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North Buffalo Creek Fishing Hole Gets New Bridge

By ROLLYN H. SAMP

It's been called "the fishing hole." A small body of water east of the bridge on North Buffalo Creek has been a source of conversation for Lake Madison-bound persons for decades.

Often just called County Road 21 – 461st Ave, links the Chester Road to Lake Madison and other Lake access.

Driving by "the fishing hole," there's always been speculation. "How

deep is it?" "Are there fish in there?" Observations of how low or how high the water is made for weekly conversations. Now, we know.

In mid-August, Lake County Highway Department and Nolz Dragline & Construction started to replace the bridge by the fishing hole. A good deal of excavation has taken place during the first weeks of the project.

One often asked question ... *Will the fishing hole return?* ■

CAUTION FOR BOATERS: Area lakes in low water mode

By MARY GALES ASKREN
Madison Daily Leader Reporter

Both Lake Madison and Lake Herman are in low water mode, according to District Parks Manager John Bame.

"This is the lowest I've seen it," he said on Friday morning as he worked with a parks colleague to improve the boat

ramp at Johnson's Point.

Bame qualified that statement by saying he's only been in the district for 10 years, but he noted boaters need to take care. This warning is especially important for those with larger recreational boats.

Bame doesn't want to discourage

Continued on page 4



Photo by Mary Gales Askren

JOHN BAME, district parks manager, works with a colleague in August to clear debris from the boat ramp at Johnson's Point. His department is working to keep access to area lakes open despite low water.

Follow lake developments all year.

— check out our websites —

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LAKE MADISON

Letter from the President of Lake Madison Development Association

Dear Lake Homeowners, family, friends, and guests interested in the improvement of Lake Madison,

It is truly my privilege to serve as your President and carry on what my father, Bob Hagggar, believed in! I have served in his position on the LMDA board since his passing 21 years ago. My grandchildren are the fifth generation as my grandfather bought my family's property in 1950. I have great memories and continue to make memories with my husband, Gary, and our family. After a challenging year for so many, I want us to re-engage in activities to support the lake that we love.

Being near water promotes good physical and mental well-being, boosts creativity, and improves sleep quality! That's why we are lake dwellers! We are blessed! I have learned our GFP and Law Enforcement experience challenges on this lake and the highways surrounding our homes. It takes our membership and association to assist, communicate and collaborate with these agencies to bring a safe family environment.

I'm asking each of you to stay "in the know" about Lake Madison and engage in volunteer activities that contribute to improvements we have and will continue to work on as an association.

The Annual Picnic was well attended, and we appreciated updates from our local leaders. We did invite the county commissioners, but they weren't able to attend. They are always welcome to any meeting!

I promise to work on the following goals with the LMDA Exec and Board members, as these issues were discussed at the annual picnic:

- Strengthen attendance at our quarterly meetings. Open invitation! The next meeting will be on November 4th at THE LAKES BAR & GRILL at 7:00 PM. Everyone is invited to attend. We will also offer the meeting via Zoom to those who are not able to participate in person. We'll keep the meeting to two hours while still providing time for questions and comments.
- We wish to strengthen the membership of

the association, and that will take action from everyone. If we each bring one new member into the association, we will accomplish so much! There is strength in numbers!



- Safety has been a priority with my predecessors, and I will need their support and knowledge to collaborate moving forward. The law enforcement team has expressed great interest in enforcing speed limits, golf cart management on the highways, and protecting our homes from theft. There are presently five AED locations around the lake. There are CPR certification classes that will be held in the future; two have already been hosted!
- Fishing & habitat management is supported by SD Games Fish and Parks. We have incredible members of LMDA working on perch seines to increase our perch population. On June 10th, 196,000 walleye fingerlings were put into Lake Madison.
- Lake property development allows the association to financially support and invest in water quality, safety, and fishing enhancements programs.

I would like you to personally consider helping in any way you can in recruiting a new member to the Lake Madison Development Association. We have 560 members, and our goal is to get everyone on the lake involved. Over 900 households are enjoying our slice of heaven! Let's encourage our neighbors to join! Enjoy the beautiful fall that the lake brings us!

Jackie Hagggar-Tuschen
President, LMDA

P.S. If you would like to volunteer on a committee, please contact me at 605-940-1734. We have a place for your talents!

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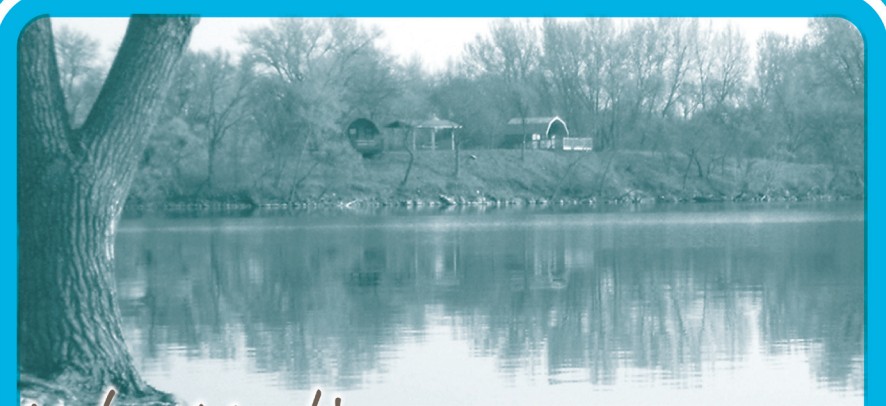
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HILLSIDE LUAU THRILLS AGAIN

6th Annual Luau at Hillside

By NEFU MAGEO

The Hillside Resort hosted its 6th annual Luau event on Saturday, July 31st 2021. Dancers, family and friends flew in from all over the United States to participate in the special event. Each year, this event gets bigger and bigger and is the best show on the lake because you don't see it around here. Instead of you taking your family to the Islands, we will bring you the islands to you at Hillside Resort.

The day started with private Polynesian dance lessons on the beautiful lakeside deck. The afternoon was a fun filled bean bag tournament with lots of people participating in the games.

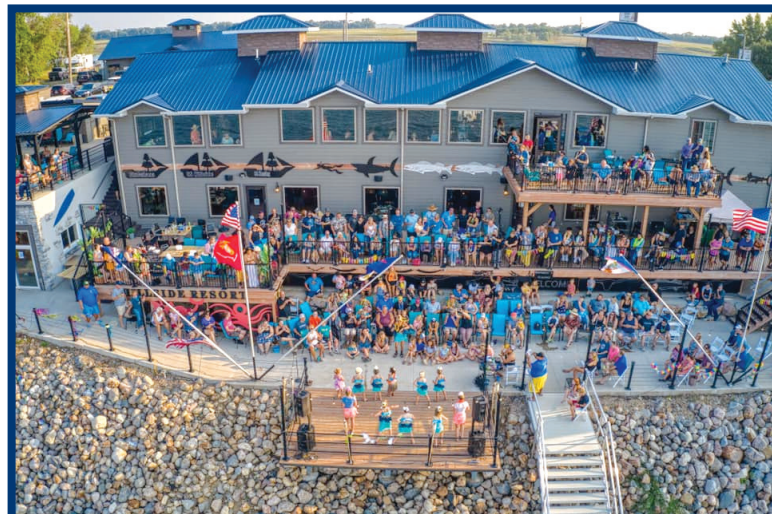
A delicious Hawaiian style meal was served for dinner and left everyone full.

The evening Luau show was spectacular with beautiful dancers from Samoa, Hawaii, Fiji, and Tahiti. They even brought up audience members to participate in the dances.



The night ended with an amazing Fire Knife show and my son Matai performed again for his 6th year, he gets better and better each year. Family and friends also joined on stage to learn the Haka.

It's so much fun that people will ask right away after the show when is our next one! So We try to host this event the last weekend in July or the first weekend in August each year. ■



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2021 LMDA Picnic

By VONNIE LARSEN

Sixty-three years ago, Lake Madison cabin owners gathered at Woods Resort (now Hillside) to address problems around the lake. These were the men and women of the greatest generation who had returned from World War II, used to working in groups, and determined to get a job done.

Dusty gravel roads, clean water, and boat traffic were among the top topics of discussion.

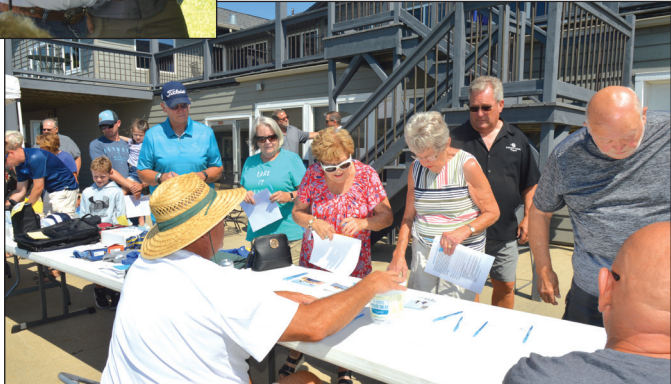
Building on their legacy, this year's Lake Madison Development annual meeting/picnic was held in a large tent at The Lakes Golf Course.

The Lakes Bar and Grill was kind enough to serve a wonderful lunch. Boasted chicken, pork sandwiches, potato salad, coleslaw, beans, and free soda and beer. The combination of a perfect day and the busy agenda attracted an overflow crowd for the meeting.

Outgoing President Mark Wolfe gave his thanks to members for their support. Reports were provided by Cody Symenn, SD Game Fish and Parks, Maury Diggs, Fishing Committee Chairman, Mark Wolfe, Safety Committee Chairman, Fire Chief Terry Reck, Deputy Sheriff Serena Couch, and others.

New officers for the coming year are Jackie Haggar Tuchen as President, Elaine Garry as First Vice President, Matthew Samp as Second Vice President, and Cheri Wolfe as Secretary/Treasurer. A big that's to all who served last year. Still, a special thank you to the talented Cheri Wolfe, who keeps track of a massive amount of information and keeps our organization in tip-top shape!

This meeting was the first in two years due to COVID-19 requiring the cancellation of last year's meeting.



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Area Lakes : Low Water Mode...

Continued from page 1

Caution for boaters on Lake Madison & Lake Herman

people from enjoying the lakes, because he's been out with his sons tubing and they have had fun. He simply wants them to be aware of current conditions.

Lake Herman is shallow. In the bay between the state park peninsula and Dirk's Resort Campground, the water is no deeper than three and a half feet in most areas with some shallower areas. In the northern part of the lake, Bame estimates the water is no deeper than five or six feet in most areas.

When swimming, he can stand on the bottom in many areas. In areas where the water is over his head, he doesn't believe it's deeper than seven feet.

Bame has been working with other parks personnel this week to keep the public ramps on Lake Madison open. He does recommend that boaters use the Payne boat ramp on the western side of the lake or the boat ramp at Walker's Point Recreation Area.

At Johnson's Point, the water is so low that little of the concrete ramp remains in the water, and the water is only knee deep several yards beyond the ramp. On Friday morning, parks personnel were working to remove debris near the bottom of the ramp so it can be used for smaller boats, such as fishing boats.

At the Payne boat ramp and Walker's

Point, they worked this week to fill holes created by power loading boats onto trailers.

"The churning on the end of the ramp makes a hole," Bame explained. With low water shortening the portion of the ramp in the water, trailers are dropping into that hole. In both places, the water is no deeper than 2.5 feet at the end of the ramp.

"It's going to be tough to get your boat off the water," he said. "Normally, there are four and a half feet of water at the end of the ramp."

Considering the current conditions, Bame recommends boaters winch their boats onto trailers rather than attempt to power load them. He also recommends that with lower water levels, boaters keep in mind the sandbars that come off many of the points.

Finally, he recommends homeowners with private boat docks keep an eye on water levels so they are able to remove their boats at the end of the season. Until that time, he does not want to discourage people from enjoying time on the area lakes.

"Access is quite tough, but we're going to do our best to keep it open," Bame said. ■



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Forced Family Fun

By **M.K. SAMP**

Going back to school doesn't mean the fun and family time are done. When my siblings and I were younger my parents instituted a bunch of family time traditions. Their favorite was Forced Family Fun. It was a time for us as a family to go do something we haven't done before.

Other times we would go out for a RENNID or Dinner backwards. To have a RENNID you start with dessert and work your way backwards. Don't worry if you don't make it to the salad. RENNID nights are a night to have your dessert first, have fun, and forget the rest.

The other night we would have been bad manners night. My mother was a strickle for proper table manners but on

bad manners night we could do whatever we wanted. The catch was we had to clean up any mess we made to mom's standard of clean. We didn't use utensils. Sometimes sat on the table. One time we even had a food fight... there is a reason it only happened once. It took a long time to clean.

Back to Forced Family Fun, the most memorable Forced Family Fun was the time in the middle of winter we drove to Lake Madison. The lake was frozen over with a lot of snow on top of the ice. It was so weird to see the lake frozen. My Dad told us how he used to go sledding down a big hill at the lake when he was younger. My Dad drove the car closer and closer to the lake's edge. Then, he drove on the ice. It was kind of scary. We were going to drive



from one side of the lake to the other but, plans changed really fast. When we were about a quarter of the way across the car got stuck. We bundled up in our winter gear and tried putting the floor mats under the tires and even Chex mix but nothing seemed to work. My Dad ended up calling for a tow-truck. As we waited, we saw an area where some Ice Fisherman had previously been. The water had re-frozen and no snow had fallen on it yet. First, we checked the thickness to make sure it was safe and then we ran with our sleds and slid across the ice. Once we knew

we could slide like penguins on the ice we ditched the sleds and slid on our bellies back and forth. Eventually we were towed back to land and drove home but we will never forget the time our parents got us stuck in the middle of the lake in winter.

Family fun is a year-round activity. Try our some of our traditions and make your own. Dessert for dinner is always a hit. Trying to eat spaghetti without a fork is so much fun. Making memories is worth so much more than material things. Family fun doesn't rely on being at the lake. ■



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Catch-and-Release Best Practices

by Bruna Carincotte

Many are familiar with the concept of catch-and-release fishing, but few know the actual techniques anglers have to use in order to inflict as little damage as possible upon the fish. Read on to find out the best way to handle fish, what hooks to use for catch-and-release, and how to revive the fish if necessary.

Prepare Your Hooks

If you're planning on practicing catch-and-release, stay away from treble hooks; the triple-pronged hooks will inflict too much damage on a fish you're meant to be throwing back. Stick to j-hooks or circle-hooks instead. If you need to swap out the hooks on your bait, use a small pair of split-ring pliers to remove the treble-hooks. The pliers will also come in handy to de-barb your j or circle hooks; do this by "squishing" the barb down so that it is flush with the tip of the hook. Ultimately, circle-hooks are the best choice for catch-and-release anglers as the circular shape of the hook can be passed through the fish's stomach in the event that it is swallowed.

Handling the Fish

When you've hooked a fish you plan to release, keep in mind that a protracted battle with the fish could cause it to expire from the exertion of energy during the fight. When you've caught the fish, be sure to handle it with wet hands. Fish have a protective layer of "slime" that gets disturbed when handled with dry hands, leaving the



fish vulnerable to infections. In the event that the fish gets hooked in its stomach, it is best to cut the line and leave the hook undisturbed, rather than attempting to remove it. Finally, never hold the fish by its lower lip with one hand, always use your other hand to support the belly and lessen the pressure on its jaw.

Fish CPR and Revival

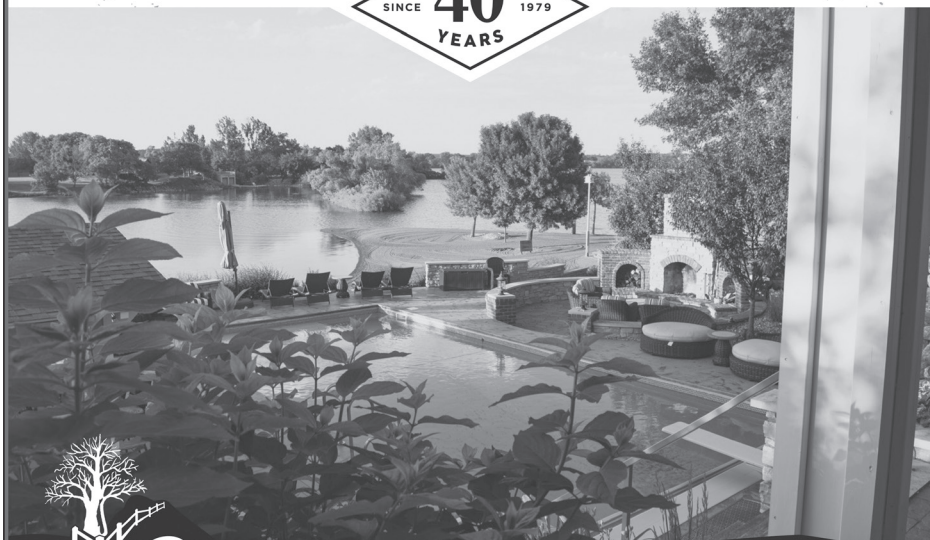
Despite your efforts not to overtire the fish, your catch may be lethargic. In this scenario, it is best to perform fish CPR – don't worry, it doesn't require mouth-to-mouth! Hold the fish so that it is facing the current. This allows water to flow through its gills and encourages revival. If the water is fairly still, gently steer the fish in a figure-8 pattern in the water. Keep in mind that as soon as you release the fish, it returns to the food chain, so you want to be sure that you wait until it is showing signs of health and revival.

Fish provide anglers with untold hours of recreational fun, so the least we can do when practicing catch-and-release fishing is ensure that the fish is handled as gently as possible, thus giving it the best chance for survival long after we've left the lake! For more tips on catch-and-release fishing, read conservationist Joe Overlock's article on Fix.com.

Content courtesy from Fix.com. Alexandra MacRae works for Fix.com, a lifestyle blog that covers all things fishing; from fly fishing to teaching children to fish. ■

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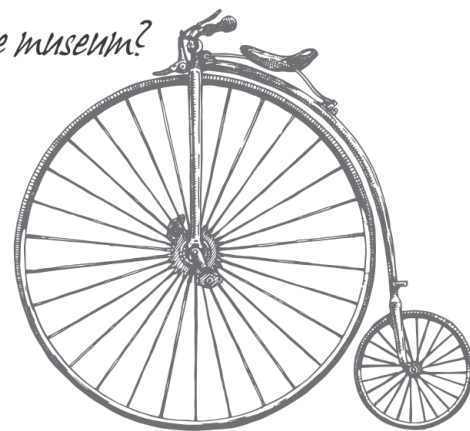
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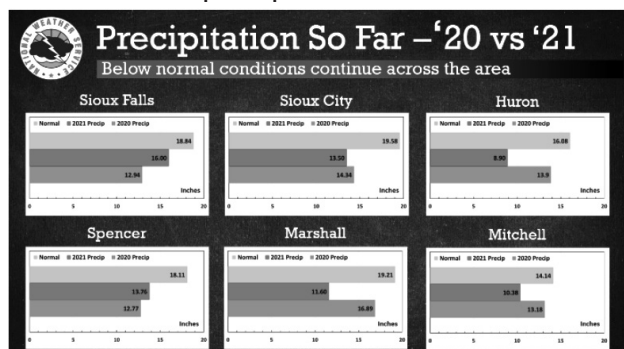


WHEN THE LAKE WAS DRY

The Dry Years

by **DENISE LEWIS**

"It's a dry one this year!" is a typical comment heard in conversations this year. All around the region we have generally had below normal precipitation in 2020 and 2021.



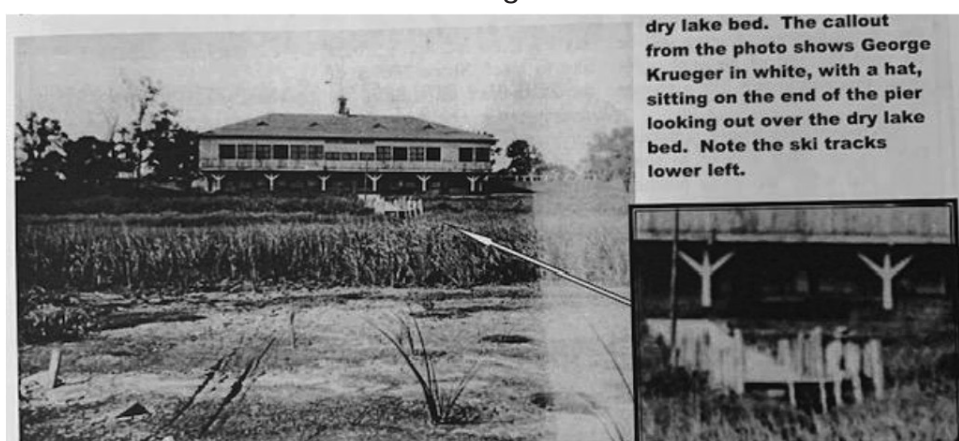
If you have lived on the lake for very long, then you are very aware that our water levels ebb and flow from year to year. Just two years ago in 2019 we were talking about record-breaking high-water levels in the lake, levels only reached every 100 or 500 years. The opposite also happens. After consecutive dry years and extreme drought, our underwater aquifer can shrink and cause

our lake level to drop, occasionally to record breaking 100-year lows. After a wetter than usual decade, this year's drought seems intense. But it really isn't all that drastic, not yet anyway. For the last half century or so our average precipitation by this time of year is around 18 inches. This year and last year were well below that, and it's hard to remember that all the waterways in the Missouri river basin were full and overflowing less than 2 years ago. While it has felt dry all summer, Lake Madison was still running over the spillway until after the 4th of July.

Our current 18-month drought has caused very low surface moisture, which is hard on crops and gardens, but the lake level has not dropped drastically thanks to a healthy aquifer following the 2019 flood year.

History and folklore give us stories of record low water levels, mostly before reliable records were kept for the local Madison area. The most common

stories are from the dust bowl Dirty Thirties. There are few people alive who can vouch for seeing it first-hand, but there are plenty of stories passed down through the years of people walking across the lake when it was dry in the mid-1930s. Another common claim is that farmers farmed the lake bottom because that's where the crops could tap into what little moisture was left. The local Lake County Museum has photographic evidence like this news article from about 1935. The photo shows a man sitting on a dock above a dry lakebed in front of the old Chautauqua grounds on the north shore of Lake Madison. It was still muddy, so they used skis to keep from sinking in the mud bottom.



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The museum also has evidence of a much earlier drought. An archived newspaper article says that the sinking of the commercial pleasure boat, the Reliance, on July 4, 1919, was caused when the boat ran into a submerged tree trunk that had grown in the lake bottom when the lake was dry decades earlier. Nine passengers on the boat perished as a result. The following are excerpts from a 2004 article in the Madison Daily Leader that reference journalists' accounts from 1919:

"...some 20 years prior, sustained drought had dried up the lake in that area, allowing trees to germinate in the mud flats. Those trees that lived in the moist lake bottom were eventually covered again with water, causing them to die. The steadily enlarging lake finally drowned them entirely, but their submerged corpses buoyed for decades, just below the surface"

"Approximately 100 feet out, a sunken tree lay directly in its path, striking the base of the boat."

Records indicate this region suffered severely dry years between 1894-1902, which almost certainly put stress on the aquifer which could have caused a dry lake with a muddy bottom, just the right conditions for trees to grow as the article claims.

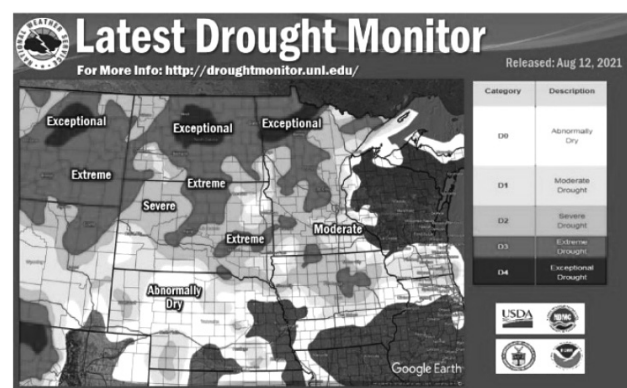
This year's conditions are dry, but nothing approaching those catastrophic droughts of the past. This year is probably more like the mid-1970s when a few hot dry summers lowered the water levels sufficiently to dry

up area creeks and ponds, but not the lake itself. The photo below proves that Hercemer's Pond near Marr's Beach (now Sunset Harbor) on Hwy 19 completely dried up. Hercemer was a fishing dummy placed in the pond by Maury Beyer to advertise Marrs Beach and draw attention to the fine fishing nearby. In 1975 or 1976 Hercemer was sitting on dry ground and had to be manually hauled to shore. Poor Hercemer!

This summer, the next generation Hercemer II has been seen floating and fishing until recently when he retreated to shore. His pond is noticeably lower and shallower, but it is not dried up. Nearby Lake Madison has receded since Spring, but there has been enough rain and snow this season and last to keep the aquifer healthy for now. How water drains into our lakes and streams has changed over the years and lots of factors contribute to our water levels - things like widespread use of efficient ag drain tile, many more roofs and hard surfaces, and Corp of Engineers controlling dams upstream and downstream from us. But rainfall is of course the biggest factor. Much has changed since



the droughts of last century produced just the right conditions for the lake to dry up. Will we ever see those conditions again? Only time will tell! ■



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Co. Historical Society renames museum

It's part of rebranding efforts

By **MARY GALES ASKREN**
Madison Daily Leader Reporter

George Smith originally suggested the name 60 years ago.

However, other members of the Lake County Historical Society supported a different name. They wanted to call it the Smith-Zimmermann Museum.

"The name came because they were the main donors and the board wanted to honor them," said Jona Schmidt, president of the historical society's board of directors.

Between them, Smith and Lilly Zimmermann donated \$75,000 toward the cost of building the museum. The state chipped in the final \$25,000 toward construction costs.

Sixty years after the museum opened its doors, Smith's wishes are finally being honored. The Lake County Historical Society has changed the name of the museum to the Lake County Museum. As part of the rebranding process, a new logo which includes a map of Lake

Lake County Museum

County has also been adopted.

The name change comes as part of a strategic planning process which included a survey of the historical society's membership.

"The main question we asked that led to the name change was 'How aware are people in Madison and Lake County of the museum?'" Director Julie Breu said.

The survey indicated that members believe area residents are only somewhat or not very aware of the museum.

"They wanted to see the museum have more visibility. The board and I had a sense we needed to rebrand," Breu said.

Few in the area know why the name was chosen or why the individuals for whom the museum was named are important. Both Smith, who was the museum's first curator, and Zimmermann had strong roots in the community because their families

were among the area's first settlers. They wanted to ensure that pioneer heritage was remembered.

Schmidt said that neither has descendants in the area today. Prior to making the name change, the board felt it was important to speak with family members. They were unable to locate any.

They also checked to see if they had the legal authority to make the name change, Schmidt said. After pouring over minutes and checking other documentation, they determined they could select a name which would better communicate their mission and collection.

"With the Lake County name, we wanted to communicate 'This is yours'," Schmidt said.

The survey also indicated members wanted to see the museum work more closely with classes at Dakota State University and wanted to see more young people involved. The new logo and two videos indicate the board and director took that guidance to heart.

A DSU class took on the challenge of designing a new logo. Board members chose the current logo designed by Jared Klinkenborg from among those submitted. Each was accompanied with a narrative

explaining the student's design decisions.

In addition, DSU students have created videos on World War II Navy veteran Leonard Bettmeng and Graceland Cemetery. Links are available on the museum website, which has not yet been updated to reflect the name change.

In an effort to make the museum more accessible, Breu is working with volunteers to create interpretive displays that tell the story of Lake County.

"Our goal is to be less like a cabinet of curiosities," she said. She would also like to do more educational programming, which the survey indicated members want.

Funding remains one of the primary challenges the historical society faces. Prior to 1996, the state funded the curatorial staff. Now, the museum must rely on membership dues, fundraising efforts and support from local government to operate.

To raise awareness, Breu and Schmidt recently requested \$71,358 from the Lake County Commission. Breu noted that not only must the museum keep the lights on and pay staff, but it must do primary research on donated items to be effective.

"Every time an object comes in, it costs money," she said. ■

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Jamboree: Severe weather skirted events this year

Good attendance,
joyful crowds

By **MARY GALES ASKREN**
Madison Daily Leader Reporter

The final day of the 58th annual Prairie Village Jamboree couldn't have been more perfect. Sunshine. Temperatures in the 70s. Just enough breeze to be comfortable.

The calm followed the single storm which had an impact on the event.

"All the way through, we've had several potential weather events," said Prairie Village Manager Faron Wahl.

On Saturday August 28th, this was especially true. Due to the way storms with potential for high winds, hail and even tornadoes were developing quickly around the region, Wahl was in communication with the National Weather Service throughout the day.

"The concern was that those could just keep redeveloping," Wahl said.

With the safety of campers, vendors, exhibitors and visitors to consider, he

felt it was important to stay advised and to keep his team advised.

Through most of the weekend, the weather events had simply passed through, dropping some rain before clearing off. However, on Saturday night, it became necessary to cancel the Outlaw Truck and Tractor Pull when a system came through with hard and steady rain just as it was about to start.

"That's a great disappointment to so many people," Wahl said, noting that many people put a great deal of time and work into preparing for that event. However, even in that, there was a silver lining.

"We dodged the hail and any significant wind," he reported.

Overall, Wahl considers the Jamboree a success. While he does not know how many people attended, he was able to judge the mood of the crowd.

"There was a great deal of joy on the grounds," he said.

Wahl explained that while people generally are happy to attend the Jamboree, this year people were especially joyful to be out and visiting with others. Last year, due to the

length of time it takes to organize the four-day event and the number of variables related to the pandemic which were unknown early in the year, the Jamboree was canceled.

"The sense of appreciation of just being out here was high," Wahl reiterated, speaking of what he observed this year.

He was also pleased with the state chapter of International Harvester Collectors who worked with a committee from Prairie Village to feature the International Harvester this year.

"They filled the role of being our featured tractor wonderfully," Wahl stated.

He was grateful they chose to honor Jack Mader with a display of his well-restored tractors. Considering Mader's dedication to the village, he felt it was both "fitting and honorable."

Organizers did experience a few more glitches in the schedule than seen most years. Among the most notable were the absence of the wagon train and some entertainment adjustments.

"Every year the wagon train starts at Pipestone," Wahl said. "Just a couple

weeks out, we learned the wagon train wasn't going to come this year."

With no wagon train, there also wasn't a horse parade. Wahl is hopeful they will return next year.

Saturday afternoon's free entertainment at the Lawrence Welk Opera House was changed. Neither the Maplewood Men nor the South Dakota Old Time Fiddlers were able to perform.

Standing in for those groups were musicians who know one another through long association and perform with other groups. They announced as their performance began that they didn't know what to call themselves.

Two familiar faces were Bill Renneker and Ken Nelson, who play with Contae Loch, a local Celtic band. Fiddle players Matt Tyler, Judith Oliver and Dan Sheldon joined them to play a wide variety of traditional American music.

While wrapping up this year's Jamboree, Wahl is already looking ahead.

"We're looking forward to a great Jamboree in 2022 when John Deere will be the featured tractor," he said. ■

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Boat ramp updates on Lake Madison

by John Bame | District Park Manager
South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks
Lake Herman State Park

Payne Access

We were also able to fill in the hole at the end of the ramp. I do not know how long this will hold though. The ramp is a little deeper on the end about 3ft, but there is a berm about 100 yards from the ramp that may make it a little tough to get to the ramp.

Johnsons Point

The ramp is in ok shape for maintenance but the water levels at the ramp are very low. There is roughly 2ft of water at the end of the ramp. I would not encourage use of this ramp by larger boats.

Walkers Point

We have been able to fill in the hole at the end of the ramp. The hole develops from boats power loading (using the boats motor to drive up on the trailer), the more power loading that occurs with this low of water

the better chance the hole will redevelop. I would encourage everyone to limit power loading or even winching their boat on their trailer. Currently there is 2.5 ft of water at the end of the ramp. This may be tough for some boats to load and unload. If you have a boat on the lake I would encourage you to prepare for low water this fall, and start considering how and when you plan to take your boat in for the season.

Overall we are at low water levels on all ramps on Lake Madison. I would encourage caution when loading and unloading your boat on any of the ramps at Madison, Herman, and Brant.

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"THE BOAT"

By ED ARSHEM

Many of you may have seen a wooden boat with a 'fin' cruising the lake. I have been questioned many times as to the history of the boat and where I acquired it. This boat, known as the sea sled, was the brainchild of my uncle Art Arshem, who had been a resident on Lake Madison for many, many years. In 1918 my grandfather, Lars Arshem, purchased land on the south side of the lake known as Sioux Park. Lars had 3 sons, Art, Ed and Lee, who each eventually had cabins on that strip of land. Several of Lars' descendents still have homes on the

lake.

From the time Art was a young boy he was notorious for building toy boats that were extra ordinary. One project was a model boat in which he installed a wind up record player motor for power. For those of you that can't relate to this power source, just ask your parents or grandparents! From these small model boats came the idea, design, development and construction of the sea sled.

In the 1940's Art tried to purchase plans from the company that originally designed and built what was called the Hickman Sea Sled. Located in Boston, MA, Hickman had a contract with the government to sell boats to them and therefore, plans could not be obtained. This didn't stop Art and he went on to draw his own plans based on a picture he had seen in a Popular Mechanics magazine. After a couple of fits and starts, Art finally got the design to a workable plan.

Art built the sea sled in 1946. He



originally built it with an in-line Chrysler 8 cylinder engine and used that until 1953. In 1953 he switched out that engine for a 331 cubic inch Chrysler V-8 Hemi making it a 50+ mile an hour boat. The boat has power to spare, as evidenced by pulling 8 skiers at one time 'back in the day'. Art wanted a boat that was non-conventional, yet stylish. He accomplished this in addition to having made it a very high performing boat for its day.

In 1968 Art put the boat in his garage and didn't use it again. It wasn't until the fall of 1994 that he took it out and was ready to dismantle it. About that same time, I happened to stop at his cabin. It appeared that he was going to be working on the boat after nearly two and a half decades in storage. I asked what he was doing and he said he was going to take it apart and burn it because 'at 80 years old my boating days are over' and he viewed the sea sled as junk. I had many fond memories of riding in and skiing behind that boat. I could NOT let that happen.

I called Art a few days later to inquire if he had destroyed the boat. Fortunately, he had not proceeded with the demolition so I asked if he would sell it to me.

He agreed to that, but reiterated that he thought it was junk and didn't think anyone was interested in it or wanted to expend the time needed to restore it to its previous glory.

Having been able to buy the boat, I began totally refurbishing it which took from 1994-1996. During that time I refinished the hull, had the seats reupholstered, had all the hardware rechromed and did some minor engine work. It has been my privilege to preserve and use this boat as it was intended.....to get out on the lake and enjoy it and share its history with other boat enthusiasts. ■



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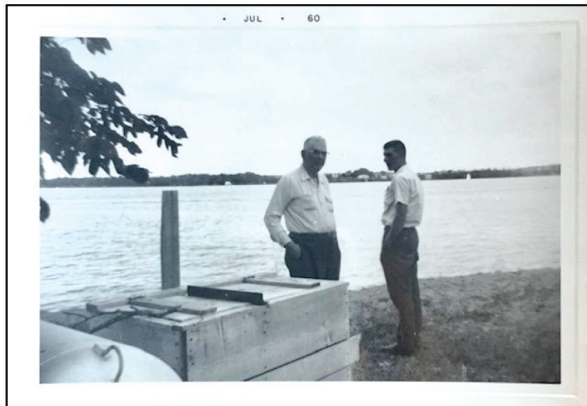
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THE 'BEST' OF BEST POINT

By DENISE LEWIS

Lake Madison is a collection of many small neighborhoods and if you ask any lake resident, they will tell you their neighborhood is the best! While they all have their reasons for bragging rights, only Best Point can back up their claim with legitimate history. Best Point has many fine qualities that make it a wonderful place to live – it has a large community park, paved roads and is one of the closest neighborhoods to Madison. But Best Point wasn't named for any of its brag-worthy attributes. It turns out Best Point was named for the couple who owned it 90 years ago, Fred and Thais Best.

According to stories passed down over the generations, Fred was a larger-than-life character. He allegedly grew up dirt poor in Iowa and his first paying job was digging ditches by hand. As a no-nonsense ambitious young man not afraid of hard work, he sought opportunity in SD. His occupations ranged from railroad man to bootlegger to construction worker. He was physically strong and built like a linebacker, not one to back down from a fight. One colorful story recalls that while working as a fire stoker on the railroad, an engineer with a poor sense of humor kept flashing the hot steam in Fred's face as a



Fred Best and Dennis Hilde standing on Best Point in 1960.

joke. Fred told him to stop or else he would make him stop with his coal shovel. As the story goes, Fred brought the train into town singlehandedly that day!

Eventually he settled in the Brookings area where he started a successful construction business as well as several other business enterprises in the 1930s and 1940s. It was there he met and married his wife, Thais, a woman equally independent as he was. He was active in his community and wanted to see it grow because that was good for his business ventures. In 1955 he was chairman of a committee that brought a petition to the city council to establish a municipal liquor store. Since

prohibition Brookings had not allowed any liquor stores there. The citizens voted and it narrowly passed. To this day it is still the only liquor store operating within the city limits of Brookings.



Thais Best at Best Point where she loved to fish and collect rocks.

Avid hunters, both Fred and Thais spent time bird hunting in the Madison area. They wanted some land of their own for pheasant hunting, and in the 1930s purchased a large parcel of land on the south side of Lake Madison. Always seeking good business opportunities, Fred soon realized the gravel-rich ground was prime for mining. In the 30s and 40s there were at least 2 other gravel pits nearby on the lake, one on Christiansen's Point (now known as The Harbor) and one where the public boat ramp is on the western end of the

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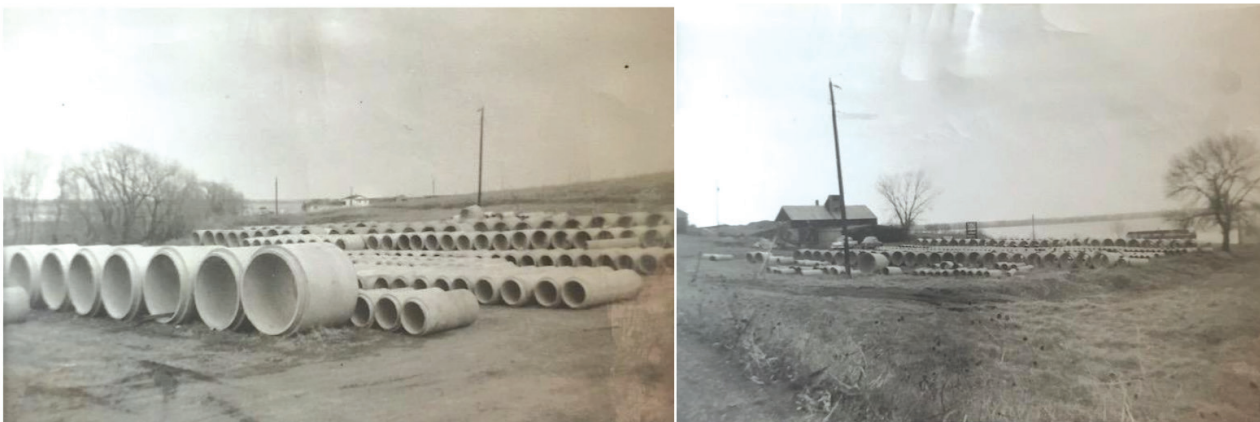
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lake (Payne's access). The local building boom seemed to require endless amounts of gravel for roads, as well as washed sand and rock for concrete. There was money to be made, so Fred became a gravel pit miner.

True to his entrepreneurial spirit, Fred also started several other businesses when he saw the opportunity. In the post-WWII boom he started a pipe plant, a concrete culvert business that manufactured all sizes of concrete drainage pipes which were in great demand to support all the building in the area. Eventually over the years Fred also became a landlord and started renting lake lots where people could put fishing cabins and trailers for weekend recreation at the lake.



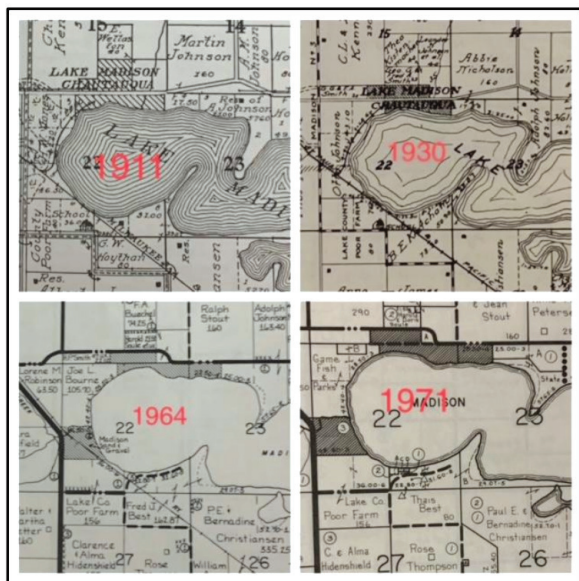
During a mid-century building boom, the pipe plant supplied concrete culverts of all sizes.

Besides mining the bluffs near the lake, he also set up a dredge drag line and mined away the gravel-rich ground of Best Point itself. When the lake was dry in the 1930s, Fred set up his dredge offshore from the point and mined everything within its reach around it. Historical maps show the impact Fred had on the lake's topography - he actually mined away the tip of Best Point! The point originally extended much farther into the lake and closer to Johnson's Point. Maps from 1911 and 1930 show a much longer and pointier Best Point. By the time the lake filled up again in the 1940s, Best Point had been re-formed into the shape we know today - a shorter and blunter version of its former self. Fred's dredging operation also accounts for the shallow spot (the deadhead of the dredge) surrounded by the deeper drop-off (where he mined) that today's boaters are familiar with just off Best Point. Remnants of his old dredge remain under the water. It is normally harmless but can

pose a boating risk when the lake is extremely low after a series of drought years. In the dry years late in the 1950s the lakebed dried up between Best Point and Johnson's Point, EXCEPT for those deep areas Fred had mined.

Fred had a son who managed the mining business throughout the 1940s while Fred tended to his other business ventures. Sometime in the 1950s Fred and his son had a falling out and his son left the business. Around that time, Fred also became friends with the Hilde brothers - Luther and George. Fred struck a deal with the Hilde brothers and sold his mining and culvert businesses to them, but he kept most of the land. Fred was a vital advisor and friend to the Hilde's as they learned the mining business. Also in the 1950s, Fred and his wife built a cabin in the place with the best view - on the point of land that became known as Best Point. Fred and Thais

Continued on page 18



Fred Best changed the shape of Best Point by mining it away in the 1930s.

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THE 'BEST' OF BEST POINT

Continued from page 17

loved spending time there. The couple became great friends with Luther Hilde and his wife, Maxine. Fred also became a mentor for Luther's son, Dennis, who had just graduated high school and was eager to learn as much as he could about the mining business. He would later continue to mine the area after Luther retired.

Fred died as boldly and dramatically as he had lived. In the late 1960s, in his typical self-confident fashion, he ignored all weather warnings and drove into a raging Midwestern blizzard. Weather be damned, he was going to get where he wanted to go! He ended up stranded in his car where he froze to death. His widow, Thais, inherited Best Point. She was so grief-stricken she couldn't bear to stay in their beloved cabin on the tip of Best Point, so she moved to another cabin just down the street. She continued to be the landlord for the property the Hilde Brothers mined, but without Fred her heart wasn't in it. In 1970 the pipe plant was destroyed by fire and was never rebuilt. Shortly after in the early 1970s she sold all of Best Point, including the gravel pit and all the lake cabin land leases, to the Hilde's who had already been in the area operating Hilde Brothers Pipe and Gravel business since 1956.

Luther, and later his son Dennis Hilde, continued to mine the area inland to the west and south. By 1980 most of the mining near Best Point was done as the mining activity moved west where

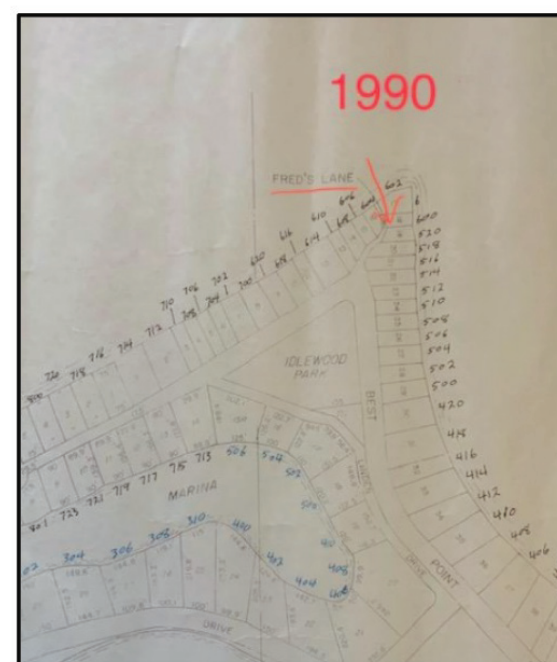


The slough in 1965 and the park in 2021. You can see the pipe plant in the 1965 photo.

Woodland Marina would emerge. Most of the Best Point cabins were on 10-year leases, and as they expired in the 1980s the lots were sold. Gradually the fishing cabins and trailers were replaced by nicer and more permanent residences and the Best Point neighborhood we know today was born. As the Hilde's continued to develop the area, they also put their imprint on the land as Fred had done before them. Among other things they repositioned the roads and they filled in the cattail slough that was prominent near the point. It was a mosquito haven and smelled bad in the hot summer, not a desirable feature for a recreational lake neighborhood. That area is now a beautiful

community park area, one of Best Point's best features!

When the roads were established and surveyed in the 1990s, the Hilde's paid tribute to the neighborhood's Founding Father by informally naming the bit of road that led to the site of his original cabin after him – 'Fred's Lane'. There was a signpost marking it as such for many years, but it vanished probably because of floods or construction in the area. His true legacy is the neighborhood that still carries his name. Because of Fred Best, Best Point can always claim the right to call itself 'best'! ■



Neighborhood map showing Fred's Lane

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People You Should Know Around the Area ...

By **ELIZABETH ANTONIO**

To say Lake County Sheriff Tim Walburg is a “humble public servant” is a colossal understatement. He has dedicated the last 30 years of his career to the selfless service of others and his community. Some positions paid but many of them are volunteer. He is not fond of praise or attention, a gentle spirit with a huge heart. Walburg said, “I don’t like talking about myself much!”. But after a brief interrogation, he released some stories of his life as a civil servant.

In the early 1990’s Walburg knew his career path would involve both medicine and public service, yet he wasn’t exactly sure what that would look like. So, he took a job as a Jailer/Correction Officer in Watertown working for the Coddington County Sheriff Department. At

the same time, he started his E.M.T. certification classes. In 1992, he became a certified E.M.T. and worked on the ambulance part-time along with his full-time position at the jail. Three years later he was offered a position in Canton, SD as the Assistant Police Chief. When he wasn’t on duty as the Assistant Chief, he was working on the ambulance as an E.M.T.

Along with his career, he is also a dedicated husband and father working with his wife to raise their two now-grown children. When his wife was offered a promotion in 2005 at her bank, he knew what he had to do. Walburg said, “For once, it was my time to follow her.” The Walburg family relocated to Madison, SD where Walburg was hired as the Chief Deputy Sheriff of Lake County as well as a part-time position working on the Madison Ambulance. He



Lake County Sheriff Tim Walburg

continued his E.M.T. training and became an Advanced E.M.T. Walburg became the Sheriff of Lake County in 2012.

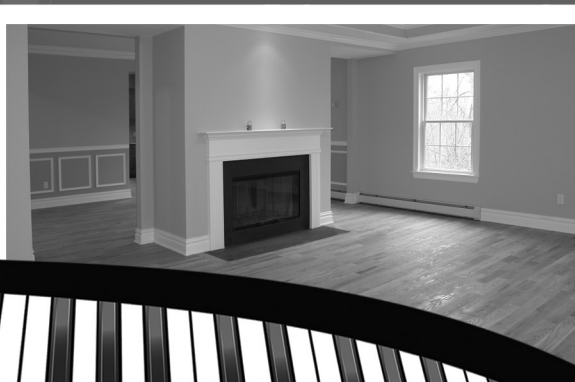
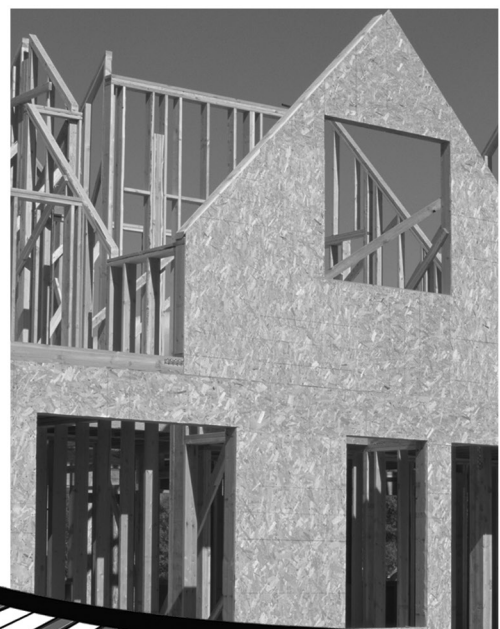
There is a considerable shortage of Paramedics nationwide, but especially in Lake County. This deficit led Walburg to continue his education and go to paramedic school which he should complete by January of 2022. The Paramedic certification will allow him to

start I.V.’s, administer certain drugs, apply pacemakers and provide airway management. This is just another example of his dedication as a civil servant.

PEAKS AND VALLEYS

One case Walburg worked was particularly gut wrenching. It involved a family of six he will never forget. He got involved with a family when the father of four young children was arrested

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for armed robbery. The father didn't have enough money to pay the rent for the home and could see no other way out of his predicament. He was desperate and made a very poor decision. With the father now in prison, the mother was struggling even more than before to make ends meet for her family. Walburg along with child protection helped the woman find part-time work and suitable childcare for the four young kids.

That Christmas, the Pizza Ranch wanted to give away a 10-foot stocking filled with toys to a family in need. They reached out to Walburg for some guidance. He told them he would think about it and get back to them. He was on duty that night and came to a stop at 2 a.m. and something wouldn't let him go any further. When he looked up, he saw the home of the family whose father was incarcerated. At that moment he knew what needed to happen.

So, on Christmas Eve, with 16 guests at his home for the holiday, he left to deliver some Christmas cheer. He worked alongside the

family's landlord, SD Game, Fish & Parks and Pizza Ranch were able to bless this family with the stocking full of gifts, half of a pig and deer chislic/jerky. He was instrumental in orchestrating the family's merry Christmas that year!

Sadly, the home the family rented had some problems and caught fire. The fire took the lives of three of the four children. The mother not only lost her children but all the pictures and mementos from their lives. Once again, Walburg jumped at the chance to help. He remembered the photos they had taken that Christmas Eve with the family. Walburg said, "We were able to reproduce a 10x 12 picture of the kids holding Christmas stuff and another of the kids and mom." A kind act that brought the mother some much-needed comfort.

Walburg attended that grim funeral for the three children who perished in the fire. Their father was granted a furlough from prison to attend the service. Walburg was concerned to see the correction officers, who were guarding the father,

had him cuffed at his hands and feet. After some heated communications between the men, the correctional officer agreed to unshackle the grieving father so he could hug his wife and surviving child. Another testament to the humanity and kindness that Walburg shows as a community servant.

SHERIFF'S WARNING

Don't let all the stories of Walburg's kindness fool you. He is serious about crime and keeping our community safe.

He wants to remind everyone that golf carts do not belong on county highways. People around the lake have been driving golf carts with kids hanging off the sides and back. "It's just really not safe. These kids could get seriously injured," Walburg said. His office will work with people on education and warnings if caught, but repeat offenders will be given citations.

We want to extend our sincere gratitude for the outstanding service Sheriff Walburg offers our community here at the lakes. ■



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Some of Ardyce's Best... Great Lake Recipes Rediscovered

From the archives of Ardyce Habeger Samp

By this time of summer, family and friends enjoying the lake are hot and hungry. Cooks want simple but tasty ways to feed the masses of family, invited guests and those extras that seem to show up during the "dog days of summer."

So out with the cellophane bags of snacks and in with some of these home-cooking recipes that will bring praise to any cook.

Punch instead of soda pop is a great change of beverage.

Jet Ski Juice

A wave of refreshing drink any lake day...

2 cans of frozen orange juice
1 can frozen lemon juice
1 - two liter bottle of Seven-up or ginger ale

Fresh strawberries, Do not add water to juices. Add ice ring or ice cubes.

Succulent Seaweed

A delicious dip answering the question...

"What do we have for a snack?"

1 pkg frozen chopped spinach, drain well
1 cup mayonnaise
1 cup commercial sour cream
1 can sliced water chestnuts

1 pkg. Knorr vegetable soup mix (dry)
Mix all together and store in covered plastic or glass container. This is a great health-conscious treat spread on dark bread, wheat or other crackers. It will keep about a week if refrigerated.

Sweet/Sour Salad

2 pkgs. Ring macaroni, cooked
1 can Eagle Brand sweetened condensed milk
1 cup sugar
1 cup dark vinegar
1 cup mayonnaise
Celery, onions, carrots, frozen peas, pimiento, cubed ham or hickory-smoked Spam, chopped fine.
Combine all ingredients in large bowl. Mixture is soupy at first. Refrigerate 8-12 hours or overnight before serving.

A Taste of Germany Salad

1 #2 can sauerkraut (rinse with warm water and drain well)
2/3 cup white sugar
1/3 cup salad oil
1/3 cup vinegar
Boil sugar, oil and vinegar to boiling point; pour over drained sauerkraut.
Add: 1/2 cup chopped onion and celery to taste.

Chill overnight in covered glass or plastic container. This salad will keep several weeks in your refrigerator.

Emergency Salad/Dessert

9 oz. Cool Whip
3 oz. instant pistachio pudding mix, dry
10 oz. canned crushed pineapple, drained
1 cup small marshmallows
1/2 cup chopped nuts, optional.
Combine with spoon, serve in bowl

As fresh garden produce arrives in stores, farmers markets, road-side stands or from neighbors or friends utilizing them for main dishes is a must to enjoy the bounty of another harvest.

Lake Madison Cabbage

Cook fresh shredded cabbage a little; drain
Cook fresh onion rings a little; drain
Cook fresh carrot rounds a little; drain
Grease glass cake pan: put cabbage on bottom; top with onions then carrots.
Cook a thick white sauce in pan using milk or half-n-half. Season well and thicken with flour or cornstarch. Pour over cabbage, onion, carrots mixture; move so sauce goes through.

Baked Potato Slices

1/2 cup butter or margarine
1/2 envelope onion soup mix
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup water
Six potatoes, washed but do not peel. Cut potatoes into 1/4 inch slices. Combine butter, soup and salt. Pour water into casserole; layering the potato slices. Alternate potato slices with soup, butter mixture. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 40-60 minutes. Makes six servings. Adding plenty of meat to each meal will help replace all those expended calories from lake activities.

They Don't Get Better Than This Wings

1 cup Open Pit (or favorite) barbecue sauce.
1/2 cup honey
1/2 cup soy sauce
1/4 cup lemon juice
3/4 tsp. ground ginger
Mix ingredients together. Pour over wings, (which have been trimmed of end pieces.) Place in glass or plastic container in the refrigerator and cover. Let set overnight turning a couple times. (do not get up in the night to do this!) Bake 2 hours at 350 degrees. Baste 3 times.



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Roasted Roast

Start at 2 or 3 pm in the afternoon for evening meal. Begin with roast any size at room temperature. Heat oven to 375 degrees. Put roast on rack in shallow pan. Roast one hour, turn off oven. DO NOT OPEN DOOR for three hours. Twenty minutes before serving, heat oven to 300 degrees. Roast will turn out juicy and tender. Do not use a tough or inexpensive piece of meat for best results.

When corn on the cob is in season, sweet corn with dripping hot butter becomes the mainstay for several meals. But some meat to go with sweet corn adds to any summer meal with chicken wings being a favorite.

Wing it

Snip off ends of wings, and cut remainder into 2 pieces. Place in pan at 350 degrees oven and bake 1/2 hour. Cover with the following sauce and bake an additional 1/2 hour.

1 small jar Russian dressing

1 small jar apricot jelly

1 packet onion soup mix

Stir these ingredients together and pour over wings before the last baking.

After turning down desserts all winter, hot summer days meals and permission to skip dieting for a day or two with one of these:

Just Try a Little

1 chocolate cake mix, dry

1 can cherry pie mix

3 eggs, beaten lightly

Mix all together with a rubber spatula

to blend well. Spoon into greased 9 x

13 cake pan or bundt pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 56 minutes.

Frosting:

6 T. milk

6 T. butter

1 cup sugar

Boil hard 1 minutes, remove from heat and add 1/2 cup chocolate chips. Beat to spreading thickness.

For a party, the cake can be unfrosted and topped with Cool Whip, pie cherries and drizzled with chocolate syrup.

Or if apple-tasting dessert sounds good, try this.

Brant Lake Cake

1 cup sugar

1 egg

1 tsp. soda

1 tsp. cinnamon

2 cups flour

1 cup raisins or chopped dates

1/2 cup oil

1/2 cup applesauce

1/2 tsp salt

1 tsp. cloves

1/2 cup chopped nuts, (optional)

Topping:

1 cup chocolate chips

1/2 cup sugar

1 cup chopped nuts

Mix in large bowl sugar and oil, add eggs.

Dissolve soda in applesauce and add;

blend in dry ingredients, add raisins and

1/3 cup nuts. Put dough in greased 9 x

13 pan. Top with chocolate chips, sugar

and nuts. Bake 350 degrees for about 25 minutes or until done. Topping makes the frosting.

Good food adds to those fabulous lake memories so enjoy the rest of the summer with some of these or your own favorites which have been sitting in your recipe card file.



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GFP identifies heat as contributing factor

Fish die-off at Lake Herman limited to pond; lake not affected

By **MARY GALES ASKREN**
Madison Daily Leader Reporter

Staff at Lake Herman State Park were busy on Friday afternoon cleaning up dead fish from around the pond which was stocked earlier this summer.

"It's not the lake," District Park Manager John Bame stated. "It's the pond. We've had issues with this in the past." The fish die-off is just one of several in the region, according to Dave Lucchesi, regional fisheries supervisor. While the fish essentially suffocate due to lack of oxygen, that situation frequently arises in late summer due to the heat. "Really warm water doesn't hold as much oxygen as cold water," Lucchesi explained.

In the days leading up to the die-off, the area was under a heat advisory, which ended on Thursday when the wind shifted and brought in cooler temperatures along with smoke from wildfires in Canada. A marginal fishery, such as the pond at Lake Herman which is shallow, is more impacted by those kinds of weather conditions, Lucchesi indicated. Even shorter days can influence oxygen levels because plants and algae which help to oxygenate the water during the day absorb oxygen at night. Bame said the state Department of Game, Fish and Parks is hoping to improve water quality with an aeration system. Installation had been planned for earlier this year, but unforeseen delays in obtaining necessary materials has prevented this from occurring. Lucchesi said an aeration system improves water quality by lifting the lower water to the surface where it can absorb more oxygen.

"The intent of the aeration system is to reduce the potential for summer kill," he stated. The system can be used during winter month but also creates the risk of thin ice. Consequently, GFP



often shuts down the systems during the winter months, Lucchesi said. He anticipates the pond will be stocked again in the spring. "We manage the pond for young people, families and novice anglers," Lucchesi said. This year, it was stocked with adult Northern pike. Due to the size – 40 acres – Bame said it doesn't take much to stock. He is pleased to see it stocked with game fish because the pond is a popular fishing hole. "It's

a convenient place to fish. There's always access and there's a fishing pier. People like sitting on the fishing pier," he indicated. "Even after the die-off, there will be fishing in there and people fishing." To ensure those anglers have a quality experience and to ensure the smell of dead fish doesn't dissuade campers from enjoying the park's amenities, Bame said on Friday that park staff would be picking up the fish through the weekend. ■

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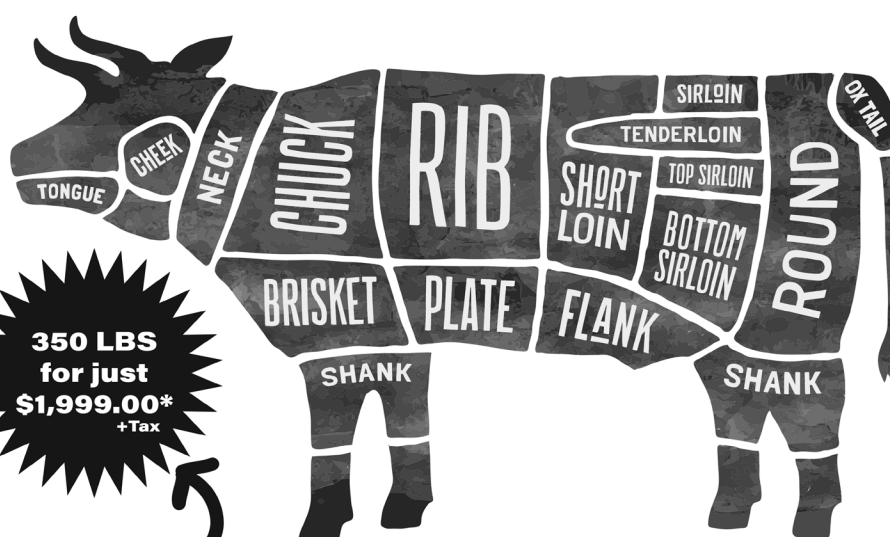
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Brant Lake: An active area since the early 1900's

The following information came from the Chester Diamond Jubilee paper published in 1980. The two articles are printed as they appeared 25 years ago. The railroad history tidbits also are based on an article from that time.

Spawn's Beach The Place To Go

Earl and Josephine Spawn established Spawn's Beach, a summer resort on the south shore of Brant Lake in about 1915. Earl being a good carpenter, built four rental cottages and a number of boats to be rented for fishing.

Later he added four more cottages, a roller skating rink-dance hall combination, a miniature golf course and a tennis court. This was a chief recreation attraction for the community for nearly a half century.

It was the site for school picnics, church picnics and family outings.

Lewis Spawn and his family moved to the farm at Brant Lake in 1889. The farm was the home of his sister-in-law, Mary Thomas Spawn, and he bought it from her father, who had homesteaded it.

Lewis Spawn and his family moved to the farm at Brant Lake in 1889. The farm was the home of his sister-in-law, Mary Thomas Spawn, and he bought it from her father, who had homesteaded it.

Lewis built a 14 room house on the new place and used it as a hotel since this location was the half-way point for the stage coaches from Dell Rapids to Madison, the county seat of Lake County.

The big house also contained rooms for a general store and served as the post office for the community.

The first school house in Chester township was also built on a corner of the Lewis Spawn farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Don (Nova Spawn) Holbeck and family live on the Spawn place now.

Lake Fills Up and Around

Spawn's Beach on the south, Sam's place on the west and White City on the east were the first establishments built along Brant Lake. The old-timers remember that a Roy Capp had a shack (and they say it was a shack) along the railroad track

which could be considered the first cabin at the lake.

In the 1920's, a few cabins west of Spawn's Beach were built and there were a few places north of White City. The next developments were the south Side View area and the West Bay development. A few more cabins then sprang up on the north side.

When the lake started to fill up in the 40's, there were many more homes built around it for summer use. About this time, Warden Jamison had some prisoners come up and they did much of the stonework in the White City and Muchow area including some homes and the wall.

Jack Stich purchased the north shore land from the Stengega family in 1961 and developed that area into more permanent type homes. Last year, Norman Basler opened the northwest area to be rented to mobile home owners.

There are now 147 cabin owners along Brant Lake.

The Game, Fish and Parks department bought some land on the west side of the lake from the

Framness family and some property from the Foss family along with a mile of shoreline from Claude Myers.

Railroad Lines Ran Across Brant Lake in Early Days

The railroad provided a key means of travel for early residents of this area. The Milwaukee Road, was built from Sioux Falls to Colton in 1905 with a line added from Colton to Madison in 1907. The railroad line west of Chester continued until 1925. At that time the Milwaukee road operated its trains over the South Dakota Central tracks through Chester to Wentworth.

At one time the South Dakota Central built its tracks across the Brant Lake bed which was totally dry. Within a few years, the lake bed began to fill and a temporary road was built around the edge of the lake. For a short period of time, the conductor made arrangements for the passengers to be transported across the water when the lake was starting to fill. The present roadbed was laid in 1915. ■

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Speeding around lake called problem

Commission requests more information

By **MARY GALES ASKREN**
Madison Daily Leader Reporter

Lake County commissioners learned at last week's meeting that speeding is an issue around Lake Madison.

"We have a big speeding issue," area resident Jennifer Kahler told commissioners. "Is there anything the county or neighborhood could do to have vehicles and golf carts driven by young people slow down?"

Kahler acknowledged there has been a lot of development in the area, not only as new homes have been constructed but also as campgrounds have been expanded. This results in more traffic. Of concern is the way motorists fail to observe the 25 mph speed limit in residential areas.

Commissioner Dennis Slaughter asked if the Sheriff's Office could place the speed advisory trailer in that area. County Highway Superintendent Nels Nelson, who was in attendance, indicated that has been done.

In addition, the highway department's traffic counter has been placed along the identified roadways. This also records speed, even of light vehicles such as golf carts.

Slaughter asked if the commission could receive data from the traffic counter at a future meeting. Commissioner Aaron Johnson proposed law enforcement patrol the area more.

In other business, the commission:
— Approved a resolution renewing a joint cooperative agreement with First District Association of Local Governments and agreeing to provide \$22,115.91 in support to that organization.

— Approved a budget supplement in the amount of \$13,791.50. The grant from the state Office of Emergency Management reimbursed Lake County Emergency Management for 50% of the cost of the sandbagging machine purchased earlier this year. The county commission approved the grant agreement in January.

— Acknowledged receipt of written notice from the South Dakota American Legion extending the nonprofit's memorandum of understanding with Lake County. Because Lake County Veterans Ser

vice Officer Courtney VanZanten also works for the Legion, the county allows the Legion to use that office.

— Approved a temporary malt beverage and South Dakota wine special license for St. Peter on the Prairie. The nonprofit will be hosting the 4th Annual Field and Wine Dinner on July 30.

— Received an update from Shelli Gust, commission administrative officer, on the county pavement markings. She reported the state Department of Transportation re-bid the project and received three bids. Earlier this year, Nelson reported that due to a shortage of striping paint, the DOT had not received any bids for marking county roads.

— Approved installing edgeline rumble strips along County Road 15 from SD-34 to the Minnehaha County line and along County Road 17 from SD-34 to 234th Street and installing transverse rumble strips on both roadways at the stop-controlled intersections.

— Accepted the resignation of Braxton Hofman, who served as a full-time correctional officer. Sheriff Tim Walburg reported he will be working for Minnehaha County, where he can explore whether he would like to pursue a career as a

parole officer or counselor.

— Approved hiring Thomas Mallett to serve as a full-time correctional officer.

— Approved a status change for Jennifer Miller from Dispatcher-Certified Level Two to Dispatcher-Certified Level One.

— Approved a request from April Denholm, director of 911 communications, that an existing part-time position be extended into a full-time position. This would allow shift overlaps during busy periods and on weekends.

"It might be easier to fill as a full-time position," Commissioner Dennis Slaughter observed.

— Approved a status change for Alyssa Lux who has been serving as Deputy Auditor II. She will now serve as office manager for the community health nurses' office.

— Approved an updated job description for the community health nurse office manager.

— Ratified the decision of Chair Kelli Wollmann to close the courthouse on June 18 in recognition of the Juneteenth federal holiday and to recognize it as a county holiday. ■

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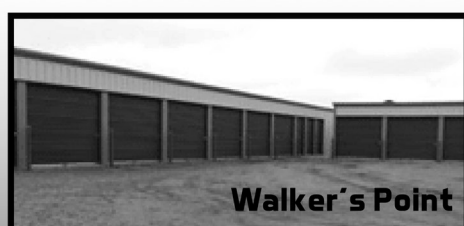
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Photo by Mary Gales Askren

LAKE COUNTY commissioners were advised last week that speeding is an issue in the area of The Lakes Golf Course on Lake Madison. The area is posted at 25 mph with curves marked at 15 mph.

HERKEMER

Inherits Joke Book

The late Maury Byer had a joke or two for every customer at Marr's Beach (Now the Harbor). What ever happened to his joke book? Herkemer, the lonely fisherman in Bourne's Slough inherited it.

What do you call a fish that won't shut up?

A big-mouthed bass!

Why did the Vegan go fishing?

Just for the halibut.

Why are fish so gullible?

They fall for things hook, line and sinker!

Why is it so easy to weigh fish?

Because they have their own scales!

Where does a fisherman go to get his hair cut?

The bobber shop

Why do fish swim in schools?

Because they can't walk!



What you get when four men go fishing and one comes back not catching anything.

Three men and a baby.

Why did the husband go fishing on Valentines Day?

To catch his wife a bouquet of flounders!

What kind of music should you listen to while fishing?

Something catchy!

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Boating Fun and Safety

By **PETER SAMP**

I have been brushing up on our boating laws before my family and I take our new boat out onto the waters of Lake Madison. Reading through the Game Fishing Parks Boating Handbook, I have outline the highlights every boater should know:

I think every adult knows what a DUI is (Driving Under the Influence), but did you know there is a BUI (boating under the influence). The laws are very similar to a DUI. in the hand book one will find that the most alcohol you may have to drive a boat is 0.8 which is the same as driving a motor vehicle. For you and your family's sake, drink responsibly and follow the law.

When people are out on the waters, everyone should know to stay at least 50 yds away from boaters to avoid collisions. Even in waters you know, it can be unclear to distinguish from deep and shallow waters. Be prepared for the unexpected. When boating

at night have a boat light. The only thing you can see is maybe the shore. It is better to be safe than sorry.

When families are on the water, it is a fun and memorable time. But when there are reckless drivers on the water, circumstances change. Yes, it is fun to go fast but you have to remember there are other lives on the water. Remember to stay 50 yds (Think of half of a football field)from shore and other boats.

When people are out boating some like to swim and some tube, but we have to remember the people under the water also. If you see a dive flag, you must stay away at least 75 ft.

When people are out on the water we normally bring snacks and beverages onto the boat. After use of your boat or when the season is done, clean your boats to get what is not wanted off. It's all mouse bait, so be sure to pick up any trash you have so the next generation can go out onto the water and do the fun thing we can



do right now.

The GFP(Game Fishing Parks perform compliance checks on the water. With these checks, they make sure everyone on the water is having fun and staying safe. For all the boaters be sure to check up on the boating laws, especially about life jackets.

When you were on the water paddle boarding did you know that you must wear a life jacket at all times. Especially when the waters are starting to get colder. At any time of year you must wear your life jacket, even if you are a great swimmer!

Did you know zebra mussels have infected many lakes in South Dakota? To stop them be sure to

wash your boat if you are going from lake to lake. Do your part by cleaning your boats. It's the law and your contribution to clean lakes

Did you know you must pull your boat drain plug unless you are launching on the water or loading? Even when you think there is nothing invasive on your boat, clean it to keep our waters clear of invasive species.

When you are on Lake Madison there are some rules you need to follow like: the east entrance to Harbor Bay, Sunset Bay, and Woodlake Marina, is a "no wake zone." Know the rules to have a fun and safe time at the Lake loved by all. ■



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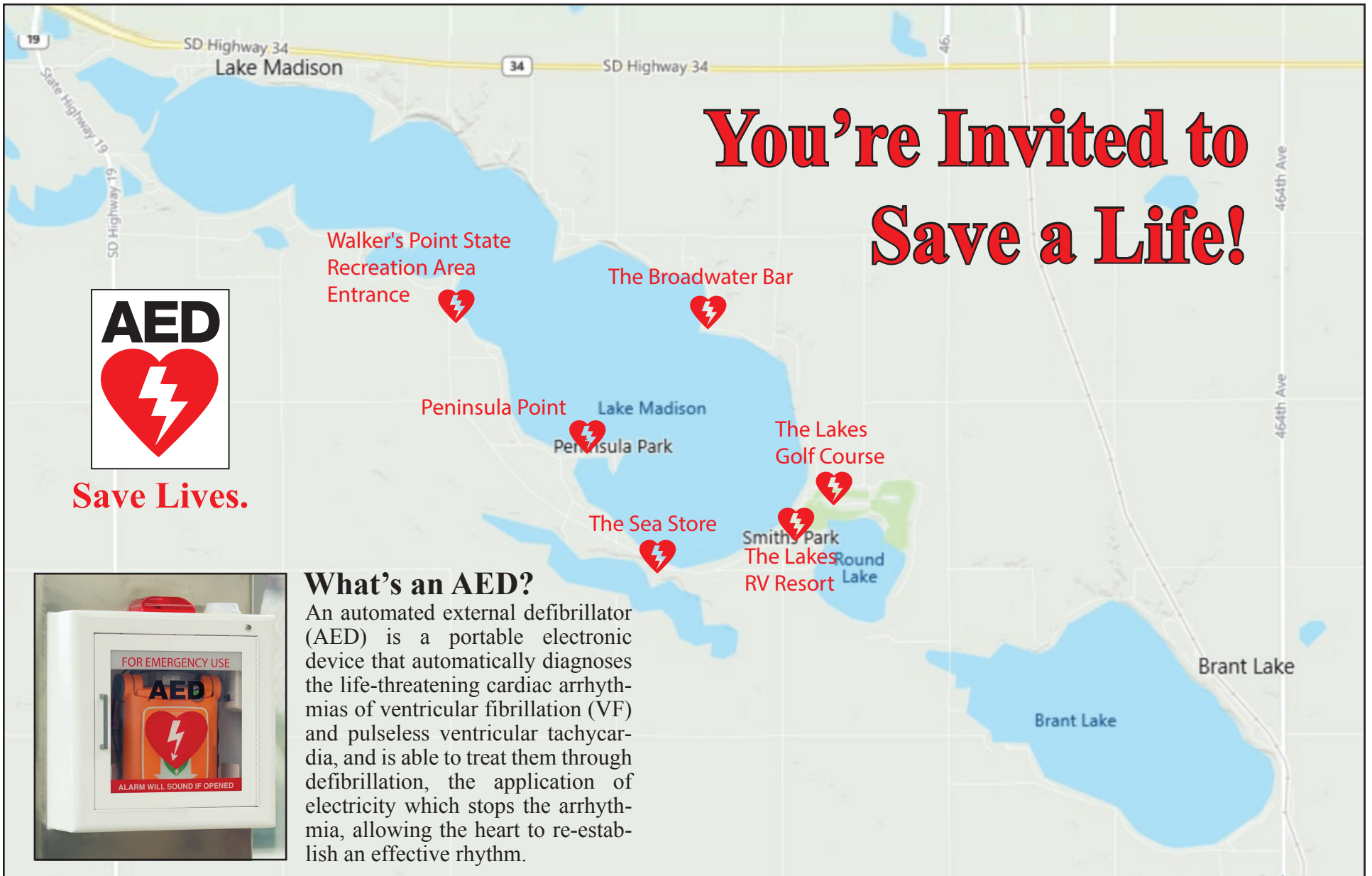
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FOUR WINNS

New Library on Lake Madison

By ELIZABETH ANTONIO

Little Free Libraries have been popping up all over the world for over a decade. These unique structures house free books at over 100,000 locations in over 108 countries. Lake Madison is now home to one of those Free Little Libraries.

Penny Paclik is an avid reader with grandchildren who inherited their grandmothers love for book. Paclik knows the importance of kids reading over the summer months; yet had no resources at the lake. "They still need to be reading," Paclik said. To be part of the solution, she became a Free Little Library Ambassador, which is the owner and host of such a site. The library is brand new and the first to be installed on Lake Madison. It is nestled alongside a vegetable garden, pear trees, gooseberries, a rose bush and a fairy garden. Paclik even replaced the door pull with a little frog. "I thought the kids would like that a lot!" Paclik's library is listed on the world map at www.littlefreelibrary.org. She marked her location with the

lovely foliage surrounding the library and notes, "to enjoy all the wonders of God! Remember to stop and smell the roses!"

Area residence are encouraged to borrow and loan books through the Free Little Library. Since the library is new, they are seeking donations of new and used books of all genres, but especially children's books. The service is free and on the honor system.

Sadly, over 30 million Americans cannot read and write over a third-grade level. Also, two out of every three children growing up in poverty do not have a book to call their own. These Little Free Libraries brings access to books in areas that may not have other literacy resources. In a recent study, 92% of communities feel the libraries makes their neighborhoods seem friendlier. We want to thank Penny Paclik for making Lake Madison a more friendly and literate place to enjoy.

Stop by the Free Little Library on Peninsula Point at 6634 Peninsula Point Lane. ■



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9 Holes
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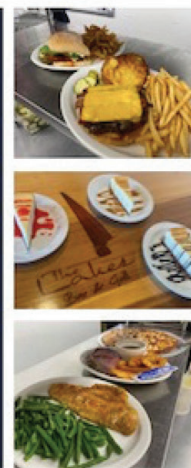
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