



BELLE PLAINE NEWS & EVENTS

Fall 2014

Town plans walkway on Highway Y

Safety for pedestrians is the reason the Town of Belle Plaine is making plans to add a walkway on the shoulder of County Highway Y. The trail would extend from the Lake Aire parking lot south to Round Lake Park, which has a trail to the boat trailer parking lot.

The plan would also replace the culvert under Highway Y, which connects Round Lake and Grass Lake. The walkway would extend across the new culvert, so walkers would not have to go onto the road over the narrow roadway.

The existing culvert is at least 50 years old and is in bad shape. The present culvert is a 114-inch steel pipe. It would be replaced by a 144-inch steel pipe which would be longer, extending farther toward Round Lake to accommodate the trail. That would also allow about two feet more of width for boats passing under the road.

The Shawano County Highway Department is making the plans and would do the construction. Shawano County would pay 50 percent of the cost for the culvert since Highway Y is a county road.

The proposed trail would be five feet wide, including three feet paved.

The Town Board has approved the preliminary plan and will consider applying for a state grant to help fund the trail. Grant deadline is May 1 and the town will also have to update its Outdoor Recreation Plan before applying to the DNR for a grant.

The town budgeted \$10,000 in 2014 toward the project,



Pedestrians walk up Highway Y toward the Lake Aire. The town is planning to add a paved walkway on the shoulder of the road and to replace the culvert seen in the foreground for safety reasons.

which is estimated to cost \$50,000 to \$60,000 in total, and will plan for additional funds in the 2015 budget. Other funding could come from a grant, if approved, and the town's annual payment from the American Transmission Co., which has power lines and an electricity substation in the town.

"We are fortunate that no walkers have been injured on this busy and dangerous stretch of roadway," said Town Chairman **Alvin Bartz**. "This would make it safer for walkers."

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Cloverfest Run/Walk coming up

The 11th annual Cloverfest Run/Walk will begin at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 5, with a 3.5 mile trek around Cloverleaf Lakes. The event will begin and end at the site of the former Rustic Resort, which was destroyed by fire.

Registration is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children in advance; \$25 for adults and \$15 for children on race day. Pre-race registration will be from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

The Run/Walk benefits the Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Fund and the Shawano County Humane Society.

Awards will be given to the top three runners in adult over and under 40, and children under 15 categories.

Checks can be sent to Cloverfest, N2575 Rustic Drive, Clintonville, WI 54929. Early entrants before Sept. 25 will receive a T-shirt.

Blue ribbons awarded to County Fair exhibitors

By Alvin Bartz

We had a number of people do very well exhibiting at the Shawano County Fair. **Richard and Judy Pahlow** showed winning crops and apples, **Glenn Vander Linden** won numerous "blues" and Best of Show in crafts, and **Greg Riesenber** took first blue for his maple syrup.

Our Belle Plaine, Richmond, Waukechon firefighters food stand had excellent support from the greater Shawano area. The past two years we have taken the FFA Alumni in with hopes they will take our stand over. We no longer have a volunteer group like we did in the past. The FFA Alumni will use the profits to support youth activities. I'm looking to back off a little from managing the stand for 20 years. I will still help in organizing and ordering supplies.

We are wrapping up our construction season when we complete Rustic Drive. We did about three miles of blacktop this year and with the expensive snow season, it really put a stretch on our highway budget.

We are having a lot of road name sign thefts and vandalism. Signs were stolen in the St. John's and Hunting Road area recently. A few months ago, we had a problem in the Spruce and Rangeline Road area. Back to college time is the most frequent

Belle Plaine chairman's message

time of year for sign thefts. This adds about \$5,000 of unnecessary road expense.

With summer all but done, we are already planning to winterize several areas as well as plan snow plowing.

This will probably be our last newsletter till the holidays, so have a joyous holiday season.

Recycling Center open Saturdays

Regular hours for the Collection and Recycling Center on Cloverleaf Lake Road will change, effective Oct. 1. The Recycling Center will no longer be open on Wednesdays. Saturday hours will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The reduced hours will save taxpayers money and reflect reduced usage, with most town residents now using the curbside garbage and recyclables pickup on Thursdays. Summer hours, from Memorial Day to Labor Day, will include the same hours on Saturdays and will add Wednesdays from 1 to 3 p.m.

Belle Plaine town notebook

Property taxes will be collected by Treasurer **Heather Krueger** on two dates in December and three in January. She will be available at the Community Center on Highway 22 on Dec. 29 from 8 a.m. until noon, and on Dec. 31, from 1 to 6 p.m. She will also collect taxes on Jan. 12 from 8:30 to 11 a.m., on Jan. 22 from 8:30 to 11 a.m., and on Jan. 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Taxes can also be mailed in. The address is Heather Krueger, W9660 River Bank Road, Clintonville, WI 54929.

* Reservations are being taken for the Community Center. The facility can be rented for \$30 for residents or \$40 for non-residents. See the town clerk for details.

* The Belle Plaine Card Club meets weekly on Thursdays at the Community Center from 9:30 a.m. until noon. All are welcome to join in the fun.

* Town clerk **Kristine Vomastic** holds regular office hours from 5 to 7 p.m. Mondays and 8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturdays. Treasurer **Heather Krueger** is available at the Community Center Mondays from 8:30 to 11 a.m. They are also available by appointment.

Belle Plaine officials

Alvin Bartz, chairman

Harold Polzin, supervisor

Dennis Thornton, supervisor

Kristine Vomastic, clerk

Heather Krueger, treasurer

Dennis Hoffmann, constable

Newsletter editor: Dennis Thornton



Belle Plaine Community Center

N3002 St. Hwy. 22

Clintonville, WI 54929

(715) 524-2690

Town clerk's hours:

5 to 7 p.m. Monday; 8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday or by appointment

Regular Town Board meetings:

Second Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

Committees:

Planning, Zoning, Gibson Island Stewardship

Population estimate: 1,855

Cloverleaf Lakes Protectors step up with donations

By Dennis Thornton

It's no secret that Cloverleaf Lakes has an abundance of generous and caring residents who want to protect the lakes for future generations as well as enjoy them today.

Our lake association board had that message reinforced by our initial fund-raising drive, the CLPA Protectors. In our first attempt, we raised more than \$12,000 as well as signing up nearly 200 members, which raised another \$4,000. That's the most memberships we have had in a few years.

THANK YOU!

The money will pay for our many activities, particularly keeping the scourge of Eurasian Water Milfoil at bay. As we've mentioned before, chemical treatment to kill milfoil in 2012 and 2013 alone cost more than \$84,000. We have been fortunate to have the Town of Belle Plaine and Department of Natural Resources pick up a good portion of that tab — but that financial support is not guaranteed in future years.

So we will launching the second phase of our Protectors program this fall, in time so that donors can still claim federal tax deductions for this year.

If you haven't joined and would still like to become an official member, please fill out and send in the form on page 7.

Here's an update on our milfoil treatment. After doing a

CLPA president's message

"whole-lake" chemical treatment on Grass and Round Lakes in 2012, then on Pine Lake in 2013, we did no chemical treatment this year on the advice of our consultants, Onterra. We had hoped to have a team of divers come in to do hand-pulling in some areas, but that fell through as the team was overbooked.

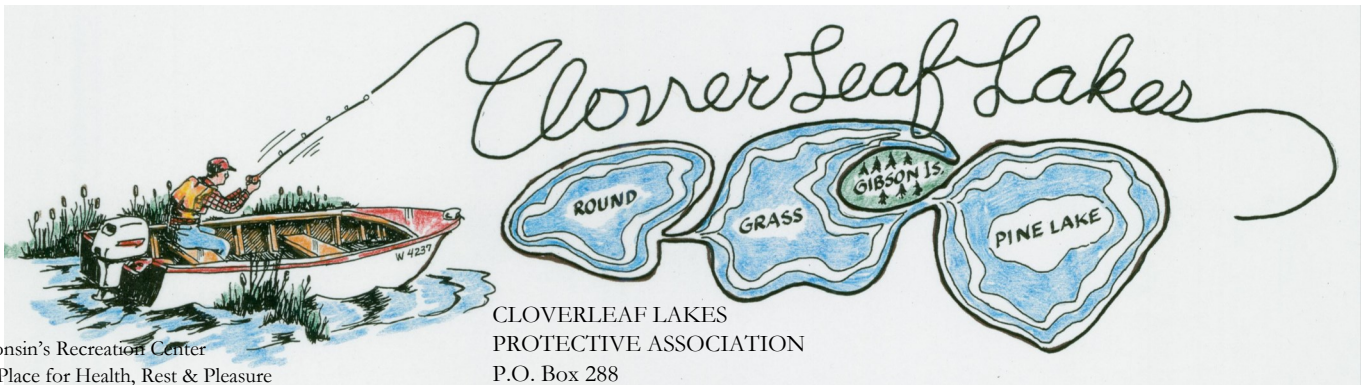
Onterra conducted a through survey of our aquatic plant life in early September. A few patches of milfoil have re-emerged in Pine Lake and Round Lake. Grass Lake has more extensive milfoil growth. We will await their advice to determine plans for 2015 but it is likely we will do some chemical treatment.

We don't want to let the milfoil take over as it has on many lakes, clogging waterways and making boating nearly impossible.

* It's time to prepare for the big show — the annual autumn kaleidoscope of leaves turning color.

"As the days get shorter, and the nights longer and cooler, the fall colors will begin developing. Ideal conditions for a brilliant fall color season include warm sunny days with cool nights," said Bill McNee, a forest health specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

McNee says so far it looks like the season appears to be on target for its usual run of about Sept. 10 to mid-October.



Wisconsin's Recreation Center
The Place for Health, Rest & Pleasure
CLPA incorporated in 1936

CLOVERLEAF LAKES
PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 288
Embarrass, WI 54933-0288

www.CloverleafLakes.com

"Preserving our lakes for future generations"

Board of Directors

Dennis Thornton, President

(715) 823-9151

thorngb@frontiernet.net

Joe Mass, vice president

(715) 823-3758

jandsmass@frontiernet.net

Carol Wegner, Secretary

(715) 823-6270

cawegner@frontiernet.net

Pam Brueckner, treasurer

(715) 823-3917

Dave Rosenfeldt

(715) 823-6604

Dick Thurow

(414) 430-9067

Francie West

(715) 823-4059

kfwest@frontiernet.net

Cloverleaf Lakes anglers like their panfish

About 25 anglers who gathered on Aug. 30 supported a plan by **Al Niebur**, a DNR fish expert, to have more large panfish on Cloverleaf Lakes.

Niebur is proposing to continue the 25-fish daily bag limit but to allow only five of the sunfish (bluegills and pumpkinseeds) to be 7-inches or larger. A majority of those at the meeting thought panfish were overfished, with anglers keeping the larger fish.

Niebur is asking for more comments on that proposal as well as other questions about the Cloverleaf Lakes fishery (please fill out the questionnaire below and send it to Niebur).

The anglers also supported plans by the CLPA, town and Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club to install clusters of trees, dubbed "fish sticks," along the shores of the lakes over the ice starting this winter.

Niebur and **Brenda Nordin**, another DNR expert, toured the area around Gibson Island in August to map possible locations for the clusters of trees.



Brenda Nordin, center, and Al Niebur check the Gibson Island shoreline for possible "fish sticks" sites while Connor Ford pilots the boat.

The town board has approved seeking a DNR grant and allowing the "fish sticks" around town-owned Gibson Island.

Cloverleaf Lakes fish management questionnaire

Al Niebur, senior fish biologist for the DNR, wants to know what you think about the fishing on Cloverleaf Lakes. Please **circle your answers**, clip this article and send it to **Al Niebur, 647 Lakeland Road, Shawano, WI 54166**.

1. On the Cloverleaf Lakes, which species do you most frequently fish for?

Panfish Bass Musky Walleye Northern Pike

2. On Cloverleaf Lakes, would you generally say the panfish are (check all that apply)

Overfished (people are keeping too many fish)

Underfished (the panfish population could sustain higher harvests by anglers)

Mixed size (I catch some good sized panfish and some small panfish)

Large (most of the panfish I catch are good sized keepers)

3. Do you support or oppose changing the panfish regulations (compared to the current daily bag limit of 25) in an attempt to improve panfish average size?

Strongly support Moderately support Neither support or oppose Moderately oppose Strongly oppose

4. Please indicate if you support or oppose a panfish regulation for Cloverleaf Lakes where a total of 25 panfish may be kept, but no more than five of the bluegills and pumpkinseeds may be over 7 inches.

Strongly support Moderately support Neither support or oppose Moderately oppose Strongly oppose

5. Are you supportive of managing for a walleye population of low density with moderate proportion of preferred (15+ inch) and memorable (18+ inch) fish?

Strongly support Moderately support Neither support or oppose Moderately oppose Strongly oppose

6. Are you supportive of managing for a muskellunge population of low density with moderate proportion of preferred (32-40 inch) and potential trophy size (48+ inch) fish?

Strongly support Moderately support Neither support or oppose Moderately oppose Strongly oppose

7. Are you supportive of habitat projects that will involve placement of large tree complexes to improve the abundance of juvenile and adult fish?

Strongly support Moderately support Neither support or oppose Moderately oppose Strongly oppose

8. Which type of bass fishing experience would you prefer?

Action Fishery (high catch rate of small to moderate bass)

Moderate catch rates of all sizes of bass

Trophy Fishery (low catch rate of larger bass)

9. Bass are important predators to control the recruitment of bluegill and other prey species. It may be important to manage for quality panfish by maintaining high bass populations. Would you support maintaining higher bass numbers to improve panfish size with the tradeoff that larger bass would be low in numbers?

Strongly support Moderately support Neither support or oppose Moderately oppose Strongly oppose

Super summer comes to an end

It seemed like summer 2014 went by like a shot. We had some great times.

On Cloverleaf Lakes, the highlight is always the Independence Day celebration, held this year on July 5.

About 200 youngsters marched and rode in the Kiddie Parade, then enjoyed ice cream treats donated by **Mike and Pattie Fletcher** of Fletch's Corner Store and passed out by **Barry and Linda Hoskins**.

Marv Letven and many others worked at the fifth annual Art Fair held at Round Lake Park.

Later in the day, Pontoon Parade winners were **Ed Renaud** family in first place, **Joe Mass** family in second and **Glen McMann** family in third. **Steve and Molly Joosten** organized both parades.

The memorable day ended with a spectacular fireworks show fired up by the Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Association.



Customers line up to get henna tattoos at the annual Art Fair on July 5, held at Round Lake Park.



First place in the Pontoon Parade on July 5 went to the Ed Renaud family with a Peter Pan theme.



About 200 youngsters decorated bikes and themselves to participate in the Kiddie Parade.



A Shawano County Highway Department worker operates a machine to pulverize the blacktop on Rustic Drive in early September. The road will be repaved to improve drainage and provide a smoother ride.



Town Chairman Alvin Bartz presents a plaque to Kaelyn Malliet for winning the state Spelling Bee. A copy of the plaque will hang in the Belle Plaine Community Center.

County Fair, 4-H are all in the family for Arens

By Joan Sousek

If 4-H and the Shawano County Fair ended, **Sara Arens'** life would drastically change.

"That would get rid of about half my schedule," the 18-year-old Shawano High senior and Belle Plaine resident said. "I probably would not be too happy."

For Sara's family and many more in Belle Plaine, the end of August and Labor Day not only signals back-to-school, but also a long weekend of fun and showmanship at the fair, preceded by months of preparation.

Sara's main involvement is the horse project with her 19-year-old quarter horse, Brick. She also is a member of the Cantering Clovers Drill Team.

This year, she participated in Trail competition on Friday, Lead Line competition and a drill team performance Saturday, the 4-H Horse Show Sunday and the Fun Horse Show and a second drill team performance Monday -- some held in the rain.

She also entered knitting and drawing projects.

She got started when the family moved here from Moorhead, Minn. 10 years ago, and a Belle Plaine club leader suggested 4-H.

"Our neighbor **Linda Olson**, who was a leader at that time, is the one who really got us hooked when she said that 4-H would be the best way for Sara to get the most out of a horse," said Sara's mom, **Jill**.

Jill is on the Horse Key Committee and her husband, **John**, is Horse Superintendent and on the fair board. Their 16-year-old daughter, **Laura**, was in 4-H many years (in shooting sports, foods and cake decorating), but did not participate this year, and 9-year-old **Jenna** was a Cloverbud since age 6.

Cloverbuds are the

first 4-H group kids can join, but Jenna's 4-H participation started much earlier.

"She's been going to 4-H since she was in a car seat," Jill said. "We couldn't leave her home alone."

This year, Jenna, who is in Grade 3 at Olga Brener, entered three fair exhibits, the limit for Cloverbuds: a knitted doll sleeping bag, a decorated picture frame and a colored picture. She also participated in the open lead line class with Sara and Brick.

Cloverbuds earn participation ribbons after face-to-face judging, and while Jenna does not look forward to judging, she likes getting a coupon for a free milkshake — a reward for Cloverbuds.

She hopes to continue in 4-H, participate in food projects and someday "run the shake machine at the fair."

Sara plans to be in 4-H and with the drill team one more year before going to college.

She isn't big on meeting with judges either, but when she said that, Jill reminded her, "When you don't have face to face judging, you're wondering why you got what you got."

Whatever the outcome at the fair, preparations and 4-H participation are year-round activities — especially if you have animals.

"During the winter, I get my ideas together on what I would like to take to the fair; then during summer, I do them as well as practice with my horse," Sara said.

In spring and summer, monthly events help members in different horse disciplines such as showmanship, halter, riding, speed and trail. Sara also has weekly drill team practice, helps her dad with fair work and participates in the club's annual rabies clinic, tie blanket project and Humane Society collection.

As a Cloverbud, Jenna is less involved, but that probably will change. "Next year, I hope to do more," Jenna said.

Other club activities include annual cleanup of Sandy Beach and St. Martin ball park, nursing home visits, operating the 4-H food stand during the flea market and fair, and collections for the food pantry and Safe Haven.

With about 40 members, the Belle Plaine 4-H Club is the second largest of Shawano County's 21 clubs.

John was in 4-H while growing up in Iowa, and Jill, who is from Minnesota, said she became a "4-H mom" when her daughters joined.

"It was a great opportunity for the girls to get to know a lot of kids," Jill said. "It's been great for them ... I think 4-H is a great resource."

In Sara's words, "4-H helps to expand your horizons and improve in areas of interest to you. The Belle Plaine club helps you to reach out to your community."



Sara Arens, right, holds the reins of her horse for her sister, Jenna, at the Shawano County Fairgrounds.

Photo by Jill Arens

2014 CLPA Annual Membership: Please Join Now

If you haven't paid your dues, please make your check for \$25 payable to Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association, fill out and clip this form, and send it to CLPA, P.O. Box 288, Embarrass, WI 54933-0288. The membership is for the calendar year 2014.

Name: _____

Lake Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Home Address (if different): _____

Dues \$ **25.00**

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Circle tax-deductible
donation level

Mighty Oak	\$1,000
Maple	\$500
Birch	\$250
Pine	\$100
Ash	\$50
Other	

Business \$100

CLPA Protectors donors

The following are donations and memberships received since the Summer newsletter was printed.

Maple (\$500)

Carol A. Wegner in memory of Sandra Wegner

Birch (\$250)

Ray and Kathy Yaeger

Oak (\$100)

Andrew and Monica Johnson

Ash (\$50+)

Brent and Jessica Meier

Other

J. Battaglia/Warren Wanezek

Michael Holden

Herbert Puetzer/

Margaret LaMalfa

Dan Parr

Bruce and Christine Pat-

terson

Memberships

J. Battaglia, Thomas W. Conrad, Shirley Fischer, Barbara Gran, Robert

and Nancy Hawley, Michael Holden, Andrew and Monica Johnson,

Dennis Kiermas, Margaret LaMalfa, Larry and

Irene Malnor, Brent and

Jessica Meier, Dan Parr,

Bruce and Christine Pat-

terson, David and Lisa

Pierre, Herbert Puetzer,

Dave Robley, Donald

and Sharon Rogalski,

Michael Schlender, Erma

Schram, Roger and

Cheryl Timmer, Kris

Vomastic, Warren

Wanezek, Ray and

Kathy Yaeger, Don and

Jeanne Yeager

Golf outing honors Aumann

The second annual Jim Aumann Memorial Golf Outing was held at Clintonville Riverside Golf Course on Aug. 16 with a nice turnout of 53 golfers and a dozen more who joined for dinner. Winners of the Men's division were the foursome of **Jason Klein, Sam Rulseh, Tim Pavlick and Steve Doede**. Mixed division winners were **Todd Pamperin, Laurie Pamperin, Jerry Leatherberry and Ron Austreng**. Women's division winners were **Laurie Zeuske, Linda Augustine, Patsy Eggert and Steph Wengelski**.

The organizers of the Jim Aumann Memorial Golf Outing (**Bob Gross, Mike Wright and Bradd Zeuske**) would like to thank the participants, sponsors and donors who helped to make this year's outing a success. Donations will be made to the Cloverleaf Lakes Triathlon, **Chris Dewey** of Rustic Resort and the CLPA in memory of Jim.

Thank you to our hole sponsors: Nelson Services, Janna Aumann, Randy Riggins, Bob and Amanda Gross, Torborg's (Shawano), Fletch's Corner Store, O'Connor Sales & Realty, Korth's Badger Tap, Landmark Motel, Waite Landscaping, Harter's Fox Valley Disposal, The Corral Bar, Schroeder Trucking and Carlson Systems, Inc.

Thank you to our donors: Janna Aumann, Corner Bar and Grill, Captain's Cove Resort, Associated Bank (Embarrass), Ron Gehrt, Fletch's Corner Store, Buzz and Mac's, Vernon Gross, Dave Asenbrenner, Mike and Kathi Wright, Bradd and Laurie Zeuske, Bob Gross, Marty Downie, Jeff Neinas, C.A.S.T., John & Ruth Greatens, CLPA, The Corral Bar, John and Pam Torborg, Perry's Landing Golf Course, John Tomasich, Lake Aire Supper Club, Clintonville Riverside Golf Course, and County Materials (Green Bay).

—Bob Gross

Belle Plaine Community Center
N3002 St. Hwy. 22
Clintonville, WI 54929

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Eaglet saved to fly another day

By Joy Krubsack

Last year the Cloverleaf pair of nesting eagles had one eaglet, and this spring they were busy with two eaglets. However, around June 17, one eaglet fell from the nest. **Tom and Barb Kivlin** found the eagle on the forest floor, protected it, and called the Sheriff's Department.

Cheri Bowman soon came to check out the eagle and reported that it did not have flight feathers and would not be able to survive on its own. Cheri carefully wrapped up the eagle and took it to REGI, the Raptor Education Group Inc. in Antigo. This is a rescue and education center founded by **Marge and Don Gibson**.

I was told our eagle was a female, had some internal bleeding and a possible wing fracture but was doing well. Luckily she and eight other eaglets were accepted and fostered by adult eagles that live at the center. The desire is that all will be reintroduced to the wild later this winter. At REGI the birds live in a large building for flying practice and have as

little human contact as possible. Right now REGI is caring for the rehab of 39 birds.

Typically, the birds that are rehabilitated are un-banded and released in January which is before the eagles start claiming nesting territory. This is the time when the released birds will more likely be accepted by the wild birds. Last year the birds were set free in Sauk City at the Wisconsin River, which remains open for the winter and provides food.

Dennis and I went for a visit of REGI and heard a wonderful presentation on raptors. We were able to see three owls, a red-tailed hawk, two falcons, a turkey vulture and others. You may go on line and read more about the Raptor Education Group, Inc. It is really very interesting and a special place to have right here in Wisconsin. Molly, at the center, told us they receive many birds each year that come in injured. Please check their Facebook page for the release date which will be posted. Many people come to see and enjoy watching the spectacular sight of all the rehabilitated birds take off.

Belle Plaine calendar

Oct. 5: Cloverfest Run/Walk, 10 a.m., Rustic Resort grounds.

Oct. 13: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center.

Oct. 13: Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center.

Nov. 4: Statewide election, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., Community Center.

Nov. 10: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center.

Nov. 10: Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center.

Dec. 8: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center.

Dec. 8: Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center.