

"My main concern about it ... was the 25,000 gallons (per day) and what that

would do to the plant's ability to treat that but at 7,000, I don't think we'd have to turn any septic haulers away, would we?" he asked Morrow and MSA engineer Rahim Ansari.

"No," Ansari said.

"It would be a fraction of a septage drain."

"Well, hearing this number (7,000 gallons) is easier on the capacity," board member Mark Killian said. Peters summarized some of the discussions in the past two weeks that helped lead to his feeling more comfortable with the project including the twice a year draining of the swimming pool which he said "was nothing."

Gouardham said that could be done in the April and October time frames.

"Usually, April and October for hotels are bad months," he said. "We could do it during that time."

"So, my concerns are null and void," Pe-

ters said. "We went back and forth for quite a while on it."

Regarding the actual hookup to the LSD system, Peters reminded Gouardham the district's ordinance prohibits it from "paying for pipes to go to the hotel."

"There is a connection fee and there's no breaks on the connection fee, either, because that's what pays our bills as well," he said.

"Understood," Gouardham said.

"I wanted you to know that before you started putting a shovel into the ground," Peters said.

After the board's unanimous approval, Gouardham, who was hesitant to talk to *The Lakeland Times*, said his company has yet to obtain a franchise agreement.

"The franchise is waiting for this meeting to happen," he

See LSD. . . page 50

AV-W SCHOOL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FULL TIME EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

The AV-W School District is now accepting applications for a Full Time Early Childhood Special Education Teacher. Qualified applicants must provide a complete application, resume, cover letter, and three letters of recommendation.

Please apply on WECAN. Job Type: Full-time Start Date: August 1, 2025 WECAN#: 229731

Please send resume and letter of interest to: Position Open Until Filled. Please contact Jocelyn Hardy for more information. jocelyn.hardy@avwschool.org

124056 TF O/E WNAXLP

LAKELAND UNION HIGH SCHOOL POSITION AVAILABLE FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

NATIVE AMERICAN MENTOR/EDUCATOR AND HOME TO SCHOOL COORDINATOR

Full-time, School Year

Part of this position will provide mentoring services supporting the academic and social achievement of Native American students at Lakeland Union High School. The other part of this position will provide support to students whose current placement is outside the school to finish their high school requirements.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Bachelor Degree in Indigenous Studies, Indian Studies, Education, Social Work or a related field.
- Experience working with Native American students. Preferably an enrolled Tribal member.

This position is available until filled.

Please submit letter of interest, resume, three letters of recommendation, and transcripts to: Ms. Jennifer Savel, Director of Pupil Services/Special Education Lakeland Union High School, 9573 State Hwy 70, Minocqua, WI 54548 Or email: savel@lakelandunion.org

120829 46,47,48 WNAXLP

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715-356-6746

EMPLOYMENT

715.356.5236 | 715-365-6397

PART TIME COMPUTER/ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY TEACHER

The AV-W School District is now accepting applications for Part Time Computer/ Academic Technology Teacher. WECAN Posting # Vacancy ID: 242919

Qualified applicants must provide a complete application, resume, cover letter, and three letters of recommendation.

Please apply on WECAN.

Job Type: Full-time

Start Date: August 1, 2025

WECAN#: 229731

Position Open Until Filled. Please contact Jocelyn Hardy for more information. jocelyn.hardy@avwschool.org

123079 TF o/e WNAXLP

AV-W SCHOOL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM AIDE

The AV-W School District is now accepting applications for a part-time (27.5 hrs. a week) Special Education Program Aide to assist students in the classroom.

Experience preferred. Candidates must possess or be willing to obtain Wisconsin DPI certification.

Please call or stop by to complete an application:

Arbor Vitae-Woodruff School

11065 Old Highway 51

Arbor Vitae, WI 54568

715-356-3282 or email

jocelyn.hardy@avwschool.org

Position open until filled.

123079 TF o/e WNAXLP

LAKELAND UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SUBSTITUTES NEEDED FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

- CUSTODIANS
- TEACHERS
- PARAPROFESSIONAL AIDES
- SECRETARIES
- HALL SUPERVISORS
- FOOD SERVICE WORKERS

Contact the High School Office at 715-356-5252 for information and application.

123042 44,45,46 WNAXLP

AV-W SCHOOL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAPROFESSIONALS

AV-W School has an opening for a full-time Special Education Paraprofessional.

Candidates must be eligible for Wisconsin DPI certification. Experience working with special education students is preferred.

Please send resume and letter of interest to:

AV -W District Office

Arbor Vitae-Woodruff School

11065 Old Highway 51

Arbor Vitae, WI 54568

103261 TF O/E WNAXLP

Bangstad

From page 42

cuit on "the well-pleaded complaint rule:"

"A defendant might have defenses based on federal law to claims that arose only under state law, and it might be predictable at the outset that most of the time and the other resources consumed in the litigation would be devoted to those defenses. Yet with immaterial exceptions, a case filed in state court under state law cannot be removed to federal court on the basis that there are defenses based on federal law."

Under these well-established principles of federal jurisdiction, Jones asserted, federal jurisdiction does not exist over this action, Minocqua Brewing Company did not have a proper basis to remove it, and it must be remanded to the Oneida County Circuit Court.

"[T]he action commenced by the county is one asserting that MBC has violated a county zoning ordinance and a permit issued under that ordinance," the county memo stated. "The county's complaint asserts three causes of action, all seeking relief under the zoning ordinance and Wisconsin law and none seeking relief or otherwise raising issues under federal law. Thus, under the well-pleaded complaint rule, there is no federal issue raised by the county's complaint and no federal question jurisdiction over the complaint." Jones argued that Minocqua Brewing

Company's submissions made clear that the company intends to defend the county's state law claims by raising certain arguments under federal law.

"Specifically, MBC evidently intends to argue: (1) that the County's actions in seeking to enforce MBC's prior conditional use permit and the Ordinance amount to unlawful retaliation in violation of the First Amendment; and (2) that the Ordinance itself is unconstitutional, either on its face or as applied," Jones wrote. "But, without conceding their merits, those arguments are merely defenses to the claims brought by the county."

Those arguments are insufficient to move the case to federal court, Jones asserted.

"As this Court itself noted in directing MBC to show cause why this case should not be remanded for lack of jurisdiction, and as the Supreme Court has consistently reasoned since the late nineteenth century, a federal defense does not provide a valid basis to remove a case to federal court, Jones argued. "That is true even if, as MBC asserts in its notice of removal that the County anticipated in its efforts to obtain a preliminary injunction from the Oneida County Circuit Court prohibiting MBC from continuing to operate without a permit that MBC would raise federal constitutional issues as a defense."

Richard Moore is the author of "Dark State" and may be reached at richardd3d.substack.com.

Minocqua Dragon Boat Festival supports tick-born illness treatment

Registration still open

The Annual Minocqua Dragon Boat Festival is set to take place on Saturday, Aug. 16, at Torpy Park in Minocqua. In addition to racing on Lake Minocqua, there will be the St. Germain PrimeTimers Food Court, Rotary Dragon's Breath Beer Tent, children's activities, and live music.

The Festival is a fun, free-to-attend family event that has entertained thousands since it started in 2016.

More than 100 teams from across 13 states and Canada have participated over the years.

Teams of 16 - 21 people compete on a course set on Lake Minocqua. Paddlers have ranged in age from 12-89. There are two types of teams competing in the Festival. Community teams are 21 people ready to have fun competing against other teams and have been composed of groups of friends, a community organization, coworkers, families, and alumni groups. The second type of team is a competitive club team, these teams have an equal amount of fun and often compete in several festivals throughout the country. If there are three or more similar types of teams registered

(camp alumni groups, schools, business groups) a division will be created for that set of teams. Teams always have fun with different themes and drummer costumes.

The Festival also features a Cancer Survivors division. Nationally, the number of survivor teams continues to grow every year, especially the number of Breast Cancer Survivor teams. Members of these teams share that they not only experience the physical benefits of paddling a dragon boat, but embrace the community of support with fellow survivors.

Supporting Care for People Facing Tick-Borne Illnesses

The Howard Young Foundation exists to support health care for everyone who lives in and visits the communities served by Howard Young Medical Center (HYMC) and Aspirus Eagle River Hospital (Eagle River). The Northwoods is a hub of outdoor activity and this year's cause helps keep people doing what they love.

This year the Festival is supporting the Aspirus Tick-Borne Illness Center Compassionate Care Appeal.

The Compassionate Care Appeal is dedicated to ensuring that every patient receives the care they re-

quire, irrespective of their ability to pay. The goal is to create a respectful and confidential pathway for individuals, particularly youth and young adults facing acute and chronic tick-borne illnesses to access quality medical care.

The Minocqua Dragon Boat Festival website has a tab to pledge in support of your favorite team or make a general donation.

Participating as a Paddler

People wanting to paddle, but not already part of a team can register as an individual to be placed on a team.

There is still room for teams in this year's festival. No paddling experience is necessary to participate and all equipment is included in the team registration fee. Team fees can be reduced or eliminated through the Paddlers Pledge program. Space is allocated for each team requesting a place to create a gathering place for the day and it often features tents decorated for the team theme. Teams consist of 16-20 paddlers and one drummer (no prior drumming experience necessary). All teams will enjoy racing in top-notch dragon boats and setting up their rest area in a beautiful location in Torpy Park with great

views of the lake and race course.

Team registration includes:

- All of the necessary equipment including a boat, PFDs, paddles, and a steersperson/coach.
- Racing a minimum of two times on race day on a 300m racecourse.
- Practice session the night before the event.

Register at minocquadrugonboat.com by July 30. After July 30, check with the Foundation for availability.

Participating as a Volunteer

To ensure a successful event, volunteers are needed to do everything from holding boats to putting up signs. From greeting guests or getting teams ready to race, there is a job for everyone.

Register to be a volunteer at minocquadrugonboat.com or contact the Howard Young Foundation at 715-439-4005.

All who are part of the Howard Young Foundation and the Minocqua Dragon Boat Festival are happy to welcome teams to the Northwoods. Join them to roar with the dragons on Aug. 16 at Torpy Park in Minocqua. Until then, visit minocquadrugonboat.com often to meet the teams and stay updated on the details of the Festival.

'Grow A Row Harvest Time'

Gardeners invited to support Lakeland Pantry with fresh produce donations

Calling all gardeners! Harvest time is upon us and the Lakeland Pantry is inviting local green thumbs — and anyone with a love for gardening — to join in supporting our community by donating surplus homegrown produce.

Do you find yourself with extra tomatoes, zucchinis, beans, or any other fresh vegetables and fruits from your garden this season? Instead of letting your abundant harvest go to waste, consider giving back through the Grow A Row initiative. Your generous donations will provide our pantry customers with the fresh, nutritious ingredients they love for cooking healthy, delicious meals.

Donating could not be easier!

You may drop off your extra produce at the Lakeland Pantry 1707 U.S. Highway 51, Arbor Vitae Tuesdays: 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays: 3:30 to 6 p.m.

Produce may also be delivered to either JJ's Acres located at 9436 Highway J, Woodruff or Stoney Creek Home and Garden 7560 Poplar Drive Minocqua during business hours. Every donation — no matter the size — helps put healthy food on the tables of neighbors in need.

To thank you for your generosity, those who drop off produce at JJ's Acres or Stoney Creek Home and Garden will be entered into a drawing to win a delightful gift basket at the end of the growing season. It's our way of showing appreciation for

your commitment to making a difference.

At Lakeland Pantry, we believe in the power of community. The "Grow A Row" campaign embodies our guiding principle: "Neighbors helping Neighbors." With your help, we can ensure that everyone in our area has access to fresh, nutritious produce.

Whether you have a surplus of garden vegetables, fruits, or herbs, your contribution matters. Join us in cultivating kindness and nourishing our community — one row at a time.

For more information visit lakelandpantry@hyfinc.org, or stop by during donation hours.

Thank you for helping us grow a healthier community!

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF LAKE TOMAHAWK SANITARY DISTRICT

The Sanitary District in the Town of Lake Tomahawk is looking to fill the following position: Treasurer/Commissioner

To apply please contact the Clerk at the Town Office, 7246 Main Street, Lake Tomahawk, WI 54539 or call 715-277-2257. This position will remain open until filled.

Sharon Trimmerger Lintereur, Clerk
123074

45,46 WNAXLP

Legal Notice

To satisfy rent past due as per Wis. Statutes 704.90, contents of rented unit will be disposed of at a later date. Contents are mainly household items.

Renter: Thomas Klee, 2068 Lost Dauphin Road, DePere WI 54115. Tenant can claim property by satisfying rent and legal fees by August 8, 2025.

70W Storage
PO Box 1324
Minocqua WI 54548
715-356-1931

120827

46 WNAXLP

LAC DU FLAMBEAU TRIBAL COURT PUBLICATION SUMMONS CASE NO. 25-CV-14

Money Judgment: 30301 The amount claimed exceeds \$10,000.00 AND Other Contracts: 30303 Wis. Stat. § 810 Replevin

COVANTAGE CREDIT UNION
PO BOX 107
ANTIGO, WI 54409
Plaintiff,

v.
COLLYN JOSHUA BURGESS
2181 WILDCAT LANE
LAC DU FLAMBEAU, WI 54538
Defendant.

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN,

To each person named above as a defendant:

You are hereby notified that the plaintiff named above has filed a lawsuit or other legal action against you. The Complaint, which is attached, states the nature and basis of the legal action.

Within **40 days** after the date of first publication, you must respond with a written answer, as that term is used in Chapter 802 of the Wisconsin Statutes, to the Complaint. The Court may reject or disregard an answer that does not follow the requirements of the statutes. The answer must be sent or delivered to the Lac Du Flambeau Tribal Court, 623 Peacepipe Road, P.O. Box 217, Lac Du Flambeau, WI 54538, and to Galanis, Pollack, Jacobs & Johnson, S.C., plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is 413 North 2nd Street, Suite 150, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203. You may have an attorney help or represent you.

If you do not provide a proper answer within **40 days**, the Court may grant judgment against you for the award of money or other legal action requested in the Complaint, and you may lose your right to object to anything that is or may be incorrect in the Complaint. A judgment may be enforced as provided by law. A judgment awarding money may become a lien against any real estate you own now or in the future and may also be enforced by garnishment or seizure of property.

DATED at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on June 17, 2025.

GALANIS, POLLACK, JACOBS & JOHNSON, SC

Attorneys for Plaintiff

/s/ Electronically signed
Joshua J. Brady

WI State Bar No. 1041428

P.O. Address:
413 N. 2nd Street

Suite 150
Milwaukee, WI 53203

Telephone: (414) 271-5400

120817

44,46,48 WNAXLP

Boulder Junction Community Foundation celebrating 15th anniversary

For 15 years, the Boulder Junction Community Foundation has been dedicated to preserving and enhancing Boulder Junction for present and future generations. Guided by its vision to strengthen community, develop resources, and enrich quality of life, the Foundation has consistently worked to support and uplift the town, making a significant and lasting impact.

Thanks to the dedication and generosity of our community, since its founding in 2010, the Boulder Junction Community Foundation has distributed over \$1.6 million in grants and fiduciary support, directly benefiting countless local initiatives and organizations. With continued donor support, they are also rapidly closing in on their goal of reaching \$1,000,000 in the Endowment Fund — a significant target set by founding members.

In celebration of this milestone, the Boulder Junction Community Foundation is thrilled to announce a special summer evening of festivities. The 15th Anniversary Celebration will take place on Friday, Aug. 1, from 7 to 10 p.m., in the vibrant beer garden at Aqualand Ale House. This celebratory event is free and open to the public, welcoming all ages to join in the fun.

The evening will feature an energetic performance by The Pendulum Hearts, a high-energy Texas swing band ready to get everyone on their feet and boots tapping. Aqualand Ale House will be open with a full food and beverage menu. Attendees can look forward to enjoying complimentary cake, receiving special foundation merchandise as a thank you, and having the opportunity to raise a glass to 15 years of impactful community building.

"We are incredibly proud to celebrate 15 years of supporting the Boulder Junction community," said Mary Van Grinsven, president of the Boulder Junction Community Foundation. "This anniversary event is our way of saying thank you to everyone who has contributed to our success. We invite all our friends and neighbors to come enjoy fantastic music, celebrate with us, and look forward to many more years of working together to continue to make Boulder Junction an awesome place to call home."

Come for the music, stay for the celebration, and help us toast to the next 15 years of supporting the town we all love!

For more information on the Boulder Junction Community Foundation, visit www.boulderjunctioncf.org or follow on Facebook.



Welcome to Worship in the Lakeland Area

This Page Brought to you as a Public Service of The Lakeland Times & The Northwoods Super Shopper



Lakeland area clergy are reminded that any changes in church schedules must be submitted to the Times office no later than Monday noon prior to the following week's edition in order to be included in that edition.

New Christian-Based Radio Station, 24 hrs-Radio 74 International 88.7 FM

Sponsored by Lakeland 7th Day Adventist Promoting the Family with Spiritual programming including Christian music, children's stories, bible studies. For more information, call Joe Hotchkiss at 715-356-1345 or the church at 715-358-9983

Greek Orthodox Mission

Working on the Chicago Arch Diocese to start a Mission here in the Northwoods. All Orthodox Christians are welcome! Contact Peter Liakopoulos 262-215-7602

Arbor Vitae Eternal Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church

Member of the Illinois Lutheran Conference (ILC) Mark E. Latsch, Pastor 715-356-6431 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Call for location and directions.

Peace Lutheran Church (LC-MS)

Pastor Jon Rathjen 10868 Old Hwy. 51 N. Arbor Vitae, WI 54568 715-358-8338 www.peacearborvitae.org Worship—Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Boulder Junction Community Church Of Boulder Junction

10445 Main Street 715-385-2146 Nathan Keisler, Pastor Sunday Worship Service 9:30 AM Bible Study Sunday 11 AM & Wednesday 10 AM Services available on YouTube & Facebook Available on the church website with a link to the Facebook page Visit us on the web at: www.comchbj.org

St. Anne Catholic Church

Fr. Showri Jojappa Pasala, Parochial Administrator 715-385-2390 Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod) Rev. Kevin Hoogland 715-385-2267 www.trinityboulderjunction.net Sunday Services 10:00 a.m. with Holy Communion celebrated each Sunday Coffee, Fellowship and Bible Study following worship every Sunday

Conover

Pioneer Lake Lutheran Church 715-479-4966 Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Conover Evangelical Free Church

info@conoverefc.com conoverefc.com 715-479-4327 Lead Pastor - Dr. Andrew Schwenk Associate Pastor - Jeff Hendrychs Worship: Sunday 9:30am Children's Church during part of service; Fellowship following service AWANA Kickoff! - Sept. 28, 5:30pm @ CEFC Registration, Bar-B-Q, Puppet Show club starts at 6 AWANA - Wed. 6:00pm October-April Youth Group - Wed. 6:30pm Men's Basketball - Monday 6:30pm Men's Breakfast - Third Saturday 7:30am Ladies Breakfast - Fourth Saturday 8:30am Women's Bible Study - Thursday 6:30pm Summer Bible Study Series

Harshaw

Faith Ev. Lutheran Church a member congregation of the LCMS 9160 Lakewood Road, Harshaw 715-282-5550 Rev. David J. Sutton, Pastor 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Weekly Office Hours Thur. 11-4:30 8:25am Daily Devotions with Pastor at www.facebook.com/groups/dailydevotionswithpastorsuttonopen

Lac du Flambeau Baha'i Faith

P.O. Box 937 For Time and Place 715-588-3560 Weekly "Fireside" Discussions

Community Presbyterian Church

715-588-7150, Hwy. 47 The Presbyterian Church U.S.A. 10:00 a.m. Worship, Communion 1st Sunday Ash Wednesday Service - March 5, 4 p.m. followed by a soup and bread supper Palm Sunday Service - April 13, 10 a.m., followed by fellowship hour Easter Sunday Service - April 20, 10 a.m., followed by fellowship hour www.ldfchurch.com

Bible Baptist Church

Hwy. 47 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

St. Anthony's of Padua Catholic Church

650 Old Abe Rd., Hwy 47 588-3148, stanthon@verizon.net Fr. Maria Joseph Kodignati, Parochial Administrator Schedule Saturday 3:00 p.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday 4:00 p.m. mass Sunday 9:30 a.m. mass Wednesday 8:00 a.m. mass Friday 8:00 a.m. mass

Lake Tomahawk Lake Tomahawk Bible Church

715-277-2520 Phone 6706 WI-47, Lake Tomahawk, WI Service time: 9:30 AM Sunday morning website: www.laketombiblechurch.com

Bait N Tackle Fellowship

Raymond F Sloan Community Center 7246 Main Street, Lake Tomahawk Sunday Evenings 6:30 PM Baitntacklefellowship.com

The Third Order of St. Francis

Evening Prayer Liturgy - Sunday, 7 p.m. For location and schedule of other programs, write or call: Br. Rodd Umlauf, T.O.F. P.O. Box 173 Lake Tomahawk, WI 54539 e-mail - Br.Rodd@yahoo.com ph. (715)-277-4474

Manitowish Waters

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church 193 Hwy 51 South, Manitowish Waters 715-543-8428, email: queenofpeace@centurytel.net Fr. Maria Joseph Kodignati, Parochial Administrator 715-588-3148 Schedule Sunday 8:00 a.m. Mass Wednesday 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:15 p.m. Confessions Thursday 8:30 a.m. Mass Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Manitowish Waters Community Presbyterian Church

The Presbyterian Church of U.S.A. Hwy. 51, One Block South of "W" Church phone 715-543-2998 www.mwpc.org Pastor Eric Peterson Worship: 9:30 a.m. Service Communion 1st Sunday of each month

Mercer

Faith Lutheran Church Missouri Synod 2 blocks east of Hwy. 51 on Co. J 715-476-2626 Church Sunday worship, 1 p.m. Communion is offered every Sunday. Bible studies are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday at 12:00 noon. Web page: wizardone.wixsite.com/faithlutheranmercercity Everyone is welcome to come and worship with us!

St. Isaac Jogues & Companions Catholic Church

5214 N Lakeview Avenue (1 block west of Hwy 51) P.O. Box 373, Mercer WI 54547 stisaacjoguesmercercity.org Fr. Maria Joseph Kodignati, Parochial Administrator 715-476-2697 Reconciliation Sunday Mass 11 a.m. Tuesday Mass 8:30 a.m.

United Methodist Church

On Hwy. J, 2 blocks east of Hwy. 51 Pastor Ero Teichmiller 715-476-9135 http://www.mercerumc.org Virtual Worship via Zoom. Sunday, 9:30am. Email pierponm@hotmail.com or call 715-776-3993.

Zion Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Synod (WELS) 1 mile south of Mercer on Hwy. 51 (next to the water tower) Tim Johnson, pastor 715-776-0313 or 715-476-0013 Bible Class at 10:15 a.m. Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Minocqua Ascension Lutheran Church ELCA

7937 Hwy 51 South, Minocqua, WI 715-356-4426 Pastor Pete Warmanen Sunday Worship Schedule 8:00 am & 10:00 am We also livestream the 10:00 worship service on YouTube The church is handicapped accessible. You are welcome here!

Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA

(on Hwy. 51, north of Arby's) P.O. Box 63, Minocqua, WI 54548 715-358-0067 Email: celc2@calvaryelc.org Maxine Gray, Pastor Website: www.CalvaryMinocqua.org Worship Services are Saturday at 5:00 PM and Sundays at 9:00 AM. Connect to online on Facebook or through the website.

Foundation Church

Just east of corner of Hwys. 47 & J on J Pastor Milton Mazariagos 715-356-7385 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Study 6 p.m. Kids / Youth / Adults Kids Church and Nursery Call church for details foundationchurchag.com find us on Facebook: foundationchurchag

Lakeland Seventh Day Adventist

10940 Hwy. 70 W., 4 miles west of Minocqua Jeanmark A'Kessler (740) 708-6824 cell Saturday Services: Worship 9:00 a.m. Sabbath School 10:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For information call 715-358-9983

Minocqua (ctd.) Rock of Ages Evangelical Lutheran Church - LCMS

10441 Hwy. 70 West, Minocqua 3 miles West of Hwy. 51 Pastor Brian Liemann 715-356-3848 Sunday 9 AM Saturday 6 PM (June through September) Monday 6 PM (June through August) Ladies Guild 10 a.m. (2nd Wed) (Call the Church office for more info)

St. Andrew's Orthodox Chapel

Contact: Rev. Vladimir Lecko, 715-358-7885; email: frolado@charter.net

St. Matthias' Episcopal Church

403 Chicago Ave., Minocqua, WI 715-358-0355 Rector: Rev. Deborah Woolsey Parish Administrator: Stephanie Rajnick www.stmatthiasminocqua.com The church is fully accessible. Worship Schedule Sundays at 10:00am

*In person and available on Zoom. Coffee hour following the service. Every Thursday - Caritas is open 10:00am-1:00pm Second Tuesday of the month - Tom's Community Table at 5:00pm See our website for other offerings.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church and School (WELS)

Stephen Luchterhand, Pastor 715-356-2255 www.trinityminocqua.org 1 mile east of Hwy. 51 on "J" Sunday worship at 9:00 a.m. Monday worship at 6:30 p.m. Sunday morning Bible class and Sunday school at 10:15 a.m. You can also worship with us online at www.trinityminocqua.org. For additional information, please check out our Facebook page or call the church office.

United Methodist Church of the Pines

415 Chippewa (corner of Hwy 51 & Chicago), Minocqua, WI 715-356-3041 Rev. Mark Gilbert, pastor pastor@umchurchofthepines.org Merry Jorgensen, church administrator office@umchurchofthepines.org In-person and live-streamed services: Sunday Worship Service - 9:30 a.m. (year-round).

Coffee Fellowship is available in the Ministry Center at 9:00 a.m. before and after the service. Large-print bulletins, hymnals, and Bibles are available. The sanctuary is audio-looped for those with a telecoil (T-switch) in their hearing aids. Earphones are also available.

Activity bags and Bibles are available for children, and a special room at the back of the sanctuary is available for parents and guardians of young children. Lent and Easter Services: Worship services are live-streamed at the following sites: www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/live/ www.youtube.com/umchurchofthepines www.umchurchofthepines.org (worship service videos) Sermon by Phone - Call 1-715-203-1990 to listen to the most recent sermon. Church Office United Methodist Church of the Pines 715-356-3041 office@umchurchofthepines.org www.umchurchofthepines.org www.facebook.com/churchofthepines/

Presque Isle St. Rita's Catholic Church

Fr. Showri Jojappa Pasala, Parochial Administrator 715-385-2390 Year Round: Fridays at 9:00 a.m. Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m. (May 29-Sept 1)

Rhineland

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

780 Iverson St., Rhineland 715-362-7830 Sunday Schedule: Sacrament Meeting 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:20 a.m. Elders Quorum & Relief Society 12:10 p.m.

Northwoods Grace Fellowship

Goodwill Store Community Rm. 2181 Lincoln Street, Rhineland 715-439-4287 Bible Study: Wednesdays at 5:30 Free Bible Correspondence Courses Available www.northwoodsgrace.com

North Country Vineyard Church

130 South Stevens St., Rhineland 715-369-7589 Sunday Schedule: Sunday Worship Service 10 am Coffee bar opens at 9:30 am Nursery & Children's Church ages 6 months - 5th grade

Sayner

Sayner Community Church

(Christian, Non Denominated) 2995 Plum Lake Drive, Sayner, WI 54560 email: saynercommunitychurch@gmail.com www.saynercommunitychurch.org Sunday Worship 10:00 am

St. Mary Catholic Church

Fr. Showri Jojappa Pasala, Parochial Administrator 715-385-2390 Year Round: Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Wednesdays 8:00 a.m. Saturdays 5 p.m. (May 29-Sept 4)

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church NALC/ALC

2903 State Hwy 155, Sayner, 54560 715-542-3701 www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org email: secretary@sotlsayner.com Church School: Wednesdays 4 p.m. Worship Services: Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m.

St. Germain Northlife Church

Pastors: Josh Reese, Tom Kammel, David Ceballos, Aaron Anderson 6065 Hwy. 70 East, St. Germain 715-479-2173, info@northlifewisconsin.com northlifewisconsin.com Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 10:15 a.m. Nursery and children's church at second service Wednesday Night Church, 6:30 p.m. Classes for all ages during the school year.

St. Germain Community Church

(Christian, Non Denominated) 1315 WIS Hwy 155 St. Germain, WI 54558 715-542-3114 Saturday Worship 5:30 p.m. Fellowship Soup Supper first Saturday of each month at 4:30 p.m. Follow us on Facebook: StGCommunityChurch@gmail.com

Three Lakes Three Lakes Evangelical Free Church

1614 Hwy. 32, P.O. Box 687 Three Lakes, WI 54562 715-546-2000 Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday Bible School 10:30 a.m.

Grace Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)

Rev. Allen Montgomery 6948 E. School St. P.O. Box 216 Three Lakes, WI 54562 Saturday Worship 4:00 p.m. Tuesday Noon Bible Study

Winchester Living Hope Church

1 block north of corner of Hwys. W & O John Nuce, Pastor 906-932-0235 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Thursday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Woodruff Church of Christ

1111 First Ave. (Hwy. 47 S.) P.O. Box 1100, Woodruff 715-356-4828 Sunday Worship Assembly 10:00 a.m.

Eaglebrook Church

Pastor: Steven Rowe Student Pastor: Jordan Bailey 1025 Margaret Street, Woodruff 10:00 a.m. - Sunday Worship & Children's Church (K-6th Grade) 715-356-3313 www.eaglebrookminocqua.org Your "Brook" church in the Northwoods

Faith Evangelical Free Church

9035 Blumenstein Rd., Woodruff Pastors: Rick Goff, Randy Quade, and Steve Stepec 715-356-4311; secretary@faithwoodruff.com www.faitwoodruff.com Two services each Sunday: 8:30 am Worship, Nursery & Kids Ministry 10:15am Worship (no Nursery or Kids Ministry) Memorial Weekend through Labor Day Weekend

Holy Family Catholic Church

Holy Family Catholic Church 8950 County Highway J Woodruff, WI 54568 715-356-6284 www.holyfamilywoodruff.org Fr. Jerry Hagen Pastor Worship Schedule Sat., 4 p.m.; Sun. 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. All are Welcome! Reconciliation Saturday - 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm See website for more information: www.holyfamilywoodruff.org Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/holyfamilywoodruff

Woodruff Baptist Church

3 blocks E. of Hwy. 51 on 3rd & Cedar Sts. Scott Smith, Pastor 715-356-5015 or 892-2095 E-mail: woodruffbaptist@yahoo.com Web: woodruffbaptistchurch.org Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday Afternoon Service 2:00 p.m. (December - April) Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m. (May - December) Wednesday Evening Service & Prayer 6:30 p.m.

Northwoods Unitarian - Universalist Fellowship

Corner of Woodruff Rd. & Peggy Lane off County Rd. J Services meet at 10 a.m. every first and third Sunday of the month. Adult Education meets on the second and fourth Sundays. We are a welcoming congregation. More information available at nuuf.com.

Woodruff Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

8656 Hwy. 47 South, Woodruff 715-356-2249 Midweek Meeting Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Weekend Meeting Sunday 9:30 a.m.



Pickleball

From page 1

‘Some are better than none’ and let’s see where it goes from there. Because we really don’t have another space where we could build something like six courts at one time and I don’t have any idea what this is going to cost yet.”

Vojta said the sketch was provided by a company “that builds it so we had something to start with.”

“And we told them ‘Don’t give us any numbers; just come up with a design,’” he said. “We looked at a location. It fits. Unfortunately, there’s really only one location that it fits in right now, which is the old playground.”

Location concerns

The area in question is adjacent to the town’s community center.

“I know you said it’s the only place it fits without removing trees,” town supervisor Bob Olson said. “To me, I dislike the location. You’re only ten feet from this wall of this building. So you’re limited to a footprint if you ever want to expand or re-do the community center. You’re taking up parking when we already have parking all the way to the highway every Monday (during flea market time).”

Olson suggested the removal of trees to the north of the former playground area and putting the pickleball/basketball court there.

“I like the court, I want a court but I think we should look at the north side of the playground,” he said.

“I would encourage you to go look at it,” Vojta replied. “You can still see the old footprint from the old playground and miraculously, it measures 60-by-100.”

“With it taking up parking on Mondays so close to the community center,” Olson reiterated. “I just don’t like the location.”

The tentative location was also a source of concern for town supervisor Peggy Nimz.

“There would be no future prop-

erty available right next to that to put on an addition?” she asked.

“Right here, no,” Vojta replied. “You’d be right up against the ball field or you could go to the south but then you’re taking up parking lot. I can’t predict the future but there’s not room right now to put six courts in there without giving up something else.”

He didn’t want the town board to “get hung up” on location at this time.

“Let’s go figure out what the price is,” Vojta said. “Then we can hammer out the location later. Let’s go out and see where we’re at, see if we can afford it. Let’s see if it’s something we can do and then as far as the location and the rest of the logistics, I think we can talk about that at a later time.”

The motion that would be made, he said, would be to simply advertise for bids to see “if it’s something we can do.”

“All you’re looking for is to go and get a bid with the bid-spec on this,” town supervisor Brian Cooper clarified. “Because no matter where it gets put — with the exception of tearing out trees or something — it’s going to cost the same amount. So if somebody comes up with a better idea ... we’ll worry about that later, I guess, is the point.”

Vojta shared more specifics of the sketch of the proposed court.

“You do see lighting on there,” he said. “That is probably a future addition. We are looking at getting a bid-spec together for some kind of solar lighting that would be switched but that’s probably going to be in the future. Right now, it’s set up for north-south to be a full-size basketball court and east-west to be three certified pickleball courts.”

Vojta said he and Bossert had discussed plans with department of public works (DPW) superintendent Tom Stoltman.

“The biggest beef with the tennis courts is that it’s very difficult to remove the needles and the leaves within it because the fence is 360,” Vojta explained. “So the suggestion was to leave some part of it open so

they can blow the needles and leaves out of there. So, looking at it with Mr. Bossert and the company, with pickleball and the balls going off the end of the court, we needed to fence in the long sides and leave the ends — where the basketball hoops are — open.”

“It still has a rebounder for basketballs,” Bossert added.

Nets and posts

Olson asked about the specifics of posts, nets and whose responsibility it would be to tend them.

“There are now no nets in the bid at all,” Vojta said. “We wanted to put the sleeves in ... they go in the ground, and when they’re removed, there’s a cap that goes over it and that makes it a full surface.”

The thought process, he said, was having the sleeves “in the ground” in the event the town got to the point to have crank-up nets.

“The question was, with the cranks and people taking them in and out, is it a safety issue where somebody’s finger could get in there,” Vojta said. “For now, we want to do portable nets but we want to put the infrastructure in the ground — at least see what that cost was — if we want to do it permanently or something other than on wheels. Because once the asphalt is in, we don’t want to do it then.”

“Who’s going to be in charge of putting it in and out?” Olson asked. “Is it going to be a DPW thing?”

“That’s a logistics thing and I’ll turn it over to the facilities manager if we get to that point,” Vojta said. “This isn’t set in stone right now. It may be tweaked but we’d like to go out and — obviously, this is probably going to take a class-2 notice — and get that out there, get out the bid.”

The process, he said, will take some time.

“Maybe the asphalt gets installed this winter and the completion of the coats for the court are lined in spring and then the fencing will come after it but we don’t know what it’s going to cost,” Vojta said. “So let’s go out for bid and see what it costs and then, if we don’t like the location and we have to remove trees, then we’re going to have to figure out what those associated costs are.”

Just before he called for a vote, he summarized why it was the location that is being considered was chosen.

“We were talking about going where the old pavilion was but the fire chief brought up a great concern,” Vojta said. “We’re trying to keep kids — younger kids — away from the highway. If we had it right there, there runs a chance of them getting out into the highway, so that’s why we picked that spot.”

Having set concerns about the potential location aside, the board voted unanimously to authorize Vojta and Bossert to continue with the design process and seek bids for the project.

LSD

From page 47

said. “Now we can apply for the franchise.”

A conditional use permit (CUP) application through the Oneida County planning and zoning department is also required and that CUP application will first go through the Woodruff town board for a recommendation.

Carla Blankenship, a land use specialist with the planning and zoning department, said Gouardham’s CUP application “has been sitting here awhile, waiting for revisions and to be completed.”

Gouardham told the *Times* that will also happen once franchise approval is granted for his project “which is going to be about three weeks from now.”

Brian Jopek may be reached via email at bjopek@lakelandtimes.com.

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GARDEN FEST 2025 RAISES FUNDS FOR LAKELAND GARDENERS' HOSPICE GARDEN

A fun event for the whole family

BECKIE GASKILL/LAKELAND TIMES



The Lakeland Gardeners maintain the hospice garden at Seasons of Life Hospice House in Woodruff. Proceeds from Garden Fest help the gardeners with that work.



Attendees of Garden Fest were offered brats, hot dogs, chips, specialty drinks and even frozen custard from Culver's. Bake sale items were also available.



Mary Perez (right) applies a temporary dragonfly tattoo to Lakeland Gardener president Katy Kavemeier's face while Heidi Kraege from Aspirus looks on at Garden Fest last weekend. The event took place at the Seasons of Life Hospice House gardens, which are tended by the Lakeland Gardeners.



Lakeland Gardener members Jody Cardinal (left) and Ruth Wagner were stationed at the plant sale tent as attendees came to purchase plants the gardeners had grown. The plant sale raised hundreds of dollars in donations to help the gardeners maintain the hospice garden.



Well over a hundred people made their way through Garden Fest over the course of the event, buying raffle tickets, stopping at the dragonfly education booth, touring the garden, having lunch and listening to some great music.



Dan Lincoln performs live during Garden Fest.



Garden Fest also featured side-by-side rides to ferry people from the parking area up to the garden at the event.



Lakeland Gardeners grillers (from left) Tom Perz, Jim Nicholson and Jim Kavemeier kept the brats and hot dog coming for hungry visitors who came to Garden Fest last weekend.

MOVIE REVIEW

'Superman' a blast of fresh air

Brett LaBore
OF THE LAKELAND TIMES

I've been experiencing some superhero fatigue as of late. The new "Superman" was a breath of fresh air that I needed.

"Superman" came out July 11 and features David Corenswet, Rachel Brosnahan, Nicholas Hoult, Edi Gathegi, Anthony Carrigan, Nathan Fillion and Isabela Merced.

"Superman" was written and directed by James Gunn.

Superman (Corenswet) is considered an alien who can't be trusted. He tries to win over the hearts of the world as he looks to do what is right. However, Lex Luthor (Hoult) aims to bring Superman down and tarnish everything he stands for.

I enjoyed Gunn's "Guardians of the Galaxy" movies that are part of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU). Moving over to DC Universe, Gunn gave DC a shot in the arm.

"Superman" was a fresh take on the superhero genre, and it started

with Corenswet. He was excellent as Clark Kent/Superman and was easy to side with. He had a charm to him and wasn't overly serious. I didn't mind Henry Cavill, who was the latest Superman. Cavill just happened to be more stern.

Corenswet almost had a goofiness to him, but it made his character more relatable. I loved the kindness that he portrayed. He also had good chemistry with Brosnahan.

Brosnahan played Lois Lane, a reporter. As someone who works at a newspaper, I can appreciate what Lois Lane is trying to do. She wants to uncover the truth about Superman. Brosnahan depicted a smart and resourceful Lois Lane.

Gunn did something with the action sequences that I hadn't seen before, particularly the flying scenes. Sometimes it's hard to show some-

one flying because in reality, it's just a green screen and someone hanging in mid-air. Not in "Superman."

Everything felt very realistic in "Superman." All the shots looked legit and in camera. It's a gorgeous-looking film with a lot of literal bright scenes. That was an upgrade from the previous DC movies which looked so dark.

Gunn's "Superman" also shines in its on-location work in Cleveland, featuring sweeping aerials of the Cuyahoga

River and the stunning old Arcade with its glass-vaulted atrium. The Arcade, one of the nation's oldest indoor shopping malls, becomes more than a backdrop; it's a luminous character that anchors the film's bright aesthetic. It's fitting that the movie was filmed in Cleveland, often celebrated as Superman's birthplace, given the city's own storied role in the hero's



IMAGE COURTESY OF IMDB

early mythology.

"Superman" featured a lot of ethical talking points, as all superhero movies do. What would happen if Superman were real? Would we try to lock him up? When I watched the movie, it was hard not to side with Superman because he was saving lives and doing good. A lot of that empathy comes from Corenswet's performance.

I really liked that they added Krypto, Superman's pet dog. Krypto was really cute and provided some comic relief. In a film that at times is super serious, Krypto proved to be a bright spot to keep the film level-headed. It was a good addition.

I wish I would've seen more of Corenswet as Clark Kent, the reporter. I didn't get to see that side as much as I wanted to.

"Superman" is definitely a film that needs to be supported. I recommend seeing this film if you haven't already.

Brett LaBore may be reached at brett@lakelandtimes.com or sports@lakelandtimes.com.

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DeMet

From page 3

the manner required by law.”

Misconduct also occurs when an officer acts in a manner that the officer knows he or she is forbidden by law to do, Walker wrote, citing a second provision of the statute.

However, in a July 15 letter to Walker, Pfeifer said there was insufficient probable cause to establish a violation of either of those provisions. She also observed that under normal circumstances she would not be the one to field the complaint in the first place.

“As an initial matter, generally speaking, it would be improper for my office to receive concerns, complaints, requests or recommendations from a private individual for criminal charges against another individual,” Pfeifer wrote. “Procedurally, if a crime is alleged to have been committed, a complaint should be made to law enforcement, who will then investigate the offense. If the investigation gives rise to sufficient facts that establish probable cause that a crime has been committed, law enforcement will make a referral to my office requesting criminal charges.”

Nonetheless, Pfeifer continued, this particular case presented an unusual circumstance and, “for that reason, I will briefly explain why I will not be sending this matter to sheriff Hartman for additional investigation, nor will I be filing criminal charges against Mr. DeMet.”

Pfeifer began by asserting there were distinctions in the law between ‘knowledge’ and ‘intent.’

“The facts in [the open meetings case] established that Mr. DeMet knowingly violated open meetings law,” Pfeifer wrote. “However, a violation of [the misconduct statute’s first provision] requires intentional conduct. When it comes to criminal law, the elements of knowledge and intent are not synonymous mental states, and therefore, the facts establishing knowledge in [the open meetings violation] are insufficient to establish an intentional violation of [the misconduct statute provision.]”

Pfeifer also found that there was insufficient probable cause to establish a violation of the second Walker allegation, namely, misconduct occurs when officials commit acts that the officials know are in excess of their lawful authority or which the officials know they are forbidden by law to do in their official capacity.

“[That provision] appears to require an individual engage in an overt act; it does not appear to criminalize an individual for failing to do something,” Pfeifer wrote. “The facts in [the open meetings violation case] established that Mr. DeMet failed to perform duties, as a result, said facts do not provide a sufficient basis to establish a violation of [that misconduct provision.]”

Pfeifer next turned her attention to a third provision of the misconduct statute, specifically, “when an official, whether by commission or omission, exercises a discretionary power in a manner inconsistent with the duties of the official’s office ... with intent to obtain a dishonest advantage for the officer or employee or another.”

With respect to that provision, Pfeifer wrote that she would decline to prosecute DeMet even if a violation could be established.

“[That provision] requires an intent to obtain a dishonest advantage for himself or another,” she wrote. “In glancing at the case law, the vast majority of the cases

address instances where public officials engaged in extortion, bribery, or acts for political gain.”

Even if it could be established that DeMet knowingly failed to provide proper notice of the informational session with the intention of obtaining a dishonest advantage, such as attempting to avoid public opposition on passing an enhanced wake boat ordinance, the case did not rise to the level that warrants prosecution, Pfeifer asserted.

“Because quite frankly, the end result, which was the passing of an ordinance banning enhanced wake boats, as it stands now, would be unenforceable,” she wrote. “Therefore, ultimately, no advantage is gained.”

Unenforceable?

That last sentence, of course raised the question: Why does the district attorney think the ordinance is unenforceable? This week, Pfeifer explained her take.

Basically, the district attorney stated, there’s no one to enforce it.

“There is no law enforcement agency that would have jurisdiction to enforce a citation issued in violation of the enhanced wake boat ordinance,” Pfeifer told the *Times* this week. “Neither the DNR nor the sheriff enforce local town ordinances.”

To be sure, last year in an interview, Darren Kuhn, the state Department of Natural Resources’ boating law administrator, told the *Times* that the DNR enforces state boating laws, not local town boating ordinances.

Then, too, also in an interview last year, Oneida County sheriff Grady Hartman said that, while municipalities without police departments or boat safety patrols can enter into contractual arrangements with other law enforcement agencies to enforce boating ordinances, most towns lack such arrangements.

Hartman said that was the situation for his department throughout Oneida County, and this week he affirmed that is still the case.

“We do not enforce town or city ordinances, so we will not be enforcing the local wake ordinances,” Hartman said in 2024. “In order to enforce those, we would have to enter into a service contract with the local municipality and we currently don’t have any of those.”

It’s complicated

Then there’s the question of towns issuing citations themselves, which is a lot more complicated. Wisconsin towns do have the statutory authority to issue municipal citations for town ordinance violations even if they have no police department or official boat safety patrol or any contract with another law enforcement agency.

According to state law, citations for municipal ordinance violations can be issued by law enforcement officers of a county, town, city, village, town sanitary district or public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district. However, in addition to law enforcement, the town board may designate by ordinance or resolution who may issue citations with respect to ordinances that are directly related to their official responsibilities.

The town of Lake Tomahawk has such a citation ordinance in place. That ordinance states that citations may be issued by the town board, and the town board may designate certain town, county, or other municipal officials to issue the citations.

The ordinance also gives explicit citation authority to the fire chief, building inspector, plumbing inspector, electrical inspector, health officer, animal control or human health officer, the director of Pub-

lic Works or the town chairman. By state law, those officials could only issue citations for infractions directly related to their official responsibilities.

For her part, Pfeifer said the town chairman, to be able to enforce ordinance violations, would likely have to meet the requirements that state statutes specify for constables. Under that statutory provision, a town board shall determine the jurisdiction and duties of the town constable, and, if a town constable is given law enforcement duties by the town board, the constable must meet the statutory definition of a law enforcement officer — “any person employed by the state or any political subdivision of the state, for the purpose of detecting and preventing crime and enforcing laws or ordinances and who is authorized to make arrests for violations of the laws or ordinances that the person is employed and sworn to enforce ...”

The statute also requires the constable to comply with the minimum employment standards for law enforcement officers established by the law enforcement standards board and complete training, which by statute must be at least 600 hours.

“Additionally, in order to enforce ordinance violations, I believe the town chair would have to meet the requirements of Wis. Stat. 60.22(4) [the constable statute],” she wrote. “I am not sure if Mr. DeMet meets those requirements.”

However, Pfeifer stressed that she had not had time for significant research into that last assertion, so she could not be certain without further investigation into the law.

To be sure, the law is vague whether the constable requirements would apply to non-constable officials but the statutes do appear to grant town boards citation authority without mandating them to meet statutory law enforcement criteria. For one thing, for constables, the law only mandates law enforcement training and standards when they are given explicit law enforcement powers, which by Wisconsin statutory definition is a position with arrest powers.

The separate citation statutes for towns do not empower those given citation authority to make arrests, which would trigger the need to meet the standards for law enforcement officers. It also states that town boards and those they designate to issue citations are “in addition” to law enforcement officers authorized to issue citations.

What’s more, while those holding citation authority are tethered in its use to their official responsibilities, the Lake Tomahawk enhanced wake ordinance explicitly empowers enforcement by any member of the town board and “all other individuals or agencies empowered to enforce ordinances in this town.”

The constitutional conundrum

That still might not pass statutory muster, but it might not make a difference in actual practice.

Indeed, as a DNR official said last year, municipalities issuing citations for wake boat ordinance violations could be headed down a slippery slope.

The problem is not with the enforcement mechanism but in the ability of towns to constitutionally gather evidence in the absence of an official law enforcement presence.

And even if there was an available law enforcement arm, it’s questionable what authority they would have to carry out what is necessary to discover evidence of an ordinance violation, namely, the right to board a vessel.

Proving a wake violation is virtually impossible without boarding a boat because the wake itself doesn’t definitively prove the use of illegal wake-enhancing equipment, such as illegal use of ballast tanks or bags.

While the state statute governing boat patrols give officers the right to board a boat with only reasonable suspicion — “Officers patrolling the waters as part of a water safety patrol unit may stop and board any boat for the purpose of enforcing [statutory boating regulations] ... if the officers have reasonable cause to believe there is a violation ...” — many law enforcement officials in Wisconsin believe that statute is constitutionally suspect and, whether it is or not, won’t board a boat without probable cause or a warrant.

Hartman said last year that was the case with him.

“I don’t believe you can enter a boat, home, or car with reasonable suspicion,” he said. “I also don’t know of any water patrols in Oneida County that are actually boarding boats, that’s more of a Coast Guard thing.”

Over at the DNR, Kuhn agreed about the need for probable cause. If a municipality had an enforcement arm that was designated or agreed to enforce that particular ordinance, Kuhn said a boat could be stopped because of reasonable suspicion, to ask the operator if he’s using his ballast systems. But, the boating law administrator said, without more than reasonable suspicion, that’s as far as law enforcement can go unless the boat operator agreed to let officers on board.

So even with a law enforcement arm, there is a high bar to meet for boarding any boat to prove an enhanced wake ordinance violation, in the view of many law enforcement officials. And without an official law enforcement presence, it is even more difficult for the town to gather evidence constitutionally.

And the notion that citizens committees or individual citizens can do so on the water is a big concern, said the DNR’s Kuhn.

Town officials, too, have to be conscious about issuing citations without concrete evidence. While it has become popular and routine for ordinance supporters to suggest to towns and citizens that they can video or photograph a boat they suspect is guilty of an enhanced wake violation and then send it to the town chairperson or other appropriate official for prosecution, Kuhn said in last year’s interview that is not what the DNR urges people to do, and he says it could be problematic for those who do.

“If that’s how the ordinance is written where they’re going to base prosecution on a citizen photograph or a citizen video without any sort of contact and evidence to take into court other than a photograph, I think that is bad policy,” he said.

Kuhn said he had not personally seen an ordinance that urged citizens to take a video and send it to the town chairman for prosecution: “But that definitely would be a red flag if I saw an ordinance that said, do that,” he said.

The DNR boating law administrator agreed that a photo could not provide the evidence needed to prove the violation because the photo could not show that ballast tanks were full or that fins were down. Again, Kuhn said photographic evidence was nice, but he would not use it as the basis for a citation, which would be contingent on an actual interview and physical contact.

Richard Moore is the author of “Dark State” and may be reached at richardd3d.substack.com.

Events

From page 32

wear science-themed attire and stand in solidarity for truth and evidence-based leadership. Info: contact Pat OGrady 715-807-0147.

Sunday, July 27

MANITOWISH WATERS: MUSIC IN THE PARK- 4 to 6 p.m., Koller Park. This is a free, family friendly event! Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy great live music. Info: visit mwmusicinthepark.com.

EAGLE RIVER: FARMERS MARKET- 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., 613 Michigan Street. Enjoy shopping small producers, gardeners, farmers, and local craft artisans. Info: visit eagleriver.org.

BOULDER JUNCTION: TRAP AND SKEET SHOOTING- Noon to 3 p.m., Boulder Junction Shooting Range, 10499 Nebish Road. Trap and skeet shooting, 5-stand is available May through October if there are enough shooters. Info: boulderjunctionshootingrange.com or call 715-891-7404.

BOULDER JUNCTION: FILL THE VAN CAN TOUR- 2 p.m., Lumberjack Village. Bring your aluminum cans and help us fill the van to support Fetch Foster and Rescue. Info: call 715-605-2175.

BOULDER JUNCTION: OUTDOOR WORSHIP- 9:30 a.m., Community Church of Boulder Junction. Bring a lawn chair and invite a friend. Info: call 715-385-2146.

ARBOR VITAE: ANNUAL TRAIN SWAP MEET- 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Arbor Vitae Town Hall. Info: call Skip Tosh, president of Northwoods Model Railroad Club at 715-356-6656.

RHINELANDER: RIVER MONSTERS GAME- 1:30 p.m., Hodag Park. Join us for a great game against the Whittlesey Reds! Burgers, brats, hot dogs, candy, and lots more will be available for purchase. Info: visit business.rhinelandechamber.com.

MINOCQUA: MIN-AQUA BATS WATER SKI SHOW- 7 p.m., 422 W Park Ave. Come down to Minocqua lake and enjoy a show filled with lots of water ski fun! Info: visit minaquabats.org.

MINOCQUA: PARTY IN THE PARK- 3 to 6 p.m., Torpy Park. Enjoy great gree live music on Lake Minocqua! Concessions will be available for purchase. Clover and the Bee will be performing. Info: email hello@visitdowntownminocqua.com.

Monday, July 28

MINOCQUA: PASTIME CLUB- 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Ascension Lutheran Church. Pastime Club is a non-profit, social model adult day program serving Oneida, Vilas, and Lincoln counties. Info: call Rebecca Johnson at 608-881-2117 or email pastimes2007@yahoo.com.

MINOCQUA: BEARS WILDLIFE SERIES- 1 to 2 p.m., Minocqua Winter Park. This will be a fun interactive presentation about bears and their behavior. Weather permitting you will be able to enjoy the views from Squirrel Hill. There will also be a silent auction. Registration appreciated.

Info: visit minocquawinterpark.org.
MINOCQUA: MINOCQUA DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB- 6 p.m., American Legion Hall. Join us every Monday for an ACBL sanctioned game. Info: call 715-892-5479.

SAYNER: NON FICTION BOOK CLUB- 11 a.m., Plum Lake Library. This month we will discuss Braving It: A Father, a Daughter, and an Unforgettable Journey into the Alaskan Wild by James Campbell. Info: visit plumlakelibrary.org.

SAYNER: KNIT AND STITCH GROUP- 1 p.m., Plum Lake Library. All skill levels are welcome to join our weekly meeting for comradery and conversation! Info: visit plumlakelibrary.org.

BOULDER JUNCTION: MAH JONGG- 1 to 4 p.m., Boulder Junction Public Library. Beginners are welcome! Bring your set if you have one, otherwise one will be provided. Info: visit boulderjunctionlibrary.org.

PRESQUE ISLE: NORTHWOODS TABLE TENNIS CLUB- 8:30 to 11 a.m., Presque Isle Community Center. Join us Monday and Thursday mornings for some games of table tennis! Paddles and balls are provided. Info: call 414-840-5731.

PRESQUE ISLE: MEMORY CHECK IN- 1 to 3 p.m., Presque Isle Library. Reserve a time slot for a brain check-up and to learn about healthcare decisions such as Power of Attorney. Info: call 715-479-3625.

ST. GERMAIN: BINGO- 7 to 10 p.m., St. Germain Community Center. Join us Monday nights for ten fun games and a progressive game of Bingo! Fun for all ages! Info: visit st-germain.com.

ST. GERMAIN: FLEA MARKET- 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Germain Town Park. Explore many different vendors with food, art, produce, crafts, and other treasures! Info: visit st-germain.com.

EAGLE RIVER: UKULELE PRACTICE- 2 to 3:30 p.m., Olson Memorial Library. Come practice your skills! All playing levels welcome. If you can't play, bring another instrument or your voice. Info: visit olsonlibrary.org.

WOODRUFF: MAHJONG- 9 a.m., Lakeland Retirement Foundation-Generations, 103 Elm St. Woodruff. Every Monday. Come by yourself or bring a friend! Info: call 715-356-9118.

WOODRUFF: CRIBBAGE- 1 p.m., Lakeland Retirement Foundation-Generations, 103 Elm St. Woodruff. Every Monday. Come by yourself or bring a friend! Info: call 715-356-9118.

MANITOWISH WATERS: TENNIS DOUBLES- 9 a.m. to noon, North Lakeland Elementary School. Join us for some fun tennis every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in summer. Info: call 715-892-1328.

THREE LAKES: HOOK AND NEEDLE NIGHT- 5 to 7 p.m., Demmer Memorial Library. A social gathering for knitters, crocheters, and needle workers. Share your projects, get tips, and enjoy the company of fellow crafters. Info: visit demmerlibrary.org.

LAKE TOMAHAWK: SNOWSHOE BASEBALL- 7:30 p.m., Snowshoe Park. Free admission, concession stand available along with homemade pies. This weeks game is against Blackbear Bar. Info: call 715-499-0625, visit laketomahawkwi.org.

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Middle school band and choir camp is back at Campanile this August

Calling all Middle School Band and Choir students! Do you want to join an exciting musical community this summer? Come to the Middle School Band and Choir Camp at the Campanile this Aug. 6-9. This year our directors include returning band director Maya Woods and the new choir director, Marcel LaFountain. Both of these directors are local music teachers who promise to create a summer experience that will not only be fun, but also empowering and enriching for young musicians.

"All area middle school students entering 6th-9th grades are encouraged to participate in either one or both of the camps," said Ms. Woods. "Last year, I watched these young musicians grow in confidence and skill — and most importantly, have fun making music together. I can't wait to see what we create this summer."

The middle school band and choir camps will have separate practice times to allow students to participate in both camps if they wish.

"The choir will rehearse from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and the band will rehearse from 4 to 6 p.m. Aug. 6-8," Mr. LaFountain explained.

"We will have a combined dress rehearsal with a pizza party on the ninth to celebrate everyone's work, and the camps will finish with a combined concert at 1 p.m. for the community," Ms. Woods continued.

Registration is open now! The cost is \$25 per camp or \$50 for both band and choir. Go to campanilecenter.org for more information or contact the Campanile at 715-356-9700.

Registration will remain open through Aug. 5. These camps are supported by the Wisconsin Public Service Foundation.

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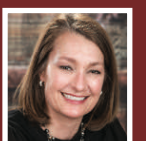
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Shishebogama Lake

- 3 BR/3 BA, 1900+/- finished sq ft, multi-level
- 123' level, sand frtg, western exposure
- 3 car garage, 62x33 pole barn, heated wkshp

\$985,000 MLS#212881

Sugar Camp Chain

NEW LISTING

- 3 BR/2.5 BA, on thoroughfare, 1.99 AC
- 207' frtg, 2080 sq ft living space
- New dock, 2 car attached garage

\$819,000 MLS#212923

Eagle River

PRICE ADJUSTED

- 4 BR/2.5 BA, 2520 sq ft, 7+/- AC
- Heated att garage, 45x72 heated workshop
- Natural gas, central air, new shingles

\$674,000 MLS#211914

Newbold

PRICE ADJUSTED

- 3 BR/2 BA, 2100+ sq ft, FP, central air
- 3+/- AC, borders state land, generator
- 2 car att & 44x36 3 car det garages

\$514,900 MLS#211928

Eagle River

NEW LISTING

- 4 BR/3.5 BA, over 3300 finished sq ft
- High quality features, numerous updates
- 2 AC, wooded & pvt, 2.5 car heated garage

\$469,900 MLS#212908

Minocqua

NEW LISTING

- 3 BR/3 BA, 2010 finished sq ft, unique floorplan
- 4 car heated garage, 1.78 AC wooded lot
- Great location, high speed internet, well/septic

\$450,000 MLS#212984

Upper Buckatabon Lake

NEW LISTING

- 3 BR/1 BA open concept condo, many updates
- 199' frtg on 870 AC full rec lake
- 2 car det garage, sand beach, screened porch

\$425,000 MLS #213156

Lake Superior

- 17 AC, level & buildable
- 419' frtg, panoramic views
- Additional 3.74 AC & 341' frtg available

\$350,000 MLS#212535

Rhinelander

PRICE ADJUSTED

- 3 BR/2 BA, 2200+ finished sq ft, 2+ AC
- Massive deck, open concept, LL family room
- 2 car attached garage + 16x40 pole building

\$345,000 MLS#212949

Minocqua

PRICE ADJUSTED

- 2 BR/1 BA ranch, wood stove
- Updates, 8.8 AC, trails, fenced yard
- 2 car garage, full basement, privacy

\$299,900 MLS#212076

Chase Creek

NEW LISTING

- 3 BR/2 BA, open concept
- 1000+' frtg on trout stream
- 10.8 AC, 28x40 garage

\$275,000 MLS#213230

Muskesin Lake

PRICE ADJUSTED

- 1.18+/- AC, dense hemlock, lake view
- 101'+/- frtg, cleared building site
- Driveway, private lake, electric at lot

\$109,000 MLS#212117

Presque Isle

NEW LISTING

- 4.78 AC in private preserve w/6400 AC
- Deeded access to 4 lakes, close to trails
- Rough drive in, cleared building site

\$45,900 MLS#212915

McCullough Lake

PRICE ADJUSTED

- 2.31 AC wooded lot, hiking trails
- Private access to four lakes
- Nearby bike trails, shopping, dining

\$24,900 MLS#211119

Harmony

NEW LISTING

- 5 AC in remote location
- Close to rivers, abundant wildlife
- Priced right, private and serene

\$19,900 MLS#212911



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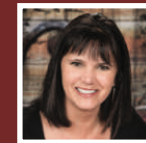
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