



BELLE PLAINE NEWS & EVENTS

Spring 2021

Change is Coming to Belle Plaine Town Government

By Dennis Thornton

About 50 residents gathered Jan. 18, masked and socially distanced, to select five candidates for the Belle Plaine Town Board on the April 6 ballot. There are another two candidates for one position on the Cloverleaf Lakes Sanitary District.

Chairman Alvin Bartz will run unopposed for another term on the Board.

Running for **Supervisor #1** will be Wade Wisnefske vs. Al Prudom. One of them will replace retiring Harold Polzin.

Running for **Supervisor #2** will be Bobbie Krozell vs. Cory Retzlaff to replace retiring Dennis Thornton.

Two other candidates were eliminated by the voters and did not make the ballot.

Vying to replace Kris Doan on the **Cloverleaf Lakes Sanitary District** will be Wade Wisnefske and Lee Wetzel.

CLINTONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD

School Board Member - At Large Vote for not more than 3:

Glen Drew Lundt, Larry Czarnecki, Ben Huber, Laurie A. Vollrath, Chadwick Dobbe and Jason Moder.

SHAWANO SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD

At Large Member Vote for 1: James A. Davel or Charles J. Dallas

Area I Vote for 1: Charles J. Dallas or James A. Davel

Area IV Vote for 1: Jeana Winslow or Jamie Beyer

Election will take place **April 6** at the Belle Plaine Community Center. Polling hours are from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

It's time to
VOTE!

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE *By Alvin Bartz*

The mild winter we have been having has certainly helped stretch the highway budget unless we get a "major storm" as we had a few years ago in April. As other cost centers increase, the only place to take it out of is the highway budget. However in the future, we will have to look at increasing some license and permit fees to add to our revenues.

This year our ambulance subsidy went up double digits. We now pay about \$40,000 to provide the service to our community. Our tipping fee at the landfill also increased by double digits. The Town revenue stream only changes by about \$2,500 because of levy limits mandated by the states, so units of government and schools struggle to balance the budget with ever-increasing costs. The November election absentee and in-person process during the pandemic, which increased our election budget substantially in 2020. Thus our highway budget is about \$50,000 less than it was a few years ago.

It remains to be seen what will happen at Maple Lane. We had a few outside firms evaluating the property, but have heard nothing since December.

I would like to thank Dennis and Harold for the dedicated service to the Town. I doubt Harold missed more than five meetings over forty-plus years as Clerk and Supervisor. Dennis and Jan were instrumental in the Gibson Island project where the Town matched a DNR grant with private contributions. Dennis also worked with grants to provide funds in the lake area to improve water quality. It was a pleasure to work with both of them.

Spring Election Candidates

The newsletter invited candidates for Town and Sanitary District offices to submit information about themselves to inform voters for the Spring election.

Barbara “Bobbie” Krozell

Let me introduce myself, my legal name is Barbara Krozell however most know me by “Bobbie” a nickname my father gave me as a child and has stuck with me throughout my life. I have resided in the Town of Belle Plaine for the past 25 years, and is truly home to me.



In 1998, I attended NWTC in the Architectural Technology Associate Degree program. Additionally, I hold all four residential licenses and zoning administration work. In 2000, I started doing building inspections and at one point I worked for ten different municipalities. Some of my duties included reviewing plans for homes, issuing permits, creating paper tracking programs, assisting in land development and zoning, reviewing and revising applicable codes policies and ordinances for implementation of plan goals in numerous communities, enforce ordinances such as state building codes, nuisance and housing codes, and address complaints from property owners.

Throughout my career, it has been imperative that I work respectfully with individuals and maintain an open mind with issues. If any resident had a question or concern, I would seek out the answer. Being honest, genuine and upfront with people has always been extremely important to me. This will continue to be the case in the position of Town Supervisor.

I feel my education, licensures and work experience has given me the qualities required for the opportunity to run for the Town Supervisor position which would make me an excellent candidate. Thank you!

Wade Wisnfske

Here's a little bit about myself. I grew up on a large dairy farm south of Clintonville. My dad, Leroy Wisnfske, was my mentor and teacher. He gave me the gift of knowledge in excavation and carpentry, property and financial management, electrical, plumbing, machining, welding and industrial design.



Besides dairy, my family did custom cropping, machinery repair and maintenance. I was in welding and machining trades for 13 years. I also, overlapped into full-time Wisnfske Excavating in 2003, which I am still involved in today.

I've been a firefighter/driver/LOSA committee member on the Bear Creek Fire Dept. for 12 years, and recently joined the Shawano Area Fire Department (S.A.F.D)/Belle Plaine Station.

My family includes, my wife Katie of 12 years, my son Edon-8, and twin daughters Summer and Autumn-5, who are currently attending St. James School in Shawano. We have lived on the north side of Long Lake for the past 4 years.

Since living in the Town, most of my work as been in the area. I've done some work for the Town of Belle Plaine and built a good relationship with the current Board. I feel it is important to have transparency when working for the Town. I've been attending the Town of Belle Plaine Board meetings with interest in the community and was asked to run for the current open Supervisor position. I would strive to continue to improve the Town for the

entire community and my family. I multi-task and work well with others and try to see things from every angle. My values are old school in that I try to see things from everyone's point of view. Thank you and I appreciate your vote.

Editor's note: Wade, is also applying for the Cloverleaf Sanitary District where he feels his underground experience in sewer and water, property and zoning knowledge will be of great value.

Cory Retzlaff

I am Cory Retzlaff and I'm running for Supervisor in the Town of Belle Plaine. Born and raised in Belle Plaine. We live and work my family's fifth generation dairy farm, along with my wife and daughter, and my parents.



My dad works for the Town as a Caretaker of the Recycling Center, A.K.A. the dump man.

I am a 16-year veteran of the Shawano Area Fire Department stationed in Belle Plaine and a 9-year veteran First Responder on the Belle Plaine EMS.

I love the Town of Belle Plaine and want to join the Town Board to help direct town matters and growth for the future.

My desire to serve my community comes from my Great Grandfathers (Theodore Bartz and Alex Retzlaff) who were both past Supervisors. My Great Grandfather Theodore Bartz served for 33 years as Supervisor.

If elected, I plan to continue the wonderful strides our current Town Board has made and encourage open dialog with residents to incorporate their vision in our Town's future.

It would be a privilege to serve Belle Plaine residents to the best of my ability and promise to work diligently to keep our community healthy and viable.

Albert Prudom (Dr Al)

My wife, Amy Prudom, and I reside at N2559 Rustic Drive. I have lived in the Clintonville area since 1978. I have been working as a Veterinarian in the community for the past 44 years and sold the We Care Animal Hospital in 2016.



I was raised on a small dairy and fruit farm in western New York where I learned the value of hard work and moral integrity. After high school, I attended Texas A&M University and earned two Bachelors, a Masters and my Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. I have taught at both N.E.W. Tech and Fox Valley Technical College. I also worked for the State of Texas, EPA and Dept of Civil Engineering.

I enjoy hunting and fishing. I have been a strong supporter of Wisconsin WIAA athletics as well as community groups such as the 4-H club and various booster organizations. I have officiated football and basketball games for the state.

As founder and CEO of a successful business, I understand the burden of managing time, staff and limited resources. Prioritizing needs of time, material, and equipment is what helped me to be success in a business that spanned several counties.

I believe all sources of revenue need to be explored to maintain the strong position that the current board leave behind.

continued on next page

Candidates *continued*

If elected, I plan to continue the wonderful strides our current Town Board has made and encourage open dialog with residents to incorporate their vision in our Town's future.

It would be a privilege to serve Belle Plaine residents to the best of my ability and promise to work diligently to keep our community healthy and viable.

Lee Wetzel

Hi, my name is Lee Wetzel and I am running for Cloverleaf Lakes Sanitary District Board. My wife Mary and I bought a house on Round Lake in 1992. We have 2 kids; Lucas Wetzel and Stephanie (Jacob) Stilen, and a grandson; Dennis. I have always enjoyed swimming and have been very active in swim programs in the area: Shawano Community Swim Club Board Member, Clintonville Area Swim Team Founder 2005, Clintonville Area Swim Team Head Coach 2005-17 and Clintonville High School Head Coach 2012-17.

I worked as a journeyman Plasterer for twenty years before purchasing a Pepperidge Farm Distributorship in 2008 and am currently an independent distributor. I am also involved in St. Martin Belle Plaine Church and have been the church secretary since 2019. I spend a lot of my free time enjoying the Cloverleaf Lakes. My hobbies include swimming, stand-up paddle boarding, scuba diving, fishing, and boating. I would like to serve in the Sanitary District to maintain the Cloverleaf Lakes for my children and grandchildren, so they can enjoy it as well. Please consider voting for me for Cloverleaf Lakes Sanitary District Board, sincerely, Lee Wetzel.

Editor's note: Lee is running only for the Cloverleaf Sanitary District Board.



New Owners of Shawano's Café

By Joan Sousek

Shawano's Café, W7389 River Bend Rd., Shawano, has new owners. As of Jan. 4, **Justin and Katie Popp**, who grew up here, live kitty corner from the restaurant on Eagle's Nest Lane.

While they plan to continue serving "American comfort food" as their **Facebook** page states, they also are making a major change. The Town of Belle Plaine establishment will be home to **JPs**, a sports bar serving bottle beer, alcohol and food.

"It will be two different entities," Katie says. The bar will have large-screen TVs and game day specials. It also will have a bulletin board wall for posting outdoor sporting photos and Justin plans to install a couple buck mounts.

The bar will feature muddled old fashioned, bloody marys and mimosas which diners also can order. Special bar snacks will include fried garlic bread with cheese and bacon spread and homemade egg rolls. General pub fare such as onion rings and cheese curds will be available. The Pops have done some remodeling to set up the bar. Adjacent is an outdoor patio which might be used in the future for musical entertainment.

The menu features homemade soups, Amish-made pies and daily specials with breakfast served all day. They are planning to do a website with a printable, easy-read menu.

The restaurant has an area that can be closed off with a folding wall room divider to accommodate about 40 people for private events. It can be rented for a fee which is waived if food is bought from the restaurant.

The couple's two sons attend Shawano High School. Andrew, 17, a junior, and Bryce, 15, a sophomore, are both involved in sports, and the family enjoys fishing, camping and hunting.

"We want to emphasize we are local residents and want the business to have a hometown feel," Katie says.

They are connecting with the next-door **Boarders Inn and Suites** which often has lodgers in the area for sporting events.

Restaurant open daily 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Bar hours will be Monday-Thursday 2 p.m.-close, Friday and Saturday Noon-close and Sunday 11 a.m.-close.

LINE-X Extreme Coating

By Joan Sousek

Carrie and Jeff Hesse were spraying truck beds and other items at their **Extreme Coating Technology of Clintonville** business for years when they decided to invest in a LINE-X franchise in 2016. That allowed them to use LINE-X spray products and required having a special truck and retail showroom which is what LINE-X Extreme Coating provides at N2885 Pioneer Road, Clintonville.

"We were spraying another company's product when the opportunity to spray LINE-X – the ultimate material – came about," says Jeff who describes his newest business as the "retail division of our big company (Extreme Coating Technology)." LINE-X has over 600 franchises around the world with about eight in Wisconsin.

The Belle Plaine business, just off Highway 22 adjacent to Butch's Archery which the couple also owns, offers a variety of truck accessories. That includes toppers, covers, folding drop steps, 4-foot step bars, floor liners, ratcheting tie-down kits, crossover tool boxes, toolbox liners, jump starters, power banks, lighting, fender flares, bumpers, tires, wheels and lift kits.

LINE-X spray is like a hard rubber polyurea which is very durable but has elasticity. Bed liners have a lifetime warranty as do some of the accessories sold through the business.

While bed liners and truck accessories are the foundation of the business, undercoating and rust proofing also are big. Spray projects are individualized because there are many variables, but an average bed liner costs about \$450 to \$500.

The Hesses have a hands-on role in the business and work with four employees. Their main goal is to maximize the facility, focusing on retail sales, and also to reach out in the mobile market potentially around the state. The business has developed gradually. Customer satisfaction guides the business and the Hesses emphasize the company's high standards.

HOURS: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; 715-823-8917; Facebook; <https://linex.com/us/line-x-of-clintonville-F1123>

- April 1: Open Book, 3 PM to 5 PM (VIRTUAL)
- April 12: Town Board Meeting, 7 PM, Community Center
- April 20: Town Annual Meeting, 7 PM, Community Center
- April 29: Board of Review, 6 PM to 8 PM

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we are looking to maintain the same process for both open book and board of review we used in 2020. We will hold virtual open books, where property owners will call, email, or zoom us. We will hold board of review as usual, in person at the community center. Please call 920-749-1995 ext. 8815 or email Jake at jakeb.apraz@gmail.com with any questions.

- May 10: Town Board Meeting, 7 PM, Community Center

November 3, 2020 Election in Belle Plaine

By Kristine Vomastic

This past presidential election, the Town of Belle Plaine had the highest voter participation of any prior. You might ask how an election works? Without seeing all the things going on behind the scenes, it's hard to imagine all the aspects needed to make elections run smooth.

At 5:30 a.m. **Marcy Rosenow** and myself started getting the machines set up and ready for the first shift workers, who came in at 6:00 a.m. Rosenow was the Chief Inspector for the morning shift. With all her years working elections, she remains a wealth of knowledge and guides everyone when questions arise. At 6 a.m., **Linda Olson, Amanda Hannes, Colleen Weishoff, Nancy Bennett, Beth Wearing** and **Bonnie Utke** arrived to work.

Olson and Hannes worked the poll books. Poll books must match at the end of each shift, with who voted and how many voters came in. Olson, who took care of the first poll book, had to get signatures from the voter. Her book went on to the County and Hannes' stayed in the Town for our records. Utke, who has been trained to be an Election Inspector, Chief Inspector and Registrations, did new registrations on election day in 2020. The information on these registrations must be filled out correctly and are sent to the County to be entered into the WisVote system. Any missing information is sent back to the Town to figure out the information is missing.

Bennett and Wearing asked voters if they preferred a paper ballot, or to vote on the touch screen. Both women had to be accurate on which paper ballot a voter received, as Clintonville School District had a referendum as well. They reminded those voters not to forget the question on the back of the ballot. Both of their initials had to be on every paper ballot, in order to count.

Rosenow oversaw the entire morning shift but also watched the Insight machine to make sure it was tabulating correctly. If a ballot was kicked out, she explained why it occurred. Then the voter would correct their ballot, or have the ballot destroyed and receive a new one.

Weishoff was in charge of the touch screen voting machine. She set up the machine for each voter and also made sure each voter had the correct ballot. She kept track of the voter's number to make sure it correlated with the poll book. Surprisingly, many people put these numbers in their purse or pocket, on the short walk to the machine. Weishoff also kept track of the Insight machine, when Rosenow was answering poll workers' questions.

At 7:00 a.m. **Don Rogalski** came in to work as a greeter. He met voters at the door, gave them a pen to keep, and verified they were registered. If not, he would give them the necessary paperwork to fill out. Then Utke could register them to vote.

With no major hick-ups, it was soon 2:00 p.m., and the next shift came in. **Heather Larabell** was the Chief Inspector for the second shift. After conferring with the first shift Chief Inspector about any issues, Larabell verified the number of voters and votes cast matched and proceeded to get her crew ready to work.

Kay Kristof and **Donna Loesl** worked the poll books. **Deb Passehl** and **Jessica Throlson** asked voters if they preferred to vote via paper or machine. **Bob Hannes** took over on the touch screen machine and took voter numbers. **Bill Gilbert** manned the registrations. Larabell assumed Rosenow's position overseeing the election and watched the machine numbers were in sync.

Additionally, two Shawano County workers and I processed 523 absentee ballots through the tabulating machines during the first shift. Following, I took over as greeter for Rogalski.

Quickly 8:00 p.m. arrived. The election workers verified the voting machine numbers matched the poll books. It was a relief to reconcile perfectly, with so many absentee ballots. The Town had 73 new registrations which gave us 1,116 voters for the November election. Our totals were reported to the County in record time! Some County areas took until 12:30 a.m. to finish.

The Town of Belle Plaine can be proud to have capable people in our community willing to help with elections. And I am personally grateful for the talent and attention-to-detail our Town election workers have, as many polling places made mistakes, which created a mess and extra recount work. I thank each of our workers for their dedication and a job well done!

Editor's Note: Managing and running elections is an extremely complicated process. **Kristine Vomastic** and others work all year to ensure voting technology is secure, candidate filings are accurate, and appropriate policies are adhered to. Poll worker management requires poll workers – not just on Election Day, but for several weeks of early voting. Recruiting, training and overseeing those workers is a challenge. The Town appreciates our Clerk and all those who helped with election.

Belle Plaine Officials

Alvin Bartz, Chairman
Harold Polzin, Supervisor #1
Dennis Thornton, Supervisor #2
Kristine Vomastic, Clerk
Kay Kristof, Treasurer

Newsletter editors:
Dennis Thornton
& Kay Kristof

Like us on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/BellePlaineWI>



Belle Plaine Community Center
N3002 St. Hwy. 22
Clintonville, WI 54929
(715) 524-2690

www.belleplainewi.com

Clerk's Hours:

Tuesday, Thursday (9 AM to 3 PM)
Saturday (8:30 to 11 AM)
2nd Monday of month, (5 PM to 7 PM)
or by appointment

Treasurer's Hours:

Monday, Wednesday (9 AM to 3 PM)
Friday (9 AM-Noon)
2nd Monday of month, (5 PM to 7 PM)

Regular Town Board Meetings:

2nd Monday of each month, 7 PM

Committees: Planning, Zoning,
Gibson Island Stewardship

Population estimate: 1,855

What's Going On?

By Dennis Thornton

Jan and I had lived on Cloverleaf Lakes in the Town for three years, and we had no idea. So we decided to use our backgrounds in newspaper work to find out.

On that day in 2002, we volunteered to edit the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association (CLPA) newsletters ... and eighteen years later ... we are retiring and turning the newsletter over to **Kay Kristof**, Town Treasurer and Graphic Designer.

Moving here from Green Bay, we went to work at our jobs in Green Bay and Iola, then came home for the night. We got to know a couple of CLPA board members and signed up.

In those days, we wrote, edited and laid out the pages. Then we took it to **Howard Unrath**, who laboriously printed out page after page on a copier in his basement, and with **Carol Wegner**'s help, stapled it and put on address labels and stamps, then mailed it out.

A few years later, we went to Shawano Printers and later Christensen Printing and Publishing, which also handles the addresses and postage.

Town Chairman **Alvin Bartz**, who we interviewed for the second issue, liked the newsletter and asked us to do one for the Town, as well. Eventually we merged the two into the Belle Plaine News and Events.

It turns out there was a lot of news going on around us. The Town purchased the Stieg property, now Round Lake Park. Then we found out Gibson Island might be sold and subdivided. So we gathered some community members and started a fund drive

to purchase the property for the Town, with lots of financial help from neighbors, the Town and the Department of Natural Resources.

The newsletter also chronicled the Town's 150th anniversary in 2008, with residents gathering for a luncheon at the Town's only hotel.

The CLPA was busy fighting the invasive Eurasian Water Milfoil. And there were the annual fireworks and kiddie parade to photograph. Elections, the Shawano County Fair, 4-H and Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club activities kept us busy.

We enjoyed interviewing community members, from the Town Treasurer of 50 years to the woman who piloted a sea plane. A Belle Plaine church was moved to the historical society, the fire department expanded, a controversial ATV ordinance was debated.

Joan Sousek contributed many articles, mostly about town businesses. **Joy Krubsack** covered environmental issues. Others helped write about their interests.

I put down my notebook and took on duties as President of the CLPA for nine years and served for nearly twelve years on the Town Board. I enjoyed working with **Alvin Bartz**, **Harold Polzin**, the town workers and the CLPA board members over the years. It has been rewarding to help improve our community.

We look forward to more retirement years enjoying the benefits of this wonderful Belle Plaine community.



Jan and Dennis Thornton
in their home
on Cloverleaf Lakes.

COMPOST SITE

Opening April 3, 2021

TAKE HWY 22 TO
RIVER BEND ROAD
TO RANGE LINE RD

LOCATED ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROAD

Wolf River Earthworks LLC

By Joan Sousek

Wolf River Earthworks is primarily a landscaping company that does lawn installs, retaining walls, edging, pavers, patios and more. The business offers lawn care, hardscaping, pond construction, mini excavating, skid steer work, property management and saw mill services. The crew can do concrete work, aquascaping and make pavilions and pergolas.

Such a range of services grew out of business owner **Tyler Wendorff**'s experiences and education starting with growing up around construction equipment and going to job sites as a young boy with his grandfather, the late Frank Wendorff, who did concrete work in the area for many years. His father Mike also worked in that field.

Last year, he made a business plan and in spring was ready to roll. Despite COVID-19 kicking in, he decided to go ahead. Nonetheless, he found work. He did some yard work for his grandmother who lives in Shawano. Her neighbor hired them next, then a co-worker, and things took off.

He has four part-time workers, and his dad, who works for Shawano County, helps with concrete work. They don't do block work, foundations or basements.

The crew can handle a variety of residential and commercial jobs and Tyler is pleased with the team. So far, they have worked mainly in Shawano County and in Green Bay.

Tyler lives on Capitol Drive in the Town of Belle Plaine where he keeps some bulk stone and mulch on hand. He works with various block suppliers and can show customers samples or catalogs of what's available.

The pandemic created some lumber shortages, but getting other materials was not an issue, and if a client wants to find his own materials, Tyler will work with them. His aim is to meet customers' needs.

"Our philosophy is we try to find solutions to customers' problems that best fits them and the conditions," he says, and to stay within the client's budget.

He first meets with clients to discuss their needs and learn how the space will be used. He explains options and then comes up with a design.

Anyone interested in getting work done, should call now, he says, especially if they want it done for an upcoming big life event.

As he grows the business, Tyler wants to do more mowing jobs and continue doing sawmill work in colder months. Snow removal is something he might do in the future.

Call 715-853-8093 preferably between 7 AM and 5 PM M-F; Facebook; email wolfriverearthworks@outlook.com



2021 FIREWORKS By Claude Wait

A Reason to Celebrate our Community & Traditions

With 2020 behind us and 2021 here, we cannot help but feel excitement and optimism for this summer. The thought of sharing some of our cherished community traditions and adding some new ones to the list is reason to celebrate. This small lake community has shown repeatedly we value the many things the lakes have to offer. We truly feel the largest asset is the people in this community and cannot wait to share that pride at this 2021 neighborhood event.

Our team is planning the 2021 fireworks show for July 3, 2021. Mark your calendar for this fun-filled day. As with prior years, we are working in conjunction with the CLPA to organize the 2021 boat parade. We will be gathering feedback and releasing a theme for the parade soon, so stay tuned for more information.

In addition to these activities, **Kara Janelle** has offered to bring back the tradition of the Cloverleaf Lakes *King* or *Queen* contest! Would you like to be crowned as 2021 Cloverleaf Lakes royalty? Contestants will compete to collect the most donations. The winner will receive a prize package and be crowned *King* or *Queen* of the Cloverleaf Lakes! The winner will then take the throne at the head of the kiddie parade and the boat parade during the festivities on July 3. There is no age limit to be a contestant. If you are up for this challenge, please contact Kara at Mickster's Pub and Grill for more information at 715-823-5990.

Our 2021 fundraising is well underway, and Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Inc. would like to thank everyone who made apparel orders before the holiday season, in addition to all the contributions so far. Your support

is truly helping to build this into a tradition to carry on for years to come. As we look ahead into 2021, we are reaching out to more local business sponsors also to be a part of this community event. If you know of a business who would like to advertise and work with our team, please reach out to us.

Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Inc. is also promoting new membership opportunities in 2021. Our team meets monthly, in addition to our annual meeting in July. We're looking for motivated volunteers to contribute ideas and execute tasks to elevate our mission of providing a free professional fireworks show for all the residents living, working and vacationing in this area. If you have a passion for the Cloverleaf Lakes and an interest in joining our team, please email **Peggy McMahon**

at pcmcMahon23@gmail.com or **J.J. Wait** jjwait@frontiernet.net, or call at (715) 250-3005.

Keep up on our 2021 progress and business support on the rocket signage located across from the boat landing on County Road Y.

Donations may be mailed to:

**CLOVERLEAF LAKES FIREWORKS INC.
PO BOX 275
EMBARRASS, WI 54933**

To support this spectacular annual event or for more information, please check out the Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks [GoFundMe](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

Please share with your friends, family and neighbors. Let's help celebrate this tradition and bring on the 2021 celebration!

*Were looking for a
King or Queen of the Lakes*

Mickster's Pub would like to help support the Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks by bringing back the King or Queen of the lakes contest for 2021!

Contestants will compete to collect the most donations!
The winner will receive a prize package and be crowned "King" or "Queen". They will then take the throne at the head of the Kiddie Parade & the Boat Parade!

All donations raised will go to Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Inc for your 2021 fireworks show!

*Contact Kara at Mickster's Pub & Grill
to sign up! (715)823-5990*

Lake Notes: Relaxation is King; Shoreline Maps... More

By Christopher Sampson, Lake Association Board President

Boats, swim gear and most recreational equipment is stashed away for winter, but the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association continues to dive headfirst into lake-related issues. Here's an update:

Polls Close with 'Relaxation/Entertaining' at Top

We have received a preliminary report on the stakeholder survey for the Cloverleaf Lakes, thanks to the 175 households responding.

In one question, respondents were asked to rank up to three activities "that are important reasons for owning your property on or near the Cloverleaf Lakes." The runaway No. 1 response was Relaxing/Entertaining, with 89 first-place votes and a total of 125 top three mentions. Other popular responses were Motor Boating, listed in the top three by 75 respondents (14 as most important); Nature Viewing, 66 (18); Swimming, 64 (15); and Open-Water Fishing, 60 (14), with Canoeing, Kayaking and Standup Paddleboarding a little further back at 37 (5) followed by other choices.

Many questions dealt with concerns and challenges. The evergreen issue of aquatic invasive species, primarily Eurasian milfoil, was mentioned by a sizeable majority. There was solid support for the CLPA's approach of lakewide chemical treatments every few years, with continued exploration of alternative, interim measures. Other concerns included watercraft traffic, shoreline erosion and the perception that silt and muck layers are growing in some areas of the lakes.

Among respondents, 44 percent identified as full-time residents, 23 percent as part-timers, 27 percent as vacation property owners, and about 7 percent as "other" or rental properties.

A full report including potential action items will be part of the DNR-mandated lake management plan being developed this year.

Healthy Shorelines?

Click to See How Yours is Categorized

Lake ecologists say shoreline development – and the amount of frontage restored or left in a natural state to filter silt and nutrient-rich runoff – can be big determinants of whether your lake has clear, fresh water or is plagued by sedimentation, cloudiness and unwelcome algae blooms.

Last summer's independent assessment of 5.2 miles of shoreline on Pine, Grass and Round lakes found that while a fair number of private property owners have added buffer strips of native plants and rain gardens, there remains much room for improvement.

The resulting report card, including aerial maps showing how each stretch of shoreline currently rates as a relative runoff risk, is now online. Also posted are links and info summarizing best practices to keep excess nutrients out of the water, how even manicured lawns can be managed to be more lake-friendly, and

recommended methods to protect against potential wave and ice damage. Visit the CLPA website and the Shoreline Survey 2020 at www.cloverleaflakes.com/waterquality/. Also available online is the most recent survey of Long Lake's 95 waterfront parcels and two miles of shoreline. Check out the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance site, at <https://fwwa.org/connecting-our-waters/shoreline-restoration/shoreline-summary/>

Membership Announced for Plan Committee

Eight volunteers with extensive Cloverleaf Lakes ties make up the Steering Committee for development of the new, DNR-required lake management plan. They are **Kris Doan, Kevin Goodman, Linda Hosking, Jessica Meier, Christopher Sampson** (chairperson), **Gary Schumacher, Dennis Thornton** and **Jonathan Vogt**. The Wisconsin-based environmental research firm Onterra is assisting with the plan. The work will involve plenty of water chemistry testing; environmental, biological and watershed data; as well as the professionally designed stakeholder and shoreline surveys referenced above. Additional opportunities for public input will be publicized this summer.

Gearing Up for Milfoil Season

Complaints about fast-growing milfoil colonies were on the rise again as 2020 drew to a close, especially on Grass Lake, but the CLPA has been advised that infestations have not yet reached the level where the DNR is likely to approve lakewide chemical treatment for 2021. As a result, the CLPA is exploring strategies to continue the fight that would involve applying for grants and tapping the Association's reserve fund built via member dues and donations. One option is equipping and staffing our own DASH boat for hand harvest by divers, to try to stay ahead of the problem on Pine and Round Lakes. In addition, new spot-treatment products are emerging that could lend themselves to experimental application on one or more of the largest colonies on Grass Lake. In the meantime, the CLPA has been awarded another year of DNR grant funding for the County Y boat-monitor program; new threats in terms of invasive plants and tiny but harmful aquatic insects continue to pop up across Wisconsin.

See You on Memorial Day Weekend ... Maybe

We'd like to return to the tradition of an open, all-invited CLPA annual membership meeting held on the Saturday morning of Memorial Day Weekend. Last year's was postponed over pandemic worries. We'll monitor the vaccination progress and infection levels, and let you know closer to that May 29 date. Thank you for your interest and support of the Cloverleaf Lakes.



Belle Plaine Sportsman's Club SPECIAL THANKS

to members who walked the local ditches to clean up garbage and keep our Town beautiful!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

KID'S FISHING DAY

June 5

11695 Heidke Road
Clintonville, WI 54929



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

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

