



# BELLE PLAINE

## NEWS & EVENTS

Spring 2020

## Residents use virus coping strategies

By Joan Sousek

It's not easy, but Belle Plaine residents are finding ways to cope with the pandemic – at least so far. Here, some of our neighbors share thoughts on the crisis, changes they've made and ways they are getting through these uncertain times.

**Barb Riesenbergs**, whose son **Greg** now runs the dairy farm that she and her husband, **Gary**, previously operated on Capitol Drive, says like many people, she's scared, but thankfully they have family in the area.

Greg lives down the road and the Riesenbergs have daughters nearby so they see them — at a distance, of course.

"They come and stand by the door," Barb says. The siblings also get supplies for Gary and Barb.

For Greg, it's mostly status quo.

"Life hasn't changed a lot for us because we continue to work," he says. "Everything we need we can still get."

The biggest change is home schooling his 10-year-old and two 7-year-old sons who get school study packets.

The farm's milk goes to Mullins Cheese, based in Knowlton with a second facility near Marshfield, and for now at least, Greg does not anticipate dumping milk as some Wisconsin farmers have had to do. He's contacted vendors about seed, fertilizer and supplies and all are pretty sure they can come through, he says.

His advice to people is, "Keep things in perspective."

At Retzlaff Century Farms on Belle Plaine Avenue, **Nathan Retzlaff** also expects seeding supplies to be normal, but he worries a lot about the markets.

**Town emergency order, page 5**

**Local restaurants offer takeout, page 6**

"I am beyond stress," he says.

His milk also goes to Mullins and falling milk prices concern him. He says markets for corn, soybeans, alfalfa and wheat are iffy, too, and if he has to sell cows in April he might get \$250 a head at Bonduel, but two weeks ago it would've been about \$700 each.

He fears a recession and depression ahead.

One bright spot is he built a batting cage in the barn which his two boys in fourth and first grades are enjoying.

Those boys are being schooled by Nathan's mother **Patty**, a retired teacher, who is learning a lot about computer-based education. She's also missing being part of her newest grandbaby's life. The baby was born on March 23 and although he lives just down the road with parents **Aaron** and **Bonnie**, she has not been able to hold him yet.

For retirees **Hugh** and **Pam Bruecker** who are used to going out often, staying home is the new normal and it's saving them a little money.

Their main outings have been for groceries, walks along Grass Lake, where they live, and to get takeout food a couple times a week to support area businesses.

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## Town Hall closed, meetings canceled

The Town of Belle Plaine has issued an emergency order following the state health emergency that was issued in March. The town offices at the Community Center are closed except to employees. The April meetings of the Town Board and Cloverleaf Lakes Sanitary District were canceled.

The April 21 annual town meeting will be postponed until a later date.

The April 7 election was held (see page 8) with voters and poll workers taking social distancing precautions.

Until the state orders change, the town will not be renting out or allowing meetings in the Community Center or the Round Lake Park picnic shelter.

Weekly garbage pickup will continue and the recycling center will be open on Saturdays during regular hours.

The compost site on Range Line Road is open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please observe social distancing.

Turn to the town's website for additional postings. The website is at [www.BellePlaineWI.com](http://www.BellePlaineWI.com).

# Town government: Stay safe during these times

By Alvin Bartz

What started as a problem in China has quickly spread worldwide, perhaps in part due to a global economy and worldwide travel. I would encourage in your own way to pray for the safety of your families and neighbors and that we will soon get relief from this virus.

We are trying to do the things necessary to keep the town moving forward and keeping our people safe. The compost site will open April 18. Please keep in mind the spacing requirements.

We have completed the ATV-UTV ordinance and signs will be posted shortly. Refer to the ordinance on page 4 as we have a few things different than the state ordinance. These were sug-



Dick Hesse displays a sign designating an ATV/UTV route. He will be erecting signs along town roads.

## Belle Plaine chairman's message

gestions from the survey we did of town residents.

We have received complaints about junk cars and campers and other things, especially in residential areas where most lots are narrow. These trashy items also impact the neighboring properties' appearance.

Please fill out and return the U.S. Census form that was mailed, or go online and enter the information. You would be doing yourself a financial favor, since many state and federal aids to the town are based on population figures. You would also be saving yourself a home visit from a Census worker.

These are especially trying times for local businesses for those forced to close and others trying to provide a service and, at the same time, keeping their employees safe.

These are also very trying times for the agricultural community as commodity prices are expected to fall well below the cost of production, probably near 2008 levels. Some farms are already being asked to dump their milk due to market fluctuations.

Please observe the "safer at home" and spacing requirements so we can get back to a more normal situation.

## Belle Plaine town notebook

If you have a seasonal home on Cloverleaf Lakes or Long Lake, please stay at your winter home at this time. It is difficult to tell someone to please don't come, but under the circumstance it doesn't make sense to anybody. Other communities such as Door County and Vilas County have issued similar requests. Shawano County has very limited health care facilities. The town is under a public emergency order.

\* Town Clerk Kristine Vomastic will have extended office hours beginning in April. She will work Tuesdays and Wednes-

days from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. as well as Saturdays from 8:30 to 11 a.m. She will drop the Monday night hours. The Community Center will be locked and closed to visitors but she will be available by phone at (715) 524-2690 or email at Belleplaineclerk@gmail.com.

\* The Shawano Area Fire Department is seeking volunteer firefighters for its Shawano, Belle Plaine and Wescott stations. Stop at Shawano City Hall, call (715) 526-9888 for information or see Lt. **Mark Retzlaff** for an application.

\*The town's compost site on Range Line Road is open for the spring. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. The Collection and Recycling Center on Cloverleaf Lake Road are Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Belle Plaine officials

Alvin Bartz, chairman

Harold Polzin, supervisor

Dennis Thornton, supervisor

Kristine Vomastic, clerk

Kay Kristof, treasurer

Newsletter editor: Dennis Thornton



Belle Plaine Community Center

N3002 St. Hwy. 22

Clintonville, WI 54929

(715) 524-2690

**Town clerk's hours:** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and 8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday or by appointment

**Treasurer's hours:** every Wednesday 8:30 to 10 a.m. and second Mondays from 4:30 to 7 p.m..

### **Regular Town Board meetings:**

Second Monday of each month, 7 p.m.

**Committees:** Planning, Zoning, Gibson Island Stewardship

**Population estimate:** 1,855

# CLPA has 2020 vision for limiting milfoil's spread

By Christopher Sampson

Ah! Springtime on the Cloverleaf Chain, and the Eurasian Water Milfoil is in bloom again.

Unlike daffodils and tulips, this is one annual re-appearance we could do without. Invasive milfoil made its first appearance here in 1992. Ever since, the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association has been monitoring and mobilizing against nuisance growth of this stubborn, fast-spreading underwater species.

Summer 2020's forecast carries good news on two of our lakes, with milfoil colonies likely to be scarce on Pine and Round. The outlook for Grass Lake is a little less rosy, but manageable.

Crews from Onterra environmental consultants mapped plant populations last fall to document areas of Hybrid and Eurasian Water Milfoil infestation. They also surveyed the relative abundance of fish-friendly and waterfowl-favored species including native pondweeds, wild celery and muskgrass.

Round and Pine took well to whole-lake treatment involving pelletized fluridone in 2018 and 2016, respectively, with only scattered plants and small stands of milfoil today. Native plants are holding their own.

Grass Lake remains susceptible. Milfoil recolonized more rapidly following that lake's latest chemical treatment, in 2016.

The fall 2019 mapping found milfoil stands on 10 percent of prime, plant-supporting lake bed, still just a fraction of previous peaks in 2010 and again in 2015. Milfoil densities those summers approached or exceeded a lake-clogging 50 percent, and prompted boater and swimmer complaints and subsequent rounds of pricey chemical application.

This spring's moderate milfoil levels on Grass reflect, in part, a one-year CLPA trial of intensive hand harvest. The Town of Belle Plaine, CLPA and DNR invested more than \$20,000 on professional scuba divers from Green Bay-based DASH LLC, who spent 12 days here last summer. They focused most of their work on thinning two large infestations: one just off the County Y boat landing and the second along the north side of Gibson Island's back bay.

This year's plan is yet to be finalized. Onterra has advised the CLPA that a few hours of hand harvest by contract divers on Pine and Round would knock back scattered milfoil to near-insignificant levels. On Grass Lake, the CLPA board is preparing a cost/benefit analysis comparing another year of extended (and expensive) hand harvest with a more minimalist approach. The latter might involve removal only in high-traffic boat lanes or, no harvest at all if a poor growth year naturally limits milfoil spread. The goal is to extend the number of years before lakewide chemical treatment, and apply any savings to that considerable cost.

## Covid postpones the annual meeting

For the first time in recent memory and one of the few instances in a CLPA history dating to 1936, the association's annual Memorial Day Weekend membership meeting has been cancelled.

The CLPA was notified this spring that the town of Belle

## CLPA co-president's message

Plaine was suspending use of the Round Lake shelter indefinitely, and the statewide Covid-19 prohibition against large group meetings would remain in force.

Co-presidents Jessica Meier and Christopher Sampson say they hope the cancellation is only a postponement. They will try to reschedule for Labor Day Weekend, if public health concerns allow.

## DNR grant to fund lake-management project

A two-year project that will provide a comprehensive ecosystem report card on the Cloverleaf Lakes and enlist local stakeholders in developing a long-range lake management plan has been awarded a major grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

A total of \$18,357 will be made available to the Town of Belle Plaine and its partner, the CLPA, under the DNR's Surface Water Planning Grant program. The state grant covers two-thirds of the estimated \$27,000 cost, with financial and in-kind contributions at the local level accounting for the rest.

The project will run through June 2022. The Cloverleaf Chain has not had a new lake-management plan since 2006. The DNR increasingly relies on such plans when allocating invasive-species grants or fishery resources, for example, to make sure local partners are doing their part and following best practices in keeping waterways healthy.

It is expected the completed plan will address water chemistry, biodiversity and nutrient loading; health of the plant communities, an inventory of native species and assessment of invasives; a close look at fisheries; and watershed and shoreline land use, among other topics. It will also suggest management options for protecting important environmental assets while acknowledging diverse public use of the resource.

Onterra LLC, an environmental consulting firm retained by the CLPA, will assist in gathering information and stakeholder input. Public information forums will be scheduled, and surveys distributed not only to those who live on or near the Cloverleafs but anyone who enjoys the lakes through public access.

Work is expected to begin this summer, with project leaders soliciting volunteers from the community. Opportunities for involvement will include service on the planning committee and various work groups.

The CLPA's grant application was ranked third highest among 21 lakes in a very competitive sub-category. CLPA officers point to the association's history, since 1936, as a leader in modeling public protection of local waterways.

It is likely the application also won priority points for the Cloverleafs' status as a well-used recreational chain close to sizeable population centers that has also succeeded in maintaining its water quality and biodiversity.



# Here is the Belle Plaine ATV/UTV ordinance

## Town of Belle Plaine Ordinance No. 2020

**-1** allowing All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV) and Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) on certain town roads

**Section I. Purpose:** The Town of Belle Plaine, Shawano County, adopts the following ATV/UTV routes for the operation of All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) or Utility Terrain Vehicles (UTV) upon the roadways listed in Section III of this ordinance.

**Section II. Statutory Authority:** This ordinance is enacted under the authority of Sec. 23.33 (8) (b), Sec. 23.33 (11) and Sec. 60.22 (3) of Wis. Statutes. The provisions of Sec. 23.33 Wis. Statutes, and the provisions of Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 64 regulation ATV and UTV operations and containing applicable definitions are hereby adopted and incorporated into this Ordinance as though set forth in full herein.

**Section III. Routes:** The following town highways are designated as routes:

A. All ATV/UTV signed town highways. ATV/UTV use on state Highway 22 and 29 as well as county roads is prohibited within the town limits.

B. The Town reserves the right to close or modify routes at any time. Any restrictions of routes shall be designated by a motion and by majority of the Town Board and shall be marked accordingly.

C. All ATV/UTV routes established pursuant to this ordinance may be reviewed annually by the Town of Belle Plaine supervisors to consider the continued value, efficacy or need for the routes or for the inclusion of additional ATV/UTV routes.

**Section IV. Conditions:** As a condition for the use of these routes, the following conditions shall apply to all operators (and passengers):

A. The speed limit on all designated routes shall be thirty-five (35) miles per hour. Operators shall reduce speed whenever the posted speed limit is less, or as required by Wisconsin Statutes, or as conditions warrant.

B. All ATV/UTV operators shall ride single file, on the extreme right hand portion of the roadway on the paved surface.

C. Routes must be signed in accordance with NR 64.12 and NR 64.12 (7)c.

D. All ATV/UTV operators must stay on the paved portion of the roadway. No riding on shoulder of the roads.

E. All ATV/UTV operators must be 16 years of age or older, except children aged 12-15 years of age may operate an ATV/UTV on a designated ATV route if accompanied by a designated adult. Sec. 23.33 (5) Wis. Stat.

F. All ATV/UTV operators and passengers under the age of 18 shall wear a helmet approved by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

G. ATVs and UTVs can only be operated during daylight hours, plus one hour before sunrise and one hour after sunset, on designated Town highways.

H. All ATV/UTVs operated on Town highways pursuant to this ordinance shall have the following properly working equipment: 1. one or more headlights 2. a red rear light 3. number plate bracket 4. brakes in good mechanical condition 5. a muffler system and such other equipment or devices that comply with the noise level standards as set forth in 23 VSA Sec. 3505(b) and regulations adopted pursuant thereto

I. At all times, while operating an ATV/UTV on town highways, operators shall have a valid driver's license or pass an approved safety course. Drivers shall obey all Wisconsin laws regarding the operation of ATV/UTVs.

J. The Town of Belle Plaine accepts no liability for the operation of ATV/UTVs on any town road.

**Section V. Enforcement:** This ordinance shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer authorized to enforce the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

**Section VI. Penalties:** Wisconsin ATV/UTV penalties as found in Sec. 23.33 (13) Wis. Stat. are adopted by reference. If there is any instance where a penalty under Sec. 23.33 (13) cannot be determined and/or applied, then there shall be a forfeiture of \$100 for a violation of this ordinance.

It shall also be a non-moving violation of this Ordinance for any person to do any of the following: intentionally remove, damage, deface, move, or obstruct any ATV and/or UTV route or trail sign or standard or intentionally interfere with the effective operation of any ATV and/or UTV route or trail sign or standard if the sign or standard is legally placed by the Town, or any other highway authority or authorized person, or on behalf of the Town or any other highway authority or authorized person.

**Section VII. Severability:** The provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that the Town would have passed the provisions of this ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid. If any provision of this ordinance or the application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provisions to other person's circumstances shall not be deemed affected.

**Section VII. Effective Date:** This ordinance shall be effective upon passage and publication as required by law. No travel on designated town highways shall be allowed until ATV/UTV signs have been installed. A copy of this ordinance and any revisions shall be sent by the Town Clerk to the Department of Natural Resources, the Wisconsin State Patrol, and the Shawano County Sheriff's Department.

Adopted this Ninth day of March, 2020, by the Town Board of the Town of Belle Plaine, Shawano County.

/s/ Alvin Bartz Town Chairperson

/s/ Kristine Vomastic, Town Clerk

# Belle Plaine issues health emergency resolution

## RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN THE TOWN OF BELLE PLAINE, SHAWANO COUNTY, WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the State of Wisconsin, by Governor Tony Evers, proclaimed by Executive Order #72 that a public health emergency, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 323.02(16), exists for the State of Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, Governor Evers has designated the Department of Health Services as the lead agency to respond to the public health emergency and has directed the Department of Health Services to take all necessary and appropriate measures to prevent and respond to incidents of COVID-19 in the State;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Department of Health Services Secretary Andrea Palm issued Emergency Order #5 under the authority of Wis. Stat. § 252.02(3) prohibiting “mass gatherings” which will remain in effect for the duration of the public health emergency declared in Governor Evers’ Executive Order #72, unless otherwise ordered by the Department of Health and Services;

WHEREAS, “mass gathering” is defined as any planned or spontaneous, public or private event or convening that will bring together or is likely to bring together ten (10) or more people in a single room or single confined or enclosed space at the same time;

WHEREAS, Emergency Order #5 exempts, among others, local government facilities, including government service centers, from the prohibition of “mass gatherings”;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Town of Belle Plaine, Shawano County, Wisconsin, by this resolution, adopted by a majority of the town board on a roll call vote with a quorum present and voting and proper notice having been given, resolves and orders as follows:

A public health emergency is declared as existing within the town as a result of the COVID-19 disease which presents an imminent threat that may impair transportation, food or fuel supplies, medical care, or other critical systems of our local government.

The Town of Belle Plaine will seek to enforce the prohibition of mass gatherings as dictated by the Department of Health Services and State of Wisconsin.

The town board, or the town chairman, shall have the authority to order whatever further measures deemed necessary and expedient for the health, safety, welfare, and good order of the Town of Belle Plaine during the emergency, including without limitation the power to bar, restrict, and remove unnecessary traffic, vehicular or pedestrian, and public gatherings, from public places.

The period of emergency shall be limited to the time during which the emergency conditions exist or are likely to exist in the Town of Belle Plaine.

Any person who violates a lawful order of the town/village board or its administrator made under this emergency declaration shall be subject to a forfeiture of \$100 or, in default of payment of the forfeiture, shall be subject to imprisonment for six (6) months for each separate offense.

The town/village clerk shall publish this resolution under Wis. Stat. sec. 60.80 in the local newspaper. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption by the town/village board and the forfeiture penalties shall become effective upon publication.

Adopted this 23rd day of March, 2020

Chairman Alvin Bartz

Supervisor Harold Polzin

Supervisor Dennis Thornton

Clerk Kristine Vomastic

## Pandemic changes life in town

### Continued from Page 1

One evening, they noticed neighbors across the road having drinks outside and they joined them, talking from opposite sides of the driveway.

The Brueckers also tried using Zoom to have face-to-face family time via the computer with their kids out of state.

“It worked pretty well,” Hugh says. “Except they were all yakking at once.”

Pam, a 10-year Stage 4 cancer survivor, has treatments every three weeks, but she is doing well, Hugh says. For Pam and everyone’s safety, he suggests people stay home as much as possible.

One local resident who wanted to remain anonymous is concerned about people coming from places that have a lot of cases of the coronavirus to spend time at their cottages on the lakes.

Belle Plaine Cheese owner **Don Brandl** says business has been pretty steady.

“We’re fortunate. We’re small and people are supportive,” he says.

For the most part he and his wife **Diane**, are staying home, except for the walk from home next door to the store and a rare trip to town.

With the garden season approaching, Don has tilled his plot twice already.

He feels rural folks with less exposure to a lot of people might have a little advantage over city residents during the pandemic, and he urges people to have patience and stay as healthy as they can.

Belle Plainer **Rod Christensen**, owner of Christensen Printing & Publishing in Shawano, reminds people, “We have faced far more emergencies in our life and have gotten past them. This too shall pass.”

He also urges caution about mixed messages you might hear.

“Don’t believe everything you hear, make sure you are questioning what is being said,” he suggests.

With additional steps to keep employees safe, the business continues to print and deliver 60 publications weekly. They are working with individuals one-to-one to address concerns.

“Everybody’s needs are different, but we are taking the time to make sure everyone is comfortable with working with one another,” Christensen says.

At home he and his wife **Tina** have been using the video-calling app FaceTime and Facebook’s Messenger to stay in touch with family, and he’s positive about the future.

“Working together is the best way to get through this,” Rod says. “We will hopefully learn some things from all this and be more cautious in the future.”

# Belle Plaine honored for conservation efforts

The Town of Belle Plaine received a Watershed Hero 2020 Impact Award March 3 from the Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance. Town Chairman **Alvin Bartz** and Supervisor **Dennis Thornton** accepted the award at a banquet in Appleton. The Fox Wolf Alliance works on a variety of conservation projects in Northeastern Wisconsin, including Shawano County.

Here is the proclamation that the Alliance gave to Belle Plaine:

“The Town of Belle Plaine in southern Shawano County has actively been protecting their local lakes and its residents for years. The town purchased Gibson Island, on the Cloverleaf Lakes, along with generous private funds and a major Stewardship grant, to ensure its protection, fulfilling the vision of long-time town Chairman Alvin Bartz. The 25-acre island is the centerpiece of the lakes and will be protected forever as a natural area. They continue to care for the island, successfully receiving grant funding to control invasive species including Japanese Knotweed and installing a native plant shoreline restoration project on the island. The town owns a public boat launch and purchased land to provide boat trailer parking as well as a park picnic shelter nearby.

“While being proactive on surface water protection, the Town is also working to ensure residents have safe drinking water, recently receiving a grant to help free well tests for residents to check their well water for nitrate contamination.

“The Town publishes a quarterly newsletter to make sure all information is shared with its 1,800 residents.



**Jessica Schultz, left, and Emily Henrigillis of the Fox Wolf Watershed Alliance present a Watershed Hero Award to Belle Plaine. Chairman Alvin Bartz, right, and Dennis Thornton accepted the plaque.**

“The Town of Belle Plaine officials and residents are an active group that work alongside the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association and the Belle Plaine Sanitary District as well as the Long Lake Association. These partnerships have made them even stronger and more successful. Dennis Thornton and **Joy Krubsack**, along with town Chairman Bartz, have been conservation leaders in the town and help make many excellent things happen.”

## Town restaurants offer take-out

**By Joan Sousek**

Wisconsin restaurants are only being allowed to offer carry-out food during the pandemic and that includes Belle Plaine businesses. Some have reduced hours and changes in menus. Most are posting updates on Facebook or their websites.

The restaurants listed (except Arby's) ask you to call ahead for approximate times for pickup and be patient because most are working with reduced staff at many times and might have only one telephone line for ordering.

**Arby's/22 Shell**, N4543 State Highway 22, open regular hours, daily 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; (715) 526-8072; order at the window or inside, but maintain social distancing; no inside dining.

**Break-A-Way** (Chad & Jessi's), N2921 County Road Y, Clintonville, open Tuesday through Sunday, noon to 7 p.m.; (715) 823-6635; all orders must be called in and will be brought out to you; full menu including Friday fish specials on Facebook.

**Club 22**, N3925 State Highway 22, Shawano, open Friday through Sunday 4:30 to 8 p.m.; (715) 526-3800; can do credit card over the phone; Friday fish, Saturday prime rib and other steaks, Sunday chicken special; other menu items available; See details on Facebook.

**Lake Aire Supper Club**, N2815 County Road Y, Clintonville, open Thursday through Saturday, 4 to 8 p.m.; (715) 823-2355; call ahead to order; specials include roast duck on Thursday, haddock Oscar or chicken Oscar on Friday and prime rib on Saturday; additional random specials and full menu on Facebook.

**Mickster's Pub & Grill**, N2754 County Road Y, Clintonville, open Sunday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; no ordering or waiting inside; (715) 823-5990; regular menu plus “comfort food” such as scalloped potatoes and ham and other lunch specials; on weekends free cheesy garlic bread with any 12- or 16-inch, two or more topping pizza; can do curbside; take out alcohol purchases also available (mixes with sealed airplane size bottles).

**Shawano's Café**, W7389 River Bend Road Shawano, open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; (715) 201-1122; credit card payment can be done by phone; temporary menu posted on Facebook.

**Belle Plaine Cheese**, N3473 Wisconsin Ave., Shawano, open regular hours Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; (715) 526-2789.

**Witt's Sausage Haus**, N3929 State Highway 22, Shawano, open regular hours Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; (715) 526-5478.





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

P.O. Box 288  
Embarrass, WI 54933-0288

*"Preserving our lakes for future generations"*

If you haven't paid your 2020 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 2020. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation.

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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Board of Directors**

(920) 830-2788

Jessica Meier, co-president  
and treasurer  
JessicaMeier  
@UWalumni.com

Gary Schumacher,  
Secretary  
Gary@Garyschumacher.  
com

Christopher Sampson,  
co-president  
csampson@new.rr.com

Greg Martin  
GLLMartin@  
SBCGlobal.net  
(312) 543-5106

Kevin Goodman, vice  
president  
Cloverleafprotective  
@gmail.com

Peggy McMahon  
PMcMahon23@gmail.com

## **CLPA members and donors**

**By Jessica Meier**

There are 204 members of the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association as of April 1 and 124 of them have sent additional donations above the \$25 annual dues.

Most of the names were published in the winter issue of this newsletter. For space reasons, the complete list of members will be printed just once a year, in the fall issue.

Members will be recognized with stickers on the fire numbers.

Thank you for your dues and donations.

## **Wild Ones hosts native plant sale**

The Wild Ones Wolf River Chapter is taking orders for its spring native plant sale. Orders are due by April 24 with plants available on May 16.

The order form is on the Wild Ones Facebook page. The group is seeking volunteers to help on the day of the sale.

Information is available from **Jean Barkow** (715) 745-2107 or **Mary Kuester** (715) 526-3401 or email to [Fourpaws@charter.net](mailto:Fourpaws@charter.net).

## **Fireworks on, for now**

**By Steve Joosten**

We hope this message finds you healthy and safe. As of the writing of this newsletter, the Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Association is planning to hold the fireworks show on Saturday, July 4, at dusk along with the boat and kiddie parades during the day. We will, however, follow the Covid-19 guidelines set by the State of Wisconsin regarding size of group gatherings that are in place at that time. Fund raising efforts are continuing and we want to thank all for the generous donations thus far. You can follow our progress on the big red rocket across from Micksters. Donations can be mailed to:

Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Inc.  
P.O. Box 275  
Embarrass, WI 54933

We have a GoFundMe page at Cloverleaf Lake Fireworks 2020 and our Facebook page name is Cloverleaf Lake Fireworks Inc. Please share with your friends, family and neighbors.

Any questions can be emailed to [pmcmahon23@gmail.com](mailto:pmcmahon23@gmail.com) or call (920) 246-2678.

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

## A very different election

In the face of stay-at-home social distancing guidelines, the Town of Belle Plaine pulled off a successful spring election on April 7.

A majority of the 471 ballots were cast as absentee with just 170 voters showing up in person. They were greeted by poll workers shielded by windows and spaced far apart. Three poll workers were on each of the morning and afternoon shifts rather than five, along with a National Guardsman.

Town Clerk **Kristine Vomastic**, in charge of elections, said the voting went smoothly. Voters held up IDs to the windows and were issued ballots, with lots of sanitizers available.

The local elections on the ballot were for County Board with **Dan Miller** and **John Ainsworth** unopposed for two Belle Plaine area seats.

Town worker **Dick Hesse** designed and constructed the windows shielding the poll workers.

Vomastic was still receiving mail ballots, postmarked by April 7, late in the week. Poll workers included **Bonnie Utke**, **Linda Olson**, **Bob Hannes**, **Pat Mahnke**, **Heather Larabell**, **Donna Loesl** and **Deb Passehl**.



**Bonnie Utke**, left, and **Linda Olson** are shielded and practice social distancing while awaiting voters at the Belle Plaine Community Center for the April 7 spring election. One voter, background, is at a safe distance. Precautions were made under the state Coronavirus emergency orders.