



BELLE PLAINE

NEWS & EVENTS

Fall 2011

Town picks Harter's garbage service

Recycling center will remain open

In a move that will expand service and save the town money, Harter's Fox Valley Disposal will begin house-to-house garbage and recycling pickup in early 2012. The company will also empty the garbage and recycling bins at the Recycling and Collection Center on Cloverleaf Lake Road.

The Town Board chose the proposal by Harter's at an August meeting. Town Chairman Alvin Bartz estimated the three-year contract will save the town between \$25,000 and \$50,000 a year.

Veolia Environmental Services operates house-to-house pickup for 361 residences in the northern part of the town under a contract that will expire at the end of 2011. Waste Management transports and empties the Recycling Center containers. Both submitted proposals that were more expensive than Harter's.

Harter's will supply 95-gallon bins that will be emptied at curbside weekly through the entire town by an automated truck. Recyclables will be collected every other week. A schedule will



Nathanial Popp, left, and Andrew Gayhart of Harter's Fox Valley Disposal display a 95-gallon garbage bin that Belle Plaine residents will use beginning in January.

be distributed with town tax bills in December. Some areas, such as private roads on Long Lake, may not be accessible and may have to continue to use the Recycling Center and everyone will have that option.

Harter's will charge the town \$7.35 a month for each house and \$3.90 for seasonal homes, compared with the current cost of \$11.85 per house. Harter's also will not charge a disposal fee for recyclables picked up. The town will continue to pay \$40 per ton for recyclables at the recycling center.

Andrew Gayhart, general manager of Harter's, said Harter's is a fourth generation, family-owned company.

"We service close to 60 municipalities in Wisconsin and Minnesota," he said. "We pick up around 25,000 residential stops a day and around 14,000 out of our Central Wisconsin shop alone (with 60 trucks)."

Harter's has the contract for the city of La Crosse and serves several towns in Shawano County.

Gayhart has a local connection. His father, Mark, owns a home on Rustic Drive that was previously owned by his great uncle, Bob.

Inside this issue:

Town update	2
Boat safety first	3
Joy of nature	4
News roundup	5
Long Lake news	6
Antique knitting	7
Miles of Art	8

Triathlon attracts 150 athletes



Despite showers throughout the morning, the fifth annual Cloverleaf Lakes Triathlon had nearly 150 enthusiastic participants on Sept. 3.

At left, the first wave of swimmers splashes into Pine Lake for a quarter-mile swim. The race included an 18-mile bicycle course and the 3.5-mile run around Grass and Pine Lakes.

Proceeds go to the Clintonville Area Swim Team. The CLPA is a sponsor.

Town residents do well at Shawano County Fair

By Alvin Bartz

The Town of Belle Plaine folks who competed at the Shawano County Fair did very well this year. Belle Plaine got a blue ribbon in town competition, **Bonnie Olson** received a merit award for a 70-year-old wedding dress entry and **Glen Vander Linden** got a best of show in the arts department. Our 4-H competitors also did well in various categories.

I would like to thank all the volunteers we had on various projects and events throughout the town this year. Our food stand at the fair had a gross of \$19,345. That's a lot of hamburgers and chili. I would especially thank my wife, **Nancy**, and **Annette Adams**, who both put in nine-plus hours daily in the food stand for all six days, plus a day of prep and cleanup.

* We have completed our process for selecting a garbage contractor and have selected Harter's (see page 1). **Andy Gayhart**, the manager, has family ties to a home on Pine Lake.

Belle Plaine chairman's message

We are one of only a few towns that do not have a separate fee of \$150 to \$200 per household charge for a garbage service fee, be it dropoff or house-to-house. In order to maintain this status, it was necessary to cut in this area as our annual budget cannot increase and our state aids will be cut.

We would like as many as possible to take advantage of the house-to-house service we will be offering, especially recycling, where there will be no tipping fee. Recycling taken to the dropoff site will cost \$40 per ton plus a \$150 per load hauling fee. There are a few areas we will not be able to service, so the dropoff site will be maintained to accommodate those folks.

* **Dick Hesse** reports there are a few places where people have rolled stones into the ditch and they have been hit while mowing. Do your part to keep the ditches clean.

Belle Plaine town notebook

* Summer hours for the Collection and Recycling Center on Cloverleaf Lake Road are Mondays from 8 a.m. to noon; Wednesdays from noon to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Winter hours, which begin Oct. 1, are Wednesdays from noon to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Jim and Corey Retzlaff** are the Recycling Center caretakers.

* Belle Plaine resident **Dylan Sleeper** has been working to improve the walking trails on Gibson Island. Sleeper chose the project as part of his Eagle Scout requirements. Gibson Island's 25-acre nature preserve is owned by the town and is open to the public. It is located on Cloverleaf Lake Road.

* Town Clerk **Kristine Vomastic** reminds residents that she has office hours Mondays from 5 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at the Community Center.

* The town is seeking more fire and emergency medical personnel. First Responders provide health care at accident scenes and to ambulance patients. The town pays for the training. Call Lt. **Tom Kristof** at (715) 853-3937 for more information.

Maple Lane plans Fall Fest Oct. 1

A Fall Fest from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, will be presented by the Maple Lane Health and Rehabilitation Center outdoors on the center's grounds on Highway 22, according to the program's coordinator **Brenda Schroeder**. Activities will include music, refreshments, a petting zoo, clowns and other children's events. It is free and open to the public. Everyone is invited to this first-time event. Contact Schroeder at (715) 526-3158 for more information.

Belle Plaine officials

Alvin Bartz, chairman

Harold Polzin, supervisor

Dennis Thornton, supervisor

Kristine Vomastic, clerk

Kay Kristof, 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

It's been a safe boating year, let's keep it that way

By Dennis Thornton

Boating safety is always a top concern for those of us fortunate enough to live near or recreate at Cloverleaf Lakes. While the state death toll from boating mishaps has hit 19 this summer, our lakes have had a few near misses, but no serious accidents.

The Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association has hired Shawano County Sheriff's Department officers, on overtime, to conduct regular safety patrols for several summers. Capt. **Tom Tuma** says his officers have issued citations for several offenses including not enough life jackets, slow no-wake violations and skiing without a spotter. Warnings have been issued for registration issues, lack of fire extinguishers and no throwable life preservers on bigger boats.

We've also seen frequent disregard of the state rule to keep boats at least 100 feet from the shore or other boats unless going slow no-wake. It gets pretty crowded out there some days.

"I'm pleased and amazed we haven't had any bad crashes," Tuma said. "It's been a decent summer."

* The CLPA has had several more property owners start or look into shoreland restoration projects. That involves replacing turf grass along the shoreline with native plants, which prevent erosion with their deep roots, or planting rain gardens that capture rainwater to keep it from washing into the lakes.

The lake association was honored to host the Shawano

CLPA president's message

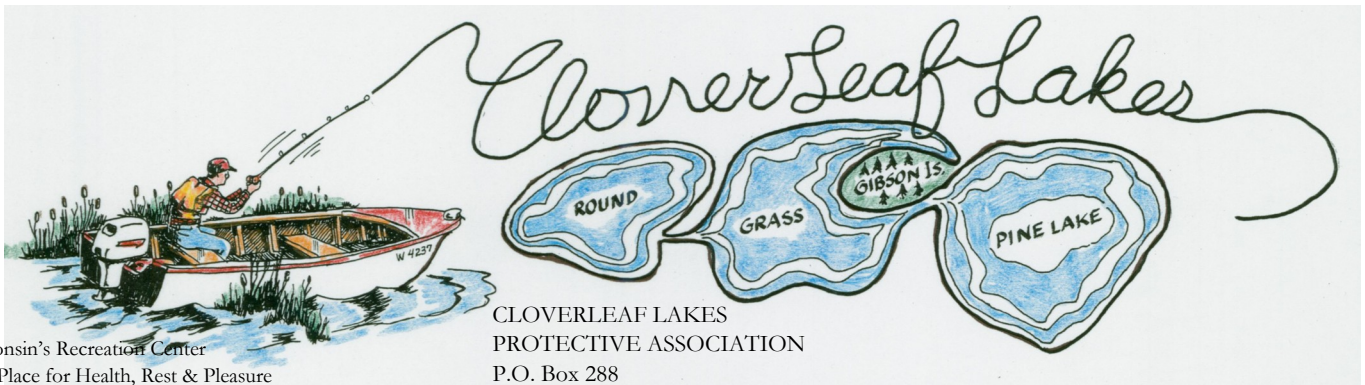
County Land Conservation Committee for an August tour. The group of County Board members and staff toured Gibson Island, heard about our efforts to combat aquatic invasive species, saw some shoreland restoration projects and had lunch in the town's new picnic shelter on Round Lake.

I've been thrilled with our constantly changing wildflower display and the increase in birds and butterflies attracted to the native plants in our yard. The CLPA provides matching funds for approved shoreland projects.

* Thanks to our dues and revenues from our annual golf outing, the CLPA has been able to raise enough money to support our many projects and fulfill our mission to protect our lakes for future generations.

With an eye on uncertainties of the future, particularly the expenses of treating aquatic invasives, the CLPA board is applying to become a 501 (c) (3) organization that can accept tax-deductible contributions. That could provide a more stable revenue source in the future.

If you haven't yet paid your CLPA membership dues for 2011, please consider sending in the \$25 to the address below. You get a lot of bang for your buck by joining the association.



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

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Joe Mass

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Dick Thurow

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"Preserving our lakes for future generations"

Eagles and loons, deer and raccoons, oh my!

By Joy Krubsack

Many people have been asking about some of the wildlife at the lakes this summer. Here is a little summary based on what I've seen and heard.

***Steve and Molly Joosten** reported that the **bald eagles** were nesting in February/March, which means they were preparing the nest for a new season of eggs. When eggs are present, one eagle remains at the nest at all times and that happened until some time in April. The theory is that the last storm of about 12 inches of heavy snow may have pushed the adult off the nest. If an egg is left and gets cold, the eaglet is not going to hatch. We think this is the first time we haven't had a hatchling at the Cloverleaf Lakes since 1994. A few juvenile eagles have been seen visiting the lakes, though. Remember they don't mature, get their white head and tail, for three to five years.

*We have seen three **loons** at one time. We suspect they are two adults and one baby/juvenile because one's coloring is grayish. They swim and play mostly on Pine Lake and then head back toward the outlet. Our theory is that they had a nest in the wetlands and fish on the lakes. Since their nests are flat beds near the water's edge, loon nests on our lakes would be washed out due to boat waves. The lonely marsh would be an ideal nesting area. This has been an exciting prospect because we know of no other baby ever present here. The loons haven't been very talkative and we miss their beautiful sounds but they sure are fun to watch!

*We saw **wood duck** families at Adams Beach. They are a colorful small duck and this is the first time we have noticed them here. People have also told us that the orioles and hummingbirds have been active.

***Raccoons** decided to eat our **oriole** and **hummingbird** food. When we removed that, they ate the seeds and checked out the compost bin. One early morning, we saw the mother and her three babies. Triplets of trouble, so we had to stop feeding the birds and the woods fell silent. Hopefully the birds will forgive

us and return when the raccoons forget our address.

*The **carp** continue to multiply and grow. **Joe Mass** reported that a friend removed five carp of which one was 30 pounds. In perspective, my 2½ year old grandson weights less than that fish! **Dick Thurow** and Joe also removed several carp from the outlet area and had a great time trying to fish with spears. Everyone is encouraged to hunt carp! I'm not trying to be unfairly judgmental about one species of God's creatures, but carp are one ugly and disruptive fish—never put them back in the lakes.

***Sea gulls** are unfortunately growing in number each late summer. Please do not feed these birds as they quickly become a nuisance to our docks and rafts. Our cousin calls them "air carp" and that describes them pretty well.

*Surprise, surprise, we have **deer** around the lakes and we spotted one small doe with triplets and another with twins (maybe that is the triplets minus one). It is a fact that the Cloverleaf deer are too friendly and are more than willing to party and eat at our house. They have basically shaved off every kind of plant and even stripped a very large Christmas cactus. Then they helped themselves to bird feeders, at which point I figure they may be cute but I'm really mad at them—Grrrrr! However, the most amazing story is when I was walking on Rustic Drive a doe and one fawn ran across the road about 15 feet in front of me. Then I heard the brush as another fawn bolted out of the woods right toward me. It kept coming until it was about five feet in front of me. It was so surprised I had to laugh! I told my grandson that, "Grandma almost got run over by a deer!"

Wrapping it up, these are the things that have entertained us this summer as we share this wonderful location of woods and lake with the wildlife creatures who also call it home.

Krubsack teaches science in Clintonville schools and writes periodic nature columns for this newsletter. Contact her with your wildlife stories at jkrubsack@yahoo.com.

Don Sorenson steers his homemade paddlewheel pontoon boat toward his pier on Grass Lake as his wife, Karen, ties it up. Decades after the lakes had a paddle-wheeler, Don decided it was time to make one. The aluminum paddle-wheel is powered by a small gas engine with a lawn mower transmission.



Cloverfest Run/Walk set for Oct. 2

The Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Association is planning the eighth annual Cloverfest 3.5-mile Run/Walk. The date is Sunday, Oct. 2, starting at 10 a.m. at the Rustic Resort. Registration is from 8-9:30 a.m. Proceeds benefit the Fireworks Association and Shawano County Humane Society. Entry forms can be picked up at the box attached to the promotional banner on Cloverleaf Lake Road or at area businesses. Anyone who has items to donate or to raffle can drop them off at N2574 Rustic Drive. Contact **Pete Kristof** at (715) 823-2704 for more information.



The Rev. Kurt Kluge is the new head pastor of St. Martin Lutheran Church in Belle Plaine. From left are his family: Peter, Kurt, Evan, Marie and Susan Kluge. He succeeds the Rev. John Smith, who retired after leading St. Martin for 17 non-consecutive years. Rev. Kluge previously served Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tracy, Minn.

Summer events go swimmingly at lakes

Cloverleaf Lakes were bustling during the summer, starting with the annual Fourth of July celebration.

Steve and Molly Joosten organized the Kiddie Parade, featuring about 150 children and the town fire truck. **Fletch's Corner Store** donated ice cream treats. The Pontoon Parade later that night featured these winners: 1st, the **McMann Clan**; 2nd, the **Griesbach Family**; 3rd: the **Sorenson Family**.



More than 200 art lovers and 27 artists/crafters attended the second annual Arts by the Lake art fair held at the new town picnic shelter overlooking Round Lake. **Geno Johnson** submitted the winning bid for the original **Dan Bleck** painting of Pine Lake fireworks. **Jan Thornton** had the winning bid on a Packers afghan made by **Addie Stuebe**.

The 14th annual Golf Outing organized by **Jim Aumann** featured a fun-filled day of golf, food and raffles. It raised about \$8,500 for the lake association. **Stan Kleiss** won the top raffle prize.

Belle Plaine news roundup



Yes, the bridge is still out on Highway 22 leading from Belle Plaine to Shawano. The bridge replacement is on schedule and should be opening in early November after being closed all summer.

Remodeled Lake Aire opens

The Lake Aire opened for business on Aug. 25 after a summer of extensive renovation and remodeling. The new owners are **Pat and Shelly Schutt**.

The supper club located on Round Lake will be open seven days a week from 4 to 10 p.m., although it may be closed on Tuesdays between January and March, depending on business.

So far, business has been good, according to Shelly, who says daily specials are featured each day. **Becky Popp**, former co-owner, is the chef.

Reservations are preferred. The phone number remains the same — (715) 823-2355.



Dan Bleck painted and donated to the CLPA a watercolor of Pine Lake fireworks. Prints are available at \$95 for the large and \$45 for the small. Send an e-mail to thorngb@frontiernet.net.

Long Lake fights Curly-leaf Pondweed

By Shanda Hubertus

We are elated to say that we had another safe year on the lake! Summer is drawing to an end, but as we all enjoy the last few weeks of boating and fun, remember to be courteous to others and follow the boating regulations.

Be sure your guests that may be using your boats are also aware of the rules of the lake. As a reminder, no wake is from 6 pm-10 am. If you are causing a wake, you must go in a counter-clockwise direction around the lake. It is good practice to do this anytime, especially during wake hours when skiers and tubers may be driving fast right towards you. Navigation lights are required from dusk to dawn. No wake zones are 100 feet from shorelines for boats and 200 feet for personal watercraft. All watercraft must keep a 100-foot buffer between them and any marked buoy, swimming area, other watercraft, pier, or swimming raft when causing a wake.

Long Lake is applying for a Rapid Response Grant from the WDNR. When the DNR was on our lake in June, they noted the presence of Curly-leaf Pondweed. This is an invasive weed that is treated with a pesticide that is also used for our Eurasian Milfoil treatment. By applying for this grant, it will assist the lake in the cost of treating the Curly-leaf Pondweed and thus reduce some costs in the treatment of our milfoil since they will overlap.

This spring/summer has been another unusual year for heavy rain and flooding of the lake. There is a reflector posted at the west end of the lake on the retaining wall by Pringnitz's home. If the reflector is submerged, orange flags are posted in the middle of the lake by "Smith's Point," and on the southeast end of the

lake on the Weiner's pier. When the flags are posted, the lake is under No Wake at anytime to protect the shorelines and personal properties. Please note that while the water is rising, there may be a slight delay in posting the flags. We would like to thank everyone for observing this.

Remember the annual Long Lake Association Rummage Sale as you are cleaning things out for the changing seasons. We will be holding it the weekend before Memorial Day again next year. We are a 501 (C)(3) organization, so any donation is tax deductible! Space is extremely limited for storing donations over the winter. It is greatly appreciated if you could set items aside and hold them until spring. Thank you to all that help, donate, and attend the sale.



Contestants in the first Build a Boat Race, sponsored by Chad and Jessi's Breakaway and Mickster's, paddle across Round Lake to the town boat landing. Participants built their own boats using plywood, milk jugs, cardboard and duct tape.

Photo by Shanda Hubertus

Household hazardous waste disposal sites available

Where can I drop off my household hazardous waste?

Shawano County residents have two options:

1. Brown County Household Hazardous Waste Facility, 2561 S. Broadway, Ashwaubenon (920) 492-4950
<http://www.co.brown.wi.us/departments/?department=f2167124628f&subdepartment=a24e6aafb322>

Open: Thursdays noon to 6 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Acceptable Materials: Flammable - Paint, gasoline, paint thinners, solvents; Poisonous - Pesticides, cleaning products; Corrosives - Acids, bases, cleaning products; Reactive - Flares, pool chemicals; Others - Fluorescent lights, ballast, computers and electronics (for a charge), cooking oil, propane tanks, oil, antifreeze, batteries.

There is no charge for Shawano County residents.

Brown County also has a Product Exchange Room that houses

products that have been dropped off and did not need disposal. It is a great place to get free material for home repair and fix-ups.

2. Waupaca County Processing & Transfer Facility (PTF), E4981 Swan Rd., Manawa (920) 596-5370
<http://www.waupacacountyrecycling.com/HazardousWaste/tabid/58/Default.aspx>

Open: Monday-Thursday 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (May through October).

Visit the website, or call ahead, to verify acceptable materials and costs.

Waupaca and Waushara County residents pay special Clean Sweep rates. Shawano County residents must pay the full per pound cost. Rates vary from \$0.55 - \$1.85 per pound, depending on the type of waste.

Note: Medications can be disposed of at the Shawano Police Department, 125 South Sawyer Street, Shawano.



Belle Plaine always plays a big part in the Shawano County Fair. Above, Donna Heling has helped cook in the Rural Firemen's building for more than 40 years. At right, Bonnie Olson arranges the vegetable display at the Belle Plaine booth.



Antique knitting machine was found in Belle Plaine

A Gearhart's Improved Family Knitter knitting machine was given to the Shawano County Historical Society by the Kupsky family, in its original box and in mint condition.

Mary Kupsky and brother-in-law Bill Kupsky, in a joint effort, have the "working farm." It was homesteaded in December 1867 by Hermann and Wilhelmina Kupsky. It is located at W7553 Belle Plaine Ave.

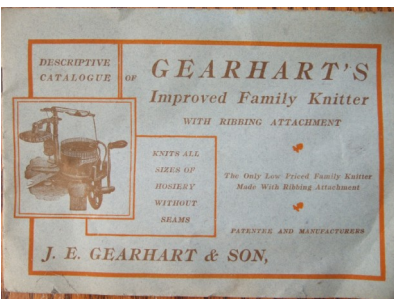
Mary's husband, Mike, was killed in 2000 as the result of a trucking accident. Mary since has restored and lives in this beautiful home. She tells how she found the knitting machine in an upstairs "sugar" room, where sugar, flour and dry goods were stored to keep them dry.

At the time the machine was purchased, you became a certified salesman. It was used to knit socks for one's family and also for World War I soldiers.

This machine was demonstrated by Ann Jansky of Bonduel this summer at the Shawano County Historical Society's Rhubarb Festival. Ann had a similar machine and knew how to assemble and work with it.

The Society treasures this artifact and didn't have one in their permanent collection.

—Marcy Rosenow



The original knitting machine box.



Belle Plaine women, dressed in vintage clothes, help Ann Jansky of Bonduel with an antique knitting machine. From left are Marcy Rosenow, Sandy Phillips, Jansky and Ruth Pringnitz. They were at the Shawano County Historical Society in Shawano.

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Town barns in Miles of Art event

Two of the many “barn quilts” that will be part of the Shawano Country Miles of Art are in the Town of Belle Plaine.

Miles of Art is a fall celebration of the arts and nature throughout Shawano and Menominee Counties. The event will include self-guided tours of area artists’ studios from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 8 and 9, Walls of Wittenberg murals, Shawano Country barn quilts, live music, dancing, and community theater production at the Mielke Arts Center, combined with colorful fall drives. Information is available at www.shawanocountry.com.

The Wayne Bartz farm at N4043 State Highway 22 features the “Carpenter’s Wheel” barn quilt at top right. The 118-acre farm has been in the family since 1942.

The Ken Matyas farm, N3876 State Highway 22, features the quilt on a century-old barn at bottom right. Matyas bought the farm in 2001 and raises Pinzgauer beef cattle.

Another Belle Plaine barn quilt was recently installed at the Dale and Donna Hodkiewicz farm, N3626 Grass Lake Road.



Belle Plaine calendar

Sept. 12: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center.

Sept. 12: Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center.

Oct. 2: Cloverleaf Lakes Walk/Run, 10 a.m., starting at Rustic Resort.

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

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

Nov. 14: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center.

Nov. 14: Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center.

Dec. 12: CLPA board, 9 a.m., Community Center.

Dec. 12: Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Community Center.